



## Education leaders focusing on Michigan high school dropouts

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Education leaders call it a crisis, the high number of teenagers dropping out of Michigan high schools. A new report out Monday provides some insight into how officials can solve this problem.

It's a problem affecting districts across the state, kids giving up and dropping out of school. Thousands call it quits every year.

Jack Kresnak, Michigan's Children: "It costs the state of Michigan \$2.5 billion every year in increased incarceration costs welfare cause these kids don't have an education."

It's a problem officials understood but didn't know how to tackle. So they held hearings in communities across the state to find solutions. Monday they released their findings to state, community and school leaders. The report found three ways to deal with the issue.

The first is building relationships between kids and adults by putting in place things like mentorship programs both inside and outside of school.

Second helping kids better connect with the material by giving them hands on experience where they learn by doing.

Lastly, investing in early childhood education with programs like headstart or reading programs that help kids better prepare for the future.

Gov. Jennifer Granholm: "We've got the data, we know what strategies work, we just have to deploy them"

Now it's up to educators to take what they've learned back to their classrooms and help their students graduate.



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