Dropout Prevention Update
February 1, 2009 — Volume 8, Number 8
National Dropout Prevention Center/Network

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Submit your proposal now for the National Forum on Dropout Prevention Strategies for Native and Tribal Communities: Reconnecting Native Youth to Education, April 19-22, 2009, in Phoenix, Arizona. Registration is ready today!
http://www.dropoutprevention.org/conferen/conferen.htm#2009_Native_American

Top Stories
A new study by Gary Orfield finds that black and Latino students are more segregated from white students than at any time since the Civil Rights movement, and are more often educated at failing schools.
http://www.civilrightsproject.ucla.edu/research/deseg/reviving_the_goal_mlk_2009.pdf

February is National Career and Technical Education (CTE) Month!
http://www.acteonline.org/ctemonth.aspx
See the winning PSA video promoting CTE.
www.schooltube.com/video/13375/Beyond-The-Textbook

Sound Connections
The next *Solutions to the Dropout Crisis* radio call-in show/webcast will be Tuesday, February 10, 2009, at 3:30 p.m. Eastern Time and will focus on engaging families in students' education. Our guest is Anne Henderson. Check out the resources before tuning in next week!
http://www.dropoutprevention.org/webcast/ep.php?ep=00011

Videos
National Forum host Bonnie Talakte of the Arizona Department of Education discusses some of the issues found in Native American education.
http://cufan.clemson.edu/psaradio/NDPCTalakte.asx

Meet the new Secretary of Education, Arne Duncan, in this video of his Senate Confirmation hearings.
http://help.senate.gov/Hearings/2009_01_13/2009_01_13.html

Funding Sources
The Dollar General Adult Literacy Grants award funding to non-profit organizations that provide direct service to adults in need of literacy assistance.
Grant Deadline: March 4, 2009.
http://www.dollargeneral.com/COMMUNITY/Pages/GrantPrograms.aspx#youthliteracy

At 2:00 p.m., Eastern Time, February 10, 2009, the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) will conduct an audio conference call for prospective applicants for its FY 2009 Tribal Juvenile Accountability Discretionary Grants (Tribal JADG) Program.
Grant Application Deadline: March 12, 2009.
http://ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/enews/09juvjust/090128.html

The OJJDP will award $10 million to enable national organizations to provide mentoring services to special high-risk youth populations.
Application deadline: February 25, 2009.

Policy Updates

This document describes major examples of trailblazing and pioneering efforts that are playing a role in designing new directions for student support. The work is being carried out at school, district, & state levels.
http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu/pdfdocs/wheresithappening/overview.pdf

Research has revealed that for every additional $1,000 the state of Maryland has spent per student since 2002, there's been a corresponding, significant increase in pass rates in reading and math.
http://docushare.msde.state.md.us/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-87689/BTE%20I%20Interim%20Report%20Vol%20I%2012-21-07.pdf

International Notes

In Indonesia, every five minutes ten children drop out of school. The Sampoerna Foundation is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to improving the quality of and access to education in Indonesia.
http://www.sampoernafoundation.org/component/option,com_frontpage/Itemid,1/lang,en/

Effective Strategies

Systemic Renewal

Using school climate data, education leaders can get a picture of the whole child and the whole school, as discussed in *Educational Leadership*. The authors cite four major factors that shape school climate: safety, relationships, teaching and learning, and the institutional environment.
http://www.ascd.org/publications/educational_leadership/dec08/vol66/num04/The_Challenge_of_Assessing_School_Climate.aspx

School-Community Collaboration

Collaboration involves more than coming together for a monthly meeting to share information and do a bit of coordination. Rather, the aim is to find ways to weave together a critical mass of resources and strategies to accomplish major results.
http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu/pdfdocs/buildingeffectivecollab.pdf

Safe Learning Environments

Youth Courts: An Empirical Update and Analysis of Future Organizational and Research Needs is designed to empower youth and communities to take active roles in addressing the early stages of youth delinquency.
http://hamfish.org/Publications/Serial/HFI_Youth_Courts_Report.pdf

After-School Opportunities

In this report, a group of commissioned authors collaborate to make an evidence-based case that expanded learning time programs can be an effective strategy to promote student performance, that the more recent and innovative school improvement strategies incorporate additional time for learning as a key element of their philosophies, and that resources exist to enable districts and schools to build in expanded learning time activities as core components of their reform plans.
http://www.learningpt.org/pdfs/EnhancingSchoolReformthroughExpandedLearning.pdf

Resources and Tools

This user-friendly guide from the Florida Department of Education is designed to help you better understand what service-learning is and how to integrate it into teaching and learning.
http://www.fsu.edu/~flserve/resources/SL%20Standards%20in%20FL_signature.pdf

Referral, Enrollment, and Completion in Developmental Education Sequences in Community Colleges (CCRC Working Paper No. 15). The results indicate that only 3 to 4 out of 10 students

who are referred to remediation actually complete the entire sequence to which they are referred. Most students exit in the beginning of their developmental sequence—almost half fail to complete the first course in their sequence.
http://ccrc.tc.columbia.edu/Publication.asp?uid=659

From the *Condition on Education, 2008.* About three-quarters of the freshman class graduated from high school on time with a regular diploma in 2004–05.
http://nces.ed.gov/programs/coe/2008/pdf/21_2008.pdf

In this report, the National Early Literacy Project's primary goal was to identify interventions, parenting activities, and instructional practices that promote the development of children's early literacy skills.
http://www.nifl.gov/nifl/publications/pdf/NELPReport09.pdf

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

Sources: ECS, PEN Weekly Newsblast, School Mental Health Project, Straight As, Youth Build, Join Together, AYPF, Florida Learn & Serve