

LINKS Goals

- Provide a consistent adult to connect with your middle and high school student
- Help all students with their academic, career and personal/social planning
- Provide a positive and safe school climate
- Help your student feel connected to the school community
- Provide a team of adults who encourage each student to progress and success
- Provide consistent standards for academic career and personal/social development

LINKS is Designed to Help Your Child

- Be more satisfied with the school experience
- Improve attendance at school
- Have fewer behavior problems at school
- Increase achievement (measured by grades and test scores)
- Stay in school and graduate
- Make good career decisions
- Get along better with others
- Understand options for what to do after graduation
- Become better prepared to enter training or college programs
- Become better prepared to enter the work force



Your student's LINKS Advisor is:

Email: _____

Phone: _____

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

For more information about LINKS, contact

Barbara Brady Ashcraft
School Counseling Coordinator
West Virginia Department of Education
Building 6, Room 617
1900 Kanawha Boulevard East
Charleston, WV 25305-0330
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wvde.state.wv.us/counselors/links/
for downloadable lesson plans and resources

West Virginia LINKS Student Advisement Program Parent Information

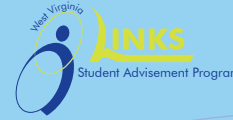


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The LINKS Advisory System:



West Virginia LINKS is a student advising system for middle and high school students. Your student will receive school, career and personal advising through LINKS.

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 improve each student's educational experience by connecting rigor, relevance, relationships and results.

LINKS provides each student with an adult advisor who takes an interest in the student's successful learning and an interest in the student's successful learning goal setting, career planning and personal growth.

LINKS is a way to meet many parts of West Virginia's Global 21 Learning initiative, especially life skills. These life skills include leadership, teamwork, ethics, accountability, adaptability, personal productivity, personal responsibility, people skills, self-direction and social responsibility.

Expected **STUDENT OUTCOMES** of the **LINKS Program**

- More students like the middle and high school experience
- Improved school attendance
- Fewer behavior problems
- Increased achievement (measured by grades and test scores)
- Middle school students are more prepared for high school
- Lower drop-out rate
- Higher graduation rate
- More informed career decision making
- Better interpersonal skills
- More informed about the many 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

Why do our students need LINKS?

- Only 77 of every 100 9th graders in West Virginia earn a high school diploma
- Only 16 of these graduates earn a four year degree within six years of graduation
- More than 3,000 students drop out of high school each year in West Virginia
- 14,000 school-age youth are not in school or are not working
- West Virginia colleges report most students are not ready for college and technical schools when they graduate
- West Virginia employers report that West Virginia graduates do not have adequate work place readiness skills.

SREB 2012 and Kids Count Data



Designed to assist educators as they help each student acquire knowledge and skills needed to succeed in our 21st century schools and the global work place.