

Dropout Prevention Update
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National Dropout Prevention Center/Network

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Come to the 22nd Annual At-Risk Youth National FORUM February 14 – 17, 2010 in Myrtle Beach, SC; “Empowering Students to Communicate, Accelerate, Participate and Graduate.”
http://www.dropoutprevention.org/conferen/conferen.htm#2010_AtRisk_Forum

Top Stories

\$3.54 billion is available via School Improvement Grants by US Department of Education. State applications are available. Due by February 8, 2010.
<http://www.ed.gov/programs/sif/applicant.html>

Key findings from CPRE's research project, *The Study of Instructional Improvement*, looks at the impact of three widely-disseminated comprehensive school reform programs on instruction and student achievement in high-poverty elementary schools.
http://www.cpre.org/images/stories/cpre_pdfs/sii_final_report_web_file.pdf

Sound Connections

Meet 2009 Crystal Star Award winner Kathy Edwards Bell of Spartanburg, SC.
<http://cufan.clemson.edu/psaradio/NDPCSA09Bell.aspx>

The next *Solutions to the Dropout Crisis* broadcast will be Tuesday, January 12, at 3:30 p.m. Join us with our guest, Elaine Craft, who will present an informative program on *Making the Connection: Advanced Technological Education and Dropout Prevention*.
<http://cufan.clemson.edu/psaradio/NDPCCraftPromo.aspx>
<http://www.dropoutprevention.org/webcast>

Video

Meet Wendell Rodgers and Stephanie Hewitt of The Citadel who have done work with boys who are likely to drop out. Learn how to be more successful in reaching boys. They will be presenting again at the FORUM, this time on parent involvement.
<http://cufan.clemson.edu/psaradio/ndpcrodgershewitt.aspx>

Funding Sources

Office of Elementary and Secondary Education/Department of Education - Office of Indian Education -- Demonstration Grants for Indian Children. Grants of \$100,000 to \$300,000 to provide financial assistance to projects that develop, test, and demonstrate the effectiveness of services and programs to improve the educational opportunities and achievement of preschool, elementary, and secondary Indian students. Deadline: February 18, 2010
<http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/E9-28874.htm>

The Big Read is an initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts to restore reading to the center of American culture. Maximum award: varies. Eligibility: literary organizations, libraries, and community organizations across the country. Deadline: February 2, 2010.
http://www.neabigread.org/application_process.php

Toshiba/NSTA: ExploraVision Awards encourages kids to create and explore a vision of future technology by combining their imaginations with the tools of science. Maximum award: \$10,000.

Eligibility: students K-12. Deadline: February 2, 2010.

<http://www.exploravision.org/about/>

Policy Updates

An Early Look at the Economic Stimulus Package and the Public Schools: Perspectives from State Leaders is a report by the Center on Education Policy that takes an early look at the status of state implementation of the main ARRA programs that affect elementary and secondary education.

<http://www.cep->

[dc.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=document_ext.showDocumentByID&nodeID=1&DocumentID=299](http://www.cep-dc.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=document_ext.showDocumentByID&nodeID=1&DocumentID=299)

This reference guide provides a comprehensive survey of family engagement legislation in all 50 states and the District of Columbia and is intended help policymakers and advocates strengthen and develop systemic family engagement laws and policies.

http://www.pta.org/State_Laws_Report.pdf

International Notes

Learn about international dropout prevention issues that we all share from *International Journal for School Disaffection* editor, Dr. Gwynedd Lloyd.

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

Students With Disabilities

Read the latest from the National Dropout Prevention Center for Students with Disabilities *Big IDEAS* Newsletters.

http://www.ndpc-sd.org/documents/Big_Ideas/BigIDEAs-2009-11-1.pdf

http://www.ndpc-sd.org/documents/Big_Ideas/BigIDEAs-2009-11-2.pdf

Effective Strategies

Safe Learning Environments

The purpose of the *Guide for Preventing and Responding to School Violence* is to present different strategies and approaches for members of school communities to consider when creating safer learning environments.

http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/pdf/IACP_School_Violence.pdf

Mentoring and Tutoring

Learn about the Coca-Cola Valued Youth Program from Linda Cantu of the Intercultural Development Research Association (IDRA).

<http://cufan.clemson.edu/psaradio/NDPCSA09Cantu.aspx>

Service-Learning

The National Center for Learning and Citizenship at the Education Commission of the States invites applications for middle schools to become part of the Learn and Serve Schools of Success: A National Network of Service-Learning Schools.

<http://cl.exct.net/?qs=c9e46458d038e5f801972787de4ae1c23790224d562de08b6b3f91f6758f7a>
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Resources and Tools

Achieving Graduation for All: A Governor's Guide to Dropout Prevention and Recovery. This report addresses the alarming rate at which students in the United States drop out of high school; identifies the root causes of the high school dropout problem; and offers a comprehensive action plan for states to curb dropouts, help youth succeed and strengthen state economies.

<http://click.icptrack.com/icp/relay.php?r=1014534475&msgid=4260072&act=8V44&c=6913&admin=0&destination=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.nga.org%2Ffiles%2Fpdf%2F0910ACHIEVINGGRADUATION.PDF>

GeoGebra is free and multi-platform dynamic mathematics software for learning and teaching. It has received several educational software awards in Europe and the USA.

<http://www.geogebra.org/cms/>

Reminder: The National Dropout Prevention Center/Network now has a Facebook page! Become a fan today and find out about the latest resources and tools in dropout prevention!

<http://www.facebook.com>

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: Clemson Radio Productions, PEN Weekly Newsblast, ECS, JUVJUST, AYPF, MiddleWeb, NCPIC