

Implementation Spotlight

Poudre R-1 School District



COLORADO
Department of Education

Dropout Prevention Strategy: On-Track/Early Warning Systems

Systematically review data to identify students showing signs of being at risk of dropping out of high school or not meeting post-high school outcomes, understand what leads to elevated signs of risk, and provide targeted supports to students.

Program Description

The newly designed Bridges program supports students transitioning from middle to high school. Students identified for the program in seventh and eighth grade receive developmental and transitional support related to academics, accountability, and leadership once they are enrolled in high school. The program includes school transition support from teachers at both the middle and high schools, one-on-one counseling, academic support, social-emotional support, and educational and career-targeted field trips. The counselor leading the work is shared across the two schools. Students also receive additional advisory support beginning in 8th grade and continuing through 10th grade.

Outcomes and Measures

The goal of the program is to help students develop the confidence and skills they need to grow into successful learners. Core components of the program include close monitoring of student data, individual targeted support, strong relationships with staff members, and enrichment experiences outside of the building. Leadership expects to see increases in student engagement as the most immediate outcome.

Adaptations

Program leadership implemented multiple interventions and made adaptations within them to meet individualized student needs. For instance, regular check-ins became personalized text messages, before-school study sessions, and parent meetings depending on what was needed for each student.

Lessons Learned

The district shared that changes in student behavior and skill development can take time and that small improvements can be a big win. Program leadership emphasized the importance of patience and grace throughout the process of supporting students through their transitional years.



POUDRE SCHOOL DISTRICT
NORTHERN COLORADO

About Us

District: Poudre R-1
Region: North Central
Locale: Outlying City
Schools: Boltz MS; Fort Collins HS

Highlighted Strategies

- On-Track/Early Warning Systems

Name of Program/Intervention

- Bridges program

Implementation Stage

- Implementing

Outcomes and Measures

- Improve student engagement
- Improve course passage

Students Served

- Early warning system-identified students