

Dropout Prevention Update
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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

Teen Voice 2010: Relationships That Matter to America's Teens details the findings of a new national study of 1,860 15-year-olds and strengthens a growing body of research that documents a persistent gap between what teens need and what we as a nation actually offer them.
https://www.at15.com/sites/all/themes/at15_v3/_assets/pdf/TeenVoice2010.pdf

Sound Connections

Jim Shaw of Florence, SC, talks about the Mayor's Coalition to Prevent Juvenile Crime and other collaborative efforts in his community. How can all groups share resources?
<http://cufan.clemson.edu/psaradio/ndpc10mbshaw.asx>

Solutions to the Dropout Crisis is taking a summer break, but you don't need to! Listen to all 25 archived programs on your iPod this summer.
<http://www.dropoutprevention.org/webcast>

Videos

A professor of design and technology at Parsons The New School for Design talks about the value of games and the role of play in empowering children/youth.
<http://www.edutopia.org/digital-generation-katie-salen-video>

See what Superintendent Paul Vallas did in New Orleans to enact change after Hurricane Katrina.
<http://feeds.learningmatters.tv/~r/LearningMattersPodcasts/~3/ma5v0owH8wU/>

Funding Sources

The Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy's grant-making program seeks to develop or expand projects designed to support the development of literacy skills for adult primary caregivers and their children. Maximum award: \$65,000.

Deadline: September 10, 2010.

http://www.barbarabushfoundation.com/site/c.jhLSK2PALmF/b.4425435/k.544A/Current_Funding_Opportunities.htm

Lowe's Toolbox for Education grant program funds school improvement projects initiated by parents in recognition of the importance of parent involvement in education. Maximum award: \$5,000. Eligibility: K-12 schools or parent groups.

Deadline: October 15, 2010.

<http://toolboxforeducation.com/>

Policy Updates

States that adopt national standards by August 2 win points in the Obama administration's Race to the Top competition for a share of the \$3.4 billion to be awarded in September.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/07/21/education/21standards.html?th&emc=th>

Students With Disabilities

During the USA National Games in Nebraska, leaders from education, business, government, sports, and media met to discuss a broader perspective on school and districtwide models of inclusion.
<http://www.specialolympics.org/video.aspx?id=11598>

International Notes

To date, over 60 groups of educators and young people, across five continents, have joined the "In Our Global Village" movement. They've published 25 books to date- and shared them widely, starting with Kambi ya Simba in East Africa.
<http://www.inourvillage.org/>

Effective Strategies

After-School Opportunities

This video will cause you to rethink the cause of the achievement gap and the role that out-of-school time, especially summer, plays in student achievement.
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VEkIkdHwvso>

The cover story in *Time* Magazine focuses on summer learning loss.
<http://www.time.com/time/nation/article/0,8599,2005654,00.html>

Systemic Renewal

Washington Monthly is focusing on the dropout crisis, and this article examines the value of small schools and some of the research related to this.
<http://www.washingtonmonthly.com/features/2010/1007.toch.html>

In the view of the authors of *Learning From Leadership: Investigating the Links to Improved Student Learning*, education leadership makes its mark largely by strengthening a school's "professional community"—fostering an environment where teachers work together to improve classroom instruction.
<http://www.wallacefoundation.org/KnowledgeCenter/KnowledgeTopics/CurrentAreasofFocus/EducationLeadership/Documents/Learning-from-Leadership-Investigating-Links-Final-Report.pdf>

Alternative Schooling

A new report from MDRC finds that “small high schools of choice” in New York City increase students’ likelihood of earning credits, progressing through school, and graduating in four years with Regents diplomas.
<http://www.mdrc.org/publications/560/full.pdf>

Resources and Tools

The Forum on Child and Family Statistics' summary report, *America's Children in Brief: Key National Indicators of Well-Being*, provides this year's updates on the well-being of children and families in the United States across a range of domains.
http://childstats.gov/pdf/ac2010/ac_10.pdf

See how cutting the dropout rate in half in students of color subgroups in the nation's fifty largest cities—and the metropolitan areas that surround them—would benefit the nation's economy as a whole.
http://www.all4ed.org/files/NationalMSA_lebsoc.pdf

This *Research Brief* brings together findings from a variety of research resources, including rigorous program evaluations, to identify 10 actionable, feasible goals involving non-school factors that affect educational outcomes and can be addressed through out-of-school-time programs.
http://www.childtrends.org/Files//Child_Trends_2010_07_07-Ed_Achievement.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@clermson.edu.

Sources: NSLA, PEN Weekly NewsBlast, YSA, OJJDP, MiddleWeb, Straight A's, Child Trends