



### Parents: How can I prevent my child from dropping out?

- Ensure your child attends school every day.
- Review your child's grades in school: interim reports and report cards.
- Meet with your child's teachers.
- Set up an academic plan for your child.
- Meet with your child's counselor, social worker, nurse, and/or SAP counselor.
- Encourage your child to be involved in positive school and/or community activities.
- Notify the school if you have financial difficulty so that they may link you to community services.
- Require your child to read every night.
- Let your child know that you value education as important to his/her future.
- Set aside time every day for homework, even if your child doesn't have any.
- Limit the amount of time your child watches television and plays video games to no more than one or two hours each day.
- Help your child use problem-solving skills in difficult situations at home and at school.
- Praise good behavior.

Reference: National Center on Secondary Education and Transition

### Wake County Resources

#### North Carolina Report Card

[www.wcpss.net/results/nc-report-cards.html](http://www.wcpss.net/results/nc-report-cards.html)

#### Student Support Services

[www.wcpss.net/departments/studentsupport.html](http://www.wcpss.net/departments/studentsupport.html)

#### Student Assistance Program Counselor (SAP Counselor High School)

[www.wcpss.net/school-directory/](http://www.wcpss.net/school-directory/)

### Community Resources

#### Haven House

[www.havenhouse.org/](http://www.havenhouse.org/)

Phone: (919) 833-3312

#### Teen Outreach Program

[www.raleighnc.gov/arts/content/PRecRecreation/Articles/TeenOutreachProgram.html](http://www.raleighnc.gov/arts/content/PRecRecreation/Articles/TeenOutreachProgram.html)

### National Resources

#### America's Promise Alliance & Grad Nation

[www.americaspromise.org/](http://www.americaspromise.org/)

#### National Dropout Prevention Center/Network

[www.dropoutprevention.org](http://www.dropoutprevention.org)

1-866-745-5641

#### National Dropout Prevention Center for Students with Disabilities

[www.ndpc-sd.org/](http://www.ndpc-sd.org/)

1-866-745-5641

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## Success in WCPSS: A Guide to Dropout Prevention



*A Unified Effort between you and WCPSS*



### Success in WCPSS: A Guide to Dropout Prevention Student Support Services

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## Typical Reasons Why Students Dropout

- Academic Failure
- Attendance/Preparation
- Lack of Connection with the school
- Pregnancy
- Financial Difficulties
- Dislike school
- Lack of interest in school
- Outside influences
- Disciplinary Issues
- Lack of Educational support

## Effects of Dropouts on Society

- High School dropouts contribute \$60,000 less in taxes every year.
- USA could save \$17 billion in Medicaid and healthcare cost by graduating all students.
- If the male graduate rate went up by 5% the nation would see an annual savings of \$49 billion in crime related costs.

## Dropout Statistics for NC

- Despite increases in student membership each year, WCPSS continues to maintain a steady decline in dropout counts. In 2012-2013, the WCPSS high school dropout rate fell to 1.95%, its lowest rate ever. The WCPSS rate is lower than the state's rate. The NC overall rate decreased in 2012-13 to 2.5% from 3.01% in 2011-12.
- Other large school districts in North Carolina, including Durham (3.2%), Forsyth (2.7%), Mecklenburg (3.0%), and Guilford (2.1%) had higher dropout rates in 2012-13 than did WCPSS. Of those districts, only WCPSS and Guilford have had a rate below the state average in each of the past 13 years.
- The WCPSS dropout rate for Hispanic/Latino students (4.1%) fell for the seventh consecutive year, marking a 50% decline since 2005-06.
- Since 2007-08 (6.84%), the dropout rate for the Black/African-American student group has been steadily dropping (2.8%). This group had the highest decrease in dropouts (1.8 percentage points), followed by Hispanic/Latino students (0.9 percentage points).
- After 8 years of a dropout rate in the 2-3% range, White students' dropout rate has steadily lowered since 2007-08 to 1.1% in 2012-13.
- Students with disabilities (SWD) continued their previous years' trend, lowering their dropout rates in 2012-13 to 2.9% (SWD). The dropout rate for limited English proficient (LEP) students in 2012-13 was 7.1%.

Reference: WCPSS Data and Accountability July 2014



## Benefits of Staying in School

- ⇒ High School graduates live 9 years longer than high school dropouts
- ⇒ Dropouts are more likely to face poverty
- ⇒ High School graduates earn \$28,000 a year vs. dropouts who earn \$19,000 a year
- ⇒ Over a lifetime college graduates make over \$1 million more than high school dropouts
- ⇒ High School dropouts are 3x more likely than college graduates to be unemployed, 2x more likely to live in poverty and 8x more likely to go to prison than high school graduates
- ⇒ High school dropouts are more likely to get divorced, and be single parents of children who dropout
- ⇒ 68% of state prison inmates are dropouts

Reference: Career Connections

