

Dropout Prevention Update
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National Dropout Prevention Center/Network

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Nominations for the 2007 Crystal Star Awards are due June 29, 2007!

<http://www.dropoutprevention.org/about/awards.htm#crystalStar>

Top Stories

Dropout Risk Factors and Exemplary Programs conducted by NDPC/N, and sponsored by Communities In Schools Inc., finds that there are multiple risk factors which increase the likelihood that students will drop out.

http://www.dropoutprevention.org/resource/major_reports/communities_in_schools.htm

The Education Research Center is proud to announce a powerful new online mapping tool to help the public, policymakers, and educational leaders combat the graduation crisis. For the first time, comparable, reliable data on graduation rates will be available for every school district.

<http://63.241.153.180/edweek/main.html>

Video

MTV's *The Dropout Chronicles* tells the story of three young people standing at a crossroads in their academic lives.

<http://www.mtv.com/overdrive/?id=1558684&vid=147254>

Funding Sources

The 2007 Richard Riley Award recognizes schools that serve as centers of community provide a rich array of social, civic, recreational, and artistic opportunities to the broader community and to students, often clustering educational and municipal buildings together.

Deadline: July 9, 2007

<http://www.richardrileyaward.org/en/Index.asp>

UPS Foundation Education Grants fund high impact philanthropic programs that raise the level of educational instruction, family learning opportunities, and school involvement projects. Eligibility: 501(c)(3) organizations. Deadline: N/A.

<http://www.community.ups.com/philanthropy/grant.html>

Safe Schools/Healthy Students Program supports the implementation and enhancement of integrated, comprehensive community-wide plans that create safe and drug-free schools and promote healthy childhood development. \$38 million available.

Deadline: June 19, 2007

<http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/01jan20071800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2007/pdf/E7-9041.pdf>

Policy Updates

Educational Architects: Do State Education Agencies Have the Tools Necessary to Implement NCLB?

<http://www.cep-dc.org/document/docWindow.cfm?fuseaction=document.viewDocument&documentid=195&documentFormatId=1350>

The Nation asked Linda Darling-Hammond, a leading education expert, to examine the law, its consequences and prospects for improving the legislation.

<http://www.thenation.com/doc/20070521/darling-hammond>

Supplemental Education Services, a key component of the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) act, has been adopted and implemented without any systematic research or scrutiny.

<http://epsl.asu.edu/epru/documents/EPSL-0705-232-EPRU.pdf>

International Notes

The first low-cost laptops are being issued to poor children in rural Uruguay, Nigeria, and Thailand who have never before used computers.

<http://www.iht.com/articles/ap/2007/05/19/technology/LA-TEC-Uruguay-Hundred-Dollar-Laptop.php>

In an effort to combat racial and ethnic segregation, Britain will mandate that by this fall schools with predominately white pupils pair up with ethnically-diverse schools to give pupils a chance to mix with those from different backgrounds.

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/education/6632287.stm?ls>

Students With Disabilities

Many children in special education classes may not belong there, the government says. A new policy is aimed at intervening early with intensive teaching to give struggling students a chance to succeed in regular classrooms and escape the "special ed" label.

http://www.boston.com/news/education/k_12/articles/2007/05/03/which_children_belong_in_special_ed/?page=1

Dropout Prevention for Students with Disabilities: A Critical Issue for State Education Agencies provides guidance to states as they respond to requirements presented in IDEA 2004 in the area of dropout prevention for students with disabilities.

http://www.betterhighschools.org/docs/NHSC_DropoutPrevention_052507.pdf

The long-awaited IDEA regulations for infants and toddlers with disabilities have been proposed by the Department of Education. Comments will be accepted through July 23.

<http://idea.ed.gov/static/partCNprm>

Effective Strategies

Systemic Renewal

Excellence in the Classroom includes 10 articles that address what research knows about key policy issues related to teaching.

http://www.futureofchildren.org/usr_doc/Classroom_07_01.pdf

A new study from the Center for Teacher Quality at California State University boldly states that bureaucracy is the single biggest reason why teachers stop teaching.

http://www.calstate.edu/teacherquality/documents/possible_dream_exec.pdf

Educational Technology

The North American Council for Online Learning has published a guidebook intended to help policymakers and educators implement online learning programs in their schools--and to help parents understand how online learning works.

<http://www.eschoolnews.com/news/showstoryts.cfm?Articleid=7090>

In spite of what you might have heard or read in the general press lately, the evidence is in, and it's overwhelming: eSchools work.

<http://www.eschoolnews.com/news/showstoryts.cfm?Articleid=7082>

Resources & Tools

What Your Community Can Do to End Its Dropout Crisis: From Research to Practice and other resources available on dropout prevention at the Silent Epidemic Web site.

<http://www.silenteconomic.org/>

All Together Now: Sharing Responsibility for the Whole Child discusses strategies policymakers and educators can use to provide a more balanced education for students.

<http://www.ascd.org/ASCD/pdf/sharingresponsibility.pdf>

Understanding High School Graduation Rates illustrates the discrepancies in graduation rates reported by government and independent sources, examines why this is important, and explains how certain federal policies have contributed to the graduation rate confusion.

<http://www.all4ed.org/publications/WhosCounting/index.html>

This issue of *Voices in Urban Education* looks at the challenges of educating the 8 million immigrants and children of immigrants in U.S. schools and suggests ways that schools can ensure that immigrant students succeed.

<http://www.annenberginstitute.org/VUE/index.html>

Event Dropout Rates for Public School Students in Grades 9-12: 2002-03 and 2003-04 summarizes and compares event dropout rates for public high school students, by state, for 2002-03 and 2003-04. Among reporting states in 2003-04.

<http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2007/2007026.pdf>

Career and Technical Education's Role in Dropout Prevention and Recovery discusses ways to re-engage students in school and prepare them for the future workforce.

http://www.acteonline.org/resource_center/issue_briefs.cfm

We appreciate comments from our readers. We invite new subscribers to receive the Dropout Prevention Update. Please contact us at ndpc@clemson.edu.

Sources: AISR, All4Ed, ASCD SmartBrief, CEC SmartBrief, ECS, Education Innovator, EdWeek, eSchool News, IES Newsflash, PEN Weekly, Straight A's.