

DROPPING OUT OF SCHOOL IS ONE OF THE KEY SOCIAL CHALLENGES OF OUR TIME.

What is the California Department of Education (CDE) currently doing and what is the CDE planning on doing to improve dropout reduction in California?

Context-Current Situation	Additional Information
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CDE offers resources designed to be used prior to high school to help prevent dropouts. 	<p>The Middle and High School Improvement Office developed Taking Center Stage—Act II (TCSII) for middle grades educators and administrators. This resource is based on 12 recommendations for middle grades excellence and is delivered via a dynamic Web portal. The portal is designed in a multimedia book format, with 12 chapters – one for each recommendation, hundreds of multimedia resources and over 1,000 pages of content. Simply type “dropout” in the TCSII search box for relevant information and electronic resources for middle grades that will help prevent dropouts in high school: http://pubs.cde.ca.gov/TCSII/</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> California offers a wide range of options and multiple pathways to meet the needs of students. 	<p>These include community day schools, county community schools, juvenile court schools, continuation high schools, opportunity schools, alternative schools of choice, magnet schools, charter schools, specialized secondary programs, California Partnership academies, AVID, and Career Technical Education (CTE) programs. High School: http://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/gs/hs/</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The CDE provides leadership and technical assistance to facilitate the development and implementation of specialized schools and programs matched to the learning styles and developmental needs of students. 	<p>The CDE develops and distributes practices and materials that include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multiple-modality teaching practices Teaching: http://www.cde.ca.gov/pd/ps/te/ Addressing social and emotional development, directly and within academic instruction, including character-based curriculum Character Education: http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/yd/ce/ Infusing resiliency development into all school operations Resilience: http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/yd/tr/schoolconnectach.asp Asset-based referral processes and materials Research: http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/yd/re/ Supportive exit processes and materials for transition of students between schools and

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 Secondary, Postsecondary, & Adult Leadership Division, CDE**

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	<p>programs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing mentors • Strategies to secure community support for schools and students <p>Community: http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/pf/co/</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Methods and materials for integrating career-technical education <p>Career-Technical: http://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/ct/</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoting the use of individual learning plans
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The CDE administers numerous programs that recognize exemplary practices that enable students to stay in school and graduate. 	<p>Model Programs for Dropout Prevention (SARB). First year. Identified by the State School Attendance Review Board. “Create a safety net for students with persistent school attendance or behavior problems.” (10 districts) http://www.cde.ca.gov/nr/ne/yr08/yr08rel17.asp</p> <p>Attendance Improvement: http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/ai/</p> <p>Model Continuation High Schools. “Outstanding programs designed to help at-risk students stay in school. “ (74 schools) http://www.cde.ca.gov/nr/ne/yr07/yr07rel29.asp</p> <p>Continuation Education: http://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/eo/ce/</p> <p>Exemplary Independent Study Recognition Award. First year. “Independent study, at its best, provides both a rigorous academic program and the flexibility and personalization to ensure student success.” (3 schools) http://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/eo/is/exemplaryawardltr.asp</p> <p>Independent Study: http://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/eo/is/</p> <p>“Best Practices” web site for alternative schools. Jointly administered by the CDE, San Diego County Office of Education, and El Dorado County Office of Education.</p> <p>Educational Options Best Practices http://www.sdcoe.net/edoptions/</p> <p>Alternative Schools & Programs: http://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/eo/as/</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Between 8% and 9% of high school students graduate directly from an educational options school. 	<p>Over 28,000 students in 2006-07 who had “dropped out” of their traditional school were saved from dropping out of the system altogether by attending an educational options school.</p> <p>Many more who graduated from traditional schools had previously benefited from enrollment in educational options schools and programs. The LAO estimates that as many as fifteen percent of all high school students have participated in educational options. These students were saved from becoming dropouts.</p> <p>Dropout Prevention: http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/ai/dp/</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> But too many students are being lost and still need to be connected to the educational option that will keep them in school. 	<p>(Use dropout rate information from Data Management)</p> <p>DataQuest: http://dq.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> “Zero Dropouts for California,” prepared by the Educational Options Office, identifies what works in preventing dropouts. 	<p>“Zero Dropouts for California - Information, Analysis, Recommendations, and Compendium of Resources on the Dropout Issue and Educational Practices in California” was prepared to inform policy makers about the dropout issue.</p> <p>Presented at the Achievement Gap Conference in November 2007.</p> <p>[Available on LAUSD Web site - Search "Zero Dropouts"]</p>