



ALLIANCE FOR
EXCELLENT EDUCATION

Turning Around Low-Performing High Schools: Lessons for Federal Policy from Research and Practice

Thursday, August 16, 2007
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon
325 Russell Senate Office Building

Agenda

- 9:30a.m. Registration**
- 10:00a.m. Bob Wise, Welcome & Introductions**
- 10:15a.m. Bob Balfanz, Center for Social Organization of Schools, Johns Hopkins University**
Dr. Balfanz will give an overview of the national dropout crisis and present new data from the Center for Social Organization of Schools that identifies the nearly 2,000 “dropout factories” located across the nation. He will also discuss the characteristics of these schools and their students, and what is best known about how to address their problems.
- 10:30a.m. Elaine M. Allensworth, Chicago Consortium on School Research at the University of Chicago**
Dr. Allensworth will discuss the findings of the Chicago Consortium on School Research’s recent report, *What Matters for Staying On-Track and Graduating in Chicago’s Public Schools: A Close Look at Course Grades, Failures, and Attendance in the Freshman Year*. The new report looks into the elements of course performance that predict whether students will graduate and suggests ways that schools and families can keep more teens in school. It also examines how school practices affect students’ grades, failure rates, and attendance.
- 10:45a.m. Larry Myatt, Office of High School Renewal, Boston Public Schools**
Mr. Myatt will discuss the Boston Public Schools’ use of data to drive policy and practice throughout the district, particularly as it informs the design and implementation of high school improvement efforts.
- 11:00a.m. Audience Q & A**
Moderated by Bethany Little, Vice President for Policy and Federal Advocacy, Alliance for Excellent Education
- 11:50a.m. Bethany Little, Closing**
- 12:00p.m. Adjourn**