

LEARNING, WORKING AND LIVING:

KEEPING PROMISES TO OUR YOUTH

AMERICA'S PROMISE ALLIANCE



THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION in partnership with **AMERICA'S PROMISE ALLIANCE** announces a statewide summit focusing on dropout prevention. This summit will be held from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Richmond at the Holiday Inn Select - Koger Center on October 28, 2008, and is part of Virginia's participation in a major national effort to highlight the issue of dropout prevention and school completion.

America's Promise Alliance is the nation's largest multi-sector collaborative dedicated to the well-being of children and youth and is supporting similar leadership summits in states and cities across the country. The purpose of the Virginia summit is to promote information sharing and action planning among the public, private, and non-profit sectors about implementation of practices and policies that increase the number of students who stay in school and graduate.

The founder of Communities in Schools, Inc., Bill Milliken, will be the keynote speaker. Other presenters will include local, state, and national leaders who serve at-risk populations, as well youth and parents. The agenda for the summit is divided into four strands:

- ❑ **ENGAGING THE STUDENT, ENGAGING THE FAMILY: GOING BEYOND THE SCHOOL DOOR:** Presents effective practices involving schools and community partners that provide supports, such as mentoring, after-school and service learning programs
- ❑ **COUNTERACTING LOSS: MAKING A LIVING, MAKING A DIFFERENCE:** Presents effective programs initiated by schools, businesses, community colleges, and other organizations that provide opportunities to regain lost academic ground or prepare for meaningful work
- ❑ **FROM THE STATE HOUSE TO THE SCHOOL HOUSE: THE INTENTIONAL AND UNINTENTIONAL IMPACT OF POLICIES:** Addresses legislative and administrative policies at the state and local level that promote persistence to graduation or may have negative consequences for students
- ❑ **MAXIMIZING RESOURCES: KNOWING WHAT IS AVAILABLE:** Presents information about public and private resources available to support programs

The Dropout Prevention Summit will present best practices in the use of resources and collaborative relationships in the support of at-risk students and their families. It will provide the opportunity for stakeholders to share ideas and develop strategies for change. These action plans will be shared through a proceedings document. Regional meetings and a summer institute are already being planned as part of the follow-up to the summit.

The Virginia Department of Education invites you to participate in the Dropout Summit. To register, please visit www.eventbrite.com/event/164854083. Register early; seating is limited. There is a \$15 registration fee that must be mailed to the Virginia Department of Education no later than Oct. 14th.

If you have questions or comments, please contact either
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DROPOUT PREVENTION 2008

