



Announcement

Peer Group Connection Recognized as Model Program by National Dropout Prevention Center

We are pleased to announce that Peer Group Connection (PGC) has been recognized by the National Dropout Prevention Center (NDPC) as a Model Program for dropout prevention. PGC is the Center for Supportive Schools' seminal peer leadership program and is designed to support and ease students' transition from middle to high school. See http://www.dropoutprevention.org/modelprograms/show_program.php?pid=360 for NDPC's description of PGC.

PGC received a rating of *Strong Evidence of Effectiveness*, the highest rating of effectiveness granted by NDPC. Programs with this rating were evaluated using an experimental design conducted by an external evaluation team and have strong empirical evidence demonstrating program effectiveness in reducing dropout and/or increasing graduation rates and/or having significant impact on dropout-related risk factors. A four-year longitudinal, randomized-control study conducted by Rutgers University with funding from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services found, among other major results, that PGC improves the graduation rates of student participants by ten percentage points and cuts by half the number of male students who would otherwise drop out.

The National Dropout Prevention Center was begun in 1986 to serve as a clearinghouse on issues related to dropout prevention and to offer strategies designed to increase the graduation rate in America's schools. The mission of NDPC is to increase high school graduation rates through research and evidenced-based solutions. For more information about NDPC Model Programs, see <http://www.dropoutprevention.org/modelprograms>.