Welcome to the Southeastern North Carolina Dropout Prevention monthly Newsletter. We will be highlighting dropout prevention activities and accomplishments in the region. So please send us your stories, highlights, accomplishments and upcoming events. Additionally, we will provide updates of local and national events, resources, funding and research.

News and Events

- **Dropout rates have decreased in several area school districts!** Lower dropout rates were reported in New Hanover, Pender, Onslow, Duplin and Brunswick counties. Read all about it at the Star News. [http://www.starnewsonline.com/article/20120202/ARTICLES/120209931](http://www.starnewsonline.com/article/20120202/ARTICLES/120209931) or the original report at [http://www.dpi.state.nc.us/docs/research/discipline/reports/consolidated/2010-11/consolidated-report.pdf](http://www.dpi.state.nc.us/docs/research/discipline/reports/consolidated/2010-11/consolidated-report.pdf).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Local Educational Agency</th>
<th>2009-10 DO counts</th>
<th>2010-11 DO counts</th>
<th>% Change</th>
<th>2009-10 DO Rates</th>
<th>2010-11 DO Rates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brunswick County</td>
<td>161</td>
<td>136</td>
<td>-15.5%</td>
<td>4.19</td>
<td>3.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Duplin County</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>-15.5%</td>
<td>4.14</td>
<td>3.52</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Hanover County</td>
<td>385</td>
<td>295</td>
<td>-23.4%</td>
<td>4.91</td>
<td>3.83</td>
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<td>Onslow County</td>
<td>215</td>
<td>191</td>
<td>-11.2%</td>
<td>3.15</td>
<td>2.84</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pender County</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>-12.6%</td>
<td>3.57</td>
<td>3.16</td>
</tr>
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</table>

- Join us at the **24th Annual At-Risk Youth National Forum**! The Dropout Prevention Coalition is a co-sponsor of this well attended national conference and we have several members presenting. [http://www.dropoutprevention.org/home](http://www.dropoutprevention.org/home)
  
  **Where:** Embassy Suites at Kingston Plantation, A Hilton and Embassy Suites Resort, 9800 Queensway Boulevard, Myrtle Beach, SC 29572 USA
  
  **When:** Sunday February 19, 2012 1:00 pm to Wednesday, February 22, 2012 noon

  Let us know if you are attending the conference. ([robertsonj@uncw.edu](mailto:robertsonj@uncw.edu)) We will send you a list of regional Dropout Prevention Coalition speakers and presentations of interest to our members. Additionally, If you would like to carpool, please let us know.

- The Dropout Prevention Coalition in collaboration with the Outreach Alliances, Watson School of Education and the NCPTA is sponsoring the **Emerging Leaders Conference**. Parents, educators and individuals who are interested in learning about new ideas for improving and promoting family engagement, teacher preparedness and strategies for outreach to support student success should attend. Participants will strengthen their leadership skills and have excellent networking opportunities.

  **Where:** UNCW - Watson School of Education
  
  **When:** Saturday, March 17, 2012
  
  **Time:** 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.


  $10 registration includes lunch and materials.

  Register online today!
Southeast Education Alliance and Outreach Alliance Watson School of Education Presents……
March 23, 2011 conference: Working with the Black Male Student….strategies that work!
Presenter: Carlton Ashby. Located at Landfall Country Club, Wilmington , N.C. For more information contact Deloris Rhodes- Outreach Alliance Office, Watson School of Education, Rhodesd@uncw.edu 910-962-7256

Regional Resources

Our website will be up and running before March 1. If you want to make sure your organization or school is featured, send us a short description of your Regional Success Stories! (Pam Johnson at gardenfairy@ec.rr.com )

Member Updates

Does your school or organization have something you want to share with the coalition members? Let us know about it and we will spotlight you here!

Dropout Prevention Information

Last month the National Dropout Prevention Center partnered with MENTOR at the National Mentoring Summit in Washington, DC, where Big Brothers Big Sisters presented their Youth Outcome Report showing statistically significant improvements for youth during the first year of enrollment in the organization’s nationwide mentoring program.

Survey: U.S. earns average grades in education policy—The United States earned a grade of C for its education policy efforts and results, in Education Week’s “Quality Counts 2012” survey, which annually measures education policies, student achievement, and other factors.

Funding Sources

Ben & Jerry's Foundation: Grassroots Grant Program
Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation: Grants to Help Inner-City Educators
Sustainable Energy Award - Feb. 10
Intel Foundation: Schools of Distinction Program - Feb. 15
Jenzabar Student Leadership Awards - Feb. 20
Build-A-Bear Workshop Huggable Heroes Awards (nominate kids 8 to 18) - Feb. 27
Disney Friends for Change Grants - Feb. 29
2012 Do Something Awards - March 1
Up to $150K for art programs - March 1
Ezra Jack Keats Minigrants - March 15
Ecology/Environmental Science Teaching Award - March 15
Pathways Within Roads to Reading - March 30
$25K and technology tools for outstanding educators – March 31
Captain Planet Environment Grants - May 31

For additional funding sources and national resources please check out the most recent newsletter at the National Dropout Prevention Center/Network at: http://www.dropoutprevention.org/e-newsletters

NOTE: Please send any items you want included in future newsletters to Pam Johnson at gardenfairy@ec.rr.com