

DROPOUT PREVENTION UPDATE
July 1, 2011, Volume 11 Number 7
National Dropout Prevention Center/Network

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JOIN US IN CHICAGO!! October 9 - 12, 2011, for the 23rd Annual National Dropout Prevention Network Conference: **“S.T.A.Y.: Systems Together Advancing Youth”**, **WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU!**

Nominate a program or individual for the NDPN Crystal Star Award of Excellence in Dropout Prevention! Deadline is coming July 15, 2011. [Click here for details](#).

Top Stories

A new national report from *Education Week* and the Editorial Projects in Education (EPE) Research Center finds that the nation's graduation rate has increased significantly (*May need to register but it's FREE*) [Click here](#)
Hispanic students have made significant gains on National Assessment of Educational Progress tests in math and reading since 1990, but a large gap remains. For article: [Click here](#) For full report: [Click here](#)

The College Board has conducted an extensive data and literature review to determine what is known to date on the situation facing young men of color [Click here](#) Federal Legal Implications and Policy Guidance of report [Click here](#)

Sound Connections

Stay connected and grow professionally this summer with free resources. Use this central ASCD dashboard to watch a recording of the urban education panel from our Annual Conference, connect with a variety of essential policy tools or catch up on a webinar all about leading and managing a differentiated classroom. [Click here](#).

Listen to Dr. Bill Preble discuss School Climate and its importance to the issue of dropout prevention. Turn on your sound and [Click here](#)

Videos

RSVP, America's largest volunteer network for people age 55+, celebrates 40 years of service this year!. Join RSVP's nearly 500,000 volunteers across the country who are tackling tough issues in their communities. [Click here](#)

Funding Sources

- * 2012 Global Youth Service Day & Semester of Service Lead Agencies Deadline: July 15 [Click here](#)
- * P. Buckley Moss Foundation supports teachers who wish to establish an effective learning tool using the arts in teaching children with learning disabilities and other special needs. Max: \$1,000. Deadline: Sept. 30 [Click here](#)
- * Up to \$60,000 for STEM subjects through Honda Corporation. [Click here](#)
- * Do Something Summer Jobless Grants There are 8 @ \$1000 and 18 @ \$500 Deadline: July 10 [Click here](#)
- * 2012 Global Youth Service Day & Semester of Service Lead Agencies \$2000 Deadline: July 15 [Click here](#)
- * Sodexo Lead Organizer YSA Grants \$2000 Deadline: July 15 [Click here](#)
- * STEMester of Service YSA Grants \$5000 Deadline: August 8 [Click here](#)
- * Fender Music Foundation grants are awarded to music academies, schools, local music programs and national music programs across America. Maximum award: \$5,000 Deadline July 5 [Click here](#)
- * State Farm is meeting the needs of communities by giving in three areas: Safe Neighbors (safety), Strong Neighborhoods (community development), and Education Deadline: October 31, 2011. [Click here](#)
- * The Drug, Chemical & Associated Technologies Assoc. "Making a Difference" Award for excellence in a science program developed and implemented by middle-level science teachers, grades 6-8. Deadline: Nov. 30. [Click here](#)

Policy Updates

Feeling social studies has been sidelined by a test-driven focus on math and English/language arts, subject-matter

specialists from more than a dozen states met last week with representatives of content-area groups to brainstorm ways to improve academic standards in that subject. [Click here](#)

Effective Strategies

Systemic Renewal

ECS' research brief on chronic absenteeism--the impact of chronic absence on achievement; data on the rates of chronic early absence; strategies to reduce chronic absence. [Click here](#)

The U.S. Dept. of Ed. has released a report highlighting best practices in school labor-management collaboration—the work of the 12 school districts that presented at its first-ever Labor-Management Collaboration Conference in Denver earlier this year. [Click here](#)

Creating a Data-Driven Culture: Leadership Matters Eight steps to prepare a school district for accessing and integrating data to make informed, proactive decisions by Dr. L. Mills (*Registration required*).[Click here](#)

School-Community Collaboration

Civic Engagement and Community Information: Five Strategies to Revive Civic Communication, is a new policy paper by CIRCLE Director, Peter Levine. [Click here](#)

Safe Learning Environments

Wellness program in Kearney, Nebraska, has led to a 13% drop in student obesity. [Click here](#)

Early Childhood

A longitudinal study conducted in Chicago finds *Large-Scale Early Education Linked to Higher Living Standards and Crime Prevention 25 Years Later* [Click here](#)

Literacy

The whole-class novel and basal reader are alienating students from the written word by Pam Allyn. [Click here](#)

Service Learning

The following service-learning action guides at the EarthEcho Website are available free of charge. [Click here](#)

- STREAM: A Service-Learning Guide for Citizen Journalists
- Know Your Flow
- Out the Spout
- Down the Drain
- You Have the Power
- Clean Up

The website also features several programs on service-learning. [Click here](#)

- Water Planet Challenge
- Students Reporting Environmental Action through Media
- Project Wild Dolphins

After-School Opportunities

Afterschool Investments Project releases profiles on the state of after-school programs. The profiles were developed to highlight the overall landscape of afterschool investments and enable policymakers, administrators and providers to compare after-school activities across the country. [Click here](#)

Students can return to school in the fall at least a month behind, on average, where they were in the spring, but high-quality summer programs can help combat this learning loss, finds a RAND Corp. [Click here](#).

Educational Technology

Teachers offer advice on using social media for class discussions. [Click here](#).

Teaching in a socially networked classroom Today's students are always plugged in and ready to learn—so why not take advantage of this trend inside the classroom? [Click here](#)

Free websites use social networking tools to share content. [Click here](#)

How gaming is raising achievement in one third-grade class [Click here](#)

Professional Development

ASCD will be live-streaming select sessions from our 2011 Summer Conference in Boston this summer. Tune in for a July 1 session on planning a week in a differentiated classroom with Carol Ann Tomlinson; find out how to update and focus curriculum mapping with Wilma Kurvink on July 2; and explore myths about high expectations

with Robyn Jackson on July 3. [Click here](#)

Students with Disabilities

Articles that address high school redesign as it relates to students with disabilities and special education's role in such initiatives. [Click here](#)

A New Jersey high school has developed a program to teach students about tolerance and empathy by learning about and communicating with people with disabilities. [Click here](#)

American Enterprise Institute has published a working paper by Nathan Levenson proposing several solutions to rein in special-ed spending without reducing program quality. [Click here](#)

Resources and Tools

- * Tuesday Teacher Tips series: Math ideas to use in the classroom [Click here](#)
- * Bacteria Museum [Click here](#)
- * Differentiate Without Lowering Expectations—checking learning on exit [Click here](#)
- * National Archives: Teachers' Resources [Click here](#)
- * Tips for using interactive whiteboards in lessons [Click here](#)
- * A new website—K-12 Tech Tools—features more than 1,000 free online technology tools. [Click here](#)
- * Free graphing calculator lets you plot and trace equations and display multiple equations on the same graph. A sidebar menu makes it easy to add mathematical expressions and symbols quickly. [Click here](#)
- * The ASCD.org website features a "Meet the Authors" section devoted to helping you get to know their authors through video segments that explore their latest work. [Click here](#)
- * ETS and the AP College Board have a cornucopia of materials about teaching and learning calculus. [Click here](#)

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." [Click here](#)

Feedback

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

Sources: ECS, ACSD, Education Week, eSchool News, SAS Institute, UCLA smhp,