

Multi-Tiered Strategies to Prevent 9th Grade Course Failure: An Example from one School District

Tier 3: Individual

- Unannounced home visits with door hangers for absentees
- One on One study time with class teachers whose classes they are struggling in / Check and Connect
- Required Learning Lab/ study hours to make up for incomplete credit

Tier 2: Group

- Targeted Lunch Study Hall Hours / Flex Time
- Competency Based Credits and extended grade deadline to 20 days into next semester or school year

Tier 1: Universal

- Staff shares the attitude **“We will not let a single student fail – our will is stronger”**
- Prepare for new students in January: identify Tier 2-3 and plan interventions.
 - Counseling staff holds interviews with parents to set up appropriate classes and teachers before school begins, connect to services, test reading
- Team up with the middle school to offer reading intervention classes so student is ready before entering high school
- Freshmen Academy: separates freshmen from the rest, reinforces study skills
- Connect students to the school: Link Crew, Day Long Freshmen Camp where they get to go to classes
- “Inspect what you expect” Track data for who’s struggling with attendance, behavior, and coursework each week and get interventions in place right away
- Standards Based Grading: missed deadlines don’t mean failing the assignment
- Strong teachers who volunteer to focus on Freshmen
- Start with freshmen but keep support going for 10-12th grade

