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Contact: Louise Kennelly  
National High School Center  
(202) 776-2288

### **National High School Center Releases Resource on Using Data to Determine if High School Interventions are Preparing Students for College and Careers**

**Washington, DC** – The National High School Center released a new report to guide educators in collecting and analyzing valuable student achievement data that can help them determine if and how high school interventions for underprepared students are working to effectively prepare them for college and careers.

Policymakers across the nation are placing an unprecedented emphasis on the need for all high school students to graduate with the knowledge and skills required to excel in college and the workforce. However, evidence indicates that too many of today's high school students do not graduate college- and career ready. Furthermore, meeting college- and career-ready goals is especially challenging for students who enter high school inadequately prepared to master a rigorous curriculum.

The report, *Using the Right Data to Determine if High School Interventions Are Working to Prepare Students for College and Careers*, was authored by Chrys Dougherty, a senior research scientist at the National Center for Educational Achievement (NCEA) which is a partner of the National High School Center.

“This report describes an approach for identifying students with major academic preparation gaps and methods for using data systems to determine what interventions may help those students,” said Joseph R. Harris, Ph.D., Director of the National High School Center at the American Institutes for Research (AIR).

The report discusses research on the relationship between students' academic preparation gaps in eighth grade and their likelihood of achieving college- and career-readiness by the end of high school. It also explores the datasets that state and local education agencies can create as a way to evaluate the benefits of interventions for students at varying achievement levels, and provides direction for high schools and districts once they obtain student data.

This report and other resources for high school improvement are available at the National High School Center's [Web site](#).

#### **About the National High School Center**

The National High School Center ([www.betterhighschools.org](http://www.betterhighschools.org)), established in 2005, serves as a central source of expertise on high school-related issues for the Regional Comprehensive Centers, a national network developed by the U.S. Department of Education. The National High School Center is housed at the American Institutes for Research ([www.air.org](http://www.air.org)), located in Washington, D.C. Subcontractors include Learning Point Associates, MDRC, the National Center for Educational Achievement, and WestEd.



*Linking Research and Resources for Better High Schools*

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**About the National Center for Educational Achievement**

The National Center for Educational Achievement (<http://www.nc4ea.org>), a non-profit, non-partisan ACT organization, is committed to helping more K-12 students reach college and career readiness.

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