

Academic Achievement Initiatives for High School Counselors

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March 23, 2016

Data



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- Ensuring academic achievement for every student includes counselor initiated activities designed to meet the needs of under-served, under-performing and under-represented populations.
- What are some of your current data sources?
- What are you already doing that can be measured?
- START SMALL and use that data to support further expansion and change
- SCHOOL DATA PROFILE

Academic Support Groups



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- To develop skills to increase academic success
- Students who need supplemental instruction on strategies to use in the classroom to help them focus, prepare and get on track to learn.
- Not highly disruptive and do not have severe learning concerns
- Not performing as well as they could on classroom assignments or statewide tests.

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Check Ups

- Get a report every three weeks from data person or teachers on students' progress
- Meet with students who are not being academically successful based on your system's credit standards
- If homework is an issue, develop a system in which there is some sort of check-in procedure related to HW
- Incentive for improved performance

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Academic Clubs

Types of Clubs

- Clubs that can provide tutoring for students in need:
 - BETA Club
 - National Honor Society
 - Key Club
 - SAT/ACT Prep Club
 - Math Honor Society

Counselor Involvement

- Refer Students for the tutoring aspect of club
- Communicate with parents the opportunities that you think might be beneficial for their child

Communication



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Consultations

- Have you set aside time for you to meet with teachers during their planning about concerns they may have for their students and develop some sort of action plan. Make it a point to follow up with the teacher after you have done your method of intervention.
- **Parent-Teacher Conferences:** Try to attend as many as your schedule will allow...especially for those students who may be experiencing academic difficulty. What can you offer to do to support the student?

Parental Involvement

- Pick a grade level each nine weeks to write letters to students about something special they achieved (honor roll, student of the month, improved choices, etc.)
- Parent consultation
- Help to keep the parents of children who are having difficulty in school apprised of their children's progress by encouraging teachers to communicate more frequently with parents than once per grading period

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Suggested Activities



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School

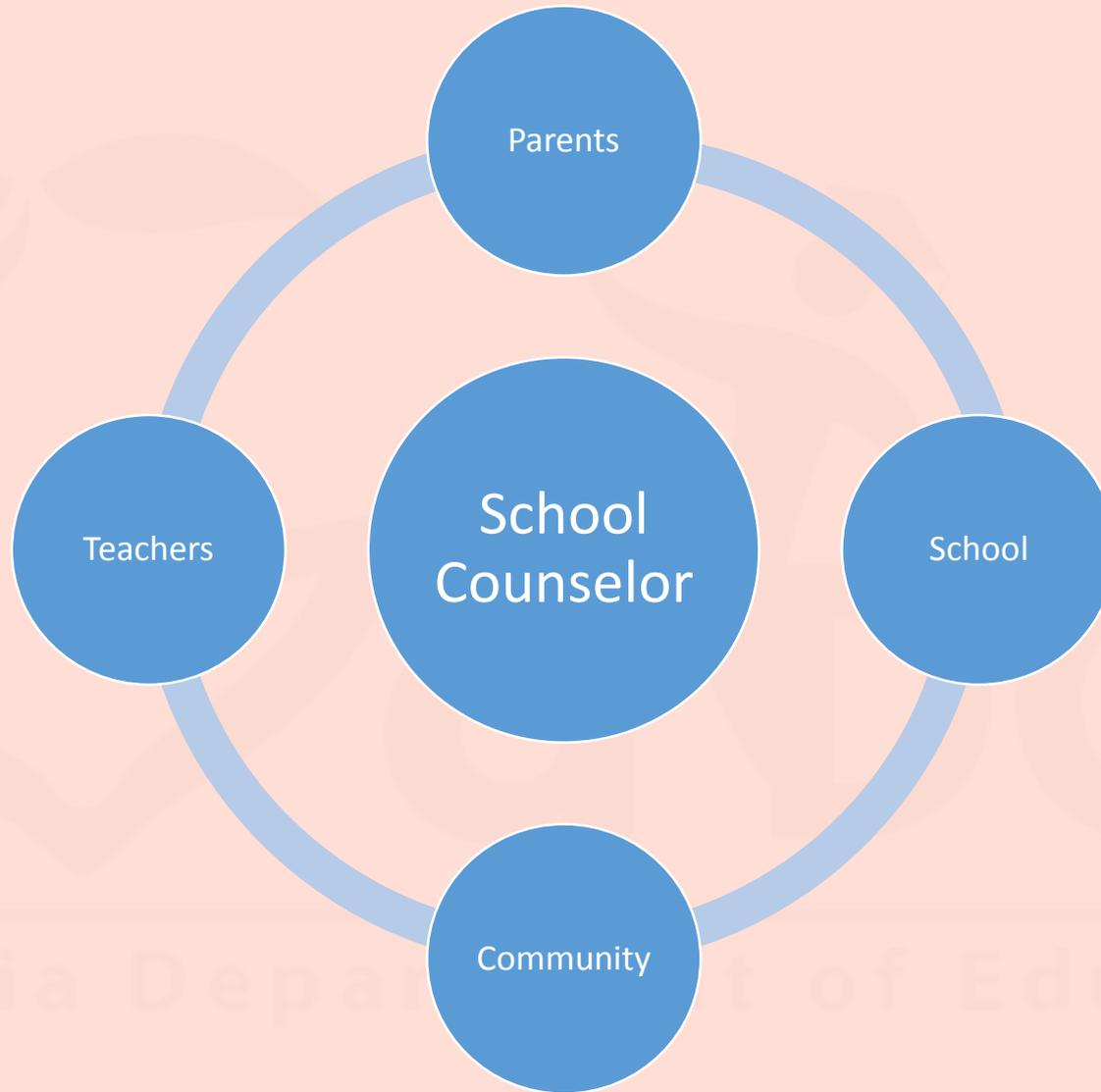
- Develop an early warning system for students having academic and/or behavioral difficulty to ensure early interventions.
- Participate on school leadership teams and use data to inform recommendations for improving student learning, outcomes and expectations.
- Collaborate with teachers and administrators to develop early warning programs and safety nets for students experiencing academic difficulty. SLDS is a great tool to use.

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Parents & Families



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Parents & Families



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- Parental Support & Counseling
 - Ideas
 - Challenges (work)
- Parents-Counselors-Teachers
 - Share academic success strategies
 - Event that brings parents and teachers together that doesn't seem tense
- Parents-School-Counseling
 - Help students and parents develop pride in the school
 - Allow parents to be a part of some of the decision making that happens for school activities
- Parents-Counselors-Community
 - Volunteer Opportunities
 - Summer Job Fairs
 - Community Mentoring

Students



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- Help students who have high absentee and discipline rates (and are at risk of dropping out) understand the consequences of their behaviors. **Connect** each student **to a** peer network and at least one adult in the school/community who can serve as a **mentor**.
- Help each student implement a **program of study** that connects his or her high school experience to college and career goals and that includes strategies to transition to postsecondary settings.
- Engage students in conversations about academic performance (GPA and promotion or retention) and their habits as learners (attitudes, behaviors, self-management) and how they are connected to meeting career goals via your **core curriculum lessons**.
- Help students take college/career/technology classes while still in high school by introducing them to dual enrollment, online classes, early college, distance learning and virtual schools. **MOWR**

Students



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- Help students become test savvy through **test prep** that includes overcoming test anxiety, types of test questions, how to make an educated guess, types of directions, practice tests, registration, logistics of test day, scoring and fee waivers.
- Help students use **test scores** and relevant analysis to identify skill gaps and plan strategies for skill development and course selection.
- Help students **sign up** to receive mailings, join listservs and social media groups, and retrieve college/career/technical newsletters and other forms of information from institutions of interest.

Service Oriented Ideas



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- [Community Service: Middle & High School Kids](#)
- [Service Learning](#)
- [Animals, Seniors, Environment, Troops, Helping Other Kids](#)
- [35+ Service Projects for Kids](#)
- [366 Community Service Ideas](#)
- Consider the needs of your community.

Student Incentive Resources

- [Incentive Ideas](#) (addresses classroom management incentives)
- [Secondary Reward Strategies](#)
- [Attendance Incentives](#)
- [Behavioral Intervention Incentives](#)

Attendance



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- Missed You" notes
- Personal Note
- [Other Attendance Incentives](#) (pg. 107 begins HS incentives)

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Benefits of 9th Grade Academy



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- increased academic achievement
- reduced discrepancies in the achievement gap
- increased student attendance, attitudes and behavior
- reduction isolation that often seeds alienation and violence
- promotion positive feeling about self and others
- increased number of students matriculating to 10th grade
- lower student drop out rate
- increased extracurricular participation rate
- development student awareness of academic/career options
- stronger student-teacher relationships
- enhancement of student ability to apply academic content and the Skills For Success: Learning, Thinking, Technology, Interpersonal, and Communication skills in real world and workplace setting
- integration of academic and technical skills
- involvement of each student along with his/her parent/guardian in an advisement setting

Planning for a 9th Grade Academy

COME EXPERIENCE THE MAGIC

SUMMER PROFESSIONAL LEARNING FOR SCHOOL COUNSELORS

May 31, June 1, June 2

Macon Centreplex – Macon, GA - 8:15 AM – 3:00 PM

Lunch will be provided.

Hotel block available at Macon Marriott for \$109 per night. (Reference CTAE Resource Network when booking.)

TO REGISTER:

1. Visit www.ctaern.org Login info: First three letters of last name and last four digits of SSN
2. Workshop Catalog
3. Workshop Categories (upper right)
4. Guidance/Career Development
5. Click "Register" tab to register for the desired summer workshop(s) you would like to attend.
6. An email confirmation will be sent to you after successfully registering for each the workshop.

Get ready for a Top Hat Magical Summer.....
Abracadabra...Ayla kazoo

This summer will be magical because of all
the great updates the Georgia Department of
Education

has in store for you!

Each show will leave you wanting more
because each show is filled with

MAGIC!

Appearing June 1 & June 2
8:15 AM — 3:00 PM
(CHOOSE ONE DAY)



DAVE WEBER

**“Sticks & Stones exposed: The Truth Behind Words & Relationships”
(Culture & Climate)**

This hilarious presentation zeroes in on the power of our words and the impact they have on the culture and climate of a school. What kind of atmosphere are our words creating? One in which education professionals strive to work as a strong team for the sake of the children...or one that is breeding an inability to trust and work together. Discover how to transform your classroom and your relationships and how to build a great “community” within your school and your family.
*Additional sessions by Dave Weber scheduled throughout the summer through CTAERN.

**Intended Audience:
Elementary, Middle, High
8:15 AM—3:00 PM**

Appearing May 31, June 1 & June 2
8:15AM — 12:00 PM
(CHOOSE ONE DAY)



GREG MANNING

Career Exploration for Young Champs

This interactive workshop packed full of energy, motivation, information, and fun exercises will discuss and assist with strategies and exercises that will encourage young students to dream about a future career. It's never too early to dream of becoming that chef. We all dream and it's common for middle and high school students to begin thinking about a productive career. Elementary students should also have the same opportunity to dream about their future, they just need you, their school counselor to be there to open up a whole new world of career opportunities.

**Intended Audience:
Elementary
8:15 AM—12:00 PM
Participate in Main Event from 12-3**

Appearing May 31, June 1, & June 2
8:15 AM — 3:00 PM
(CHOOSE ONE DAY)



LYNN ANDERSON

Counseling and Economic Development

This full-day workshop offers Georgia middle and high school counselors what they need to know about the 21st century workforce development and education. This professional learning begins by describing the “new economy” and what education and skills are now needed by high school graduates and in their postsecondary training. The workshop then moves into how counselors can work with workforce development agencies. Counselors are encouraged to invite their building administrator to participate in this session.

**Intended Audience:
Middle and High
8:15 AM—3:00 PM**

The MAIN EVENT will happen on May 31, June 1, and June 2.
Counselors are encouraged to choose the day that works best for them. Lunch will be provided for all sessions.
A few of the highlights for the MAIN EVENT are:

- “Move On When Ready” Updates
- Updates from Various State Agencies
- Legislative Updates that Impact School Counselors
 - The Future of Career Planning in Georgia

Intended Audience:

Middle and High School Counselors (8:15AM - 3:00 PM) & Elementary School Counselors (12:00 PM — 3:00 PM)





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