Learning Guide

Uniting for High School Completion

How can the Supporting High School Completion: A Tool Kit For Success resource enhance our ability to collaborate with students, families, and community partners to support all students in completing high school?

How to Use this Guide:
Designed to assist administrators in working with school teams as they think more deeply about collaborative relationships in support of high school completion, this guide is best used at the school level. This Learning Guide is comprised of 2 parts which introduce key sections of the resource related to collaboration with partners through questions for discussion. High School teams who support vulnerable youth should consider these discussion prompts together. It is recommended that administrators first complete the Introduction to the Supporting High School Completion: A Tool Kit For Success Resource Learning Guide with their school teams.

Introduction to the Tool Kit:
The Supporting High School Completion: A Tool Kit For Success resource offers a process to support schools in working with youth at risk of not completing high school. At every point along the continuum of risk from prevention, to identification, to intervention and specialised supports, this resource guides schools and school teams in the collaborative process of supporting students as they work towards high school completion.

With tools and processes to support your work, the Tool Kit centers on 4 guiding questions:

1. Empowerment: Can the student’s choice to stay be empowered? How?
2. Supported Exit: How can the student be continually supported if an exit from high school is necessary?
3. Reconnection: What steps will help reconnect to the student if they have exited?
4. Reentry and/or Continued Engagement: What is the best way to support successful reentry and continued engagement?

Key Understandings:
The Tool Kit offers a process and accompanying tools that schools could engage with for being proactive in identifying and responding to student’s needs when the potential exists for them not to complete high school.

The Tool Kit includes information to support understanding, access, and engagement with community resources.

For More Information:
For more information about partnering and collaborative practices, view the Working Together Collaborative Practices and Partnership Toolkit: Supporting Alberta Students at: https://education.alberta.ca/media/1089038/searchabletoolkit.pdf

To explore the resources and community supports available in your area, access either:

The Alberta Human Services Resource List at: https://www.humanservices.alberta.ca/disability-services/17252.html

or, Alberta 211 at: https://www.ab.211.ca

Acknowledgement:
This guide was developed by the Calgary Regional Consortium and funded through a grant from Alberta Education. It is freely provided in support of improved teaching and learning under the following Creative Commons license.
Exploring the Resource:

Part 1: Who Are Our Partners?

Review the section ‘Community Partners: Who Can Walk Alongside Us?’ on page 4 of the resource. Complete the following table. For each column, consider and identify any school and/or community based partners in each of the areas listed.

In this table, partners are defined as follows:

- **In School Partners**: staff in your school building
- **School Authority Partners**: staff or school based partners who can be accessed through your school authority
- **Community Partners**: outside agencies

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Part 2: How Do We Work Together?

Review the section ‘Roles and Responsibilities: Working Together to Empower Students’ on page 5 of the resource. Discuss the questions proposed there as a team, then, download the Collaborative Practices Principles poster and complete the Principles Placemat found at: https://education.alberta.ca/collaborating-to-support-students/collaborative-practices/everyone/resources/

Culminating Activity:

After completing Part 1 and Part 2 with your team, create your Action Plan by responding to these 2 questions:

1. How will we communicate our ‘Promise’ to staff, students, families, and school/community based partners?

2. How will we integrate our ‘Promise’ into our school processes as outlined in the Supporting High School Completion: A Tool Kit For Success resource?