

## A PATH FOR PARENTS (CONTINUED)

### Build a Supportive Home Environment

1. Create a quiet, structured work space at home
2. Allow time for schoolwork and conversation
3. Voice the importance of finishing school

### Identify Special Needs

1. Inform school of any family concerns
2. Present information on past school performance
3. Screen for medical problems with health care providers

### Consider Realistic Post-secondary Goals

1. Allow children to investigate various interests
2. Discuss money management and real life expenses
3. Consider all advanced education: technical, community and traditional colleges

### Why Stay in School?

- One in eight high school students drops out
- 75% of state prison inmates in the US are high school dropouts
- Dropouts are 3 ½ times as likely to be arrested as high school graduates
- Dropouts make \$200,000 less than high school graduates in their lifetimes
- 40% of adults in the US who dropped out of high school are out of work



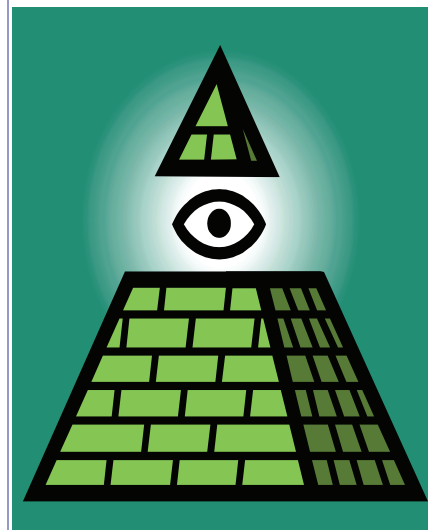
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## LOOK INTO THE FUTURE

Students

Community

Parents



*Cobb Education Consortium  
www.cobb-ed-consortium.org  
K-12 Committee  
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**INDICATORS OF STUDENTS  
WHO MAY DROP OUT OF  
SCHOOL**

1. Low socio-economic status
2. Ethnicity—African American, Hispanic, & Native American students have a higher drop out rate than Caucasian students
3. Native language other than English
4. History of frequent absences and lateness
5. History of retention problems or failure—students who are older than their peers or at least one grade level behind
6. Poor attitude towards school
7. Lack of home support and/or parental involvement
8. Disengagement—no sense of belonging or having few friends
9. Disciplinary issues—run-ins with the law, gang activity, substance abuse
10. Low participation in extracurricular activities

**INTERVENTIONS FOR  
STUDENTS WHO MAY DROP  
OUT OF SCHOOL**

1. Address academic concerns at early grade levels—possibly as early as third grade
2. Provide career counseling and life skills instruction
3. Offer mentoring and provide flexibility in course selections, assist with social integration, & provide specific motivational help
4. Build stronger student/teacher relationships
5. Provide clear expectations and fair and consistent discipline
6. Encourage active participation in school-related activities
7. Assist families by offering cultural support and sensitivity training
8. Reward students with recognition and praise
9. Promote a positive school climate that is conducive to learning
10. Bridge the gap with special education and offer more inclusion

**A PATH  
FOR PARENTS**

**Focus on Student Goals**

1. Show respect for your children's individuality
2. Set small, attainable goals
3. Give positive feedback for performance

**Encourage School Involvement**

1. Monitor your children's school attendance
2. Be involved in at least one extracurricular activity
3. Volunteer for and attend school functions

**Create a Positive School  
Relationship**

1. Meet with teachers, counselors, and administrators before problems escalate
2. Include children in all discussions
3. Find creative ways to approach academics