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LINKS Goals

- Provide a consistent advocate for each student in the school
- Assist all students in identifying and addressing their unique academic, career and personal/social needs
- Address specific school needs to promote a positive and safe school climate
- Provide each student with a sense of connection to school and community
- Develop a collaboration of stakeholders who encourage each student to progress and succeed
- Provide an organized structure for consistent delivery of critical academic, career and personal/social development content standards for every student

Learning, Individualized Needs, Knowledge and Skills

Your student's LINKS advisor is:

E-mail: _____

Phone: _____

I am your child's "go to" person in our school. Please contact me with any concerns or questions.

For more information contact:

Barbara Brady Ashcraft
School Counseling Coordinator
WV Department of Education
Building 6, Room 221
1900 Kanawha Blvd. East
Charleston, WV 25305-0330
Phone: 304-558-2348
Fax: 304-558-3946
bashcraft@access.k12.wv.us

West Virginia LINKS

Student Advisement System Parent Information



Learning, Individualized Needs, Knowledge and Skills



The LINKS Program



The LINKS program provides a structure for the delivery of specific academic, career and personal/social content standards.

LINKS is not a separate program, but instead a system's change that brings students, school staff, parents, the community, businesses and other organizations together to enhance each student's educational experience by connecting rigor, relevance, relationships and results.

LINKS provides a success element for each student by providing an adult mentor who takes an interest in the student's successful learning, goal setting, career planning and personal growth.

LINKS is an avenue to meet many of the elements of West Virginia's 21st Century Learning initiative, but particularly life skills. These life skills include leadership, teamwork, ethics, accountability, adaptability, personal productivity, personal responsibility, people skills, self-direction and social responsibility.



Expected Outcomes of the LINKS Program

- Greater student satisfaction with the high school experience
- Improved school attendance
- Fewer behavior problems
- Increased achievement (measured by grades and test scores)
- Lower drop-out rate
- Higher graduation rate
- More informed career decision-making
- Better interpersonal skills
- More informed about the vast array of post-secondary opportunities
- Better prepared to enter the work force
- Better prepared to enter relevant and appropriate post secondary institutions
- More students completing post secondary education programs

Learning, Individualized Needs, Knowledge and Skills

Designed to assist educators to help individual students acquire knowledge and skills needed to succeed in our 21st century schools and the global workplace.



Why do our students need LINKS?

- Only 72 of every 100 ninth graders in West Virginia earn a high school diploma
- At least 8,000 students drop out of high school each year in West Virginia
- Only 16 of these graduates earn a four-year degree within six years of graduation
- 55 percent of West Virginia students qualify for free and reduced meals
- West Virginia employers report that West Virginia graduates do not have adequate workplace readiness skills