

Dropout Prevention Update
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National Dropout Prevention Center/Network

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Register today for the 22nd Annual National Dropout Prevention Network Conference, “From Rhetoric to Action: Ready, Set, Graduate!” November 14-17, 2010, in Philadelphia, PA.

<http://guest.cvent.com/EVENTS/Info/Summary.aspx?e=2ab9c91d-1dc1-46c9-b84f-bc158419b416>

Top Stories

Student standardized test scores are not reliable indicators of how effective any teacher is in the classroom, according to researchers brought together by the Economic Policy Institute.

http://epi.3cdn.net/724cd9a1eb91c40ff0_hwm6ijj90.pdf

Sound Connections

Solutions to the Dropout Crisis begins the new school year with the important topic of family engagement. Join Pat Davenport and the *Solutions* team on Tuesday, September 14, at 3:30 p.m. EDT. If you call in to ask a question, you will receive a free NDPC publication!

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

Listen to NDPN Board member Steve Edwards discuss dropout prevention issues.

<http://cufan.clemson.edu/psaradio/YD100805Edwards.asx>

Videos

Attend a panel discussion on the role of secondary school principals in school turnaround for low-performing schools.

<http://dl.nmmstream.net/media/aee/flash/150710/mediaplayer.html>

Learn about Families and Schools Together, which will be featured on the next *Solutions* broadcast, in this video.

<http://cufan.clemson.edu/psaradio/ndpcfcast.asx>

Funding Sources

Verizon Foundation Literacy Grants are available to organizations committed to basic literacy skills in the United States. Maximum award: \$10,000.

Deadline: October 31, 2010.

<http://foundation.verizon.com/grant/guidelines.shtml>

Tiger Woods Foundation grants provide opportunities to children who are underserved, focusing on programs and projects that enhance the learning process for children, and transitional programs for young adults to become productive adults. Maximum award: \$25,000.

Deadline: November 1, 2010.

<http://web.tigerwoodsfoundation.org/programs/grants/index>

State Farm Good Neighbor Service-Learning Grants of up to \$1,000 encourage semester-long projects. Eligible candidates include teachers, service-learning coordinators and students in public schools, or staff and youth in community-based organizations working with public schools.

Deadline: October 15, 2010.

<http://www.YSA.org/goodneighbor>

Policy Updates

Kids' Share 2010 is the fourth annual examination of the federal spending trends and tax policies that support and affect children and families.

<http://www.firstfocus.net/sites/default/files/Kids%20Share%202010%20-%20Final.pdf>

International Notes

International Literacy Day, September 8, 2010, is an occasion to celebrate women's empowerment through literacy and to pay tribute to the women and men who work behind the scenes to help others acquire literacy skills and enter a world of opportunities.

http://www.unesco.org/en/education/dynamic-content-single-view/news/unesco_celebrates_the_power_of_womens_literacy_on_8_september_international_literacy_day/back/9195/cHash/69aa8f96af/

Effective Strategies

Safe Learning Environments

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) announces the availability of "OJJDP News @ a Glance," July/August 2010. The bimonthly newsletter provides readers with news about OJJDP activities, publications, funding opportunities, and events.

http://www.ncjrs.gov/html/ojjdp/news_at_glance/230815/index.html

For tips about bullying, download this toolkit from Eyes on Bullying.

<http://www.eyesonbullying.org/pdfs/toolkit.pdf>

October is Crime Prevention Month. Show your commitment to safety by organizing and registering a Celebrate Safe Communities event for Crime Prevention Month.

<http://www.ncpc.org/programs/crime-prevention-month>

Service-Learning

The Summer 2010 issue of *The Generator* explores the second step of the Service-Learning Cycle, identifying genuine needs.

http://www.nylc.org/rc_downloadfile.cfm?emoid=14:921&property=download&mode=download

Mentoring

Find out where you can participate in a mentoring program, or list your own mentoring program in this national searchable database provided by MENTOR.

http://www.mentoring.org/mentors/find_an_opportunity/

After-School Opportunities

Register now to be one of the million plus Americans celebrating the 11th annual *Lights On Afterschool* on October 21, 2010, at more than 7,500 events nationwide!

<http://www.afterschoolalliance.org/loaHostEvent.cfm>

Resources and Tools

A new Web site is a "one-stop" site for parents, educators, and community members seeking federal resources on bullying.

<http://www.bullyinginfo.org/>

Children's Budget 2010, the latest edition in the Children's Budget series, is a comprehensive guide to all federal spending on children and an invaluable resource for all those seeking to improve the lives of America's youth.

<http://www.firstfocus.net/sites/default/files/ChildrensBudget2010.pdf>

Register today for the Dropout Prevention Institute/School Attendance Symposium in Orlando, FL, October 4-7, 2010.

<http://quest.cvent.com/EVENTS/Info/Summary.aspx?e=ba47c448-4cc9-42a6-8df4-50bc7070de31>

The report, *The Black-White Achievement Gap: When Progress Stopped*, traces the Black-White educational achievement and attainment gaps back to the early 20th century and presents a variety of data in an effort to understand why the gaps stopped closing over the last several decades.

<http://www.ets.org/Media/Research/pdf/PICBWGAP.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: PEN Weekly NewsBlast, All4Ed, America's Promise, JUVJUST, YSA, MiddleWeb, National Crime Prevention Council, MENTOR. Afterschool Alliance