



## Communities Empowering Graduation For All Students

---

**Arizona Dropout Prevention Leadership Summit**  
**January 15, 2010**  
**Desert Willow Conference Center**  
**8:00am — 3:30pm**

### Sharing the Vision of High School Graduation for All Students

---

For our youth to thrive in today's global economy, they must graduate from high school ready for post-secondary education and the workforce. The consequences of dropping out of school are unacceptable. Research is clear and compelling—education success in high school and beyond matters to a lifetime of employment options, earning potential, family support, health and civic engagement. The consequences of high dropout rates translate to communities as lost tax revenue, as well as higher monetary and social costs. Communities can only be economically vibrant when their residents are engaged in lifelong learning beginning with a quality high school diploma. It is in our children's, our communities', and our state's best interest to succeed in graduating more young people from quality high schools, and we have many models of this success around the state and nation.

While schools are at the heart of this discussion, high school graduation is a symptom of success (or failure) that has been built over the course of a young person's life. To tackle the symptom, communities need to work in partnership to pledge that all of our young people will be Ready by 21 — ready for post-secondary, for work, for life.

Now is the time to share this vision with others in your community and around the state.



## Who Should Participate?

### Everyone Who Cares about the Future of Their Community

---

- Existing Community Collaborative Leadership
- Youth
- School Board Members
- School Administrators and Staff
- Parents and Parent Organizations
- School and Family Counselors
- Alternative and Adjudicated Youth Educators
- Family Court Administrators
- Law Enforcement Officials
- Mental and Public Health Officials
- Social Service Agencies and Social Workers
- Parks and Recreation Directors
- Athletic Directors and Coaches
- Non-Profits and Civic Leaders
- Service Clubs
- Employers and Job Training Agencies
- Churches and Youth Group Leaders
- Local Housing Authorities
- Public Transportation
- Childhood Care Providers
- Youth Advisory Councils and Youth Advocates
- Community Foundations and Other Funders
- Literacy Councils and Librarians
- Community Based Organizations
- Professional Organizations
- And More!

## Coming Together at the Summit

---

In keeping with the spirit of **America's Promise**, founded by General Colin Powell, the goal is to “develop strong, effective partnership alliances that are committed to seeing children experience the fundamental resources they need to succeed at home, in school and out in the community.” We believe that the Summit will enable communities to expand on existing partnerships and build new partnerships to help deliver on the promise that we make as a state and a nation to ensure that all children graduate from high school ready to succeed in work and life.

## Attending the Summit as a Team

---

Communities are encouraged to register a core group of stakeholders for the Summit itself (maximum of 8 due to seating capacity). We will use a “train-the-trainer” model at the Summit, equipping participants with the knowledge and resources to take back to your community and grow your alliance. Seating is limited to 200 participants statewide, so register early to make sure your community is well-represented. The voice and involvement of young people who directly experience the level of community support for their success and challenges is critical to the Summit. We expect each community team to include, if possible, at least one youth.

## Attending the Summit as an Individual

---

You can also register as an individual. We will connect you with others from your community at the Summit.



## Preparing Your Community for the Summit

---

The purpose of the Summit is to help participants take stock of the resources available locally to support children, youth and families; identify gaps in programs and services; share promising practices with others around the state; and explore other local, state and federal resources that can make a difference in the educational success of young people and, ultimately, the success of our communities. Summit activities will help communities leverage existing partnerships and networks into more cohesive, efficient service delivery systems. At the Summit, each Community Group will be paired with facilitators to help start assessing your community's needs and assets, and translate those assessments into action steps. Many communities have done considerable work assessing children and youth and the programs that serve them. This can provide a foundation for the Summit discussion. All members of your group can become more familiar with the status of children and youth in your community and learn where your community has prioritized services for them. This includes local data on dropout and graduation rates. But that is just the beginning. The Summit will take a "Whole Child" approach to addressing those factors that contribute to the dropout crisis. Therefore, we encourage you to assess and collect data covering the span of a child's life for the first 21 years.

## Pre-Conference Briefing

---

A pre-conference briefing will be held at 8:00am. A reflection of community, youth and educator input from a series of hearings around the state will be presented by the Governor's Youth Commission. These hearings have gathered information about what programs, initiatives and support have really mattered to graduating young people from high school and includes the release of the *2008-2009 Addressing the Issues of Today's Youth*. This briefing is open to Summit participants.

## Contact Information

---

If you have questions regarding the Summit, please contact us.  
Communities In Schools of Arizona  
E-mail: [alexis@cisarizona.org](mailto:alexis@cisarizona.org)  
Phone: 602-252-5312 ext. 26



## AGENDA

---

7:00am	<b>Registration &amp; Continental Breakfast</b>
8:00am	<b>Pre-Conference Briefing</b> Governor's Youth Commission – Panel Reflection Addressing the Issues of Today's Youth – 2008/2009 Report
8:30am	<b>Welcome</b> Governor Jan Brewer
9:00am	<b>America's Promise Presentation</b> Alyssa Bisanz, America's Promise Youth Partnership Team Member
9:15am	<b>Setting the Stage</b> <i>Understanding the Dropout Crisis</i> Keynote Speaker - Daniel J. Cardinali Communities In Schools, President/CEO
9:45am	<b>Small Steps of Change</b> Dennis Ichikawa, Sr. Director, Arizona Field Office & State Strategies Casey Family Program <b>Introduction to Action Planning Sessions</b> Skill-building sessions, intended to help community groups build the dynamic and baseline skill for the kind of community plans that are necessary.
10:30am	<b>Break</b>
10:45am	<b>Breakout Sessions - Action Planning</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Engaging the Community</li><li>▪ Assessing State and Local Data</li><li>▪ Tools and Resources for Community Building</li><li>▪ Asset Mapping</li></ul>
11:30pm	<b>Lunch Buffet</b>
12:00pm	<b>Lunch Speaker</b> <i>"Looking to 2010-2011: The Legislative &amp; Policy Agenda for Postsecondary Education"</i> Guest Speaker - Representative Rich Crandall, District 19 Chairman of the Arizona House of Representatives Education Committee
12:45pm	<b>Breakout Sessions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Transitioning Foster Care and Incarcerated Youth</li><li>▪ Performance Learning Centers and Community School Model</li><li>▪ Outside the Bell – Academic Intervention and Afterschool Programs</li><li>▪ Service-Learning and Dropout Prevention</li><li>▪ Stepping Up to College and Career Preparation</li><li>▪ Building a Brighter Future for Arizona Kids</li></ul>
1:45pm	<b>Break</b>
2:00pm	<b>Moving Forward – Sharing the Vision</b> Team Action Plan Concepts and Facilitated Discussion
2:30pm	<b>Pulling It All Together: Next Steps</b> Expect More Arizona
3:00pm	<b>Closing Remarks</b> Tammy Paz-Combs, Director, Division for Community & Youth Development Governor's Office of Children, Youth and Families



# Action Planning

---

Each team will start work on developing action plans that address the following four areas:

- Family and Youth Engagement
  - What can be done to increase/improve family/parental and youth engagement in schools?
  - What are some of the best practices in parent and youth engagement?
  - How can schools improve in disseminating information to families/parents and youth?
- Life Readiness and Education Beyond High School
  - What are best practices in making academic curriculum and school activities relevant to students?
  - What are the risk factors or prevalent issues which keep students from graduating in your region?
  - What can be done to improve the numbers of students who enter college or the workforce prepared upon graduation?
- Student Support
  - What are the best practices in the provision of student support in schools, homes, and the communities which will help address the needs of different types of students (“one size does not fit all” philosophy)?
  - What types of resources are needed to continue providing student support in schools, homes and communities which will address the needs of different types of students?
  - Identify resources in your region which can be tapped to provide or maintain the necessary support to meet the differentiated needs of students in schools, homes, and the community.
- Policy Barriers
  - Identify the school or community related policy barriers which hinder students from graduating in your region.
  - Make recommendations which can be shared with policymakers throughout the state related to helping students graduate prepared for life, college and/or work in the 21st Century.

# Registration

---

Please complete the information listed below.

Three ways to send your registration

- Email alexis@cisarizona.org
- Fax 602-252-5314
- Mail Communities In Schools of Arizona  
333 East Virginia Avenue, Suite 208  
Phoenix, Arizona 85004

## Registration Deadline — January 12, 2010

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

School District/Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Accommodation/Special Needs (*please describe*): \_\_\_\_\_

I'm attending as an individual.

I'm attending as the community team leader.

I'm attending as a member of school/community team.

Name of community team: \_\_\_\_\_

Check what sector best applies to you:

Business

Youth

Education

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Nonprofit

**If you have questions regarding the Summit, contact us.**

Communities In Schools of Arizona

E-mail: alexis@cisarizona.org

Phone: 602-252-5312 ext. 26



# Community Team Roster

---

Please complete the information listed below for each team member.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Community Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Community Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Community Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Community Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_



# Community Team Roster

---

Please complete the information listed below for each team member.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Community Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Community Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Community Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Community Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

