

NEEDS ASSESSMENT EVALUATION¹

COMMUNITY PERSONNEL

Below please find a series of questions designed to help your school district dropout prevention team make informed decisions for reducing the rate of school dropout that is occurring. Please answer each question as completely as possible. If you are unsure, please provide the best answer you can based on your level of knowledge. Using the following scale: (1) Strongly Disagree to (10) Strongly Agree indicate your level of agreement with the statement.

Section A: Demographics

Community Position: _____ Business _____ Social Service _____ Government _____ Other

Section B: Participant's Perception of School Dropout Risk Factors

1. I have regular contact with the local school.

Strongly
Disagree
(1)

Strongly
Agree
(10)

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2. I have talked with school personnel within the last month.

Strongly
Disagree
(1)

Strongly
Agree
(10)

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3. I am aware that our local school has a school dropout problem.

Strongly
Disagree
(1)

Strongly
Agree
(10)

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¹ This tool is adapted from materials and surveys used by the Mississippi Department of Education, accessible at: http://www.mde.k12.ms.us/dropout_prevention/

4. As a community person, I have had direct contact with students from the local school.

Strongly
Disagree
(1)

Strongly
Agree
(10)

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5. I would be happy to be more involved with helping students stay in school.

Strongly
Disagree
(1)

Strongly
Agree
(10)

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6. I would enjoy serving as a mentor to a student.

Strongly
Disagree
(1)

Strongly
Agree
(10)

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7. I have some ideas of what our local school might do to help students remain in school.

Strongly
Disagree
(1)

Strongly
Agree
(10)

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Section C: Identification of Dropout Risk Factors and Preventative Programs

Instructions

Left column – This column lists 24 risk factors that have been found to lead to school dropout. Rank the top ten risk factors you consider to be the most serious problems influencing dropout at your school. Assign priority using the numbers 1 through 10, with number “1” signifying the “most serious” risk factor and number “10” signifying the “least serious” risk factor.

Right column – This column includes a list of preventative programs that help curb school dropout. Indicate the programs your school has currently implemented by placing a checkmark next to those programs. Next to “Other,” you may include a current program not listed.

Risk Factors	#
Attendance	
Truancy	
Low grade scores	
Retention	
Discipline referrals	
Detention	
Suspensions	
Teen pregnancy	
Students working	
Family problems	
Low academic skills	
Poverty	
Lack of parental involvement	
Limited supervision	
Lack of concern by teachers	
Teasing or bullying at school	
Emotional problems	
Needing more academic assistance	
Limited extracurricular programs	
Limited social programs	
Poor relationships with school staff	
Lack of funds to help at risk students	
Poorly qualified teachers	
High mobility of students	

Preventative Programs	✓
Before School Program	
After school program	
Summer enrichment program	
Mentoring program	
School to work program	
Family involvement program	
Early reading and math intervention	
Early childhood education	
Technologies education	
Alternative education program	
Evening school	
Teen pregnancy program	
Tutoring program	
Service learning	
Strategic professional development	
Teacher mentoring program	
Open to diverse learning	
Provide individualized instruction	
RTI model for special needs	
Utilize community involvement	
Career education program	
School-wide behavior intervention	
Conflict resolution	
Social skills training	
Other _____	

Section D: Additional Information

Please list some of the academic skills at risk students will need to succeed in life.

Do you think that most community people generally agree with your perceptions?

How involved are you willing to become in order to help reduce the school dropout rate in your community?

I enjoyed completing this survey and think that it will be useful for developing and implementing a school dropout prevention plan.

Strongly
Disagree
(1)

Strongly
Agree
(10)

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