Interventions for Students At-Risk of Dropping Out of School

In creating strategies to address attendance, behavior and course performance it is important to plan prevention initiatives that affect all students, interventions that target smaller populations of students and personalized interventions that meet the individual needs of specific students. The charts below provide examples of each of these.

ATTENDANCE		
Prevention	**Targeted Interventions**	**Individualized Interventions**
• attendance/truancy policy and procedures review, revision and consistent enforcement • positive school culture for attendance • clear and consistent attendance expectations, incentives and consequences for parents and students • consistent documentation (absences, tardiness and interventions) • attendance data guides decision making (school and classroom) • safe and supportive environment (school and classroom) • advisor/advisee program • student lead conferences • develop student voice and leadership • post-secondary planning and goal setting (ISTP) • peer mentoring • effective family communication methods • public awareness and community involvement for truancy • school support programs to promote attendance • effective academic engagement practices (varied instructional strategies, foster critical thinking and problem solving)	• conduct home visits • phone contact to parent or family • frequent parent conferences to report progress • investigate absence(s) and provide services to alleviate that reason (e.g. refer to counseling for substance abuse) • community agency referral • coordinate with medical and health provider(s) • seek out extended family members that can help resolve the problems • mentor to check on attendance daily • career development and goal setting activities • develop work-related soft skills • accessible school contact for parents • alternative options to court (mediation, truancy workshops, family counseling) • student participation in extra-curricular activities • effective student engagement practices (high expectations, know students)	• individualized attendance contract for the student • distribute letter to parents after five days of unexcused absences • parent conferencing regarding attendance procedures and consequences • refer case to Attendance Director • refer case to prosecuting attorney • testify in court • coordinate with courts to monitor daily attendance • attend to health and special education needs • specific family communication methods

BEHAVIOR		
Prevention	**Targeted Interventions**	**Individualized Interventions**
• review and adjust discipline policies • effective classroom management skills and practices • predictable learning environment • clear administrative procedures for responding to office discipline referrals • teach and model desired social behaviors • clear behavior expectations • positive school climate • peer mediation program • school wide positive behavior intervention and support plan, including incentives for desired behaviors • discipline data analysis (school and classroom) • advisor/advisee program • conflict resolution and deterrence (e.g. Pro Officers on campus) • positive student-teacher relationships • extra-curricular and co-curricular opportunities • club or activity day • structured developmental guidance program • effective student engagement, family engagement and instructional practices	• positive behavior intervention strategies and supports • pre-planned intervention strategies • clear expectations and procedures for non-classroom settings • data based decision making (ongoing data collection and use to design behavior interventions) • classroom behavior checklist • parent communication journal (daily/weekly) • mentor (peer or adult) • respite or time out area • small group counseling (anger management, grief, substance abuse social skills) • Pro Officer to monitor student behaviors • explore real world behavior consequences (e.g. visits to jails, drug rehab centers, mortuaries and courts) • alternative instruction opportunities (e.g. virtual course, distance learning, academies) • juvenile justice collaboration • model/practice expected behaviors • explicit social skills instruction • develop student voice	• individualized positive behavior intervention and support plan • functional behavior assessment • SAT referral • behavior contract with home involvement • mental health counseling • alternative instruction opportunities (e.g. virtual course, distance learning, academies) • individual school counseling • daily conferencing • reinforce expected behaviors • explicit social skills instruction • teach replacement behaviors • fading plan for behavioral supports • self-determination and self-advocacy development • self-monitoring and correction strategies

COURSE PERFORMANCE		
Prevention	**Targeted Interventions**	**Individualized Interventions**
• research-based instructional strategies and practices to promote student learning and engagement • professional development targeted to improve effective instructional practices • integration of career skills • Individualized Student Transition Planning • AP/Honors courses • embedded credits in career technical or other programs • dual credit courses • student lead conferences • academies • virtual learning • college and career readiness standards and skills development (rigor and relevance) • well-developed use of differentiated instruction • family engagement practices • monitor student progress and adjust instruction • experiential learning opportunities • build classroom relationships	• extra help options in the daily schedule • blocked academic support courses (math and English/Language Arts) • small class size • flexibility in student's schedule • credit recovery opportunities before, during and after school • virtual learning • • small group tutoring • career mentors • peer mentors • GED Option • middle college program • summer school • pre-teaching strategies support instruction • coordination and integration of post-secondary planning (ISTP and special education) • pre-teaching opportunities • remediation and re-teach opportunities • explicit basic skills instruction (literacy and math) • flexible grouping strategies • co-teaching strategies • before/after school options • learning strategies and skills • work-related skills (soft skills) • community partnerships • know student learning styles and vary instruction to increase student engagement	• Individualized Education Program (IEP) or Section 504 support plan • individualized tutoring • referral for special education eligibility • instructional accommodations • specific skills based instruction • classroom flexibility to maximize learning • credit recovery opportunities before, during and after school • pre-teaching opportunities • explicit basic skills instruction (literacy and math) • virtual learning • strategic skill instruction (academic vocabulary) • know student learning styles and vary instruction to increase student engagement • responsive instructional practices (modeling, guided practice, feedback) • corrective reading • cueing • scaffold instruction • learning strategies and skills