



**Dropout Prevention Coalition &
Watson College of Education**

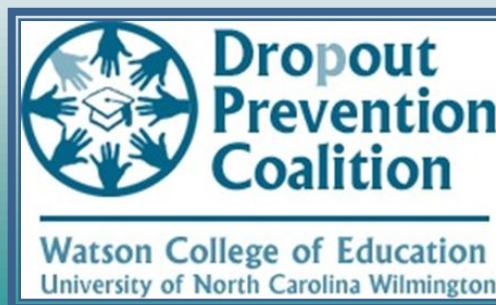
Dropout Prevention Coalition Symposium:
*Innovative Ways to
Engage Students in Learning*

Keynote:

Sen. Howard N. Lee, Founder

Howard N. Lee Institute for Equity and Opportunity in Education

The event will feature three panel discussions with panelists from 15 successful regional school programs and community agencies.



Wednesday, December 5, 2012

WCE Building, Room 162

1:00—4:30 pm



Watson College of Education
University of North Carolina Wilmington

Innovative Ways to Engage Students in Learning

December 5th, 2012
1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Education Building, Room 162

Agenda

1:00 Opening Remarks

Dr. Clifford Barnett, Co-Chair of the Watson College of Education Dropout Prevention Coalition

Greeting and Introduction of Speaker

Deloris Rhodes, Outreach Liaison, Watson College of Education

Dr. Janna Robertson, Associate Professor of Secondary Education and Dropout Prevention Coalition Co-coordinator

1:10 Keynote Speaker

Former Senator Howard Lee, Founder of the Howard Lee Institute for Equity and Opportunity in Education

1:40 Panel Presentations

Panel Moderator- Dr. Robert Smith, Professor and Secondary Undergraduate Program Coordinator and Dropout Prevention Coalition Co-coordinator

1:45 - 2:30 Innovative School Programs (5 programs)

2:35 -3:20 Innovative Community Non-Profit Programs (5 programs)

3:25-4:10 Innovative Districts, Government Agencies, and University Collaborations (5 programs)

4:10-4:15 Closing Remarks

Dr. Ken Teitelbaum, Dean of Watson College of Education

4:20-5:00 Next Steps and Networking

Dr. Janna Siegel Robertson, Associate Professor of Secondary Education and Dropout Prevention Coalition Co-coordinator

Thank you for your participation!

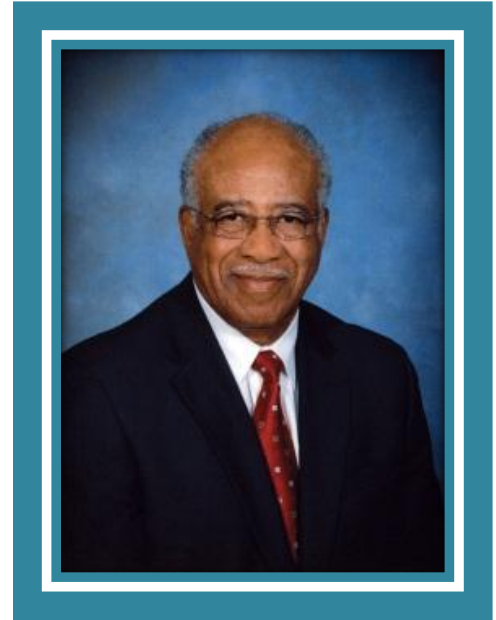
Keynote: Senator Howard N. Lee

THE SOS CHALLENGE (SAVING OUR STUDENTS)

There is no greater crisis facing our schools and communities today than the number of students dropping out of school. The question is can we connect to rescue these students and do we have the will to prevent them from going over the cliff and into a life of failure and struggle. There is no tomorrow, therefore it is urgent that we act today. I plan to both layout the challenge and offer a prescription for action.

Biography

Howard Nathaniel Lee, born July 28, 1934, grew up on a sharecropper's farm in Lithonia, Georgia. After he attended Fort Valley State College in Georgia where he received a BA degree in Sociology in 1959, he was drafted and served two years in the United States Army; spending more than one year in Korea. He enrolled in the graduate School of Social Work at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, North Carolina and received his Master's Degree in 1966.



In 1969, Lee was elected and served three terms (1975) as Mayor of Chapel Hill. In 1977-1981, he served as Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources and Community Development, a cabinet-level position in the Governor Jim Hunt Administration. Lee served as an administrator at Duke University and on the faculty at North Carolina Central University, 1966-1975. Afterwards, until 1991, he was a member of the School of Social Work faculty at The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Lee has recently released several inspirational writings, entitled: **“I Am A Teacher,” “Twelve Strategies for Leaders,” A Teacher’s Call, A Call to Public Service** and **“The Black Man’s Journey.”** Lee recently released his biographical memoir, entitled: **“The Courage to Lead, One Man’s Journey in Public Service.”**

In 1990, Lee was elected to the North Carolina Senate where he served for 13 years. In the North Carolina Senate, Lee built his reputation as a fighter for education reform. He fought for higher teacher salaries, increased funding for public and higher education and advocated for raising teacher and student standards. In addition, he sponsored or co-sponsored several major pieces of educational legislation which included Smart Start, More at Four (a Pre-kindergarten program), the Excellent Schools Act for school reform, and the Safe Schools Act.

In 2003-2009, Lee was elected to his position as Chairman of the North Carolina State Board of Education and a member of the North Carolina Utilities Commission. Howard Lee has been a successful entrepreneur. March 2009-September 2011, Lee served as the Executive Director of the North Carolina Education Cabinet having been appointed by Governor Beverly Perdue.

Innovative School Programs

Presenter: David Hand, School Social Worker, New Hanover County Schools - E. A. Laney High School

“Second opportunities is class designed to support students in identifying the academic skills and personal attributes that may be detracting from their progress towards graduation and offer them another chance to develop and employ the skills they need to be successful in school.”

Website: www.nhcs.net

E-mail: david.hand@nhcs.net

Presenter: Beth Scheirer, Graduation Coach, New Hanover County Schools

“Laney High School service-Learning helps at-risk students stay in school, meet learning objectives, and prepare for a career while addressing real-world issues such as hunger and homelessness.”

Website: www.nhcs.net

E-mail: beth.scheirer@nhcs.net

Presenter: Jackson Norvell, Webster Guthrie, Jodi Johnson, Odyssey Team members (freshmen academy), New Hanover High School Odyssey Academy

“New Hanover High School has launched an Odyssey Academy this school year in order to better support freshmen students in the transition to high school. The academy was designed by the NHHS faculty with freshmen students' individual needs in mind. Over the past 3 months, we have seen an overall increase in student motivation, excitement for learning, and drive for success.”

Website: www.nhcs.net/nhhs E-mail: jodi.johnson@nhcs.net

Presenter: Tannis Jenkins, Counselor, Southern Vance High School

“Vance county has the second highest dropout rate in North Carolina. To reduce the dropout rate in Henderson, NC; Southern Vance High School implemented a freshman academy. The purpose of the 9th grade academy is to help students have a smooth transition from middle to high school.”

Website: southernvancehighschool.wikispaces.com E-mail: tjenkins@vcs.k12.nc.us

Presenter: Helen Gross, Principal, Carolina Forest International Elementary

“Eagle Academy is an afterschool program that supports at-risk students in grades 3-5. The program provides 90 minutes a day of academic support to include homework completion, study skills and remediation efforts.”

Website: <http://carolinaforest.nc.oce.schoolinsites.com/> E-mail: helen.gross@onslow.k12.nc.us

Innovative Community Non-Profit Programs

Presenter: Emily Colin, Associate Director, DREAMS of Wilmington

“A creative approach to dropout prevention: Breaking the cycle of negative feedback and building self-confidence, long-term academic success and college readiness through the arts.”

Website: www.dreamswilmington.org E-mail: dreamsprogram@ec.rr.com

Presenter: Carol Caldwell, Director, Columbus County DREAM Center, Inc.

“Discussion about the programs at the DREAM Center. DREAM Center has seven funded programs and all are youth centered.”

Website: <http://ccdreamcenter.webs.com> E-mail: ccaldwell@ec.rr.com

Presenter: Wayne Lofton, CEO, Community Boys And Girls Club

“Healthy Kids Healthy Habits: This is a program designed to enhance and improve the mental, spiritual, and physical aspects of our teen students to become stronger and better in all facets of life.”

Website: www.cbgc.org E-mail: wlofton@ec.rr.com

Presenter: Andrea Tarantino, Programming & Evaluation Director, Smart Start of New Hanover County & Randall Hardgrove, Asst Manager, SSNHC Education Svcs & PUZZLES

“Brain development during the earliest years of life impacts all other learning that follows. Learn about proven methods and programs that significantly influence later success in school and life.”

Website: www.newhanoverkids.org E-mail: andrea.tarantino@newhanoverkids.org

Presenter: Mallory Wells, Site Coordinator for Mary S. Mosley Performance Learning Center, Communities In Schools of Cape Fear & Jill Larson, Counselor, Mosley Performance Learning Center

“Presentation on the various programs available for Communities In Schools of Cape Fear, as well as highlighting Mary S. Mosley Performance Learning Center.”

Website: www.ciscapefear.org E-mail: mallory.wells@nhcs.net

Innovative Districts, Government Agencies, and University Collaborations

Presenter: Michael Bracy, Superintendent, Jones County Public Schools

“Jones Senior High School increased academic achievement and graduation rates. The school moved from a Turnaround High School to a School of Distinction for the last three years. Data and strategies will be shared during the presentation.”

Website: www.jonesnc.net E-mail: michael.bracy@jonesnc.net

Presenter: J. Corpening, Chief District Court Judge

“Breaking the schoolhouse to jailhouse pipeline: A partnership between New Hanover County Schools and the Judicial system.”

E-mail: julius.h.corpening@nccourts.org

Presenter: Diane Edwards, Coordinator, Adolescent Programs & Community Outreach, CROSSROADS Adolescent Substance Abuse Prevention Program

“CROSSROADS provides an evidence-based youth-led approach to preventing and delaying drug use in adolescents. Discussion on how evidence-based prevention resources like CROSSROADS are important companions to any dropout prevention program.”

Website: www.crossroadsprevention.com E-mail: edwardsd@uncw.edu

Presenter: Jeanenne Harris, Principal, Burgaw Middle School & Candace Thompson, Assistant Professor, UNC-Wilmington

“In this session, a middle school principal and a university professor share details of an emerging school-wide vision-in-action: the reshaping of a school culture striving to foster culturally responsive teacher leadership and develop young leaders before they enter high school. Presenters highlight key features and programmatic efforts supporting student academic achievement and socio-emotional resilience, and discuss challenges and possibilities in developing and sustaining an inclusive, responsive, and connected community school culture.”

Website: <http://bmspcs.sharpschool.com/> E-mail: jeanenne_harris@pender.k12.nc.us

Presenter: John Shannon, Director - Career & Technical Education, Onslow County Schools

“Onslow County is developing 3 technology initiatives for implementation during the 2013-2014 school year. Career-focused advanced skills will be taught to prepare students for future careers - Construction, Automotive/Transportation and Advanced/Applied Technologies are the focus.”

Website: <http://onslowcounty.schoolinsites.com/> E-mail: john.shannon@onslow.k12.nc.us



Dropout Prevention Coalition

Watson College of Education at the University of North Carolina Wilmington



Every school day, 83 students drop out of school in NC... enough to fill 3 school buses.

How Big is the Dropout Problem?

Every year, one million students drop out of high school in the United States. Graduation rates are improving in our region. But there's still a lot of work to be done to reach our goal of helping all students in Southeastern North Carolina to succeed.

The Dropout Prevention Coalition is bringing together a broad audience representing schools, colleges, PTAs, government agencies, community organizations, businesses, the faith-based community, parents and other interested individuals to find ways to help students stay and succeed in school.

The Dropout Prevention Coalition is working to solve this problem in Southeastern North Carolina. Help us make a difference!

**For more information
please visit our website at
www.uncw.edu/ed/dropout/**

