What is a Graduation Coach?

Understanding Georgia’s Graduation Coach Initiative

Parent Resources

Graduation Coaches, School Counselors, and School Social Workers
Contact these support personnel for assistance in creating a successful school experience for your child through graduation and beyond.

- Georgia Appleseed Center  
  www.gaappleseed.org
- Georgia PIRC – Parental Information and Resource Center  
  www.georgiapirc.net
- National Dropout Prevention Center/Network  
  www.dropoutprevention.org/effstrat/family_engagement/overview.htm
- National Dropout Prevention Network for Students with Disabilities  
  www.ndpc-sd.org/resources/for_parents.php
- Parents Teachers Association  
  www.pta.org
- Georgia Family Connection Partnership  
  http://www.gafcp.org/
- Georgia Department of Education Title I Programs Parent Services Unit  
  http://www.gadoe.org/tss_title_parent.aspx

For More Information
Georgia Department of Education  
Division of School and Leader Quality  
http://www.gadoe.org/tss_school.aspx  
(404) 463-0976  
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Kathy Cox, State Superintendent of Schools
At-risk students are often those who:
- are credit deficient.
- have failed one or more state assessments.
- display poor/irregular attendance.
- display frequent discipline/behavior challenges.
- are transient.
- struggle in reading and mathematics.
- are disengaged from school.
- have a history of school failure.

Lack of Rigor/High Expectations
- 69% of dropouts said they were not motivated or inspired to work hard.
- 80% of dropouts said they were required one hour or less of homework each day in high school.
- 66% of dropouts reported they would have worked harder if more was expected of them.

Lack of Relevance
- 81% of dropouts said there should be more opportunities for real-world learning to give students an opportunity to see connections between school and getting a good job.

Lack of Relationships/Adult Support
- 68% of dropouts reported that their parents only became involved in their education when they became aware that their child was on the edge of dropping out of school.
- Less than half of dropouts interviewed stated that their school contacted their parents or them when they were absent or dropped out of school.

Lack of Encouragement
- 70% of dropouts were confident that they could have graduated if they had tried, including those with low GPAs.