AN ASCD FOCUS AREA:

AT-RISK STUDENTS

As the proportion of at-risk students in the student population climbs, educators are becoming increasingly concerned about finding ways to meet their needs. To help in this quest, ASCD offers the following resources.

- "Dropout Prevention Programs That Work," a National Curriculum Study Institute planned for February 22-23, 1989, in Tampa, Florida. This institute, presented by Gary Wehlage, will examine several innovative program models that have helped troubled students succeed. Participants will also examine an instructional model for at-risk high school students.

- "Districtwide Programs for At-Risk Youth," an audiocassette series. Educators from large urban school districts describe how they are meeting the challenges posed by at-risk students. Five tapes for $42.00, or $9.00 per tape. Includes: Children in At-Risk Schools (Larry Cuban), Meeting the Needs of Students At Risk in a Large School District (Victor Herbert), Expanding Learning Opportunities for the Educationally Disadvantaged (Floretta McKenzie), The Dropout and the Public Investment (Richard Green), Dropouts in America: Enough Is Known for Action (Jacqueline Danzberger).

- The March 1988 issue of Update, a lead article of which addressed the problem of at-risk students.

- Preparing Disadvantaged Young Adolescents for the 21st Century, a program of the National Foundation for the Improvement of Education and the Edna McConnell Clark Foundation. The main goal of this program is to help teams from 20 urban public school systems to design and implement strategic plans to restructure the educational experiences of 11- to 15-year-olds. The plans will emphasize three components: high expectations for achievement, high content, and high support for students. Helene Hodges, ASCD's Director of Research and Information, will act as a consultant for this program.

- Two issues of Educational Leadership, February and March 1989, will address themes of at-risk students and cultural diversity, with conceptual papers and research reports complemented by articles from practitioners who are achieving success in their schools.
TAKE ACTION
Join the Early Childhood Education Network. For information, contact:

Shirle Moone Childs
Teaneck Public Schools
One Merrison St.
Teaneck, NJ 07666
(201) 833-5468

Or join the Cooperative Learning Network. For information, contact:

Tom Dewing
Ranch View Elementary School
Ranch View & Auburn
Naperville, IL 60540

TAKE NOTE
You can get up-to-date information quickly by using ASCD's new On-Line User's Center, a computerized data retrieval system. The Center offers access to two commercial information sources: DIALOG (all subjects) and DIALOG ERIC-On-Disc (education research, practice, and statistics). Fees are $25 per topical search for ASCD members and $50 for nonmembers; members must provide their membership numbers. To take advantage of this service, contact ASCD's Research and Information Department by letter, by phone, or in person during regular working hours.

FOR YOUR CALENDAR
Upcoming Annual Conferences
1989, Orlando, March 11-14
1990, San Antonio, March 3-6
1991, San Francisco, March 16-19
1992, New Orleans, April 4-7

Upcoming Mini-Conferences
April 10-12, 1989, Staff Development Implementation Models, Alexandria, Virginia
August 9-11, 1989, Thinking Skills, Alexandria, Virginia