

Dropout Prevention Update
October 1, 2002- Volume 2- No. 4
National Dropout Prevention Center/Network

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Top Stories

U.S. Secretary of Education Paige announces formation of two new Offices; Office of Safe and Drug-Free Schools, and the Office of Innovation and Improvement.

http://www.enc.org/redirect/ehn/?ehn_id=18081

School officials are perplexed, frustrated by the No Child Left Behind Act.

<http://www.usnewswire.com/topnews/prime/0827-144.html>

Clean Crusader, Tom Keating, says that school bathrooms lack class.

http://online.wsj.com/article_email/0,,SB1025133912784551720,00.html

Funding Sources

The Handspring Foundation makes cash grants from \$1,000 to \$25,000 for projects that focus on preK-12 education or other issues directly related to at-risk children and youth. Deadline: November 1, 2002. <http://www.handspring.com/company/foundation/about.jhtml>

Urban Challenge grants (\$100,000 worth of 3Com technology). Schools can use the grant to tailor a networking solution that meets their community's needs. Deadline: November 1

http://www.3com.com/solutions/en_US/government/programs/urbanchallenge_amerikorps.html

The Braitmayer Foundation is particularly interested in K-12 curricular and school reform initiatives, professional development opportunities for teachers, and local community efforts that increase educational opportunities for students. Deadline: November 15, 2002.

<http://www.braitmayerfoundation.org/guid.htm>

Policy Updates

The wide disparity in identifying failing schools underscores the limitations of the impact of the No Child Left Behind Education Act of 2001 on the nation's schools, a weakness that could undermine President Bush's signature domestic policy initiative.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/ac2/wp-dyn?pagename=article&node=&contentId=A9106-2002Aug28¬Found=true>

The mayor's control of schools tested in Cleveland, Ohio.

http://www.enc.org/redirect/ehn/?ehn_id=17979

Effective Strategies

Family Involvement

A growing body of research shows dads' involvement means their kids do substantially better in school. http://www.freep.com/news/education/men12_20020812.htm

Henry Levin and Clive Belfield, suggest a new way of viewing families as "contractual partners" in education, that is, having families agree to certain obligations.

http://ncspe.org/ocpap/op_pa_detail.php?pap_id=00044

PTA tries to get more Hispanic parents involved in schools.

http://www.enc.org/redirect/ehn/?ehn_id=18122

Instructional Technologies

Technology is one of few tools left to school leaders in alleviating the worsening teacher crunch
<http://www.eschoolnews.com/news/showStory.cfm?ArticleID=3934>

Technology in Education 2002, the latest installment in MDR's annual series of reports on the state of technology in the nation's schools.

<http://www.eschoolnews.com/news/showStory.cfm?ArticleID=3943>

Mentoring/Tutoring

Online tutors help students pass.

<http://www.middleweb.com/MGNEWS1/MGN0827.html#anchor7620378>

MENTOR is launching new initiatives to enhance and promote e-mentoring.

http://www.mentoring.org/run_a_program/mentorsonline/get_started/toolkit_1.adp

Mentoring organizations can find recruitment ideas and strategies in *Recruiting male volunteers: A guide based on exploratory research* by Stephanie Blackman.

<http://www.energizeinc.com/download/blackman.pdf>

Violence Prevention

The World Health Organization (WHO) has declared that violence has become a major public-health problem throughout the world.

<http://www.jointogether.org/gv/news/summaries/reader/0%2C2061%2C553670%2C00.html>

The American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE) recommends that all U.S. schools develop effective policies, plans, and procedures to respond to possible acts of school violence.

<http://www.asse.org/psmar.pdf>

Workforce Readiness/Career Education

2020 visions: Transforming education and training through advanced technologies underscores the importance of advanced educational technology to the future success of students.

http://www.enc.org/redirect/ehn/?ehn_id=18162

Vocational schooling can lead to high pay. http://www.enc.org/redirect/ehn/?ehn_id=18230

Resources & Tools

"Trick or Treat for UNICEF" 52nd season. <http://www.unicefusa.org/trickortreat>

NCES has just released the publication, *Public alternative schools and programs for students at risk of education failure: 2000-01*. <http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2002004>

The Center on Education Policy, concerned about negative side effects of exit exams has published *State high school exit exams: A baseline report*.

<http://www.ctredpol.org/pubs/StateHighSchoolExitExams13Aug2002.pdf>

The 34th Annual Phi Delta Kappa/Gallup Poll offers a snapshot of public opinion and attitudes on a range of education issues. <http://www.pdkintl.org/kappan/k0209pol.htm>

The "Schools to Watch" web site is a unique resource that provides virtual tours of schools across the country that have made significant strides toward academic excellence.

<http://www.schoolstowatch.org/what.htm>

Feedback

We appreciate comments from our readers. Please contact us at ndpc@clemsn.edu Sources: Mentor E-Newsletter, ENC, eSn, JTO Direct, Middle Web, NCES, PEN Weekly, RFP Bulletin, SMHP

