

# NC School Counselors and Dropout Prevention

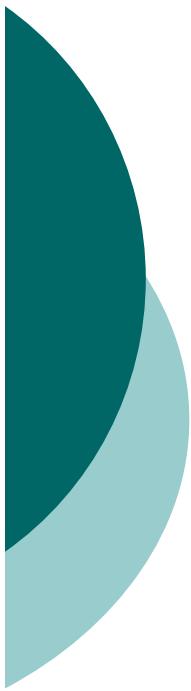
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\*NCSCA Presentation to the  
Education Oversight Committee



Tuesday, January 8, 2008

\*NC School Counselor Association  
[www.ncschoolcounselor.org](http://www.ncschoolcounselor.org)

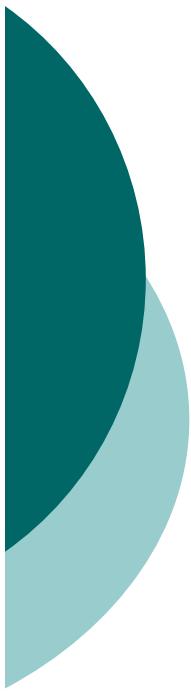


## The \*ASCA National Model

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- NC school counselors are addressing dropout prevention by following a model that is:
  - Comprehensive
  - Student Centered
  - Data Driven

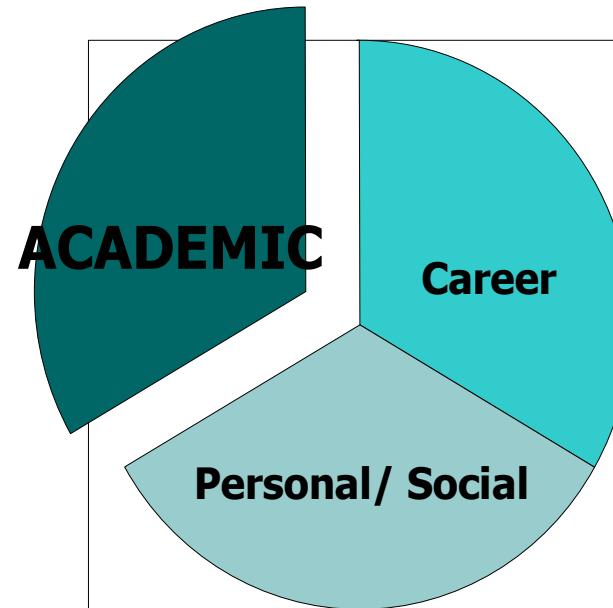
\*American School Counselor Association  
[www.schoolcounselor.org](http://www.schoolcounselor.org)

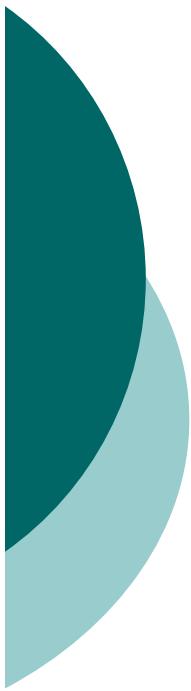


# Comprehensive School Counseling Programs

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- Academic Development
- Personal/Social Development
- Career Development

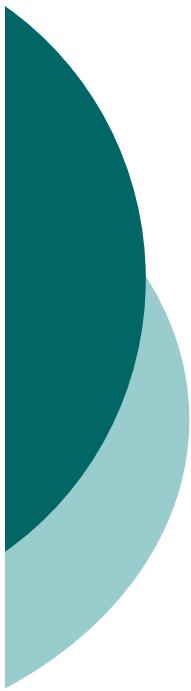




# School Counselor Activities and Dropout Prevention

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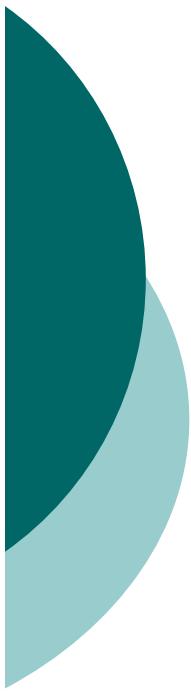
- Small Groups for Anger Management, Decision Making, etc.
- Small Groups for Stress Management
- Individual Counseling
- Classroom Guidance for Goal Setting or Study Skills



## School Counselor Activities and Dropout Prevention cont.

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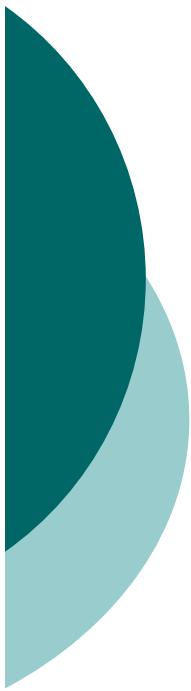
- Consultation with administration, teachers and staff
- Evening programming for parents and students
- Consultation with community-based agencies
- Referrals to alternative education



## School Counselor Activities and Dropout Prevention cont.

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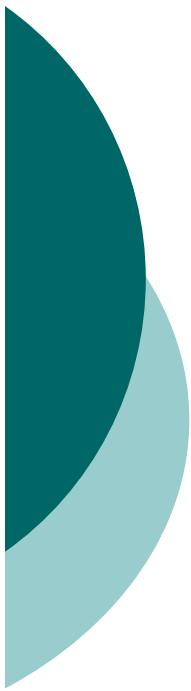
- Substance/drug abuse awareness and prevention
- Gang awareness and prevention
- Informational programs for career awareness and exploration
- College/post-secondary planning programs



# School Counselor Preparation

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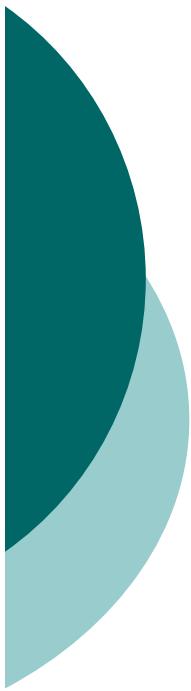
- Specialized Masters level
- National Model incorporated into curriculum
- New School Counselor job description incorporated into curriculum
- Working with local and district-level leaders
- Collaboration with building level and community agencies
- Internship and practicum required hours



## NCSCA Efforts

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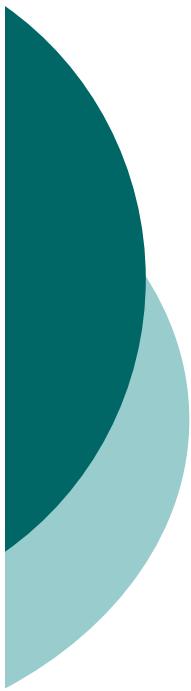
- National Model Training
  - Superintendents, Principals, Counselors
- Annual Fall Conference
  - 20% related to dropout prevention
- Professional Development
  - Mini Grants



# Barriers for School Counselors

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- Systemic
- Lack of resources
- Inappropriate Duties



# What NC School Counselors Need

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- District level administrative support
  - Superintendents, Principals, etc.
- Reduction of student to counselor ratio
- Ongoing legislative support for new counselor job description (2006)
- Remove all school counselors from inappropriate duties



## We Exist to Effect Change for Students in North Carolina

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- Increased personalization and sense of belonging for students
- Improved behavior/reduced suspensions
- Increased opportunity for career and postsecondary exploration
- Increased graduation rate