



# Results of the Regional Pre-Summits: What are the challenges to keeping young people engaged in school?

Challenges	KC	NE	NC	NW	SW	SC	SE	Wichita
Lack of parental involvement and support	Red	Blue	Purple	Green	Cyan	Magenta	Orange	Yellow
Gangs and substance abuse	Red	Blue	Purple		Cyan	Magenta		Yellow
Poverty	Red	Blue		Green	Cyan		Orange	Yellow
Bullying/peer pressure		Blue			Cyan	Magenta	Orange	Yellow
Students unable to find applicability of school to "real world"	Red	Blue			Cyan	Magenta	Orange	Yellow
Lack of consistent mentor/mentee relationships	Red	Blue	Purple		Cyan	Magenta		
Young people have to work to support the family	Red	Blue	Purple		Cyan			Yellow
Lack of communication between teachers, parents and students	Red	Blue		Green	Cyan			Yellow
Classes are boring/uninteresting	Red	Blue	Purple		Cyan		Orange	Yellow
Lost credits for transfer students		Blue	Purple		Cyan		Orange	
Classes are crowded/missing one-on-one relationship with teacher		Blue	Purple		Cyan	Magenta		Yellow
The Generational Cycle		Blue				Magenta	Orange	Yellow
Parents/schools are unaware of truancy	Red				Cyan		Orange	
Lack of teacher diversity/teaching styles		Blue			Cyan			Yellow
Shift work interferes with school/employers do not value education		Blue			Cyan		Orange	
Teenage pregnancy	Red				Cyan		Orange	Yellow
Delayed gratification		Blue		Green				Yellow
Lack of funding		Blue	Purple				Orange	
Parents/students are unaware of alternative education opportunities		Blue			Cyan	Magenta		Yellow
Living arrangements	Red	Blue				Magenta	Orange	
Physical distance to school/transportation		Blue						Yellow
Stereotyping young people		Blue	Purple					Yellow
Mental health issues	Red				Cyan			Yellow



## Results of the Regional Pre-Summits: What are the unique challenges that each region faces in keeping young people engaged in school?

### Kansas City Region

- Youth focused on life survival
- Incarcerated family members
- Deployment
- Sexual orientation/confusion
- Lack of life skills
- Youth uninformed of opportunities prior to entering high school
- Board of Education has lost connectedness to schools

### Wichita Region

- Youth are disrespected by adults
- Unidentified learning disabilities
- Domestic violence
- Hunger
- Failing students are afraid to ask for help
- No clothes for school
- Increased rigor of curriculum for graduation
- Youth don't have money for college or vocational school
- School connectedness

### Northwest Region

- Parents let their experiences frame how they deal with their children (I didn't...)
- Lack of professionals
- Region can't pay teachers well, which leads to retention and recruitment issues
- Licensing process to become a teacher is rigorous
- Lack of fine arts classes
- Landscape shifting/changing values among youth (if I don't have to work that hard, why should I?)

### North Central Region

- Students do not commit to the community
- Lack of commitment and follow through among adults
- Not enough placements for career program

### Northeast Region

- Sense of hopelessness/perception that teachers don't care
- Students feel it is better to act bad than look stupid
- Alternative education programs are perceived as being easy or convenient
- Crime/victimization
- Punishments for attendance issues are not effective in the early years
- Requirement that students must attend school for a full day– no half day availability
- Starting school too early (studies show it is better to wait until after 9am)

### Southeast Region

- Students have to meet core areas instead of engaging in elective opportunities
- Vocation-bound and college-bound students are on the same curriculum track
- Media influences
- Students unable to transfer to other districts
- Schools are defensive and angry
- Parents don't value education

### Southwest Region

- Language barrier
- Service providers are unaware of other programs in community
- Lack of engagement among all populations in community decision making
- Legality of citizenship of students
- Need to address the "modern" student

### South Central Region

- Lack of health care
- Need better utilization of technology
- Efforts and resources are developed but not utilized by educators
- Children are poorly prepared for kindergarten
- Lack of head start and at-risk pre-school programs



# Results of the Regional Pre-Summits: What has been successful in keeping young people engaged in school?

Successes	KC	NE	NC	NW	SW	SC	SE	Wichita
Availability of alternative degree programs	Red	Blue	Purple	Green	Cyan	Magenta	Orange	Yellow
Free and reduced lunch programs	Red	Blue						Yellow
Availability of effective mentoring programs	Red			Green	Cyan		Orange	Yellow
Emphasis on science and math	Red					Magenta		Yellow
Availability of extra-curricular activities and sports	Red	Blue			Cyan	Magenta		Yellow
Career pathways in schools	Red		Purple			Magenta	Orange	Yellow
Greater variety of classes and flexible schedules	Red	Blue				Magenta	Orange	
College classes offered at school/ dual enrollment opportunities	Red				Cyan	Magenta	Orange	
Early intervention strategies	Red	Blue		Green	Cyan	Magenta	Orange	Yellow
Parents as Teachers program	Red	Blue	Purple		Cyan			
Afterschool programs			Purple		Cyan		Orange	Yellow
Relationships with adults and staff				Green			Orange	Yellow
Support for expecting teens and teens with children					Cyan			Yellow
Drop-out recovery programs		Blue				Magenta		Yellow
Addressing the dropout epidemic in our state through efforts like this	Red	Blue			Cyan		Orange	
Utilizing caring and engaged adults	Red	Blue				Magenta		Yellow
Adults maintaining high expectations of students	Red	Blue						
School/community partnerships	Red	Blue				Magenta		Yellow
Community service projects and volunteering	Red		Purple		Cyan	Magenta	Orange	Yellow
Business involvement	Red	Blue	Purple	Green		Magenta		Yellow
Teen Court (school-judicial court partnership)		Blue				Magenta	Orange	



## Results of the Regional Pre-Summits: What are the unique successes in each region to keep young people engaged in school?

### Southwest Region

- Socializing time built into school schedule
- Educational talent search
- TRIO programs
- Home visits and parent education

### Wichita Region

- Increased access for students
- Advancement by way of individual determination
- Non-academic advocacy time
- Extended school year
- School is no longer just a place to learn (meals, social work, transportation, clothing, healthcare, etc.)
- Psychological counseling services available
- 21st century skills
- Positive reinforcement
- Substance abuse prevention programs

### South Central Region

- Online health
- Creativity in developing programs
- Opportunities for returning students
- Early childhood development
- Character education
- Increased use of technology

### Southeast Region

- Reward programs for good attendance and performance
- Leadership programs
- Life-skills classes
- Focus on transition into post-secondary programs
- Flexible schedules for upper-classmen
- Project based learning: explore areas of interest

### Northeast Region

- Reconnecting Youth program
- Summer school
- Native American student services
- Continuation of credits/course work even during long-term suspension
- Free accessible credit recovery programs
- Parents and students can access grades via internet
- Music/arts programs
- Mental health training for teachers
- Elective credit for having a job

### North Central Region

- No unique successes identified

### Kansas City Region

- Emphasis on school safety
- Improvement to the learning environment

### Northwest Region

- Learning center dropout recovery program
- MTSS model
- Getting better at identifying road blocks and challenges
- Seeking early Head Start programs
- Elementary careers on wheels program



# Results of the Regional Pre-Summits: What do we still need learn/do to keep young people engaged in school?

Still need to learn how to...	KC	NE	NC	NW	SW	SC	SE	Wichita
Increase parental accountability and involvement	Red		Purple		Blue	Magenta		Yellow
Get students invested in their education	Red	Blue	Purple			Magenta		
Expand mental and physical health programs	Red	Blue				Magenta		Yellow
Increase availability of technology and computers	Red		Purple					
More individualized attention- one size doesn't fit all		Blue	Purple			Magenta	Orange	Yellow
Increase education alternatives		Blue	Purple				Orange	
Focus more on the transitional periods		Blue					Orange	
Utilize programs already in existence and be more effective with time					Blue		Orange	
Address truancy					Blue		Orange	
Increase collaboration across industries	Red		Purple				Orange	Yellow
Establish more mentoring opportunities for youth	Red							Yellow
Create a method for looking at all supports that a youth receives	Red	Blue	Purple					
Increase cultural understanding		Blue			Blue	Magenta		
Communicate programs to all members of the community			Purple		Blue	Magenta		
Engage businesses as a supporter of education			Purple		Blue		Orange	Yellow
Foster better communication between schools and businesses		Blue	Purple		Blue			
Address ideas about work ethic			Purple				Orange	



## Results of the Regional Pre-Summits: What are the unique tasks that each region still need learn/do to keep young people engaged in school?

### Wichita Region

- Hold seminars to teach youth what is required to graduate
- Create more ILP's so that students can progress at their own pace
- Provide high school credits for youth who have summer jobs or internships
- Teach self-sufficiency
- Create a respectful environment
- Use school buildings for afterschool programs in the community
- Tailor education for career goals
- Focus education on learning rather than teaching for the test
- Increase interaction with teachers and counselors

### Kansas City Region

- Stop accepting excuses
- Need advocates for students who feel they are being pushed out of the system
- Restructure the school system
- Increase tutoring availability
- Balance homework requirements
- Additional placement exams
- Realize that school is not a babysitter
- Better communication between schools and parents
- Safer communities
- Inter-agency collaboration
- Create a hub for resources around the state

### Southeast Region

- View the dropout epidemic as a community issue, not just a school issue
- Conduct more research on education alternatives
- Levels vs. age (b/c you are a certain age you have to be in a certain grade)

### South Central Region

- Barriers to learning (drugs)
- Get back to the basics
- Better public awareness
- Change current image of school system
- Shelter electives from budget cuts
- Make early alert system online and accessible
- Find additional funding

### Southwest Region

- Better communication between schools and court system
- Make it more difficult for youth who want to drop out of school
- Deal with AYP challenges

### Northwest Region

- Help students understand that there are jobs in the region that require a higher education
- Prevent the generational cycle
- Change the mindset of families who believe it is ok to drop out of school
- Help students who need to work full-time

### Northeast Region

- Disseminate information on how school connects to the future
- Recruit and retain qualified teachers
- Reward more
- Listen to and learn from students who have dropped out of school
- Determine where young people get off track
- Relationship building for teachers

### North Central Region

- Reach "inaccessible" families through other community agencies
- Involve youth in decision making process