

Foundations of the 15 Effective Strategies for Dropout Prevention

**Dr. Sandy Addis
Director**

National Dropout Prevention Center

www.dropoutprevention.org



NATIONAL
DROPOUT
PREVENTION
CENTER/NETWORK

3 truths and a not so true



Sandy

- Has one daughter who is a district attorney
- Once worked as an insurance salesman
- Taught over 100 children to water ski
- Ran the New York Marathon

List your school's current dropout prevention initiatives, programs, and efforts.

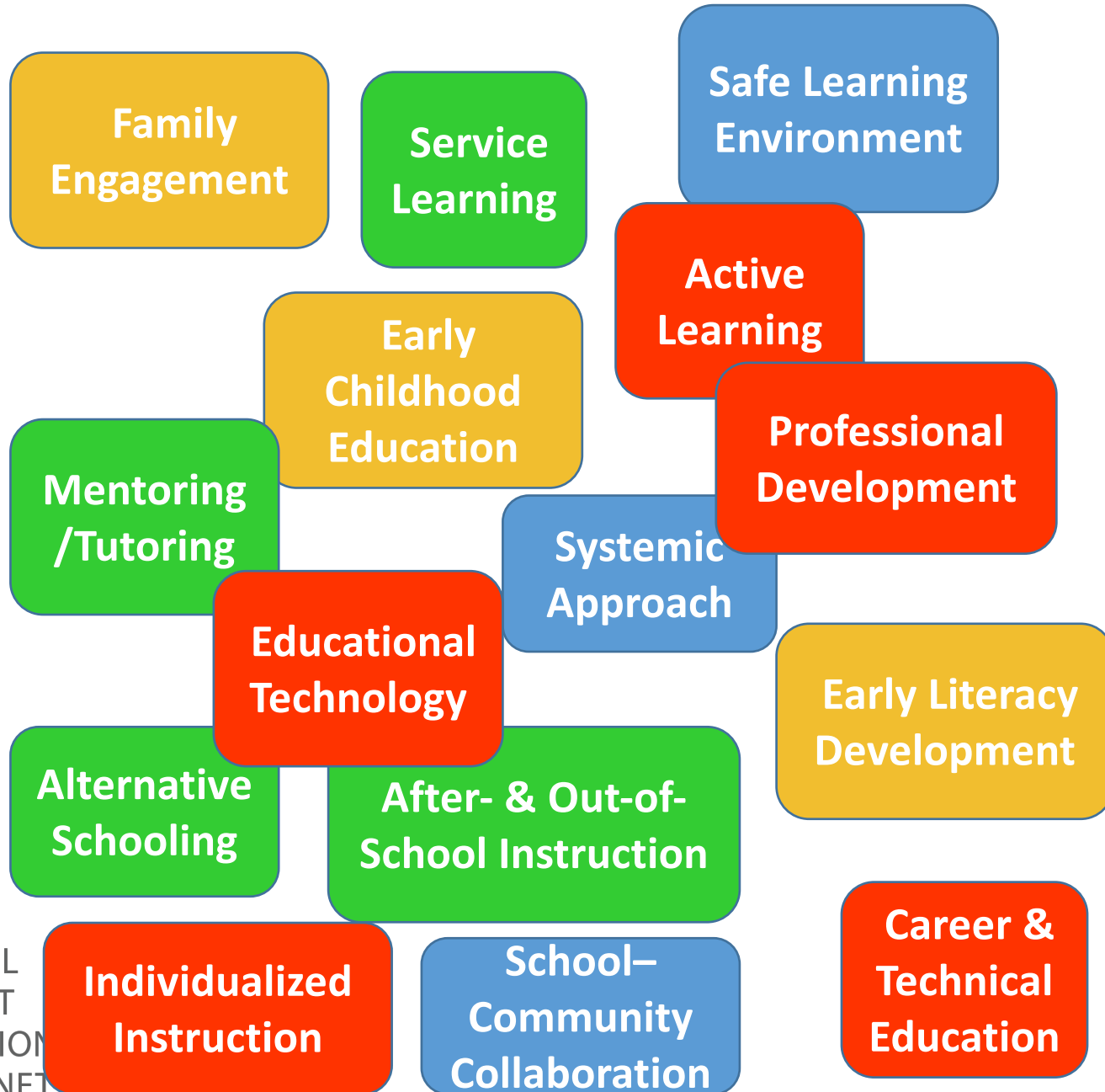
History of the 15 Effective Strategies

The 15 Effective Strategies Misunderstandings & Understandings

Dropout Prevention Planning Process



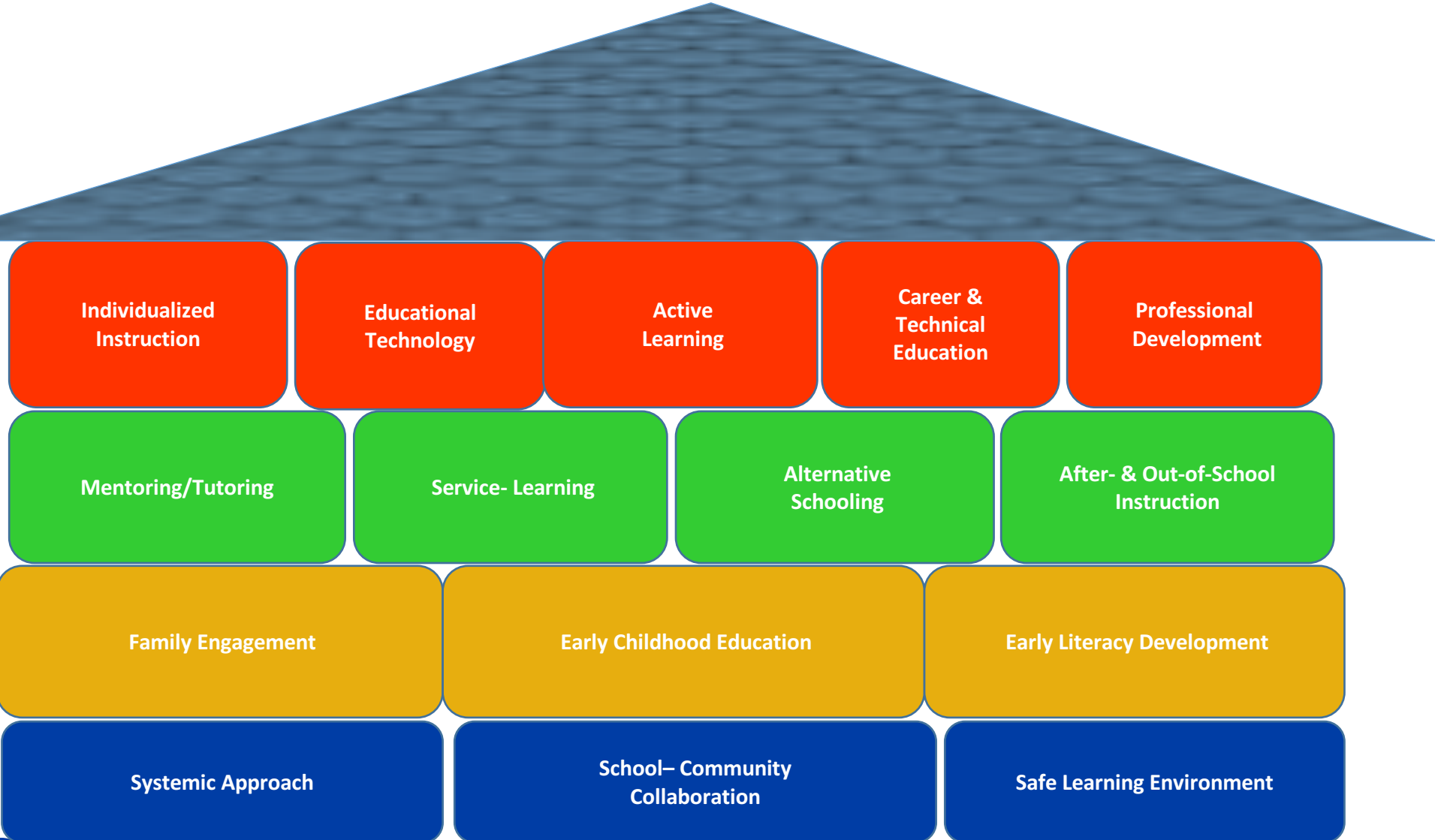
We Know There Are 15 Effective Dropout Prevention Strategies



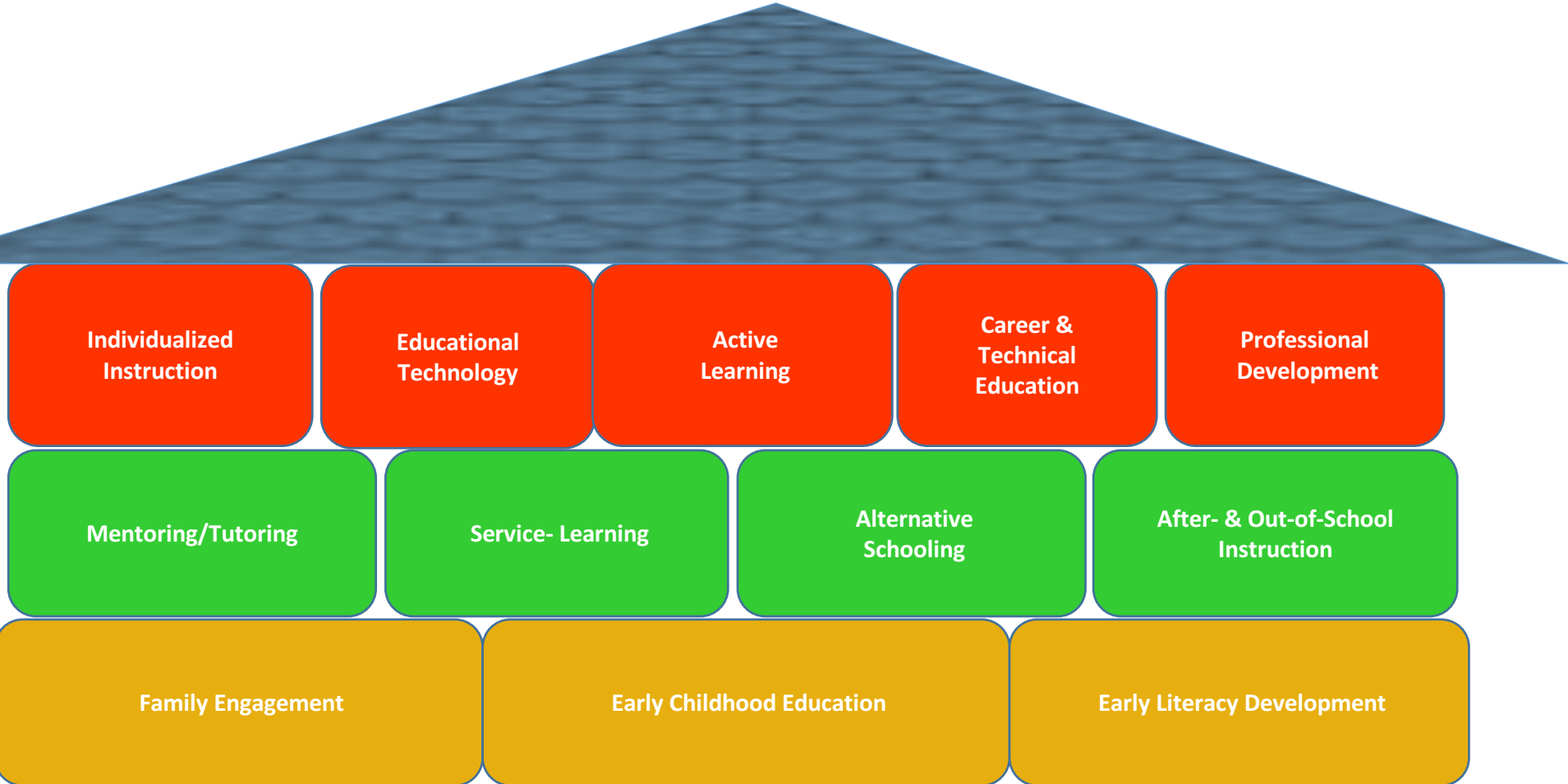
How Do We Select Strategies?



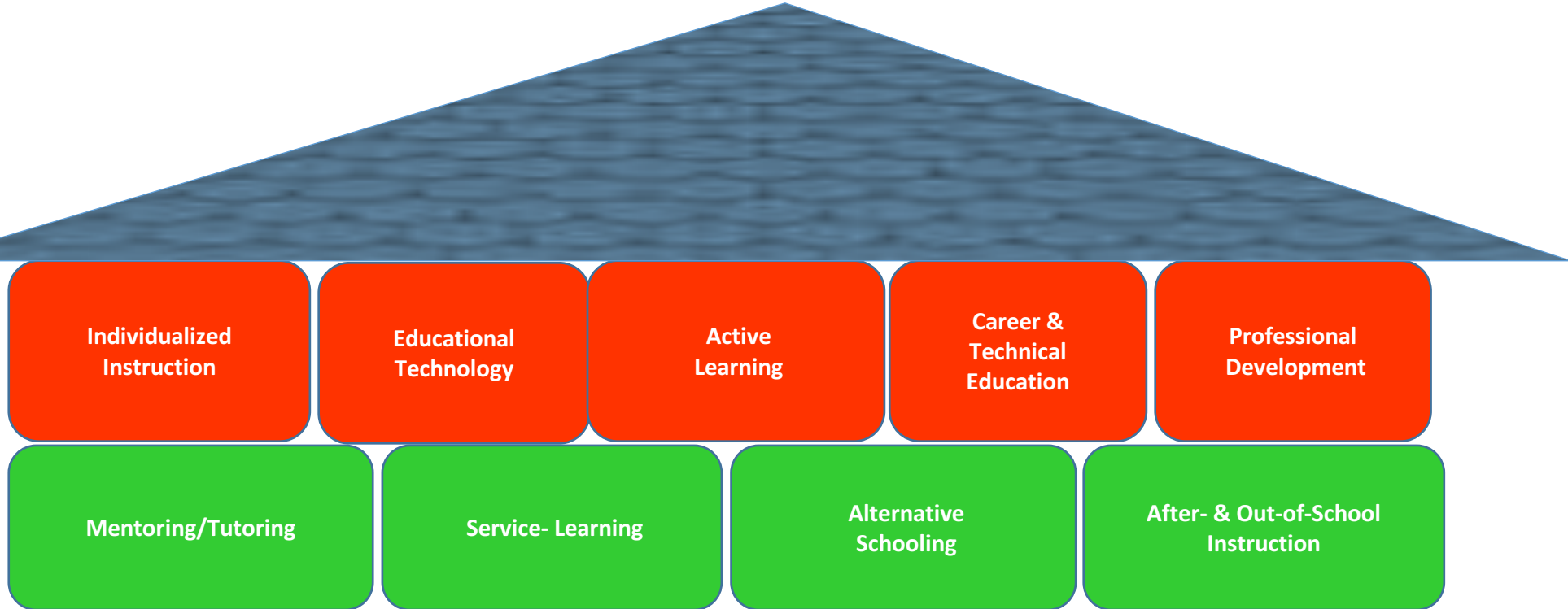
Strategies Must Be Strategically Selected & Applied



Strategies Must Be Strategically Selected & Applied



Strategies Must Be Strategically Selected & Applied



Strategies Must Be Strategically Selected & Applied



Active Learning

After- & Out-of-School Instruction

Professional Development

Educational Technology

Alternative Schooling

Career & Technical Education

Mentoring/Tutoring

Individualized Instruction

Service- Learning



NATIONAL
DROPOUT
PREVENTION
CENTER/NETWORK

Organizing the 15 Effective Strategies

Basic Foundational Strategies

**Systemic
Approach**



NATIONAL
DROPOUT
PREVENTION
CENTER/NETWORK

Defining “Systemic Approach”

Dropout prevention is understood and “owned” by everyone in the system.

Dropout prevention is the focus and responsibility of everyone in the system.

Dropout prevention is strategically planned, evaluated, monitored and periodically modified.

Policies, practices, rules, and guiding documents consider and address dropout prevention.

Improved graduation outcomes are the primary focus of all work.



A systemic approach results in educator creativity and multiple other acts of dropout prevention.

Organizing the 15 Effective Strategies

Basic Foundational Strategies

**Systemic
Approach**

**School–
Community
Collaboration**



NATIONAL
DROPOUT
PREVENTION
CENTER/NETWORK

Defining “School-Community Collaboration”

Dropout prevention is understood and “owned” by community leaders and thought shapers.

Community leaders and organizations are committed to engage with and support the school’s efforts to improve graduation outcomes.

The faith community is engaged in dropout prevention and supports the school’s efforts to improve student outcomes and graduation rates.

Businesses understand the economic impact of higher graduation rates and are willing to financially support the school’s efforts and to communicate the importance of school success to student and parent employees.

Political figures and elected officials understand dropout prevention and are committed to support the school’s work to improve graduation outcomes.

School-community collaboration around dropout prevention motivates educators, parents, and students. It also maintains focus on dropout prevention over time.

Organizing the 15 Effective Strategies

Basic Foundational Strategies

Systemic
Approach

School–
Community
Collaboration

Safe
Learning
Environment



Defining “Safe Learning Environment”

Students feel physically safe and secure at school, with their peers, and with adult educators.

Students enjoy and look forward to their classes, to being with their teachers, and to outside-class school experiences.

Students feel free from embarrassment, humiliation, or stress in the school environment.

School is “a place where students want to be”.

A safe learning environment solves many other dropout-related problems such as truancy, discipline problems, and student disengagement.

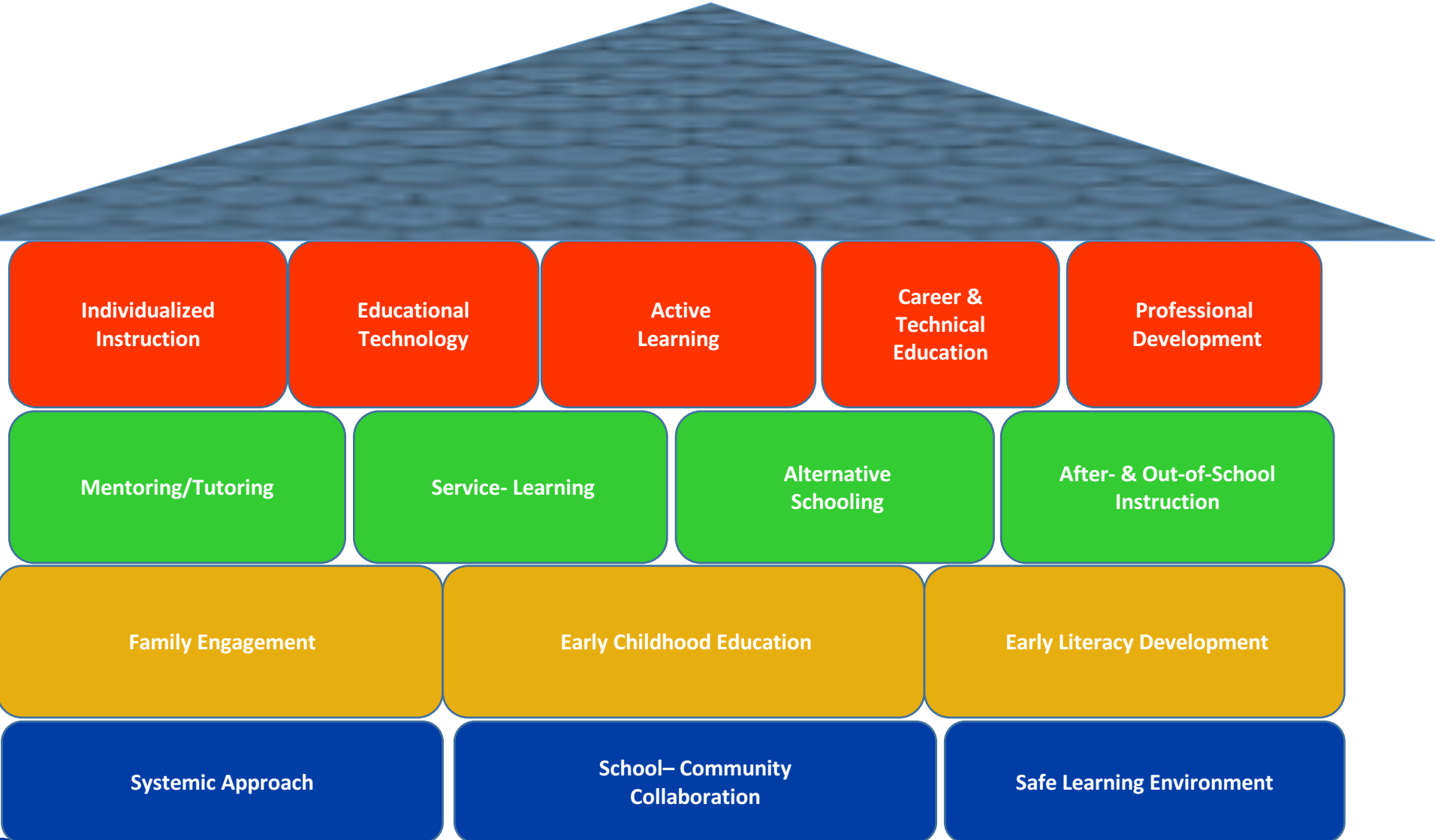


What is the status of Foundational Strategies in your school or district?

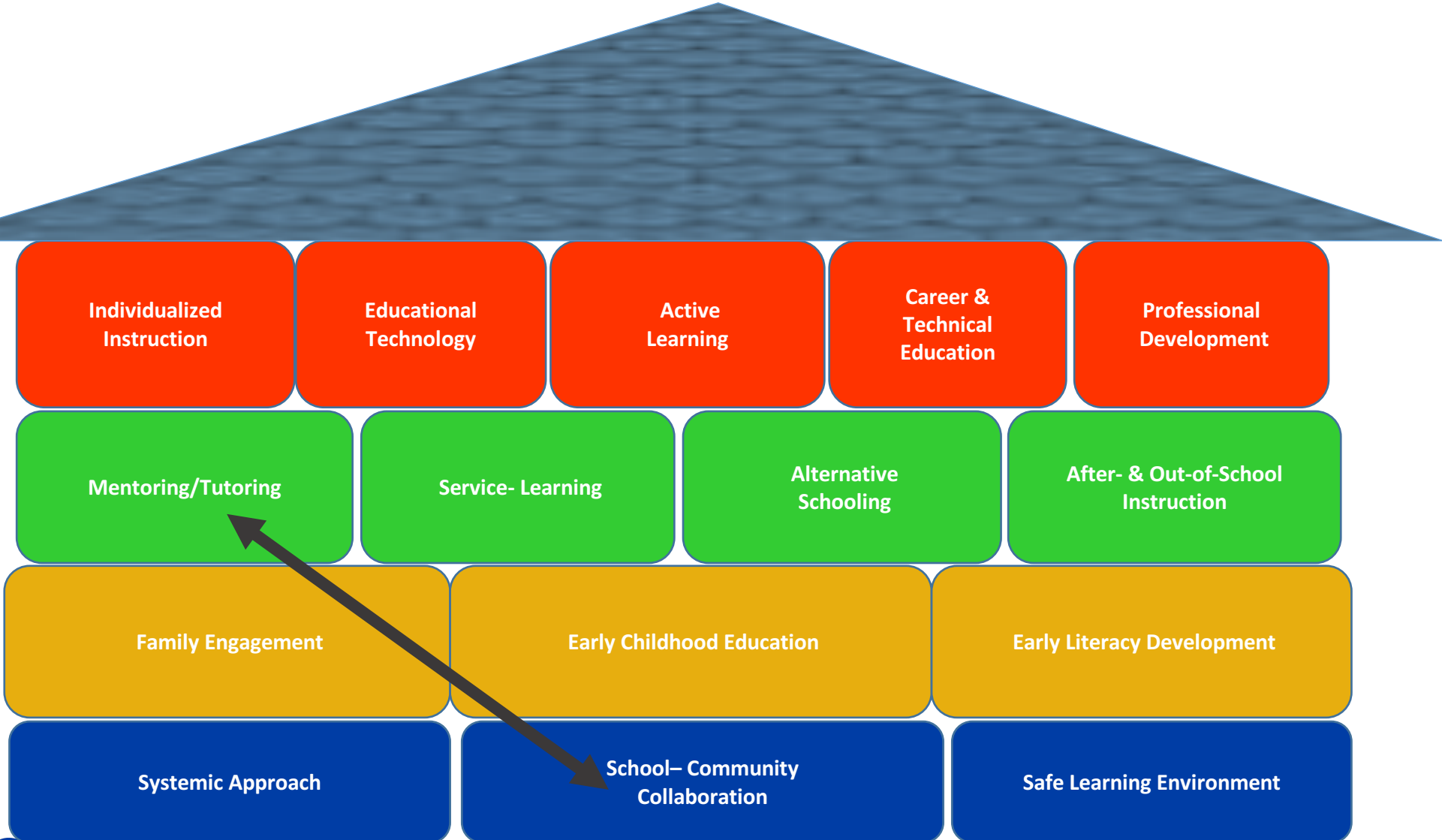
Interaction of Foundational Strategies with Other Strategies

Without the Foundational Strategies, other dropout prevention strategies, programs, and interventions don't produce maximum results.

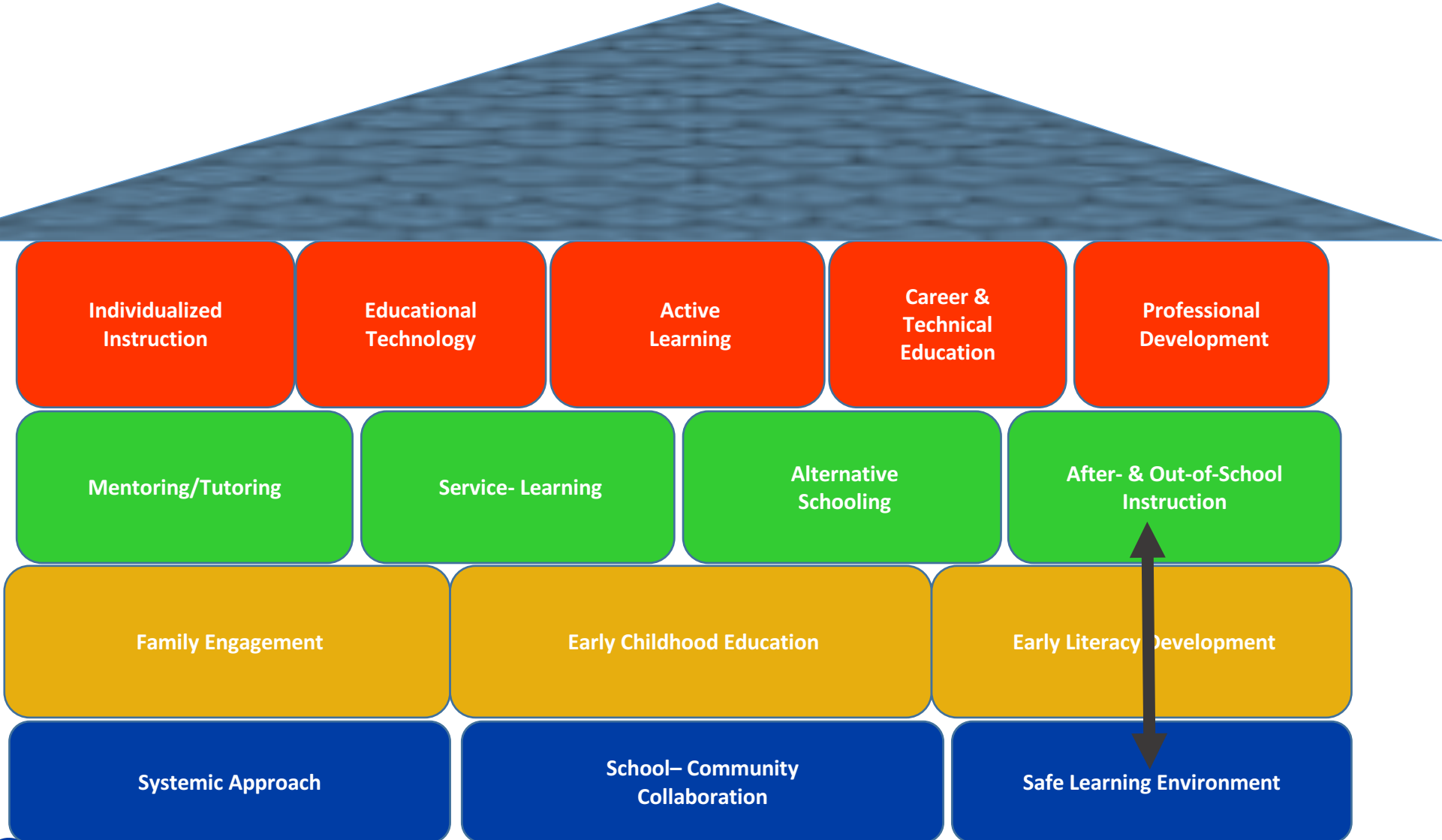
Strategies Must Be Strategically Selected & Applied



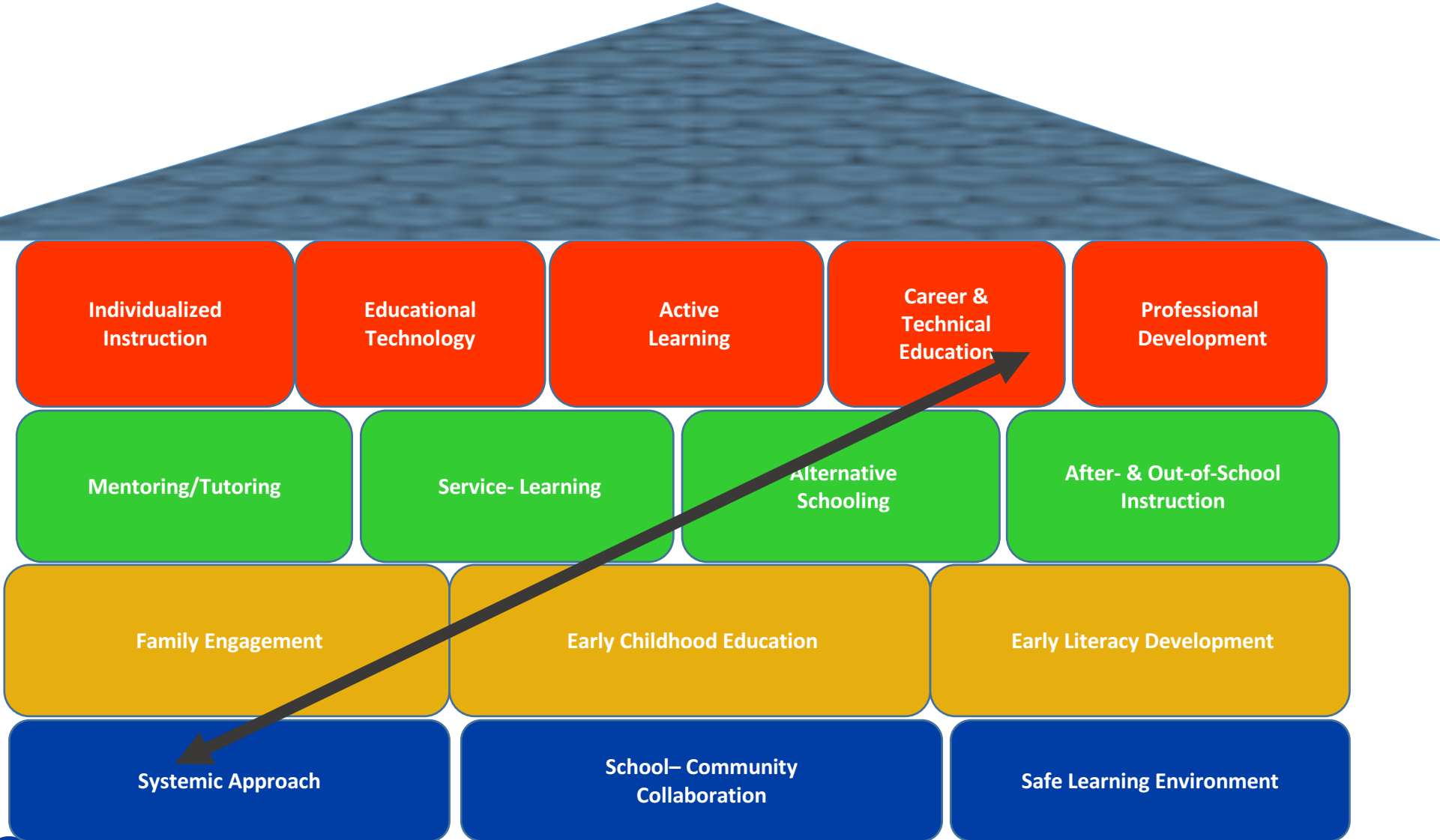
Strategies Must Be Strategically Selected & Applied



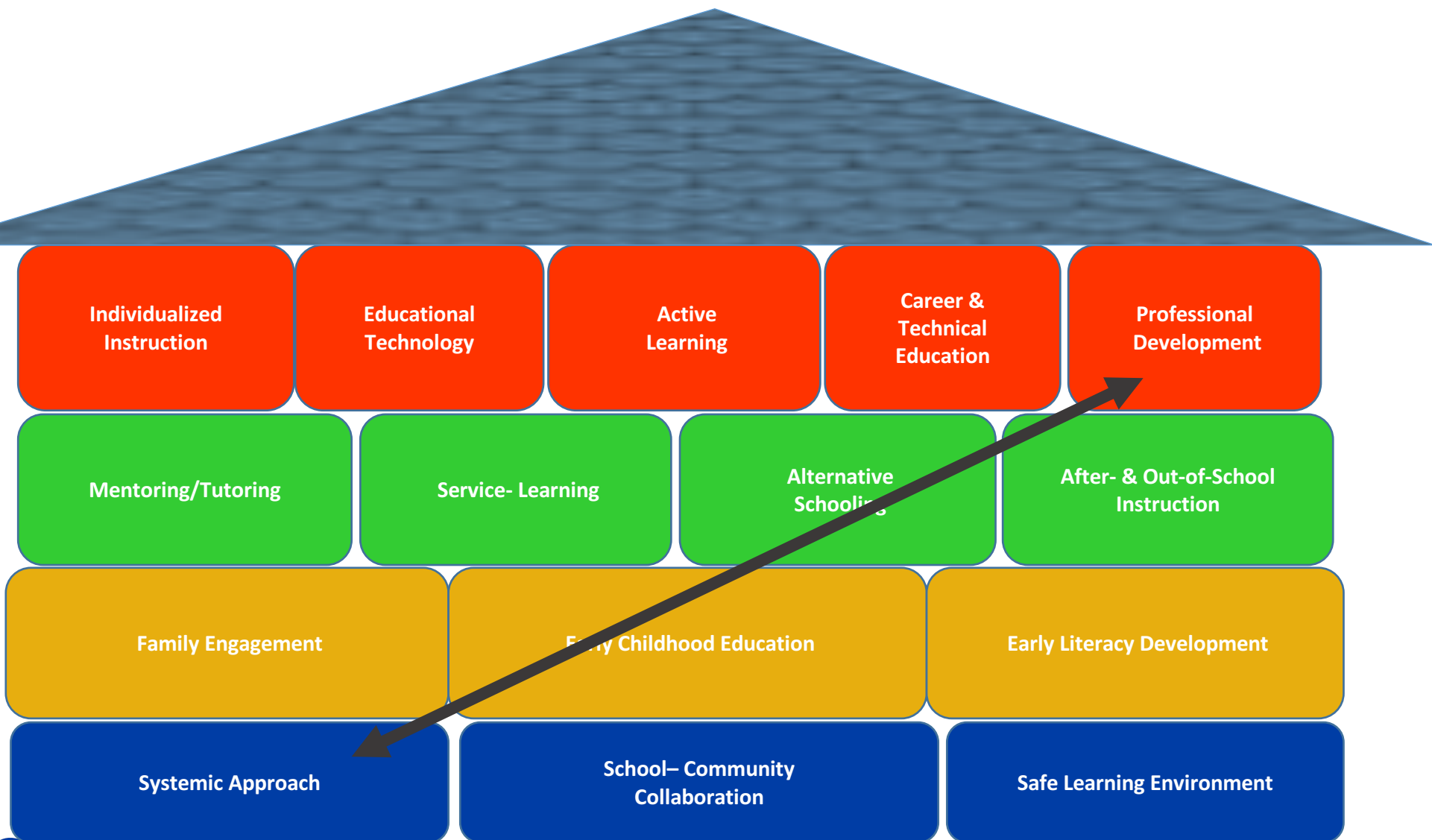
Strategies Must Be Strategically Selected & Applied



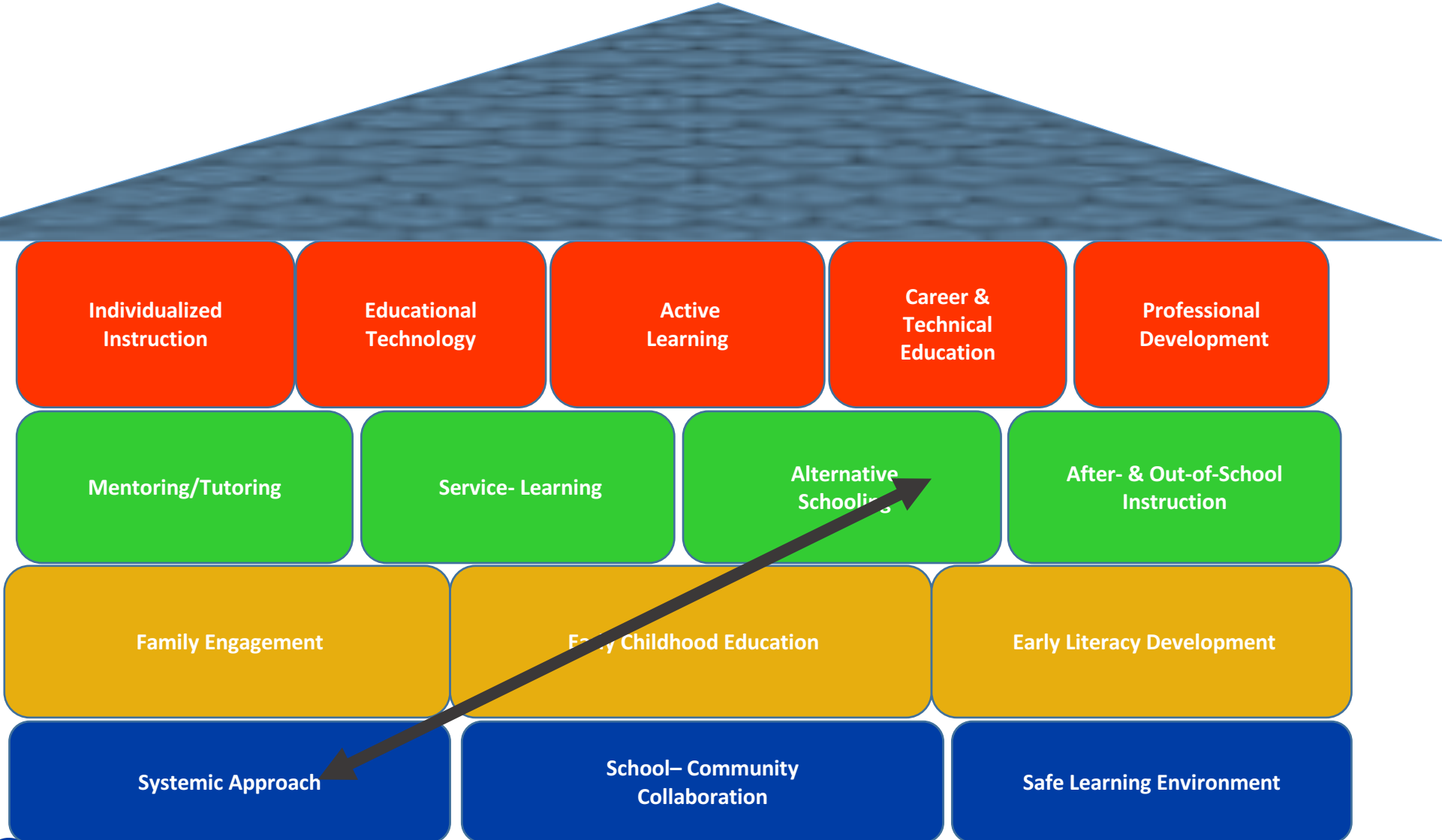
Strategies Must Be Strategically Selected & Applied



Strategies Must Be Strategically Selected & Applied



Strategies Must Be Strategically Selected & Applied



Foundations of the 15 Effective Strategies for Dropout Prevention

**Dr. Sandy Addis
Director**

National Dropout Prevention Center

www.dropoutprevention.org



NATIONAL
DROPOUT
PREVENTION
CENTER/NETWORK