

Dropout Prevention Update
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National Dropout Prevention Center/Network

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Online registration is now open for the 21st Annual National Dropout Prevention Network Conference in San Antonio, Texas, October 25-28, 2009.

http://www.dropoutprevention.org/conferen/conferen.htm#2009_NDP_Network

Top Stories

This updated report focuses on the “beyond school” factors that round out our understanding of academic achievement gaps. *Parsing the Achievement Gap II* has been published by Educational Testing Service.

<http://www.ets.org/Media/Research/pdf/PICPARSINGII.pdf>

Sound Connections

Meet Joe and Judy Pauley, two of the individual winners of the 2008 Crystal Star Award of Excellence.

<http://cufan.clemson.edu/psaradio/ndpcatipauleys.aspx>

The recession has been particularly brutal for those without a college education. Teens can dramatically improve their shot at a job by getting training in high school. Listen to the story at:

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=104527844>

Materials are ready now for the June 16th broadcast of *Solutions to the Dropout Crisis*. On that day, at 3:30 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time, you may listen to and participate in this live radio webcast by connecting to the Internet. Kate Schineller, Vice President of MENTOR, will provide an overview of mentoring, and then focus on a program where mentors are working with the children of prisoners.

<http://www.dropoutprevention.org/webcast>

Video

Turning the Tide, a video produced by America's Promise Alliance for its Dropout Prevention campaign.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qjs-WhKxfM>

Funding Sources

Second Chance Juvenile Mentoring Initiative offers grants of up to \$625,000 for 3 years to support evidence-based programs that match mentoring pairs during youth's confinement and that end with successful community reintegration.

Deadline: June 15, 2009.

<http://ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/grants/solicitations/FY2009/SecondChanceMentoring.pdf>

National Association of Elementary School Principals/MetLife Foundation Sharing the Dream Grants let principals test ideas about involving and engaging their communities to build greater ownership for the work of their school. Maximum award: \$3,000.

Deadline: July 8, 2009.

<http://www.naesp.org/resources/1/Pdfs/09SharingtheDreamApp.pdf>

Policy Updates

As part of AmeriCorps Week, the Corporation for National and Community Service today announced \$85 million in Recovery Act grants to put 10,000 AmeriCorps members in distressed

communities to meet critical social needs resulting from the economic crisis.
http://www.learnandserve.gov/about/newsroom/releases_detail.asp?tbl_pr_id=1341

International Notes

State of the World's Mothers, from Save the Children, highlights the urgent need to reach 75 million children in developing countries who fail to complete primary school as well as the 2.5 million fourth graders in the United States who are not reading at grade level.

http://www.savethechildren.org/jump.jsp?path=/publications/state-of-the-worlds-mothers-report/state-worlds-mothers-report-2009.pdf?WT.mc_id=0509_sowm_b_fullr

Students With Disabilities

Career-Focused Services for Students with Disabilities at Community Colleges—This study from the National Collaborative on Workforce & Disability for Youth and the Workforce Strategy Center examines career services for students with disabilities at twelve community colleges nationwide.

<http://www.ncwd-youth.info/assets/background/disabilities-and-community-colleges.pdf>

Effective Strategies

Career and Technical Education

In pockets around the country, a retooling of classes in career and technical education aims to give students job training, exposure to new technologies, and windows into different careers.

<http://www.edutopia.org/shop-classes-vocational-education-technology>

Systemic Renewal

Learning Supports and Small Schools presents the challenges of small schools and offers recommendations.

<http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu/pdfdocs/learningsupportssmallschools.pdf>

This newsletter from the Center for Comprehensive School Reform and Improvement focuses on the important transition from middle school to high school.

http://www.centerforcsri.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=669&Itemid=5

Service-Learning

RMC has produced a new resource, *K-12 Service-Learning Project Planning Toolkit*. You will see ways to ensure that your program meets the Standards and Indicators for K-12 Quality Service-Learning.

www.servicelarning.org/filemanager/download/K-12_Service-Learning_Project_Planning_Toolkit.pdf

Resources and Tools

The Coalition for Student Achievement says, "The federal government's unprecedented \$100 billion investment in our nation's public schools through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) offers a once-in-a-generation opportunity to transform public education." See *Smart Options: Investing the Recovery Funds for Student Success*.

<http://www.coalitionforstudentachievement.org/pdf/ARRA-FINAL.pdf>

The Schott Foundation for Public Education has released a new 50-state report on the opportunity to learn in America. *Lost Opportunity* is a state-by-state analysis of student performance data reported by state departments of education that determines the opportunity to learn in all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

http://www.blackboysreport.org/otlwebsite/50_state_report_national_summary.pdf

Dropouts in the Denver Public Schools: Early Warning Signals and Possibilities for Prevention and Recovery shows that Denver students who get at least one failing grade on their report cards, even in sixth grade, are at higher risk of dropping out of school later.

http://extras.mnginteractive.com/live/media/site36/2009/0515/20090515_122610_Denver_Dropou

[t_Report_Final.pdf](#)

Feedback

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

Sources: Join Together, Pen Weekly NewsBlast, ETS, School Mental Health Project, Education Innovator, Learning Point Associates, CNCS