Increasing Graduation Rate: What’s Your Plan?

Winter Instructional Leadership Conference
February 25-26, 2020

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School Effectiveness Specialist
Session Norms

• Place electronics on silence/vibrate.
• Remain engaged in learning.
• Respectfully share opinions.
• Ask questions for clarification to avoid making assumptions.
Session Goal

To learn and collaborate using the GaDOE High School Graduation Plan Support Guide to identify evidenced based practices that address your school’s identified challenges to improving the graduation rate.

High School Graduation Plan Support Guide
Graduation Rate – All Students

4-Year Graduation Rates for Georgia

- 2016-2017: 80.6%
- 2017-2018: 81.6%
- 2018-2019: 82.0%
## Graduation Rate – Race/Ethnicity

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<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>American Indian/Alaskan</td>
<td>76.03%</td>
<td>76.8%</td>
<td>79.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian/Pacific Islander</td>
<td>90.83%</td>
<td>90.3%</td>
<td>91.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>79.57%</td>
<td>79.4%</td>
<td>77.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>75.85%</td>
<td>74.6%</td>
<td>73.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi-Racial</td>
<td>82.30%</td>
<td>82.0%</td>
<td>81.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>85.61%</td>
<td>84.9%</td>
<td>84.0%</td>
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## Graduation Rate – Subgroups

<table>
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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Economically Disadvantaged</td>
<td>77.2%</td>
<td>77.1%</td>
<td>76.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Economically Disadvantaged</td>
<td>88.0%</td>
<td>87.3%</td>
<td>85.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Limited English Proficient</td>
<td>59.3%</td>
<td>57.9%</td>
<td>59.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students With Disability</td>
<td>62.9%</td>
<td>61.1%</td>
<td>58.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students Without Disability</td>
<td>84.5%</td>
<td>84.1%</td>
<td>83.2%</td>
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</table>
Graduation Rate Targets

What is your school’s target?

Graduation Rate Targets Resource 2020
February 2020
National Lessons Learned Conference for K-12 Schools
Which of these students will drop out?
Which of these students will drop out?

- Has not passed math for 2 consecutive years
- Absent from school 22 days last school year
- Averages 15 office referrals/year for disruptive behavior
- New to community. Family has moved 3 times this school year.
Early Grade Dropout Correlates – The Big Three

- Retention
- Grades
- Attendance
Grade Retention and School Dropout

• Retention of one grade – increases risk by 40%
• Retention of two grades – increases risk by 90%
Understanding the Relationship Between Grades and Graduation

Average Freshman Grades

(The Consortium on Chicago School Research at the University of Chicago, 2007)
## Relationship of Attendance to Graduation Rates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Days Absent in 8\textsuperscript{th} Grade</th>
<th>Graduation Rate 5-Years Later</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15+ days</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 - 14 days</td>
<td>61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 - 10 days</td>
<td>72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 - 5 days</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0 days</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Georgia Department of Education, 2016
15 Effective Dropout Prevention Strategies

- Family Engagement
- Service Learning
- Safe Learning Environment
- Early Childhood Education
- Active Learning
- Professional Development
- Mentoring / Tutoring
- Educational Technology
- Alternative Schooling
- School-Community Collaboration
- After- & Out-of-School Instruction
- Career & Technical Education
- Early Literacy Development
- Systematic Approach
- Individualized Instruction

National Dropout Prevention Center
How do we select strategies?
Strategies Must Be Strategically Selected and Applied

- Individualized Instruction
- Educational Technology
- Active Learning
- Professional Development
- Career & Technical Education
- After- & Out-of-School Instruction
- Service Learning
- Mentoring / Tutoring
- Alternative Schooling
- Early Childhood Education
- Early Literacy Development
- Family Engagement
- School-Community Collaboration
- Safe Learning Environment
- Systematic Approach

National Dropout Prevention Center
Successful Practices Network

Richard Woods, Georgia’s School Superintendent | Georgia Department of Education | Educating Georgia’s Future
Think about the research linking students with disabilities and dropouts:

- Students with IEPs are:
  - 85% more likely to repeat a grade
  - 3 times more likely to drop out of school
  - 2 times more likely to be suspended

- Chronic absenteeism is a problem with 19% of students with IEPs missing three or more weeks of school each year.

- Only 65% of students with IEPs graduate in four years.
Why literacy?
The power of literacy

“Underdeveloped literacy skills are the number one reason why students are retained, assigned to special education, given long term remedial services, and why they fail to graduate from high school.”

Vincent Ferradino and Gerald Tirozzi, former Executive Directors of NAESP, NASSP
From My Kids/Your Kids to OUR Kids

TWO STRATEGIES:
1. Literacy for ALL

2. Engaging the Faculty in Professional Dialogue: Structured Discussion Groups
CTE WORKS FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

• High school students involved in CTE are more engaged, perform better and graduate at higher rates.

• Taking one CTE class for every two academic classes minimizes the risk of students dropping out of high school.

• The average high school graduation rate for students concentrating in CTE programs is 93 percent, compared to an average national freshman graduation rate of 80 percent.

• 91 percent of high school graduates who earned 2-3 CTE credits enrolled in college.
Top 10 Indicators for Dropping Out

- Poor academic performance linked to retention
- Chronic Absenteeism
- Poverty
- Ethnicity/Race
- Limited English Proficiency
- Urban Schools
- Rural Schools
- Teen Sexual Activity
- Disruptive Students
- Children with Special Needs
Greatest Challenges in Improving the Graduation Rate at Your Schools
What research-based strategy would most effectively address the identified issue?

• High School Graduation Support Guide
Directions for Activity

• Move to assigned groups based on common issues

• Based on the assigned resources to explore in the High School Graduation Support Guide:
  • Each group develops action steps to address the issue
  • Record on the chart paper
  • Post on your group’s wall
Gallery Walk

Post questions or suggestions for each group's plan using post-its.
Back to the Drawing Board with Your Group

- Consider comments/questions from Gallery Walk
- Prepare final plan to address your group’s issue
- Decide on a speaker(s) for your group to report out
Offering a holistic education to each and every child in our state.

Share Plans to Increase Graduation Rate with Whole Group
Questions/Comments
Session Feedback

Thank you for attending our session. Please take a moment to provide your feedback.

https://tinyurl.com/2020ILC

Share your conference highlights now!

@GaDOESDE