LINKS Goals

• Provide a consistent advocate and mentor for each student in the school
• Provide an organized structure for consistent delivery of critical academic, career and personal-social development content standards for every student
• Assist all students with their unique academic, career and personal/social needs
• Develop a system’s approach to encourage each student to progress and succeed
• Shape student behaviors to create model 21st Century workers and citizens
• Promote a positive and safe school climate
• Provide each student with a sense of connection to school and community
• Teach 21st Century skills in a collaborative engaging manner
• Improve classroom skills and behaviors and enhance learning for all students
• Help all students be more prepared for success after high school

wvde.state.wv.us/counselors/links/

Downloadable lesson plans and resources are available online to help you create a successful advising program

For more information about LINKS, contact

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The LINKS Student Advisement System:

LINKS provides a structure for delivering specific academic, career and personal/social content standards.

LINKS is not a separate program, but a system 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 each student with an adult advisor who takes an interest in the student’s successful learning, goal setting, career planning and personal growth.

LINKS is a way to meet many of the elements of West Virginia’s Global 21 Learning initiative, particularly 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

- A more positive school experience for students in middle and high school
- Improved school attendance
- Improved behavior
- Increased achievement (measured by grades and test scores)
- Fewer students dropping out of school
- More students graduating
- More informed career decision making
- Better personal/social 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

Why do our schools 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.