

Dropout Prevention Update
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National Dropout Prevention Center/Network

CONTENTS

[Top Stories](#) | [Sound Connections](#) | [Videos](#) | [Funding Sources](#) | [Policy Updates](#) | [International Notes](#) | [Effective Strategies](#) | [Resources and Tools](#) | [Feedback](#)

Tune into the next *Solutions to the Dropout Crisis* radio webcast with guest Stephanie Hirsh of the National Staff Development Council. The program will be broadcast live from the At-Risk Youth National FORUM, at Myrtle Beach, SC, February 16, at 3:30 p.m. Eastern Time.
www.dropoutprevention.org/webcast

Top Stories

The Alliance for Excellent Education has released a study with evidence that lowering the high school dropout rate would have important economic implications for the 45 largest metropolitan areas in the United States.

<http://www.all4ed.org/files/EconBeneCityCardBooklet011210.pdf>

New Child Trends research finds that one in three (34%) young women who had been teen mothers did not earn a high school diploma or a GED by the time they were 22 years old, compared with only 6% of young women who had not had a teen birth.

http://www.childtrends.org/Files//Child_Trends-2010_01_22_FS_DiplomaAttainment.pdf

Child Trends briefs have identified the top 10 practices to foster and the top 10 practices to avoid in out-of-school time programs.

http://www.childtrends.org/Files//Child_Trends-2010_01_28_RB_Practices2Foster.pdf and

http://www.childtrends.org/Files//Child_Trends-2010_01_28_RB_Practices2Avoid.pdf

Partners In Learning Network

The National Dropout Prevention Center has partnered with Microsoft in their Partners In Learning Network (PILN) to host webcasts and a moderated community discussion around key issues and solutions to dropout prevention. Stay tuned - details and dates will be forthcoming!

Sound Connections

The SUCCESS Program of the Des Moines Public Schools was recognized with a Crystal Star Award of Excellence/Program Winner at the NDPC/N Conference in San Antonio. Margaret Connet, SUCCESS Program Manager, describes the program.

<http://cufan.clemson.edu/psaradio/NDPCSA09Connet.aspx>

The Penn Resiliency Program has developed a curriculum aimed at teaching middle-school students specific strategies to challenge negative thought patterns. Listen to this NPR report.

http://ll-assembly.kiptronic.com/?pxn=0+pxK=17273/anon.npr-mp3/npr/me/2010/01/20100118_me_06.mp3?dl=1

Videos

Meet Stephanie Hirsh, Executive Director of the National Staff Development Council, as she tells about *A Powerful New Definition for Professional Development*. Then listen to her as the next guest on *Solutions to the Dropout Crisis*, February 16th, at 3:30 p.m. Eastern Time on the NDPC site.

<http://www.nsdsc.org/standfor/definition.cfm>

Tune in to www.dropoutprevention.org/webcast for the live radio webcast on February 16.

Attend a NDPC dropout prevention workshop online! This one is called *Students Serving Students* and encourages engagement of students in solving the dropout crisis through service-learning.

<http://www.clemson.edu/curp/sss.html>

Funding Sources

Office of Safe and Drug-Free Schools/Department of Education is offering \$150,900-\$400,000 grants for the "Integration of Schools and Mental Health Systems" program.

Deadline: 02/22/2010

<http://www2.ed.gov/programs/mentalhealth/applicant.html>

Learn and Serve America Higher Education Grants for \$85,000-\$200,000 for institutions and up to \$500,000 for consortia are available.

Deadline: 03/09/2010

http://www.learnandserve.gov/for_organizations/funding/nofa_detail.asp?tbl_nofa_id=76

Policy Updates

The President seeks \$1.35 billion in 2010 to continue Race to the Top funding for school districts.

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/photos-and-video/video/race-top-education-reform>

Using state-level NAEP data, this brief illustrates the pitfalls in one-dimensional appraisals of achievement gaps. Analyzing the gaps from at least four perspectives is essential to gaining a comprehensive, accurate picture of equity.

http://www.edtrust.org/sites/edtrust.org/files/publications/files/NAEP%20Gap_0.pdf

College-And-Career-Ready: Using Outcomes Data to Hold High Schools Accountable for Student Success reports how states are building data systems to track student progress after high school into the workforce and college. Communications are improved as vital information flows between K-12, higher education, and workforce information systems.

http://www.educationsector.org/usr_doc/College-Ready.pdf

International Notes

The next issue of *The International Journal on School Disaffection* is available in its entirety online.

Printed copies will be sent to members in the next mailing.

<http://www.dropoutprevention.org/resource/journals/IJSD/0701.pdf>

Effective Strategies

Safe Learning Environments

YEF Institute publishes a new anti-gang toolkit that draws on lessons learned from the California Cities Gang Prevention Network.

http://www.nlc.org/ASSETS/A2179E500B6D4A4896A23874CFBA013B/IYEF_CCGPN_Toolkit_01-10.pdf

School-Community Collaboration

Meet Linda Harrill, North Carolina Communities In Schools, and hear her talk about community partnerships.

<http://cufan.clemson.edu/psaradio/ndpcharrell.asx>

Resources and Tools

This KnowledgeWorks Foundation report provides recommendations for education in urban environments for the next decade.

<http://www.futureofed.org/pdf/taking-action/PolicyBrief1.pdf>

The Status of the Teaching Profession 2009 focuses on the landscape of high school reform, including implications for the teacher workforce regarding ambitious efforts to increase academic rigor, make instruction more relevant, and create learning environments that are more personal and supportive.

<http://www.cftl.org/documents/2009/TCFReport2009.pdf>

This report focuses on interventions for improving K-12 in ways that reduce dropouts and improve readiness for postsecondary education, programs for bolstering recruitment and access, and efforts to facilitate transition and retention; recommendations for a shift in policy to enhance equity of opportunity are offered.

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

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! Begin or join discussion groups to discuss issues related to your dropout prevention efforts. Search for us in “Pages.”

<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@clmson.edu.

Sources: PEN Weekly NewsBlast, Child Trends, CNCS, SMHP at UCLA, All4Ed, Clemson Radio Productions