



GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION OF SCHOOL DROP OUTS - A SNAPSHOT



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ABSTRACT

Children are the future of a nation. For an emerging and developing country like India, development of underprivileged children holds the key to the progress of the nation itself. Education is the pond of knowledge. Every country of the world is working towards enhancing its level of development. Education forms the foundation of a developed society. Smile Foundation, a national level development organization, has a network of more than 100 children welfare projects and a bandwidth of many NGOs and non-profits organisations across India. Various education programmes launched by Smile are: Mission Education, Smile Twin e-Learning Projects, Swabhiman, Action for Change, and You Can Make A Difference. Numerous projects under Smile's educational programmes cover poor children under difficult circumstances such as child labour, children of poorest of the parents, underprivileged children inflicted and affected with HIV/AIDS, runaway and street children, children with rare disability [Autism, Deaf & Dumb, Blind, and Spastic etc.], disaster struck children and slum children etc.

KEYWORDS: Children, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Elementary Education, Mid-Day Meal Scheme

INTRODUCTION

Elementary education in India is a fundamental right. The *Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan* (Education for All Movement) is a flagship programme of the Government of India, initiated in 2000-01 to universalize elementary education. Interventions under the programme aimed at increasing the number of schools, ensuring that schools have drinking water and toilets, providing training to teachers and improving learning outcomes. Under the SSA, special focus on providing access to education to disadvantaged groups, minorities and girls, who are often left behind was also emphasized.

On 01 April 2010, the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act in India initiated a rights based framework where every child between the age of six and fourteen years has the fundamental right to education. The RTE is a landmark legal provision in the Indian education system.

There has been tremendous progress since the enactment of the Right to Education Act in India:

- ✧ All states and Union Territories have notified RTE rules
- ✧ Budgetary provision for the *Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan* has more than doubled between 2009-10 and 2014-15 and the SSA programme has been adapted to ensure that no child in this age group remains out of school, and that all children study in age appropriate grades
- ✧ An additional 11.8 million children enrolled from 2009-10 to 2012-13 to 199.7 million (*source: District Information Systems for Education (DISE), 2009-10 and 2012-13*)



GOVERNMENT SCHEMES TO ENCOURAGE WOMAN EDUCATION

1. Sakshar Bharat mission for female literacy: -

Launched in 2008 for promoting adult education especially among woman under which Lok Shiksha Kendras were set up.

2. SABLA-Rajiv Gandhi Scheme for Empowerment of Adolescent Girls: -

It aims to provide nutrition for growing adolescent girls by provision of food grains.

3. Right to Education: -

RTE considers education as a fundamental right which will provide free and compulsory education to every child aged between 6 to 14.

4. Kasturba Balika Vidyalaya:-

Establishment of residential upper primary schools for girl

5. National Programme for Education of Girls at Elementary Level:-

It is for reduction in the school dropouts by giving special attention to weak girls. In villages, women's groups are formed. These groups follow up/supervision on girl's enrollment and attendance.

6. Mahila Sangha:-

Under this scheme women's forums (Mahila Sangha) were created. It provides space for rural women to meet, discuss issues, ask questions, and make informed choices. It is implemented in ten states.

7. Rahstriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan:-

Infrastructure for girls hostel for secondary education

8. Dhanlakshmi scheme:-

Conditional money transfer scheme for Girl Child following 3 conditions.

- At birth and Registration of Birth.
- Progress of Immunization and Completion of Immunization.
- Enrollment and Retention in School.

GOVERNMENT INITIATIVE TOWARDS SCHOOL DROPOUT

Kanyashree Scheme: -

The *Kanyashree* Scheme was inaugurated by the Trinamool Congress government in October, 2013, with the express purpose of ensuring the education of girls and thereby preventing forced child marriage.

Under the scheme, the government provides an annual scholarship of Rs. 500 to girls between 12 and 18

years (class eight to class 12) to continue with their studies, provided they are unmarried. A one-time grant of Rs 25,000 is also provided to the girl, once she reaches the age of 18, to pursue higher studies.

Mid Day Meal Scheme:-

Mid day meal scheme was thought to be a great incentive to ensure regular attendance. The idea to provide one square meal to a child if he/she attends school was seen as a masterstroke when it was put into action. It also accounts for over 30% of the total expenditure allocated to RTE.

Midday Meals for govt. Schools: - (Akshaya Patra)

Aim of the project: Providing nutritional mid-day meals to children going to government schools to prevent drop out, to increase the attendance and to tackle the malnutrition among them, thereby contributing to eradication of extreme Poverty & hunger, achieving Universal Education, promoting Gender equality and empowering women.

Indicators of Success: This program is implemented during the year 2011-12 and it provides Direct access to food for the under privileged children by providing mid-day meals in Visakhapatnam and Guwahati for 5000 children and providing Food distribution vehicles & vessels at Medak District in Andhra Pradesh through Akshaya Patra, who work in partnership with various State Governments of India. This wholesome meal is often the only nutrition the students have during the day. The food lab therefore strives to ensure that the meals are appealing to children, while also meeting the requirements of a growing child. The Foundation's centralized kitchens, among the largest in the world, use innovative technology to cook hundreds of thousands of meals in a few short hours. The decentralized kitchens reach out to children in the remotest areas of India while also creating employment for hundreds of women.

Dudh Sanjivani scheme:-

- ✧ This scheme will help in increasing enrollment rate and sustain retention in government schools as students are given milk at around 10 am in addition to the mid-day meal distributed in the noon.
- ✧ The Gujarat education department is all set to replicate the "Dudh Sanjivani" scheme in 19 non-tribal talukas out of the 48 economically backward blocks (EBB) across the state from 2015-16. This will help prevent dropouts, ensure regular attendance in government primary schools as well as arrest malnutrition among children

INTEGRATED CHILD DEVELOPMENT SERVICES (ICDS) SCHEME

Children in the age group 0-6 years constitute around 158 million of the population of India (2011 census). These Children are the future human resource of the country. Ministry of Women and Child Development is implementing various schemes for welfare, development and protection of children.

Launched on 2nd October, 1975, the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme is one of the flagship programmes of the Government of India and represents one of the world's largest and unique programmes for early childhood care and development. It is the foremost symbol of country's commitment to its children and nursing mothers, as a response to the challenge of providing pre-school non-formal education on one hand and breaking the vicious cycle of malnutrition, morbidity, reduced learning capacity and mortality on the other. The beneficiaries under the Scheme are children

in the age group of 0-6 years, pregnant women and lactating mothers. Objectives of the Scheme are:

- to improve the nutritional and health status of children in the age-group 0-6 years;
- to lay the foundation for proper psychological, physical and social development of the child;
- to reduce the incidence of mortality, morbidity, malnutrition and school dropout;
- to achieve effective co-ordination of policy and implementation amongst the various departments to promote child development; and
- to enhance the capability of the mother to look after the normal health and nutritional needs of the child through proper nutrition and health education.

Services under ICDS:-

The ICDS Scheme offers a package of six services, viz.

- Supplementary Nutrition
- Pre-school non-formal education
- Nutrition & health education
- Immunization
- Health check-up and
- Referral services

Table-1 Budget Allocation and Expenditure under ICDS Scheme during the Eleventh Plan and the first 2 years of the XII Plan.

Sl.No	Year	Budget Allocation (BE) (Rs. in Crores)	Budget Allocation (RE)	Expenditure	Percentage w.r.t RE
1	2007-08	5293.00	5396.30	5257.09	97.42%
2	2008-09	6300.00	6300.00	6379.36	101.25%
3	2009-10	6705.00	8162.00	8157.76	99.94%
4	2010-11	8700.00	9280.00	9763.11	105.20%
5	2011-12	10,000.00	14048.40	14272.21	101.59%
6	2012-13	15,850.00	15,850.00	15701.50	99.06%
7	2013-14	17,700.00	16,312.00	16267.49	99.73%
8	2014-15	18,195.00	16561.00	*16581.82	100.12%
9	2015-16 (as on 31.07.2015)	8335.77	--	5001.73	60%

* This includes savings from other scheme during the year

Coverage under ICDS:-

There has been significant progress in the implementation of ICDS Scheme during X Plan, XI Plan and XII Plan both, in terms of increase in number of

operational projects and Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) and coverage of beneficiaries as indicated below:-

Table 2: Coverage under ICDS

Year	RFD target	No. of operational projects	RFD Target	No. of operational AWCs	No. of Supplementary nutrition beneficiaries [Children (6 months to 6 years) & P&LM]	No. of pre-school education beneficiaries [Children (3-6 years)]
Achievement during X Plan		1221		299029	330.33 lakh (88.06%)	134.25 lakh (80.60%)
2008-09		6120		1044269	873.43 lakh	340.60 lakh
2009-10	6500	6509	11.50 lakhs	1142029	884.34 lakh	354.93 lakh
2010-11	7000	6722	12.80 lakhs	1262267	959.47 lakh	366.23 lakh
2011-12	6900	6908	13.10 lakhs	1304611	972.49 lakh	358.22 lakh
Achievement during XI Plan		1079		459868	267.06 lakh (37.85%)	57.41 lakh (19.08%)
2012-13	7018	7025	1344498	1338732	956.12 lakh	353.29 lakh
2013-14	7045	7067	1352078	1342146	1045.09 lakh	370.71 lakh
2014-15	7075*	7072	13000 new	1346186	1022.33 lakh	365.44 lakh
2015-16	7075 *	NA	1400000	NA	NA	NA

Note: States/ UTs are required to provide Supplementary Nutrition to all eligible children (6 months to 6 years) and pregnant women & lactating mothers and pre-school education to all the eligible children (3-6 years), hence no targets are set.

* Sanctioned by GOI.

NA: Not available

GOVERNMENT'S FIRM STEPS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF MINORITIES

The Centre has taken several steps for the development of minorities. In the Budget 2015-16, the Central Government has announced the launching of an integrated education and livelihood initiative namely, "NaiManzil", for the benefit of the minority youths who do not have a formal school leaving certificate. This means that "Nai Manzil" is an enabling scheme for those in the category of school-dropouts or educated in the community education institutions like the *Madarsas*, to seek better employment in the organized sector and thus to equip them for better lives. The scheme also visualizes providing bridge courses to *Madarsa* educated youth to enable them to seek higher education.

To preserve and showcase rich cultural heritage of minority communities, the Government has also launched the scheme of "HamariDharohar" to support the iconic exhibitions, supporting calligraphy and related crafts, and research and development.

NATIONAL LEVEL SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS FOR STUDENTS

Scholarship is a boon for students, belonging to the weaker sections of the society, who are unable to further their education for some reason or the other. Scholarship is an incentive as well as encouragement for students, who are talented, but do not have the means to study further. There are a variety of scholarships – merit-based, need-based, student-specific, career-specific, and college-specific.

Along side providing free schooling, the Government of India and State governments have launched many schemes, scholarships and programmes

to raise the levels of participation of the marginalised in school education. Aimed to decreasing dropout rate, reducing gender gap, motivating students for pursuing higher education and promoting equity.

COVERAGE

The scholarships covered in this compilation are given for studies in classes ranging from 1 till 12th, some of them continuing onwards, covering professional courses and (some) up till Ph.D level. This is helpful in pursuing higher education studies. Say for instance, the NTS which is given from class 9 onwards and subject to the student satisfying eligibility conditions, can continue till Ph.D. In a nutshell, the breakup is as follows.

- ▲ Pre-matric scholarships - which provide scholarships for study in classes 1 to 10th.
- ▲ Post-matric scholarships - which provide scholarships for studies from class 11 onwards and (some) continuing till Ph.D.
- ▲ Secondary and onward grades - class 9 onwards till Ph.D (NTS, for instance).
- ▲ Only for senior secondary grades - classes 11 and 12th, such as Maulana Azad Scholarship for meritorious girl students from minority communities.
- ▲ Senior secondary classes - from class 11 onwards and continuing upwards, such as Kishore Vaigyanik Protsahan Yojana.
- ▲ Secondary and senior secondary grades - classes 9 to 12th only, such as Chacha Nehru Scholarship.
- ▲ Scheme for Scholarship to Students From Non-Hindi Speaking States for Post Matric Studies in Hindi
- ▲ Special Scholarship Scheme for Jammu & Kashmir

CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS - (ADAPT)

Aim of the project: Enhancing the lives of children with disabilities through provision of education, training and proper therapeutic treatment so that they can realize their fullest potential in future and providing a safe environment where they get accepted and develop themselves.

Also raise awareness and understanding among their parents regarding the potential of their disabled children and consequently create awareness in the society regarding disabled children.

This program will support education and therapy needs of the children with disabilities and make an attempt to bring them into the main stream schools and give them equal opportunities for education and growth. CWSN is being implemented through ADAPT (Able Disabled All People Together) in Mumbai.

Employability for youth in Urban Slums (Smile):-

Aim of the project: Creating a pool of independent youth, from the underprivileged section, through skill enhancement in tandem with market requirement. The project aims at preparing urban underprivileged (adolescent youths) with skills in English Proficiency, basic computer education and soft skills for enhancing their prospects of employment in fast expanding sector like hospitality, retail outlets and BPO sectors.

THE SARVA SHIKSHA ABHIYAAN (SSA)

The **Sarva Shiksha Abhiyaan** is also known as the **Education for All** movement or 'Each One Teach One'. It was introduced in 2000-2001 as the flagship programme run by the Government of India. This scheme is framed to provide useful and relevant elementary education for all children in the age group of six to fourteen by 2010.

Aim of SSA:-



The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan aims to bridge social, regional and gender gaps, with the active participation of the community in the management of schools. All efforts to support pre-school learning in ICDS centres or special

pre-school centres in non ICDS areas are made to supplement the efforts of the Ministry of Women and Child Development.

Objectives of SSA:-

The SSA programme is an endeavour to provide an opportunity for improving human capabilities of all children, through the provision of community-owned quality education in a mission mode. The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan had been set with specific targets. These are:

- ✧ All children in school, Education Guarantee Centre, Alternate School or 'Back-to-School' camp by 2003.
- ✧ All children complete five years of primary schooling by 2007.
- ✧ Children complete eight years of elementary schooling by 2010.
- ✧ Focus on elementary education of satisfactory quality with emphasis on education for life.
- ✧ Bridge all gender and social category gaps at the primary stage by 2007 and at the elementary education level by 2010.
- ✧ Universal retention by 2010.
- ✧ To achieve these objectives, strategies have been framed that include active involvement of local community groups and institutional capacity building for setting up of block level resource centres. These centres impart district elementary education plans.
- ✧ The framework of SSA includes appointment of teachers, their training, motivating parents and students, provision of incentives, like, scholarships, uniforms, textbooks, etc. The programme also aims to open new schools in areas having inadequate schooling facilities and strengthen existing school infrastructure through the construction of additional class rooms, provision of toilets, drinking water facilities and so on.

Achievements under SSA:-

The implementation of SSA in Tamilnadu has resulted in the introduction of new strategies and innovative experiences in the realm of Elementary Education. It has also brought in a new perspective on *special focus groups* - Girls, Children with Special Needs and SC/ST children. The role of educational research, teacher education and training has enhanced and improved the quality of education over the past four years. Most importantly, the elementary school has become enjoyable to the learners and relevant to the community as a result of the inputs given under SSA

Mission. New technology like EDUSAT focuses on indigenous efforts that contribute effectively in upgrading quality of teaching learning processes. The consistent progress in every component of SSA has been significant and conspicuous and it can very well impact the future course of positive outcomes in the State's relentless journey towards achieving UEE and beyond.

National Programme of Education for Girls at Elementary Level(NPEGEL):-

NPEGEL Scheme is being implemented in 29 Educationally Backward Blocks (EBBs) in 11 Districts. This is a special programme implemented exclusively for the welfare of girls.

Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV):-

KGBV Scheme is also being implemented in 22 Educationally Backward Blocks (EBBs) in 10 Districts. Residential Schools have been opened to enroll out-of-school girls.

Special Literacy Programme for Women:-

This scheme was introduced during 2005-06 in the Directorate of Non-formal & Adult Education to give literacy training programme for women. The six districts covered under this programme were Dharmapuri, Villupuram, Erode, Salem, Krishnagiri and Perambalur and it was later extended to all districts during 2006-07.

District Institute of Education and Training (DIET):-

Setting up of DIETs is a 100% Centrally Sponsored Scheme. There are 29 DIETs in Tamil Nadu. DIETs function with seven branches viz. Pre-service, Work experience, District Resource Unit, Planning and Management, Educational Technology, In-service and Curriculum Material Development and Evaluation. It imparts pre-service education to 2400 students in the first year and 2400 students in the second year. It organizes in-service training programmes for the professional development of teachers, Framing of syllabus and Curriculum, Revision of textbooks, catering to the changing professional needs of teachers in the context of advancements in the field of Science and Technology, planning, coordinating, conducting and evaluating training programmes are some of the activities of DIETs.

Mahila Samakhyia Programme:-

The National Policy on Education, 1986 recognised that the empowerment of women is possibly the most critical pre-condition for the participation of girls and women in the educational process. The Mahila Samakhyia programme was launched in 1988 to pursue the objectives of the National Policy on Education, 1986. It

recognised that education can be an effective tool for women's empowerment.

National Means Cum-Merit Scholarship Scheme:-

The Centrally Sponsored Scheme "National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship Scheme (NMMSS)" was launched in May, 2008. The objective of the scheme is to award scholarships to meritorious students of economically weaker sections to arrest their drop out at class VIII and encourage them to continue the study at secondary stage. Scholarship of Rs.6000/- per annum (Rs.500/- per month) per student is awarded to selected students every year for study in classes from IX to XII in Government, Government aided and local body schools. There is quota of scholarships for different states/UTs. Students whose parental income from all sources is not more than Rs. 1,50,000/- are eligible to avail the scholarships. There is reservation as per State Government norms. The selection of students for the scholarships was being made through an examination conducted by the State Governments/UT administration alongwith the National Talent Search Examination (NTSE) first Stage-I examination. For academic year 2013-14 onward, separate examination for selection of students for NMMSS Scholarships is being conducted by the State Governments. Scholarships are disbursed by the State Bank of India directly into the accounts of students on quarterly basis.

WELFARE SCHEMES

Distribution of Free Text Books:-

All students studying in Government /aided / partially aided scStandards I to XII in self finance schools are being supplied with text books, free of cost by the Government.

Distribution of free Bicycles:-

Free Bicycles are being distributed every year to all categories of Standard XI students studying in Government/ Aided/ Partially Aided Schools.

Puratchi Thalaivar MGR Nutritious Meal Programme:-

Free noon meal scheme is an ongoing scheme. The expense towards this scheme is meted out by the Social Welfare and Noon Meal Department.

Free Uniforms:-

From the year 1985-1986 onwards, free uniforms are being given to students in standards I to VIII who are enrolled in the noon meal scheme.

Free Bus Pass:-

Free Bus passes for all students traveling in Government buses are being issued by the Government.

SPECIAL INITIATIVES**Cash Prize for Top Rankers:-**

The Government has launched this scheme to encourage the talented students to pursue their higher studies. As per this scheme, the first three top rankers at state level in the Higher Secondary Public Examination who have opted for Tamil as first language in the Higher Secondary Course are awarded cash prizes as follows.

1. First Place - Rs.50,000/-
2. Second Place - Rs.30,000/-
3. Third Place - Rs.20,000/-

Further at the District level the Government will bear the expenditure for the higher studies of the three first rank holders in the Higher Secondary Public Examination as detailed below:-

1. Govt. Higher Secondary School - 1
2. Aided Higher Secondary School - 1
3. Anglo Indian / Matric / Self financing Higher Secondary School - 1

Similarly, the first three top rankers at State level in the X Board Examination who have studied with Tamil as first language are also awarded cash prize as follows :-

1. First Place - Rs.25,000/-
2. Second Place - Rs.20,000/-
3. Third Place - Rs.15,000/-

In addition to this, the Government bear the whole expenditure for the higher studies of the State level top three rankers in the X Board Examination.

Three district level top rankers in the X Board Examination who have studied with Tamil as first language are also given Rs.1,500/- for pursuing Higher Studies as detailed below :-

1. Govt. High School - 1
2. Aided High School - 1
3. Anglo Indian / Matric / Self

Financing High School – 1:-

Moreover, subject wise top rankers (first rankers) at the state level in both the X Board Examination and the XII Board Examination are given cash awards

Girls' Incentive Scheme:-

To prevent dropouts of SC/ST girl students, the IX Standard unmarried SC/ST girls of age, less than 16 years are provided with a fixed deposit certificate for Rs.3000/-.

Financial Assistance for Students Benefit of Parental Support:-

This scheme is meant for the students whose bread winning parent (father or mother) dies in an accident or is rendered permanently incapacitated.

- The Government of Tamil Nadu is keen to ensure that the school children's education is not affected at any cost.
- The students studying in Standard VI to XII of Government / Government Aided schools will get Rs.50,000/-. The amount will be deposited in the name of the student in Tamil Nadu Power Finance Corporation and the interest amount will be spent on the educational needs of the child. Under this scheme, 1,150 students have been benefitted at a cost of Rs.5.75 crore.

100,000 scholarships to students to prevent school dropout:-

The government awards 100,000 scholarships to selected meritorious students of Class 9 from economically weaker sections in order to prevent them from dropping out of school.

The Department of School Education and Literacy is administering a centrally-sponsored National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship Scheme, under which scholarships are given to meritorious students of economically weaker sections to arrest their dropout at Class 8 and encourage them to continue their studies.

The scholarship is given to students whose parental income is not more than Rs.1.5 lakh per year. The state reservation policy is being followed.

Under another central scholarship scheme for college and university students, financial assistance is provided to meritorious students from low income families to meet a part of their day-to-day expenses while pursuing higher studies.

The scholarship is provided to students whose parental income should not exceed Rs.6 lakh per annum. The scheme is for students of the general and reserved category students.

Under another scheme, special scholarships are awarded to students of Jammu and Kashmir for pursuing higher studies after passing out of school.

The scholarship scheme is to provide tuition fees, hostel fees, cost of books and other incidental charges to students from Jammu and Kashmir who, after passing Class 12 are pursuing general degree courses, engineering and medical studies in government colleges/institutes/ other non-government institutes located outside the state.

The scholarship is for students whose parental income is not more than Rs.6 lakh per year. The scheme is for students of both general and reserved category.

Under the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), 4,000 scholarships are available per year to be given to girls admitted to AICTE-approved

institutions or programmes of Diploma and Undergraduate Degree level.

Only one girl child per family whose parental income is less than Rs.6 lakh per year can avail the scholarship.

Under a scheme for differently abled students, eligible differently abled students having parental income of less than Rs.6 lakh per year and who are already admitted to technical programmes/courses in AICTE approved Institutions during 2014-15 are eligible under the scheme Special scholarships are provided to students of the northeastern region, under a scheme called Ishan Uday, under the University Grants Commission (UGC).

Under the Ishan Uday scholarship scheme, it is aimed to provide 10,000 scholarships every year from the academic year 2014-15. The income of parents of the students should not exceed Rs.4.5 lakh per annum.

2,159 dropouts brought back to school under SSA in Shivamogga

Three-month bridge course designed for children:-

The Department of Public Instruction conducts the survey to identify school dropouts prior to the commencement of every academic year. Services of teachers and volunteers from non-governmental organisations would be utilised in the survey work. With the objective of enhancing the learning skills and competence of school dropouts, a three-month bridge course titled 'Chinnara Angala' would be held from April every year.

School-Based Training (SBT) course is conducted for dropouts during June and July every year. The objective was to prepare such children to be competitive with regular children in studies.

A residential school offering education for school dropouts had been established under the SSA in Agumbe. Children from remote villages in the Malnad region, who had discontinued their studies or were planning to discontinue owing to poor transportation facilities, would be admitted there.

CONCLUSION

In spite of various schemes initiated by the government to curb the school dropout, the need of the hour is to conduct an 'exit interview' before allowing a student to dropout. This process should include family counseling, academic counseling, as well as vocational counseling and referral. Meeting with stakeholders viz., students, teachers, teachers' union reps, superintendents, principals, business & industry, community groups, legislators, may be conducted to achieve consensus on what is needed and how to get there. High-school students may be allowed to engage in relevant learning by enrolling in a 4-year or community college, a technical career center, or to be meaningfully employed, while the high school continues to count (and pay for) the student as a full-day student. Legislation may be proposed to support dropout prevention and school completion.

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