



DR. DARLENE J. RUSCITTI
Regional Superintendent
DuPage County Schools

421 N. County Farm Road
Wheaton, Illinois 60187
Phone: 630.407.5800
Fax: 630.407.5802

How Educators Can Help Students Stay in School

The following is a list of suggested ways educators can help students stay in school and benefit from the total educational experience. When schools are concerned about EVERY student's educational experience, students are less likely to have attendance problems and are more likely to graduate.

- Develop programs designed to identify potential truants and dropouts at an early age
 - Find way to boost each student's self-image
 - Help each student feel like an important part of the school
 - Support and encourage students with school-related difficulties, rather than ignore or discourage them because they pose problems
 - Set achievable standards for students with learning difficulties
 - Provide tutorial service for all students in need of extra help
 - Provide student assistant programs
 - Provide full (K-12) counseling programs
 - Help socially isolated students learn to develop and maintain friendships
 - Design a "buddy system" that matches one concerned staff member with one student who is experiencing school related difficulties, encourage, invite, even assign students to participate in at least one extra-curricular activity
 - Make sure parents who are recent immigrants understand the compulsory attendance laws
 - Develop an attendance policy that checks directly with parents whenever their children are absent
 - Experiment with new programs to help truants and potential dropouts remain in school
 - Offer alternative educational experiences and programs both within and outside of school
 - Make strong ties with local industries and develop work and study experiences and programs
 - Provide easy re-entry programs for students who have already dropped out
 - Convince the school board of the need for spending money to help truants and potential dropouts stay in school. The loss of state reimbursement for absenteeism can be greater than the cost of preventive programs
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