

Dropout Prevention Update
July 1, 2010 — Volume 10 Number 1
National Dropout Prevention Center/Network

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Register a proposal online today for the Dropout Prevention Institute/School Attendance Symposium, "Be There to Get There: Engaging the Promise in Every Graduate," October 4-7, 2010, in Orlando, Florida.
<http://www.dropoutprevention.org/conferen/conferen.htm#2010SchoolAttendanceSymposium>

Top Stories

The U. S. Department of Education has announced a new DROPOUT PREVENTION Funding Opportunity. The High School Graduation Initiative was announced on June 18 and will award grants to LEAs and SEAs to support the implementation of dropout prevention programs in grades 6 through 12. Applications are due on July 28.

<http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2010/2010-14732.htm>

Public School Graduates and Dropouts from the Common Core of Data: School Year 2007–08. This report presents findings associated with public high school graduation and event dropout counts for the 2007–08 school year.

<http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2010/2010341.pdf>

Partners In Learning Network

Become a member of the PILN and join the NDPC-Dropout Prevention Community to join discussion with colleagues and share your feedback, ideas, and success stories.

<http://login.live.com/wlogin.srf?appid=00000004801DD95&alg=wsignin1.0&appctx=http://us.partnersinlearningnetwork.com/Communities/d16691d4ea9c4c3b80c3aed8f36c3c66/Pages/default.aspx>

Introducing *Student Individualized Growth Management and Assessment (SIGMA): A Microsoft Education Analytics Platform Approach to Students At Risk.*

http://download.microsoft.com/download/4/1/8/4182DF40-7EA3-4C13-91D0-E3B75D639590/Student_Individualized_Growth_Model_and_Assessment.pdf

Sound Connections

Solutions to the Dropout Crisis is taking a summer break, but you don't need to! Listen to all 25 archived programs on you iPod this summer.

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

Videos

The American Youth Policy Forum has announced its YouTube channel of videos.

<http://www.youtube.com/amyouthpolicyforum>

Dr. Ron Fairchild, executive director of the National Summer Learning Association, and Dr. Loriene Roy, president of the American Library Association, nationally recognized experts on reading and summer learning, address how to make the most out of the summer months.

<http://www.readingrockets.org/webcasts/3002>

Funding Sources

DOE Office of Elementary and Secondary Education Smaller Learning Communities Program is awarding discretionary grants to local educational agencies (LEAs) to support restructuring large public high schools into smaller units for the purpose of improving academic achievement. Estimated Range of Awards: \$800,000-\$5,000,000 for the first 24 months of the project period.

Deadline 7/15/10; 8/06/10.

<http://www07.grants.gov/search/search.do?oppld=55421&mode=VIEW>

The U.S. Department of Education's Fund for the Improvement of Education seeks applicants for the Full Service Community Schools Program (FSCS) which encourages coordination of academic, social, and health services through partnerships. Estimated awards: \$275,000 - \$500,000.

Deadline: July 23, 2010.

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

The Administration for Children and Families' (ACF) Administration on Children, Youth and Families' (ACYF) Family and Youth Services Bureau (FYSB) is accepting applications for the Mentoring Children of Prisoners (MCP) program.

Deadline: July 30, 2010.

<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/grants/open/foa/view/HHS-2010-ACF-ACYF-CV-0070>

Siemens/College Board: 2010 Siemens Competition encourages student research that improves their understanding of the value of scientific study and informs their consideration of future careers in mathematics, science, engineering, and technology. Maximum award: \$100,000.

Deadline: 10/01/10.

<http://www.collegeboard.com/siemens/>

State Farm offers grants in three areas: Safe Neighbors (safety), Strong Neighborhoods (community development), and Education Excellence (education). Maximum award size varies.

Deadline: 10/31/10.

http://www.statefarm.com/about/part_spos/grants/cogrants.asp

Policy Updates

Helping Students Get a Head Start on the "Real World": State Strategies for Early High School Graduation, discusses early graduation options that may address the challenges brought on by seniors who have met academic requirements and tend to mentally if not physically drop out of school during their senior years.

<http://www.ecs.org/clearinghouse/86/05/8605.pdf>

Access 2010 state education policies as tracked by the Education Commission of the States (ECS) Clearinghouse in their State Policy Database.

<http://www.ecs.org/ecs/ecscat.nsf/Web2010All?OpenView&Count=-1>

Students With Disabilities

In this video, Dr. Sheila Wagner, of Emory University School of Medicine, discusses Personal Futures Planning.

<http://abcnews.go.com/Health/AutismLiving/story?id=5965318>

International Notes

The first-ever World Conference on Early Childhood Care and Education will be held September 27-29, 2010, in Moscow. The conference, jointly sponsored by UNESCO and the City of Moscow, will address the unique nature of the early years in a child's life, and the need for special measures to ensure that every child gets a good start.

<http://www.unesco.org/new/en/world-conference-on-ecce/>

Effective Strategies

After-School Opportunities

America After 3PM Special Report on Summer: Missed Opportunities, Unmet Demand adds a new dimension to the research on summer learning by providing answers to key questions, including: What percentage of America's children participate in summer learning programs?; What percentage of children would likely participate based on parental interest?; and What percentage of parents support public

funding for summer learning programs?

http://www.afterschoolalliance.org/documents/Special_Report_on_Summer_052510.pdf

Safe School Environments

Act Out, Get Out? Considering the Impact of School Discipline Practices in Massachusetts. A new Rennie Center policy brief reviews discipline practices in the state of Massachusetts and considers national research on policies, laws, and the effects of disciplinary removal.

http://renniecenter.issuelab.org/sd_clicks/download2/act_out_get_out_considering_the_impact_of_school_discipline_practices_in_massachusetts

Systemic Renewal

The State of Public Schools in Post-Katrina New Orleans: The Challenge of Creating Equal Opportunity is a report by the Institute on Race and Poverty at the University of Minnesota Law School. Though Charter schools in New Orleans have been hailed as the silver lining to Hurricane Katrina, this report finds that the reorganization of the city's schools has created a separate but unequal tiered system of schools still in need of improvements.

http://www.irpumn.org/uls/resources/projects/NEW_ORLEANS_FULL_REPORT.pdf

Alternative Schooling

Student Characteristics and Achievement in 22 KIPP (Knowledge Is Power Program) Middle Schools is a new report from Mathematica about charter schools nationwide. The report shows that after three years, middle school student gains in math are large enough in half the schools to significantly narrow race- and income-based achievement gaps among students.

http://www.mathematica-mpr.com/publications/pdfs/education/KIPP_fnlrpt.pdf

A recent brief from MDRC gives interim results from an evaluation of the National Guard Youth ChalleNGe Program, which aims to "reclaim" the lives of high school dropouts. ChalleNGe—which requires no military service—is a residential program operating in more than half the nation's states, with more than 90,000 completing it since its launch in the 1990s.

<http://www.mdrc.org/publications/557/overview.html>

Resources and Tools

HELP WANTED: New Report Finds Nearly Two Thirds of All Job Openings Will Require Postsecondary Education by 2018

<http://www.all4ed.org/files/Volume10No13.pdf>

Success at Every Step: How 23 Programs Support Youth on the Path to College and Beyond describes programs that have been proven to help young people successfully complete high school and be prepared for success in postsecondary education and careers.

<http://www.aypf.org/publications/SuccessAtEveryStep.pdf>

A More Accurate Measure of California's Dropout Rate—This statistical brief uses a new measure of high school enrollment to compute a more accurate measure of California's dropout rate.

http://cdrp.ucsb.edu/dropouts/pubs_statbriefs.htm

An interesting story from the *New York Times* on English Language Learners.

<http://learning.blogs.nytimes.com/2010/06/10/english-language-learners-and-the-power-of-personal-stories/>

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@clermson.edu.

Sources: PEN Weekly NewsBlast, After-school Alliance, SMARTS, NCES, CDRP, AYPF, All4Ed, PILN, UNESCO