

DROPOUT PREVENTION UPDATE
May 1, 2011, Volume 11 Number 5
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!** [Click here](#) **Call for presenters:** [Click here](#)

Top Stories

A new policy paper from McGraw-Hill co-authored by Andreas Schleicher from OECD and McGraw-Hill's Steven Paine, looks at what the U.S. can learn from the world's most successful education reform efforts. [Click here](#)

Sound Connections

Stuart Udell, Chairman of the Board of NDPC, was interviewed on an Educational Talk Radio program on the topic of Dropout Prevention. To hear the broadcast, [Click here](#)

NDPC Webcast. Tuesday, May 10, 2011, at 3:30 to 4:30 pm EST. CTE: Key to Education Reform, Preparing the Future Workforce by Jan Bray, Executive Director, Association for Career and Technical Education, Jan Bray will talk about how Career and Technical Education (CTE) plays a role in dropout prevention and school reform. [Click here](#)

Juvenile Law Center will host a 2nd round of the three part Webinar series on the Information Sharing Tool Kit. Part I will be May 4, Part II on May 13, and Part III on May 16. To download the Tool Kit and register, [Click here](#) and scroll down.

Videos

100 Best communities speak about successes that bolster their youth [Click here](#)

Alaska Middle School students develop prize-winning, professional-style video on bullying. [Click here](#)

The National Dissemination Center for Career and Technical Education brings three experts, Dr. Terry Cash, Dr. Sam Stringfield and Dr. Stephen Plank to discuss an overview of the national perspective on dropout prevention, why students drop out, research findings on CTE impact, and some major initiatives in place across the nation. [Click here](#)

Funding Sources

--- [NAIS: Challenge 20/20 Partnership](#) Deadline: from now until August 15, 2011

--- [The PEP grant](#) is to assist LEAs and CBOs to initiate, expand, or enhance physical education programs that help students K - 12th meet their state standards for physical education. Deadline: May 13

--- [Mentoring for Youth with Disabilities Initiative](#) Deadline: May 16, 2011

--- [Best Buy Children's Foundation: @15 Community grants](#) Deadline: August 1, 2011

--- [2011 100 Best Communities for Young People Competition](#) Deadline: May 27, 2011

--- [NSTA: New Science Teacher Academy](#) Deadline: July 1, 2011

--- [High school juniors apply for Hispanic Heritage Youth Awards](#) Deadline: June 1, 2011

--- [Campus Progress / Colorlines.com National Keynote Contest](#) Deadline: May 13, 2011

--- [Jane Goodall's Roots & Shoots Youth Leadership Award](#) Deadline: May 16, 2011

--- [Circles of Care grants](#) Children's Mental Health System Funding Tribal Communities Deadline: May 31, 2011

--- [General Mills Foundation grants](#) focuses in the areas of youth nutrition and fitness, social services, education and arts and culture in the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minnesota. For deadline: See URL

--- [Woods Fund of Chicago grants](#) to increase opportunities for less advantaged people and communities in the metropolitan Chicago area, including the opportunity to contribute to decisions affecting them. July 31, 2011

--- [Pentair Foundation](#) funds programs in Pentair communities that promote education, sustainability in water and energy, and workforce readiness. Deadlines: June 1, October 1, 2011

Policy Updates

How are seat-time requirements affecting online learning? [Click here](#)

Ed. Dept. Proposes New Student Data Privacy Rules [Click here](#)

A new report, "*The Same Starting Line*," addresses resource inequity in American public schools and what school board members can do to make sure kids in impoverished communities have the same opportunity for success. [Click here](#)

Unconventional Wisdom: Early College High Schools Show Potential for Increasing Minority Student College Participation [Click here](#)

Immigrant Children and Youth: Enabling Their Success at School This brief focuses on implications for school improvement policy and practice [Click here](#)

The Progress of Education Reform identifies promising and research-based approaches for enhancing student interest and achievement in STEM disciplines, including approaches with a smaller state-budget price tag. [Click here](#)

A research brief by Child Trends, "Multiple Responses, Promising Results: Evidence-Based, Nonpunitive Alternatives To Zero Tolerance," suggests zero tolerance school discipline policies have not been proven effective by research and may have negative effects, making students more likely to drop out and less likely to graduate on time. [Click here](#)

Connecting Schools in Ways that Strengthen Learning Supports. This brief (1) discusses the concept of a family of schools and the type of operational infrastructure that enables schools to connect formally and on a regular basis, (2) highlights examples of how a family of schools can enhance student and learning supports, and (3) suggests key policy implications. [Click here](#)

A new IES report provides the analysis of school improvement plans in five Midwest Region states and reveals that more than 90 percent of plans included at least one "potentially effective" parent involvement activity and 70 percent included at least one extended learning activity. Few were described as providing academic support. [Click here](#)

[International Notes](#)

A Nation of Dropouts Shakes Europe [Click here](#)

Effective use of data makes a difference. The Institute of Welsh Affairs researched good practice in five of the country's highest performing secondary schools. Each school was found to use school-wide computer systems giving teachers up-to-date data on how every 11-14-year-old was doing in every lesson. [Click here](#)

[Effective Strategies](#)

Systemic Renewal

Motivating Teachers: A Wire Side Chat With Todd Whitaker [Click here](#)

Safe Learning Environments

Embedding Bullying Interventions into a Comprehensive System of Student and Learning Supports: Accelerating development of a comprehensive, multifaceted, and cohesive system of student and learning supports. [Click here](#)

Family Engagement

A new Child Trends brief, *Parental Relationship Quality and Child Outcomes across Subgroups*, notes that the positive association holds across many subgroup comparisons, including income, marital status, parental education, and race/ethnicity. [Click here](#)

Early Childhood

Pay Now or Pay Much More Later: **Law enforcement leaders support high-quality early learning to cut crime and save money in Iowa.** [Click here](#)

Literacy

Double Jeopardy: How Third-Grade Reading Skills and Poverty Influence High School Graduation Students not reading at grade level by third grade are four times less likely to graduate high school on time, and disadvantaged students who fall behind by third grade are 13 times less likely to graduate with their peers. [Click here](#)

Nontraditional furniture in the classroom said to help fidgeting students focus [Click here](#)

Active Learning

Third graders in Needham explored the geography and history of the town by making their own hand drawn maps that are currently being displayed around town. [Click here](#)

Top Ten Tips for Assessing Project-Based Learning [Click here](#)

Educational Technology

Do smartphones boost math achievement among at-risk students? The director of nonprofit Project K-Nect says the group's programs have been successful. [Click here](#)

In this edition of *STAR* (the School Technology Action Report), —Emerging Trends: 2011, *eSchool Media, Inc.*, presents the five emerging trends they believe will take root this year, [Click here](#)

N.C. laptop program could be a model for others: A North Carolina school district is in its third year of a one-to-one laptop program that officials say has led to higher test scores and a lower dropout rate. [Click here](#)

Career and Technology Education (CTE)

High-school students want more career guidance, poll shows. [Click here](#)

Students with Disabilities

This free webcast provides an overview of the Microsoft Office programs that have specially designed features to make technology more accessible to students, teachers, and staff with special needs. May 19, 2011 5:00 pm PDT [Click here](#)

Resources and Tools

An online resource for students and teachers, SAS Curriculum Pathways provides standards-based content in all the core disciplines, grades 8-14. [Click here](#)

Find lesson plans, classroom materials and instructional resources from high-performing teachers. [Click here](#)

University of Kansas' School of Education, has released 40 web-based video games that help students practice basic math, language arts, vocabulary, and thinking skills while in the classroom or at home. [Click here](#)

InterventionCentral.org is a site that features free, evidence-based technical assistance, resources and student intervention ideas to support the Response to Intervention (RTI) framework. [Click here](#)

Dave Saltman recommends nine new online educational resources that let students drive their learning. Teachers visit [CoolMath.com](#) for educational math games and tools, and [Scratch](#) so students can explore physics through online simulations. Students visit [XtraNormal](#) and [Animoto](#) for resources for presentations and projects.

Exploring how metaphors are used in both writing and everyday life. [Click here](#)

NDPC is pleased to announce the release of its newest publication, *Teachable Moments: Ethics and Reflection in Service-Learning* by Teddi Fishman and Lorelei Swanson. This guidebook is focused on helping educators with teaching the process of ethical decision making using the pedagogy of service-learning. [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@clemsun.edu

Sources not referenced: eSchool Media, Inc, America's Promise Alliance, ASCD, OJJDP, PEN, SmartBrief on EdTech, Child Trends, ECS e-Connection, UCLA Center for Mental Health, Alliance for Excellent Education, Annie E. Casey Foundation, MiddleWeb,