

February 23, 2015

To Whom it May Concern:

I have been working at Bassick High School in the 9th Grade Academy as a Climate and Success Specialist since December 2014 as part of a school improvement initiative under the CommPACT Community Schools Collaborative.

To give some specifics on impact achieved in three months.

We have:

- We have formed a parent, staff, student and community collaborative (leadership cadre) which is focused on working together to increase family and community involvement in the school and better support student outcomes
- Conducted 18 focus groups
- Worked with 52 at-risk freshman students and with their parents to help support them to become more engaged in school and community
- February 18th over 80 parents, students, staff and community members came to Bassick's Freshman Family and Community Night and started working to develop a collective view of how to better leverage resources and form partnerships to improve 9th grade
- Community partners shared their programs with families : Youth Works, buildOn , Bridgeport Adult Education for parents that needed to obtain their GED, Southwest Health Clinic, Bassick's School Governance Council, the Parent Resource Center, Connecticut Against Violence, UCONN, GBAPP (Greater Bridgeport Area Prevention Program)

Most importantly the words of the Southwest Community provider that struck me was, "This is the most parents I have ever witnessed at an event like this for any of the three high schools."

I have worked hard and formed critical relationship with the students, staff and family members. The results are starting to show in a short period of time. The partnerships with the teachers keep the kids in school and return them to being productive in the classroom much faster than any other intervention we have initiated. This is reducing in-school suspensions by creating an environment where students can be redirected to positive behaviors and learn new strategies for working with others.

We hope you will continue the funding critical to making this program available and continue supporting Bassick through CommPACT.

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