# A Systemic Approach for Dropout Prevention

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Solutions Radio Webcast

PAR – Performance Assessment Review

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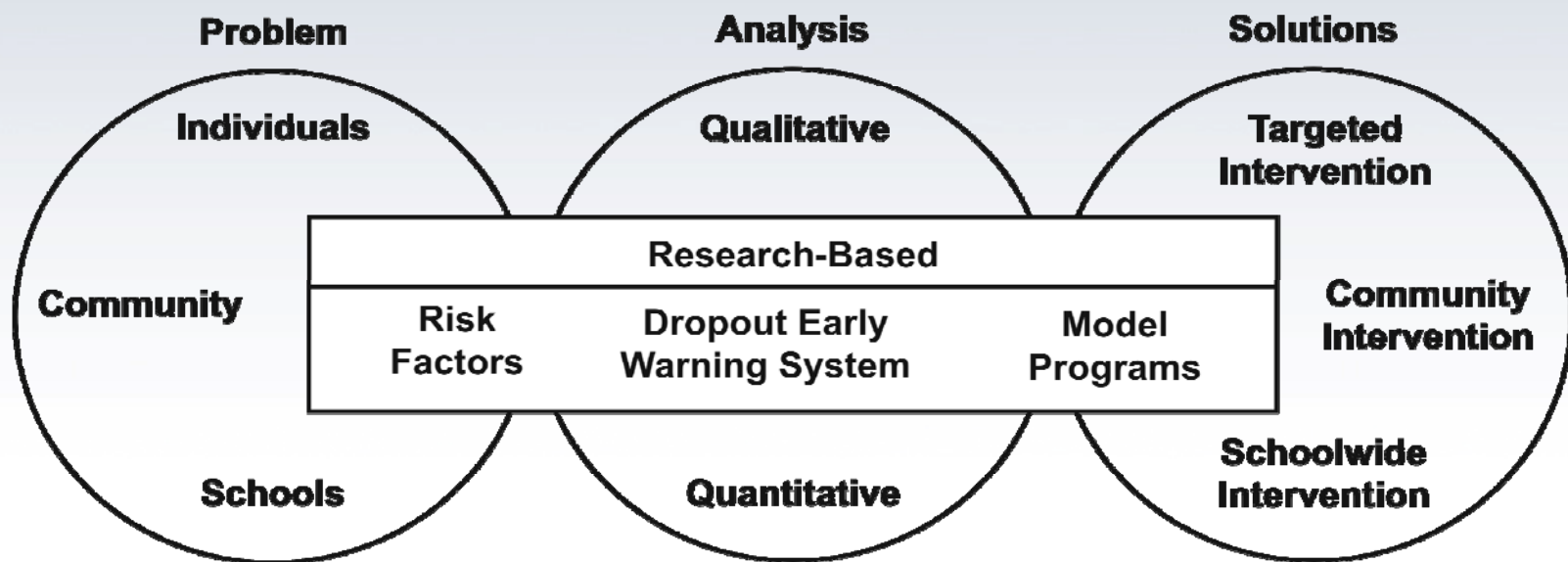
National Dropout Prevention Center
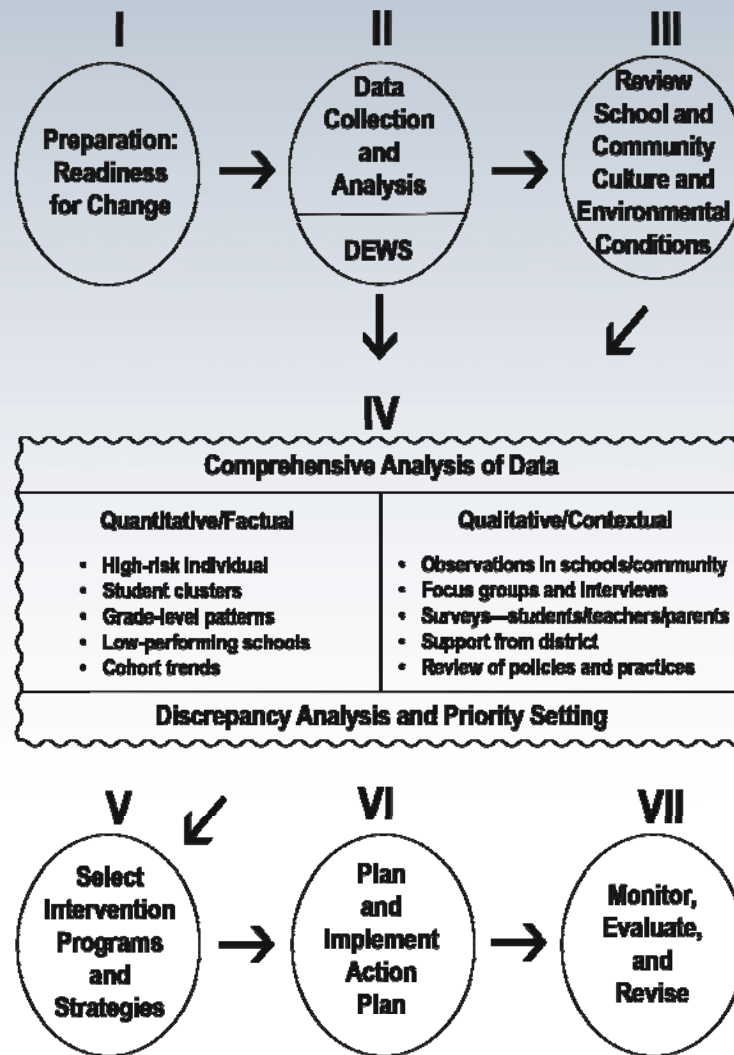
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# A Systemic Approach for Dropout Prevention

**Performance and Assessment Review Framework**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Problem** | **Analysis** | **Solutions** |
| Individuals | Qualitative | Targeted Intervention |
| Community | | Community Intervention |
| Schools | Quantitative | Schoolwide Intervention |

**Research-Based**

| Risk Factors | Dropout Early Warning System | Model Programs |
|---|---|---|

# A Systemic Approach for Dropout Prevention



**Performance Assessment and Review**

I — Preparation: Readiness for Change

II — Data Collection and Analysis / DEWS

III — Review School and Community Culture and Environmental Conditions

IV — Comprehensive Analysis of Data

| Quantitative/Factual | Qualitative/Contextual |
|---|---|
| • High-risk individual<br>• Student clusters<br>• Grade-level patterns<br>• Low-performing schools<br>• Cohort trends | • Observations in schools/community<br>• Focus groups and interviews<br>• Surveys—students/teachers/parents<br>• Support from district<br>• Review of policies and practices |

Discrepancy Analysis and Priority Setting

V — Select Intervention Programs and Strategies

VI — Plan and Implement Action Plan

VII — Monitor, Evaluate, and Revise

# A Systemic Approach for Dropout Prevention

- ## **What is DEWS?**
  - DEWS is a web-based comprehensive data management system for predicting potential dropouts. Research-based risk factors of readily accessible student data are analyzed within a Predictive Analytic application. The results are accessed online with a capacity ranging from district-level, school-level, to specific student-level data indicating status of risk which is delineated as high, middle, or low.

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- **What are the key elements of DEWS?**
  - It uses routinely accessible data
  - It can predict behavior (dropout)
  - It can identify individual student risk
  - It can identify student cohort risk issues
  - It can identify school-wide risk issues
  - It can identify district-wide risk issues

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- ## What information does DEWS provide?

  – It provides a database of all students, their level or status of risk, the specific weighted risk factors and score.

  – This information is available by district, school, and individual

  – The information is updated and indicators of change in risk status are provided

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- **What are the advantages of DEWS?**
  - It looks at historic or longitudinal retrospective data that indicates systemic patterns contributing to school disengagement
  - It analyzes large amounts of data and multiple risk factors saving time and money
  - The information enables districts and schools to target and monitor interventions for students who are disengaged in learning or off track
  - Results are web-based for ease of access, monitoring, and evaluating
  - Efficiency of time and resources is maximized by the use of real-time data
  - Results are provided by level of risk so prioritizing solutions is maximized

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- **How does DEWS support PAR?**

    - DEWS is a tool to pinpoint factors contributing to school disengagement
    - DEWS creates an information management tool for targeted recommendations
    - DEWS is a hands-on tool for monitoring implemented action plans and their degree of success and the time frame required for risk status change