

## Morning Session

### 10:45am to 1:00pm with Break and Working Lunch

**Purpose of the Session:** Addressing the Dropout Challenge

**Session Outcome/Product:** A T-Chart of State and Local Resources needed

Resources	
State	Local
1.	1.
2.	2.
3.	3.
4.	4.

**OVERARCHING QUESTION #1:** What were the key points and ideas in Governor Wise’s remarks? Why do we care about the dropout challenge and increasing the graduation rate in our community?

Prompting Questions	How	Who	Time
1. What impact do dropouts have on the quality of life overall in our community?	Capture key responses from the group on flip chart paper.	Break group out into their teams. If size is less than 10-12 merge teams where necessary to get 10-12 people.	25 minutes
2. What is the economic impact of dropouts in our community?			
3. What are the personal impacts for high school dropouts in our community?			

**OVERARCHING QUESTION #2:** How many young people dropout in our community? Who drops out, and why? What are the main indicators putting students at risk of dropping out in our community?

Prompting Questions	How	Who	Time
1. What do we know about the dropout issue in our community?	Have each team designate a reporter/recorder to capture	Keep groups in their team or merged groups as above.	25 Minutes

2. Are our responses to this question based on perception or reality?	team responses on sheet of paper.		
3. Where can the information and data needed to create an accurate picture of the dropout challenge within our community be obtained? What specific communities and agencies might have this information?			
4. Report out by Team or merged groups	Facilitate reporting out of group responses Capture Key Responses on Flip Chart		10 Minutes
<b>OVERARCHING QUESTION #3: What community resources do we already have available to address the dropout challenge? Are there still gaps between the need and the available resources, and if so, who can help fill them? What can we do to address the dropout challenge?</b>			
Prompting Questions	How	Who	Time
1. What's currently being done to address this issue in our community?	Have each team designate a reporter/recorder to capture team responses on sheet of paper.	Keep groups in their team or merged groups as above.	25 Minutes
2. What can we do to help address the dropout challenge from the perspective of the different communities within our entire community?			
3. What resources are still needed? Are the resources financial? Personnel? Other?			
4. What connections could we make to help bring in other resources to fill the gaps?			
5. Report out by team or merged groups	Facilitate reporting out of group responses Capture Key Responses on Flip Chart. Identify and prioritize the resources needed at the state and local level.		10 Minutes

Substantial parts of this document were borrowed from Tool 27 contained in *Grad Nation*, February 2009 by Robert Balfanz and Joanna Hornig Fox, Everyone Graduates Center; and John M. Bridgeland and Mary McNaught, Civic Enterprises; Report Commissioned by America's Promise.

## Afternoon Session

### 2:45pm to 4:00pm with Break

**Purpose of the Session:** Addressing the Dropout Challenge

**Session Outcome/Product:** Three flip charts as depicted below. One T-Chart with Opportunities and Barriers to addressing the dropout issue. A second listing what teams have identified as next steps. A third with general timelines identified and who local teams have identified as team leads.

Opportunities	Barriers
1.	1.
2.	2.
3.	3.
4.	4.

Key Next Steps
1.
2.
3.
4.

Timelines
1.
2.
3.
Leads
1.
2.
3.

**OVERARCHING QUESTION #4 : What were the ideas or thoughts you had during the afternoon session?**

Prompting Questions	How	Who	Time
1. Are students engaged in the community? How can that be improved?	Capture key responses from the group on flip chart paper.	Break group out into their teams. If size is less than 10-12 merge teams where necessary to get 10-12 people.	10 Minutes
2. What are the mental health/health issues of dropouts in the community? How are community health resources utilized now? How can services be improved or better utilized?			
3. How are the juvenile justice and court system cooperating in the community?			
4. What community resources are being used now? What other sources of support may be in the community? What is the involvement of Rotary,			

Optimists, community charity organizations, churches?			
5. How well connected are the community's youth to postsecondary education? Are youth focused on employment and lifelong learning?			
6. What are the school-based program activities working with dropouts and at-risk students that are offered or can be offered in the community?			
<b>OVERARCHING QUESTION # 5: What are the key opportunities to make this a top priority to meet the dropout challenge?</b>			
Prompting Questions	How	Who	Time
1. What are the key opportunities to make this a top priority in the community?	Have each team designate a reporter/recorder to capture team responses on sheet of paper.	Keep groups in their team or merged groups as above..	15 minutes
2. What are the barriers to making this a top priority in the community?			
3. How can the dropout challenge be communicated throughout the community, including to those who are difficult to reach and those who question whether there is a challenge?	Facilitate reporting out of group responses Capture Key Responses on flip chart. Identify opportunities and barriers.		10 Minutes
<b>OVERARCHING QUESTION #6 : What should be the next steps to a solution?</b>			
Prompting Questions	How	Who	Time
1. Are there plans in place now? How effective are they?	Have each team designate a reporter/recorder to capture team responses on sheet of paper.	Keep groups in their team or merged groups as above.	15 minutes
2. How can we improve the dropout plan or establish a plan? What community leaders will be needed to intersect with the school district's planning process? How will resources be used? How will additional commitments of time and talent be generated?			
3. How will the plan formalize informal partnerships and unite appropriate members in support of the dropout plan?			
4. Who will take the lead?			
5. What local timelines will be set?			
6. When will we meet again?	Facilitate reporting out of group responses Capture Key Responses on Flip Chart. Identify key next steps, timelines and leads identified from teams.		10 Minutes