

# **SCHOOL OF SUCCESS (S.O.S.) ACADEMY DROPOUT PREVENTION AND GRADUATION ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM**

## **Program Category**

Educational Alternative Program

## **Individual Program Plan**

### **1. Program Description and Agency Coordination**

The purpose of the School of Success (S.O.S.) Academy Graduation Enhancement Program is to enhance the likelihood of high school completion through graduation with a standard diploma for those students who are overage for their grade level.

The S.O.S. Academy Graduation Enhancement Program targets students who are underachieving, unable to master academic objectives in a traditional classroom setting, and at risk of dropping out of school. The educational process is personalized for each "at-risk" student. Lessons will be taught through small-group instruction as well as one-on-one instruction. The student will develop the tools to improve self-esteem and increase academic achievement to progress onward.

Coordinating agencies include Youth and Family Services, the Department of Juvenile Justice, Child Guidance and Jacksonville Children's Commission.

### **2. Program Goals**

- a. To increase the likelihood of high school completion through graduation with a standard diploma.
- b. To personalize the educational process for at-risk students.
- c. To improve norm-referenced test scores, such as the FCAT/CTBS/TABE, promotion rate, and attendance.

### **3. Specific Outcome Objectives**

By the end of the school year:

- a. At least 97% of the students in the program will remain in school.

- b. At least 61% of the middle school students will show annual learning gains on FCAT/CTBS scores in reading comprehension.
- c. At least 61% of the middle school students will show adequate annual gains on FCAT/CTBS scores in math concepts and applications.
- d. At least 51% of the middle school students will achieve a total GPA of 2.0.
- e. At least 72% of the participating students will be promoted to the next grade level during the school year or at the end of the year.

#### **4. Evaluation Procedures**

- a. The number of students enrolled in school at the close of the school year will be compared to the ones that enrolled in the program during the year to determine the percentages that remained in school or graduated.
- b. The students' spring CTBS/FCAT scores in reading comprehension will be compared to their scores from the previous year to determine adequate annual gain.
- c. The students' spring CTBS/FCAT scores in math concepts and applications will be compared to their scores from the previous year to determine adequate annual gain.
- d. The students' middle school grade point average will be analyzed to determine if students achieved a total GPA of 2.0.
- e. Students' end-of-the-year promotional status will be analyzed to determine the number of students who are advanced at mid-year, or who were promoted or double promoted at the end of the academic year.

#### **5. Specific Student Eligibility Criteria**

For a student to be eligible for this program, all of the following criteria must be met:

- a. The student is one or more years overage for his/her grade level due to retention.
- b. The student has a grade point average of 2.0 or less.
- c. The student has a score of fifty percentile (50%) or less in reading comprehension on the Comprehensive Test of Basic Skills. (This score may be an age-adjusted score).

- d. The student shall have no more than 8 Class II and above discipline offenses, according to the District's Code of Student Conduct.

## **6. Student Admission Procedures**

- a. Each school should determine eligibility through the school's dropout prevention committee.
- b. A student may be referred by:
  - (1) a classroom teacher,
  - (2) a guidance counselor, or
  - (3) a parent/guardian.
- c. The referring agent and the dropout prevention committee shall meet to review referrals through retention records, age of student, grades, test scores, rate of absences, eligibility for exceptional student education or for any other dropout prevention program, and intervention efforts to determine if eligibility criteria have been met.
- d. The guidance counselor or dropout prevention administrator will confer with the student and parents/guardian regarding the recommendations of the dropout prevention committee. If the student is recommended for this program, both the student and the parent(s)/guardian must be counseled regarding the intent of the program and the requirements for entering and exiting the program.
- e. Parents must agree to and sign the S.O.S. Dropout Prevention (DPP) Contract And Parent Agreement.

## **7. Program Operating Procedures**

- a. Curriculum

Students will be assigned to the program for a minimum of four basic classes: English, social studies, math and science. The remaining credits are physical education and/or electives. Students may be assigned to classes for these courses in the regular education program.

- (1) Standards

- Students will be assigned curriculum based on individual needs and include strands from the following standards:

**NCEE Standards**

E1 – Reading  
E2 – Writing  
E3 – Speaking, Listening, and Viewing  
E4 – Conventions, Grammar, and Usage of the English Language  
E5 – Literature  
M1 – Number and Operation Concepts  
M2 – Geometry and Measurement Concepts  
M4 – Statistics and Probability Concepts  
M5 – Problem Solving and Mathematical Reasoning  
M6 – Mathematical Skills and Tools  
M7 – Mathematical Communication  
M8 – Putting Mathematics to Work  
S1 – Physical Sciences Concepts  
S2 – Life Sciences concepts  
S3 – Earth & Space Sciences Concepts  
S4 – Scientific Connections and Applications  
S5 – Scientific Thinking  
S6 – Scientific Tools and Technologies  
S7 – Scientific Communication  
S8 – Scientific Investigation  
No Correlation  
No Correlation  
No Correlation  
No Correlation  
A1 – Problem Solving  
A2 – Communication Tools and Techniques  
A3 – Information Tools and Techniques  
A4 – Learning and Self-Management Tools and Techniques  
A5 – Tools and Techniques for Working with others

**Sunshine State Standards**

LA.A. – Reading  
LA.E. – Literature  
LA.B. – Writing  
LA.C. – Speaking, Listening, and Viewing  
LA.B. – Writing  
LA.D. – Conventions, Grammar, and Usage of The English Language  
LA.E. – Literature  
MA.A. – Number Sense Concepts, and Operations  
MA.B. – Measurement  
MA.C. - Geometry and Spatial Sense  
MA.E. - Data Analysis and Probability  
MA.B. – Measurement  
No Correlation  
No Correlation  
No Correlation  
SC.A. – Nature of Matter  
SC.B. – Energy  
SC.C. – Force and Motion  
SC.F. – Processes of Life  
SC.G. – How Living Things Interact with Their Environment  
SC.E. – Earth and Space  
SC.D. – Processes That Shape the Earth  
SC.G. – How Living Things Interact With Their Environment  
SC.H. – Nature of Science  
SC.H. – Nature of Science  
SC.H. – Nature of Science  
SC.H. – Nature of Science  
SS.A. – Time, Continuity, and Change  
SS.B. – People, Places and Environment  
SS.C. – Government and the Citizen  
SS.D. – Production, Distribution, and Consumption  
No Correlation  
No Correlation  
No Correlation  
No Correlation

- The standards listed above will be addressed in the standard courses listed in the Florida Course Code Directory and approved by the Duval County School Board. The course code numbers will include a .04 suffix to denote dropout prevention courses. All assigned courses must be

used in accordance with the current Duval County Student Progression Plan for the appropriate grade level.

- Students will be assigned to appropriate courses in which standards credit would be earned resulting in progression to the next grade level and graduation credit toward a regular high school diploma.

Students will be provided counseling in career awareness, vocational education opportunities, and academic planning. Students will be assigned curriculum in character development and law education, as required by Florida Statute 1003.53(1)(a):

**Character Development:**

Students will use portions of the character counts curriculum, which may be incorporated through Sunshine State Standards and NCEE Standards in a classroom setting. If they do not receive character development instruction in this class, they will receive it through their health/physical education class.

**Law Education:**

Students will be instructed in both their rights under the law and the consequences of breaking the law. Teachers may plan field trips to the court and/or to the city jail.

(2) **Assessment**

Students will be promoted based on mastery of the NCEE/Sunshine State Standards. This promotion may include qualitative and quantitative methods of evaluation such as portfolio assessment, computer-based assessment, and diagnostic evaluation.

b. **Special Strategies**

Every effort will be made to accelerate student learning so that students may expedite promotion into the next grade placement. At the end of the year, a decision will be made as to whether the student will be promoted, based on standardized testing, grades, mastery of standards, and teacher judgment.

- (1) General Requirements:
  1. (a) In order to be promoted to the next higher grade placement
  2. students must pass teacher judgment for all courses in
  3. their current grade along with the following:
    - Mastery of course curriculum frameworks, and
  4. course final examination grade.
  5. (b) During the first nine weeks in DPP, students who fail to maintain a 1.5 grade point average in each course may be subject to removal from the program.

(2) Specific Grade Information

6. (a) Sixth Graders:

Sixth graders, who successfully complete the program by the end of the year, will be promoted to seventh grade and receive a provisional promotion to eighth grade. In order to become official eighth graders, they will have to remain with us throughout the second year. At year's end, they will be official eighth graders and may be promoted to ninth grade if promotional requirements are met. Leaving before the two-year program is complete could have a negative impact on classification.
7. (b) Seventh Graders:

Seventh graders, who successfully complete the program by the end-of-the-year, will be promoted to eighth grade and receive a provisional promotion to ninth grade.
8. (c) Eighth Graders:

Eighth graders are our previous year's sixth graders who were successful in completing year one of the program. There will be no more grade adjustments forward at this placement except through standard requirements. If the student does not successfully complete the eighth grade requirements, they will be retained. Eighth grade students who successfully complete the second year program do not have to attend S.O.S. as ninth graders.

c. Application of the Program to Eligible Exceptional and Limited English proficient Students

- (1) Limited English Proficient (LEP) students who meet program eligibility criteria shall have equal access to the program. When

LEP students are served in the program, the curriculum and related services will be designed to appropriately address the needs of LEP students in order to ensure that the instruction is understandable.

- (2) Exceptional education students who meet the program eligibility criteria will be considered for placement. An IEP review will occur prior to this placement.

d. Students Services

Students will be provided with all services and have access to all resources normally offered at each school site.

e. Grade Level of Students Served

This program will serve students in grades 6, 7, 8 and 9.

f. Implementation Sites

#102 S.O.S. Academy

## 8. General Program Procedures

a. Number and length of Class Periods

Students are scheduled for a minimum of a four-period block of instructional time (e.g. two periods for English and Social Studies and two periods for math and science). Students in grades 6, 7 and 8 will be assigned to program classes based on their needs. The length of each period shall be that reflected by a typical schedule of the school.

b. Average Class Size

The program classes for the four basic courses will have an average of 20 students per class.

c. Length of Stay

Students are assigned to this program for two years with a goal to complete the program in one year, resulting in double promotion to the next two grade levels.

d. Total Number of Students Served

It is projected that this program will serve approximately 80 students.

## **9. Personnel Qualifications**

- a. Selection of instructional personnel will be an important aspect of the program. The school principal will identify, from among prospective candidates those who they feel possess the following characteristics:
  - (1) A positive attitude toward at-risk students,
  - (2) flexibility,
  - (3) an aptitude for establishing good relations with parents and other personnel,
  - (4) an ability and willingness to plan work with other teachers in a team approach to instruction, and
  - (5) readiness in responding in a non-threatening manner to various classroom situations.
- b. Only personnel who indicate a willingness to serve in the program and to attend in-service sessions shall be considered.
- c. Teachers shall hold a valid Florida Teaching Certificate. It is preferred that teachers be certified in one or more of the following areas: English, social studies, math or science.

## **10. Staff Development Activities**

The selected personnel will attend in-service sessions, which will focus on the at-risk student, diverse learning styles of students, classroom and behavior management, motivating the at-risk student, appropriate instructional strategies and program implementation. The in-service sessions will be given during the summer and throughout the school year by county personnel and/or consultants. Opportunities will be provided to develop appropriate interdisciplinary and multi-disciplinary techniques and instructional strategies for meeting the needs of potential dropouts, including strategies and techniques that reflect the cultural learning styles and characteristics of all students.

## **11. Parent/Community/Business Involvement Activities**

Parents are encouraged to visit the schools. Progress reports and conferences are available to inform parents on student progress. Business support of the program is strongly encouraged.

## **12. Employability Skills and Career Awareness Activities**

Students will be counseled in career awareness and vocational education opportunities.



**S.O.S. ACADEMY BEHAVIOR CONTRACT**  
S.O.S. ACADEMY  
6974 Wilson Blvd.  
Jacksonville, FL 32210

I \_\_\_\_\_ have read and understand the terms of this contract and the possible consequences. I understand that my inappropriate actions on the bus and/or in the bus loading area may cause me to be removed from the bus permanently for the rest of the school year.

I understand that any acts, threats or inciting negative behavior that can be interpreted as unsafe could cause me to be suspended from school or removed from the S.O.S. Academy by the end of the first semester.

1. I am responsible for my actions and agree to accept correction of my behavior by **ANY** adult while at S.O.S. Academy without complaint.
2. My presence at S.O.S. Academy will not interfere with the daily routine of any bus, employee or classroom of this school.
3. I will attempt to be positive and **never** criticize (**rank-on**) anyone at school. I will not become involved in the act of spreading rumors about fights or other activities.
4. I will be a positive leader and not a distraction. I accept the responsibility of a leader and will not follow other student's negative behavior.
5. I accept all of the rules and consequences of The Duval County Code of Student Conduct, S.O.S. Academy Code of Student Conduct and S.O.S. Academy Dress Code without question.
6. I will show respect for others and myself in words and actions. I am not going to disturb other students or interfere with the adults, class or activity for any reason.
7. I understand there are serious consequences to putting my hands on other people or their belongings, using profanity, making threats, or refusing to cooperate with reasonable instructions of any employee of S.O.S. Academy.
8. I understand the failure to follow these instructions will result in loss of my bus privileges and/or suspensions from school until I am removed permanently from S.O.S. Academy.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Principal

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Assistant Principal

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

cc: Transportation and Security  
Vice Principal  
Assistant Principal

Copy 1 - Student's Cum Folder      Copy 2 – Receiving School      Copy 3 - Parents

# S.O.S. ACADEMY SAFETY NET IMPROVEMENT PLAN (SNIP)

SOS ACADEMY  
6974 Wilson Blvd.  
Jacksonville, FL 32210

In order to serve our students better, please list the academic and behavioral interventions to be used.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ ID #: \_\_\_\_\_

School Name/No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_

## INDIVIDUALIZED ACADEMIC/BEHAVIOR INTERVENTIONS:

Please check area to be addressed:

\_\_\_\_\_ Reading \_\_\_\_\_ Writing \_\_\_\_\_ Math \_\_\_\_\_ Science \_\_\_\_\_ Behavior

\_\_\_\_\_ Attendance \_\_\_\_\_ Language/Language Arts \_\_\_\_\_ Social Studies

Academic Interventions (Please be specific.)

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Behavioral/Attendance Interventions (Please be specific.)

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Monitoring and re-evaluation activities to be employed (Please be specific, including dates and results.)

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Copy 1 - Student's Cum Folder

Copy 2 -Receiving School

Copy 3 - Parents

**S.O.S. ACADEMY NOTICE OF DISCIPLINARY ACTION**

SOS ACADEMY  
6974 Wilson Blvd.  
Jacksonville, FL 32210

**STUDENT:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PARENT/GUARDIAN:**

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**VIOLATION OCCURRED:**

\_\_\_ IN CLASSROOM    \_\_\_ OUTSIDE OF CLASSROOM    \_\_\_ ON THE BUS

VIOLATION CODE(S): \_\_\_\_\_

Your student's behavior is in direct violation of the discipline policy of S.O.S. Academy and the Duval County School System. This is to notify you in writing that if his/her behavior continues to be disruptive or inappropriate on the school bus or on school grounds suspensions and/or referral to our school board for action will follow.

Please contact this office immediately if you have any questions. This information is to be documented with the Duval County School System permanent records for your child. If negative behavior continues, we may ask you to use your contracted 3 volunteer hours to sit with your child in class or on the bus.

Please note the reason for the referral and the action taken. According to the progressive discipline plan, your child was warned verbally, usually repeatedly, prior to this written referral. We hope this is an isolated incident, and there will be no need for further action. Thank you in advance for helping us to preserve a safe environment conducive to learning.

Administrator: \_\_\_\_\_

Principal: \_\_\_\_\_

Board Chairperson: \_\_\_\_\_

Copy 1 - Student's Cum Folder

Copy 2 - Receiving School

Copy 3 - Parents

**S.O.S. ACADEMY WEEKLY PROGRESS REPORT**  
**SOS ACADEMY**  
6974 Wilson Blvd.  
Jacksonville, FL 32210

STUDENT: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

TEACHER	SUBJECT	GRADE	COMMENT CODE	OTHER COMMENTS

- L - Needs to improve class attendance
- M - Conduct Promotes academic performance
- N - Conduct does not hinder academic performance
- P - Does not complete assigned work
- Q - Does not complete make up work
- T - Poor test grades
- U - Behavior presents class problem
- V - Does not pay attention
- X - Parent-Teacher conference required

Parent must sign and return this by Monday, \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Copy 1 - Student's Cum Folder Copy 2 - Receiving School Copy 3 - Parents