

Graduation Coach Suggested Roles and Responsibilities

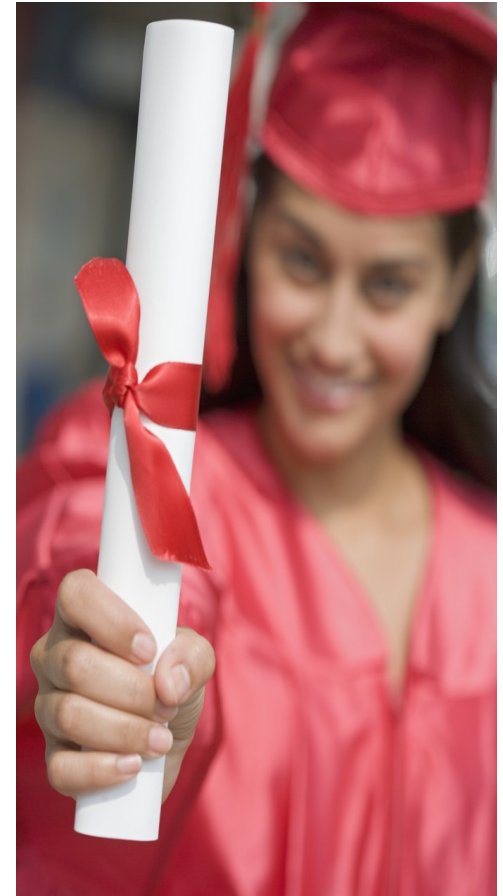


Kathy Cox
State Superintendent of Schools



The Graduation Coach Mission

- Ensure the successful transition of all students from elementary to middle school, middle to high school, and high school to post-secondary education or the workforce.
- Provide comprehensive prevention/intervention programs for students at risk of grade retention and/or dropping out of school.
- Identify students in need of additional support and work with them to achieve academic and social success.
- Ensure that all identified students receive the resources and services needed to guide them toward graduation.





Graduation Coach Duties and Responsibilities

- *Advisement* – using best practices models
- *Transitions* – collaboration between middle school and high school graduation coaches AND elementary, middle and high school staff
- *Awareness* – catching students already at risk of dropping out before and during high school
- *Parent Connections* – keeping parents involved in their child's education at the age when parents begin to become more disengaged



Roles and Responsibilities

■ Identify Students with High Risk Factors

- Utilize research-based risk factors to identify students at risk of dropping out of school. These risk factors include (but are not limited to):
 - History of school failure, retention, and/or overage for grade
 - Low CRCT scores, reading, and/or math achievement
 - Failure of core courses, GHSGT and/or EOCT
 - Special education/disability
 - Attendance problems/truancy
 - Behavioral problems, history of suspensions, high-risk peer group
 - School disengagement, low expectations, lack of extracurricular involvement
 - Family status or risk factors (highly transient, economically disadvantaged, non-native English speakers)
 - Other social/personal factors



Roles and Responsibilities

- **Develop Graduation Team(s) to Generate Support**
 - Develop a Graduation Team(s) that includes administrators, teachers, advisors, counselors, social workers, and/or other relevant service providers to help identify at-risk students, assess school/student needs, and develop/coordinate appropriate interventions.
 - Graduation Team(s) may utilize existing school teams, such as School Leadership, Improvement, and/or Student Support.



Roles and Responsibilities

- **Implement School-wide Support and Interventions**
 - Work with faculty/administrators to develop credit recovery and alternative options, adapt curriculum, and differentiate instruction to meet the needs of identified at-risk students.
 - Provide training and/or support to teachers on strategies that work with at-risk youth.



Roles and Responsibilities

- **Provide Direct Service and Case Management**
 - Develop and implement individual, small group, and whole school intervention/prevention strategies to help students stay in school and graduate.
 - Work with students to develop individualized plans to meet academic and post-secondary goals.
 - Create a graduation and career plan that can track progress and follow students from grade to grade to ensure consistent support.



Roles and Responsibilities

- **Develop Transition Programs and Vertical Teams**
 - Collaborate with feeder school(s) to prepare students for building and grade level transitions.
 - Identify incoming students needing proactive support.
 - Participate on vertical teams with other coaches, faculty, and staff from feeder/cluster schools to develop transition plans.
 - Collaborate with teachers, counselors, and advisors to implement transition processes for rising/incoming 6th and 9th graders.

