

## The Crisis

In communities across the country, an alarming number of our students are jeopardizing their futures by dropping out of high school. Every 29 seconds, another student drops out. That's one out of every three American high school students-one million dropouts each year.

**In Maine 1 out of 5 students will not graduate high school**

**Dropouts are more likely to:**

- be unemployed
- live in poverty
- receive public assistance
- be unhealthy
- be divorced
- be single parents with children who drop out of high school themselves

## Maine's Promise to Youth

A Pledge from Governor Baldacci:

*I pledge to convene leaders from my state to commit to working together until all the young people in Maine graduate from high school ready for college and work.*

## Maine's Dropout Prevention Summit

The Summit Planning Committee of the **Shared Youth Vision Council** invites you to share your thoughts and insights to address the needs of Maine youth by contacting:

*Shelley Reed, Project Manager,  
Maine Department of Education  
[Shelley.Reed@maine.gov](mailto:Shelley.Reed@maine.gov)  
207-624-6637*

For information regarding host site:

*Roxanne Lee, UMaine Contact  
[Roxanne\\_Lee@umit.maine.edu](mailto:Roxanne_Lee@umit.maine.edu)*

*Visit the following websites:  
<http://dropoutme.wikispaces.com>*

*[www.maine.gov/cabinet/syv](http://www.maine.gov/cabinet/syv)*

*Maine's Dropout Prevention is an initiative of America's Promise Alliance:*

**AMERICA'S PROMISE  
ALLIANCE**

# Maine's Dropout Prevention Summit



The New 3 R's  
Promising Schools Where Everyone Matters

*July 27-28, 2009*

*University of Maine, Orono*

*DP Corbett &*

*Collins Center for the Arts*



### The New 3 R's

Promising Schools Where Everyone Matters

\*Logo and tagline designed by Mrs. Arsenault's Class,  
Portland High School Alternative Education

## The Purpose of the Summit

1. Increase public awareness of Maine's crisis: too few young people graduate from high school ready for college and careers
2. Identify and inspire local leadership to follow-up and seek change
3. Secure commitment for integrated, cross-sector, collaborative action to implement research-based solutions that strengthen schools and provide wraparound supports to kids who need them most

## The Goal of the Summit:

Develop a Maine Dropout Prevention Plan to set in place action steps to increase the state's high school graduation rate and ensure that young people are better prepared for college, work and life.

*Maine's current graduation rate is 77%*

*The summit will help develop recommendations to achieve a 100% graduation rate.*

## Using the New 3 R's with the 15 Strategies from America's Promise to guide our work:

**Realization**- Pre-K to 12 stay alert for early warning signs, continue a process of systemic renewal, recognize that birth-to-five interventions, personal learning plans with focuses on early literacy development and teachers who are supported for professional development can set children up for the best possible classroom instruction.

**Reconnection**- Intervene as needed, engage youth and family, connect school and communities, match students with mentoring and tutoring for one on one relationships, provide extended opportunities for service and active learning, and after-school activities.

**Redemption**- Schools ensure respect and value for all, opportunities for career and technical education, and should adopt alternative programming.

## America's Five Promises

Besides the New 3 R's, guiding our work for a Maine Dropout Prevention Plan are America's Five Promises. The Five Promises are those developmental resources — wrap-around supports— that young people need for success in life:

1. Caring Adults
2. Safe Places
3. Healthy Start
4. Effective Education
5. Helping Others

Children who receive at least four of the Five Promises are much more likely than those who experience only one or no Promises to succeed academically, socially and civically. To experience the full power of the Promises, young people must experience these critical supports throughout their lives — in their families, at schools and out in their communities.

## Invited Participants will include

Youth, Educators, Commissioners from youth serving state agencies, The Governor's Office, Elected Officials, Business Leaders, Non-Profit Agencies, Faith Leaders, and Parents

*Participation is limited to 200 and is at no cost for participant to attend. If you feel a strong desire to participate and can make an ongoing commitment to the Maine Dropout Prevention Plan, contact Shelley Reed (on back)*