

High School Resources

Web resources for high school redesign are listed in the following categories: centers and associations, and high school reform programs and models. Additional useful links for overall school improvement information are also included.

Centers and Associations

Achieve Inc.

<http://www.achieve.org>

Achieve works to help states raise academic standards and achievement so that all students graduate with college- and work-readiness skills. Achieve's main initiative is the American Diploma Project (ADP) Network, which includes 30 states currently working to align curriculum, standards, and accountability policies to ensure that each high school graduate is prepared for college or work.

Alliance for Excellent Education

<http://www.all4ed.org>

The Alliance for Excellent Education promotes high school redesign initiatives to ensure that each student graduates with college- and work-readiness skills. The organization also focuses on at-risk high school students who are most likely to drop out or graduate unprepared for life.

Communities In Schools

<http://www.cisnet.org>

Communities In Schools is one of the largest dropout prevention organizations in the United States. The organization identifies the unmet needs of students and their families that may contribute to the dropout rate. It also facilitates community involvement to meet those needs and to support student performance.

International Center for Leadership in Education

<http://www.icle.net>

The International Center for Leadership in Education (ICLE) is based on the premise that transformation of the education system is needed to prepare today's students to be successful in postsecondary life. ICLE helps schools and districts implement organizational changes that lead to improved curriculum, instruction, and assessment systems.

National Center on Secondary Education and Transition

<http://www.ncset.org>

“The National Center on Secondary Education and Transition (NCSET) coordinates national resources, offers technical assistance, and disseminates information related to secondary education and transition for youth with disabilities in order to create opportunities for youth to achieve successful futures.”

National Dropout Prevention Center/Network

<http://www.dropoutprevention.org>

“The National Dropout Prevention Center/Network serves as a research center and resource network for practitioners, researchers, and policymakers to reshape school and community environments to meet the needs of youth in at-risk situations so these students receive the quality education and services necessary to succeed academically and graduate from high school.”

National Dropout Prevention Center for Students with Disabilities

<http://www.ndpc-sd.org>

“The National Dropout Prevention Center for Students with Disabilities (NDPC-SD) supports the national implementation of provisions of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) to provide successful school outcomes for students with disabilities. NDPC-SD supports states in assisting local education agencies to increase school completion rates and decrease dropout rates among students with disabilities.”

National Governors Association—High School Redesign Initiative

<http://www.nga.org/portal/site/nga/menuitem.4096192acba1c8899cdcbeeb501010a0/?vgnnextoid=a67585b270c55110VgnVCM1000001a01010aRCRD>

The National Governors Association identified high school redesign as a 2005 initiative, and its Center for Best Practices released the *Action Agenda for Improving America’s High Schools* (<http://www.nga.org/Files/pdf/0502actionagenda.pdf>) for ensuring college and work readiness of the nation’s high school students. The five major recommendations of the *Action Agenda* guide current state efforts and are supported by the NGA Center’s Honor States Grant Program.

National High School Alliance

<http://www.hsalliance.org>

The National High School Alliance consists of more than 50 organizations working to promote high school redesign. Its 2005 report, *A Call to Action: Transforming High School For All Youth* (<http://www.hsalliance.org/downloads/home/Call%20To%20Action%202005/CalltoAction2005.pdf>), identifies six core principals for transforming high schools and provides information and research regarding high school reform.

National High School Center

<http://www.betterhighschools.org>

The National High School Center, housed at the American Institutes for Research, serves as a central source of expertise on high school improvement issues for the regional comprehensive centers. It offers information on effective programs, tools, and products, and supports the use of research-based approaches in high school reform.

Office of Elementary and Secondary Education

<http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/oese/index.html>

“The mission of the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education is to promote academic excellence, enhance educational opportunities and equity for all of America’s children and families, and to improve the quality of teaching and learning by providing leadership, technical assistance and financial support.”

What Works Clearinghouse

<http://ies.ed.gov/ncee/wwc/>

The What Works Clearinghouse (WWC) houses a wealth of knowledge about what works in education, including reviews and research on the effectiveness of various educational intervention programs and policies. It also promotes the use of its research-based educational for informed education decision to improve student performance.

High School Reform Programs and Models

Breaking Ranks II: Executive Summary

http://www.nwrel.org/scpd/sslc/institutes_2005/documents/Ollarvia_executive_summary.pdf

Breaking Ranks II is the 2004 follow-up to the 1996 publication *Breaking Ranks: Changing an American Institution*, published by the National Association of Secondary School Principals. *Breaking Ranks II* focuses specifically on high school reform and emphasizes academic rigor, personalized learning environments, and collaborative leadership.

High Schools That Work

<http://www.sreb.org/Programs/hstw/hstwindex.asp>

High Schools That Work (HSTW), administered by the Southern Regional Education Board, is one of the largest school improvement initiatives for high school and middle school educators. Currently, more than 1,200 schools in 32 states are using the HSTW framework, which aims to improve student performance.

Jobs for the Future

<http://www.jff.org>

Jobs for the Future is a research, consulting, and advocacy nonprofit focused on educational and economic opportunities for youth and adults.

Project Lead the Way

<http://www.pltw.org>

Project Lead the Way (PLTW) has developed a four-year, hands-on, and project-focused Science-Technology-Engineering-Mathematics (STEM) course. PLTW introduces students to the fields of engineering and technology and is combined with college preparatory mathematics and science courses.

Talent Development High Schools

<http://www.csos.jhu.edu/tdhs/>

The Talent Development High School Model is a high school reform model developed by the Center for Social Organization of Schools at Johns Hopkins University. The model includes organizational and management changes, innovations in curriculum and instruction, parent and community involvement, and a focus on professional development to support the overall reform.

New Technology Foundation and New Technology High Schools

<http://www.newtechhigh.org/Website2007/index.html>

The New Technology Foundation provides support, training, tools, and materials for high school reform using the New Technology High School model.

Additional School Improvement Resources

Assessment and Accountability Comprehensive Center

<http://www.aacompcenter.org>

The Assessment and Accountability Comprehensive Center provides support to states and districts in the implementation, evaluation, and improvement of their assessment and accountability systems in order to fulfill the requirements of the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act.

The Center for Comprehensive School Reform and Improvement

<http://www.centerforcsri.org>

The Center for Comprehensive School Reform and Improvement supports states and districts working on comprehensive school reform and improvement. It also provides research-based strategies and assistance to help those districts enact positive change.

Center for Education Policy

<http://policyweb.sri.com/cep/>

“The Center on Education Policy studies new models for education reform, adult education systems, and initiatives to raise the quality of teaching.”

Center on Innovation & Improvement

<http://www.centerii.org>

The Center on Innovation & Improvement provides a wide range of assistance to regional comprehensive centers on topics such as restructuring, state evaluation of supplemental educational services (SES) providers, SES parent outreach, and statewide systems of support.

Center on Instruction

<http://www.centeroninstruction.org>

The Center on Instruction supports the regional comprehensive centers to improve teaching and learning for all students. It provides resources regarding NCLB and best practices, special education and English language learner instruction, professional development opportunities, and scientific research into instruction.

The Education Alliance

http://www.alliance.brown.edu/ae_secondary.php

The Education Alliance at Brown University focuses primarily on district and school improvement issues—in particular, the issues of equity and diversity.

The Education Trust

<http://www2.edtrust.org>

“The Education Trust works for the high academic achievement of all students at all levels, pre-kindergarten through college, and forever closing the achievement gaps that separate low-income students and students of color from other youth.”