

Dropout Prevention Think Tank
March 20, 2009
Total Evaluations: 6

Was this gathering worth your time? (Why/Why not)

- Yes... always seems productive to dialogue w/good quality educators from other districts.
- Yes – free exchange of ideas with a focus in mind
- Absolutely – hearing what others are doing was great for me
- Yes. It is nice to hear what other schools are doing
- Yes; always good to hear engaging and effective practices in the region.
- Yes- I enjoyed the opportunity to hear others' ideas, and it is nice to have a professional conversation.

What did you learn from your conversations with others?

- Very practical info. about what is working in other districts
- Lots of specific strategies and notes
- Other ideas- things to research- names/groups to learn more
- That everyone is hard at work to prevent students from dropping out
- As Dr. Strahan said, "There's no magic bullet."

How do you see yourself being a part of this dropout prevention effort?

- I would be happy to help with design, grant-writing, data collection, evaluation, integrating literacy skills
- Represent WRESA in parts of the development and implementation
- As needed; I don't have the county-level green light to be "at the table," but I'll be happy to be there
- I see myself as a needed piece of a puzzle
- Sign me up; sew my name on my hat; let's sail!
- I can provide a bit of leadership and vision to this effort in my county. I have experience and interest.

What suggestions do you have for making this a better initiative?

- Building on already existing initiatives that work (like AMS Magic- summer program for at-risk rising sixth-grade students)
- Synthesize notions
- Continued pulling off of campus think-tank reference
- Follow through!
- I saw strong rep and presence from Asheville City/Buncombe County; want to work more with Donna Lanahan.
- An NCCAT-like experience to write and revise grants with peers.

What would you like to see happen next?

- Continued dialogue/networking with other districts
- Synthesize notions
- Work on writing a grant- surrounding this “Think Tank.”
- I’d like to write a dropout prevention grant
- An NCCAT-like experience...(same as above)

Are you interested in writing a dropout prevention grant for your school system?

- Yes! In partnership with others from my district
- If needed and I’m able to help
- If my background and experiences can help- yes
- Yes
- Yes: Teacher Quality- attraction, retention, engagement; workforce development tying graduation to “green-collar jobs.”
- Yes