

## **SUCCESSFUL EXIT STRATEGIES – LEAVE WITH THE DOOR OPEN TO RETURN**

Use these strategies, adapted from the *All In For Youth Successful Exit Strategies A Best Practice Outline* to ensure an intentional, consistent and proactive process for helping students exit school with a plan in place for a successful return:

1. Whenever possible, departing students should complete an exit interview with a school staff member focused on collecting information that would assist when trying to reengage that student at a later date:
  - a. Leaving date
  - b. Reason(s) for leaving
  - c. Strengths or interests that might help any future discussion and planning for a reconnection with the student (see Exit Interview Template - [click here](#))
  
2. Key pieces of data required to facilitate reconnecting with a student and that will assist when discussing a student's return include:
  - a. Full Name and name used/nickname
  - b. Current address and phone numbers including mobile and home
  - c. Email or text address if this is a preferred method of contact
  - d. Parent or guardian contact information whenever possible
  
3. If students take a leave, create a success package they can take with them, including:
  - a. Student 'keep the door open' card.
  - b. List of local community resources – if your school does not have one, see the Developing a List of Community Resources and Services: Tip Sheet or use the 'when you need to reach out' cards.
  - c. Your Education, Your Way: A guide to finishing high school and planning for success.
  - d. This Way Forward: A guide to resources available in the community.