Locating the Dropout Crisis

What Can Promoting Power Tell Us About High Schools in the Pacific Northwest?

Nettie Legters, Ph.D.
Center for Social Organization of Schools
Johns Hopkins University
Consequences of Dropping Out

- A new high school dropout in 2000 had less than a 50% chance of getting a job
- That job earned less than $\frac{1}{2}$ of what the same job earned 20 years ago
- Lack of education is ever more strongly correlated with welfare dependency, ill health, and incarceration
What is Promoting Power?

Promoting Power Ratio =
Number of 12\textsuperscript{th} Graders
Number of 9\textsuperscript{th} Graders 3 Years Prior

Class of 2006
Promoting Power Ratio =
60/100 = 60%
Promoting Power in the Nation’s High Schools

Number of High Schools Nationally by Different Levels of Promoting Power (Class of 2006)

- 60% or below: 1,999
- 61-70%: 1,851
- 71-80%: 2,704
- 81-89%: 2,986
- 90% or above: 5,003

Promoting Power
Promoting Power Distribution and Average Percent Minority for Pacific Northwest High Schools (Class of 2006)

Class of 2006 Promoting Power

- 60% or below: 79 (56% minority)
- 61-69%: 78 (36% minority)
- 70-79%: 161 (27% minority)
- 80-89%: 241 (19% minority)
- 90% or above: 321 (21% minority)
Pacific Northwest Counties with Weak Promoting Power High Schools (Class of 2006)

- No Weak Promoting Power High Schools
- 1 to 4 Weak Promoting Power High Schools
- 5 or more Weak Promoting Power High Schools
Alaska

No Weak Promoting Power High Schools
1 to 4 Weak Promoting Power High Schools
5 or more Weak Promoting Power High Schools
Percent of Estimated Dropouts Attending Weak Promoting Power High Schools in the Pacific Northwest

- Estimated Dropouts: 37%
- Estimated Minority Dropouts: 61%
- Estimated American Indian/Alaskan Native Dropouts: 41%
Poverty and Weak Promoting Power High Schools

Percentage of Schools that are Dropout Factories by Percentage of Students Eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Lunch

Percentage of Students Eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Lunch (2004-05)

- 0% - 9%: 98%
- 10% - 19%: 93%
- 20% - 29%: 85%
- 30% - 39%: 77%
- 40% - 49%: 71%
- 50% - 59%: 65%
- 60% - 69%: 60%
- 70% or more: 42%
Standardized Regression Coefficients for Estimating Promoting Power Nationally and in the Pacific Northwest

- Total calculated enrollment: -0.027
- Pupil Teacher Ratio: -0.013, -0.001
- Percent of students that were minority students: -0.277
- Percent of students eligible for free or reduced-price lunch: -0.305
- Urbanicity (0 = Rural, 8 = Large City): -0.058, -0.127, -0.073
Break the Mold Schools
The Center for Social Organization of Schools
Johns Hopkins University
3003 N. Charles St., Ste. 200
Baltimore, MD  21218
410-516-8800
www.csos.jhu.edu
Additional Slides
Class of 2005 Grade Enrollments and Graduates for the Nation's Public School Students

Total Number of Students and Graduates

Grade

- 1st Grade (1993-1994)
- 2nd Grade (1994-1995)
- 3rd Grade (1995-1996)
- 4th Grade (1996-1997)
- 5th Grade (1997-1998)
- 6th Grade (1998-1999)
- 7th Grade (1999-2000)
- 8th Grade (2000-2001)
- 9th Grade (2001-2002)
- 10th Grade (2002-2003)
- 11th Grade (2003-2004)
- 12th Grade (2004-2005)
- Diploma Recipients (2004-2005)

- Low Grades
- Middle Grades
- High Grades
- Graduates
### Class of 2005 Grade Enrollments and Graduates for Washington Public Schools

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Low Grades</th>
<th>Middle Grades</th>
<th>High Grades</th>
<th>Graduates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st Grade (1993-1994)</td>
<td>72,729</td>
<td>73,187</td>
<td>73,888</td>
<td>74,697</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Grade (1994-1995)</td>
<td>76,162</td>
<td>76,932</td>
<td>77,160</td>
<td>78,660</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd Grade (1995-1996)</td>
<td>80,815</td>
<td>86,396</td>
<td>76,774</td>
<td>74,121</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th Grade (1996-1997)</td>
<td>76,162</td>
<td>76,932</td>
<td>77,160</td>
<td>78,660</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th Grade (1997-1998)</td>
<td>86,396</td>
<td>86,396</td>
<td>76,932</td>
<td>77,160</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Class of 2005 Grade Enrollments and Graduates for Wyoming Public Schools

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Low Grades</th>
<th>Middle Grades</th>
<th>High Grades</th>
<th>Graduates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st Grade (1993-1994)</td>
<td>7,652</td>
<td>7,322</td>
<td>7,311</td>
<td>7,283</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Grade (1994-1995)</td>
<td>7,283</td>
<td>7,284</td>
<td>7,340</td>
<td>7,284</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th Grade (1996-1997)</td>
<td>7,443</td>
<td>7,226</td>
<td>6,657</td>
<td>6,323</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th Grade (1997-1998)</td>
<td>6,657</td>
<td>5,616</td>
<td>5,616</td>
<td>5,616</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Class of 2005 Grade Enrollments and Graduates for Portland (OR)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Total Number of Students and Graduates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st Grade (1993-1994)</td>
<td>4,565</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Grade (1994-1995)</td>
<td>4,350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd Grade (1995-1996)</td>
<td>4,202</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th Grade (1996-1997)</td>
<td>4,005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th Grade (1997-1998)</td>
<td>3,976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6th Grade (1998-1999)</td>
<td>3,817</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7th Grade (1999-2000)</td>
<td>3,665</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8th Grade (2000-2001)</td>
<td>3,481</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9th Grade (2001-2002)</td>
<td>3,758</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10th Grade (2002-2003)</td>
<td>3,399</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11th Grade (2003-2004)</td>
<td>2,905</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12th Grade (2004-2005)</td>
<td>2,479</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diploma Recipients (2004-2005)</td>
<td>2,429</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Legend:
- **Low Grades**
- **Middle Grades**
- **High Grades**
- **Graduates**