



Public Schools of North Carolina

# Dropout Prevention Law 2008

**Summary of the Law and  
an Update on the Activities of the  
Dropout Prevention Committee**

**Presented to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee  
October 14, 2008**

# **DROPOUT PREVENTION GRANT APPLICATIONS 2007 and 2008**



# Committee Appointments

- 5 appointed by the Governor (*One appointment remains vacant.*)
- 5 appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate
- 5 appointed by the Speaker of the House
- The co-chairs are designated by the President Pro Tempore and the Speaker

# Powers and Duties

- Determine which LEAs, schools, agencies, FBOS and CBOs qualify for funding under the 2008 legislation
- Report to the Joint Legislative Commission on Dropout Prevention
- Hold regular meetings
- Select grant recipients



# The Dropout Prevention Grants of 2007 and 2008

## *An Historical Perspective*

- 2007
  - Establishment of the Dropout Prevention Committee and the Dropout Prevention Grant by legislation
  - Creation of North Carolina's first Dropout Prevention Grant Application
  - Forty grant applications are approved by the Dropout Prevention Committee in accordance with criteria set by legislation
  - Funds to awardees are issued by year's end



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# The Dropout Prevention Grants of 2007 and 2008

## *An Historical Perspective*

- 2008
  - Re-establishment of the Dropout Prevention Committee and the Dropout Prevention Grant by Legislation
  - Meetings held in September to organize the process for awarding grants to 2007 unfunded grant applicants, for granting continuing funds to 2007 grant awardees, and for awarding grants to qualifying 2008 applicants
  - Extension for distribution of funds is granted
  - Dropout Prevention Grant of 2007 is modified for 2008
  - 2007 Awardees are notified to turn in a progress report
  - Meeting held in September and October to identify which 2007 Unfunded Applicants will be awarded grants
  - Funds to awardees are expected to be issued before year's end



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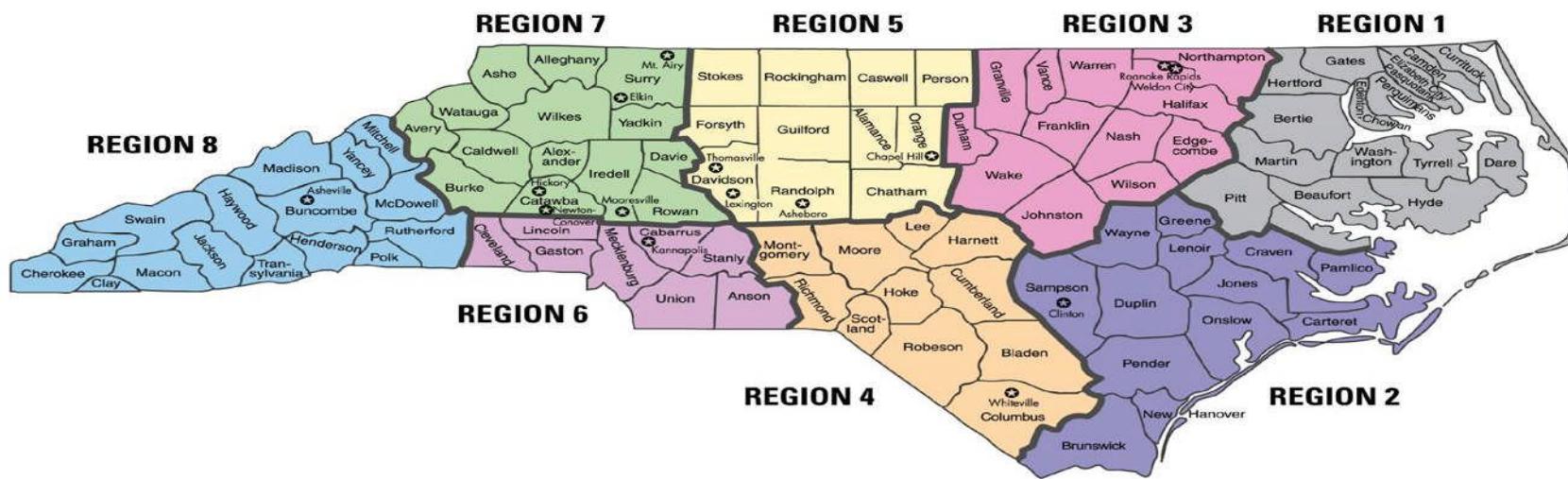
# Timeline of Activities

*Present, Past and Future*



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# Technical Assistance Meetings



# Special Criteria for New Round of Applicants *(According to the 2008 Legislation)*

- Must *not have applied* in 2007
- Meet the new cut-off score
- Serve students “in local schools that have a four-year cohort graduation rate of less than 65%.”

# Special Criteria for Unfunded 2007 Applicants

- Meet new cut-off score
- Serve students “in local schools that have a four-year cohort graduation rate of less than 65%.”



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# Criteria for Awarding Grants to the 2007 Unfunded Applicants

- Programs that serve students in local schools that have a four-year cohort graduation rate of less than sixty-five percent (65%)
- Programs/Initiatives serve in areas/counties not previously funded
- Strong focus on academics with components that include tutoring, mentoring for students at-risk of failing
- Demonstrated levels of need (i.e., low-wealth counties, areas with high poverty rates)
- Number of students served
- Collaboration with other community services and agencies
- Evidence of parental involvement
- Notable level of innovation

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# Criteria That All Grant Types Must Meet

- Award amount can be up to \$150,000
- Program/initiative must be innovative and sustainable
- Program/initiative must be less than five years old
- Can be one of 3 grantees in a county
- Students are held to high academic standards
- Statements of how funds will be expended and coordinated with other existing funds



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# Criteria That All Grant Types Must Meet

- Program/initiative must use best practices for increasing student achievement, keeping students in school, or helping students re-enter
- Demonstrated local community input
- Demonstrated need to increase attendance, parental involvement, graduation

**NOTE:** *All applications and progress reports are due October 31, 2008.*



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# Components of the Evaluation Process

*(What All Applicants Must Address)*

- How funds were used
- Success of the program/initiative
- How the program/initiative impacted student attendance, test scores, graduation rates
- Program's impact on existing programs, services



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# Components of the Evaluation Process

- Sustainability
- Demographics of students served
- Program's potential to serve as a model for achieving academic progress



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# Funding Purposes and Amounts

Purpose	Criteria	Amount	Date
Unfunded 2007 Applicants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- New cut-off score</li><li>- &lt;65% graduation cohort rate</li><li>-Other Committee Criteria</li></ul>	\$5.5 million	11/1/08
Additional funds for 2007 Grantees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- &lt;65% graduation cohort rate</li><li>- Other Committee Criteria</li></ul>	\$9.26 million	12/1/08
New Applicants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Did not apply in 2007</li><li>- New cut-off score</li><li>-&lt;65% graduation cohort rate</li><li>-Other Committee Criteria</li></ul>		12/1/08
Evaluator	TBD	\$100,000.00	TBA
DPI Administrative Assistance	N/A	\$ 50,000.00	2008-09 Fiscal year

# Evaluating the Grant Recipients