



## Addressing the Project U Turn Question of “What’s Next?”

- Defining scale, identifying resources and implementing effective practices with fidelity
- Managing the challenges of scale and blended funding
- Increasing the integration of dropout prevention with high school reform
- Redefining the “alternative” school system as it pertains to young people who have dropped out, have been sent out or are otherwise disengaged

# Pathways to Graduation – Lessons Learned (Parthenon Group, 2008)

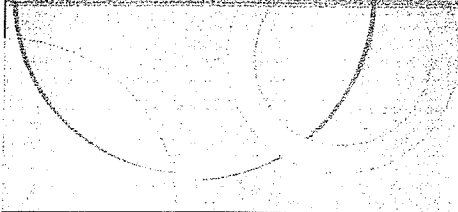
Why supporting Prevention in Neighborhood High Schools Matters...

- The scale of off-track populations cannot be addressed by recuperative options alone
- -Preventive and intervention strategies must be pursued in parallel with recuperative efforts, in order to “stem the tide”
- Where proof points of success exist – they should be used as key levers to raise system-wide graduation rates
- The “off-track” problem in NYC, Boston and Chicago IS the dropout problem and has broader implications for secondary planning and district partnerships



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# Challenges and Opportunities of City/District/Collaborative Partnership and Blended Funding

- Building relationships of trust among key staff
- Decision-makers and implementers at the right tables
- Identifying common interests for resource leveraging and willingness to cross traditional boundaries
- Common goals = consistent messaging and action



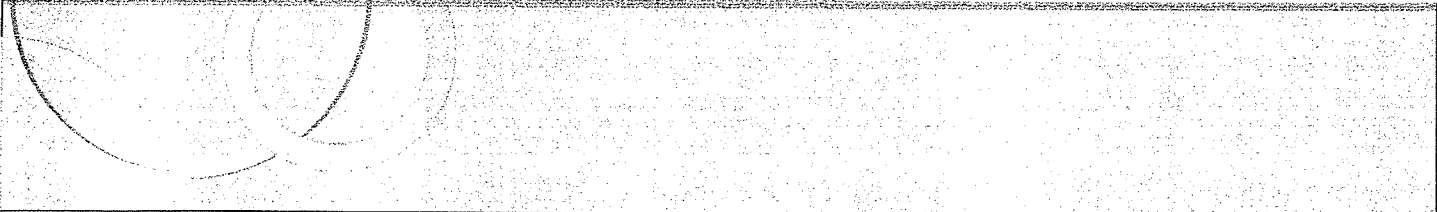
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# MPG at SDP in January 2009

## Getting to SCALE

- Nine functional areas: 6 for recovery and 3 for prevention
  - Proposed increase to 5,520 slots (\$27m) in recovery options FY 10-12
- 3,630 slots (\$12m) in recovery options FY 09
  - \$12 m for recovery slots
  - \$300K for Reengagement Center (+ PYN/City)
- 3 prevention strands w/ potential to serve up to 24,800 students in neighborhood high schools
  - DOL Grant \$42m
  - SSC budget \$1.2m
  - Credit Recovery \$1m
- Expansion of REC to regional satellites
- Need more prevention focus in comprehensive high schools



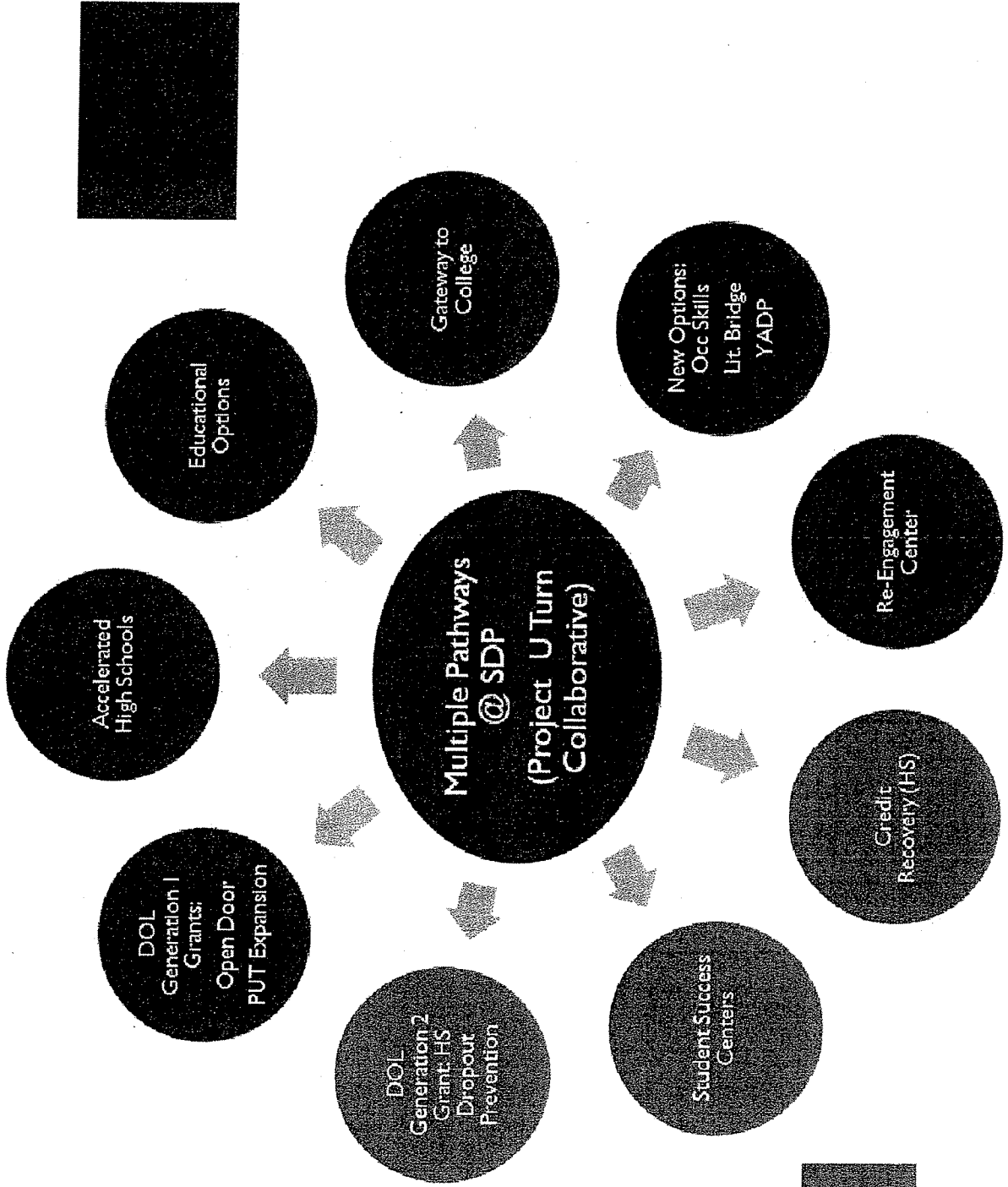


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# Multiple Pathways to Graduation System Today

## January 2009



Dropout Prevention

# Key District Activities 2006 - 2008

## 2008 (cont.)

### Policy

- White Paper: Act II (January) *A Comprehensive Plan for Educating Philadelphia's Disengaged Youth: Multiple Pathways to Graduation White Paper*
- Mayor's Graduation Goal drives District focus on effort
- Multiple Pathways to Graduation Repositioned (CSO) and Funded
- Shift in funding for MPG options and ability for "dollars to follow students"
- SDP Strategic Planning process focus

### Educational Options

- One year contracts for all existing MPG/Alt Ed providers
- RFP for new program expansion in MPG accelerated schools
- Win 7 Prevention grants from DOL for comprehensive high schools

# Key District Activities 2006 - 2008

2008

## Stakeholder Involvement

- Open Citywide Reengagement Center with City departments
- Engaging cross-system District leaders in solution design

## Data

- Used data on program demand to secure seed funding from PUT/WPF for staffing at SDP
- Comprehensive Database on student participants in Reengagement Center
- New commitment to data collection, reporting, and use in Accelerated Schools

# Key District Activities 2006 - 2008

- 2007

- Focus on program design for “gaps” in system
- Limited Release “White Paper” on Multiple Pathways
- Begin best practice research and site visits
- Bid external evaluation of accelerated schools
- Win two large DOL grants to expand programs and seed new designs
- Launch “Alternative Education Task Force” to explore system of options serving all youth

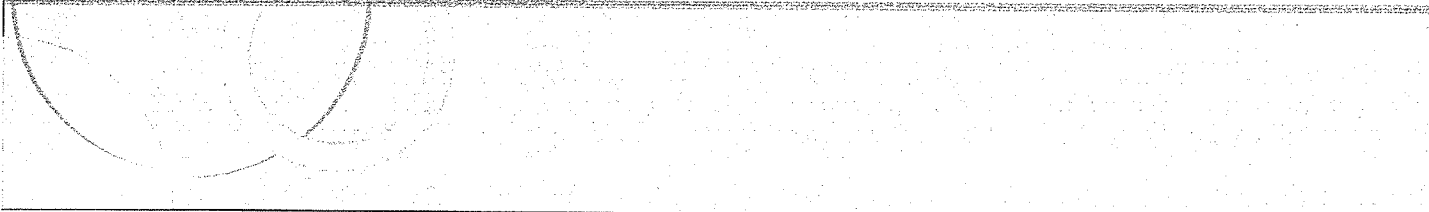
Philadelphia - Multiple Pathways program models

Programs (priority in bold)	Literacy (minimum grade level)								Age range						Credits (minimum required for entry)				Would use currc modules		Student Social Service Supports		Youth servc	
	<5	6	7	8	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	+	0+	8+	13+	18+	Y	int.	ext.	Current 06/07	Goal 09/10		
<b>Accelerated Schools</b>	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	Y	I		950	5,000		
<b>Bridge Program*</b>	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	Y	I		0	1,700		
<b>Virtual Campus / E-Courses*</b>	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	Y	E		0	1,280		
<b>Educational Options</b>	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	Y	E		2,000	3,000		
<b>Gateway to College</b>	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█		I		100	400		
<b>GED Prep at E3 Centers</b>	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█		I		0	tbd		
<b>OSY Charter Schools*</b>	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	Y	I		0	tbd		
<b>Vocational School for OSY*</b>	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	Y	I		0	tbd		
<b>Young Adult Diploma Program*</b>	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	Y	E		0	200		

\* = in or needing development

█ = area of highest need for expansion

totals: 3,050 11,580+

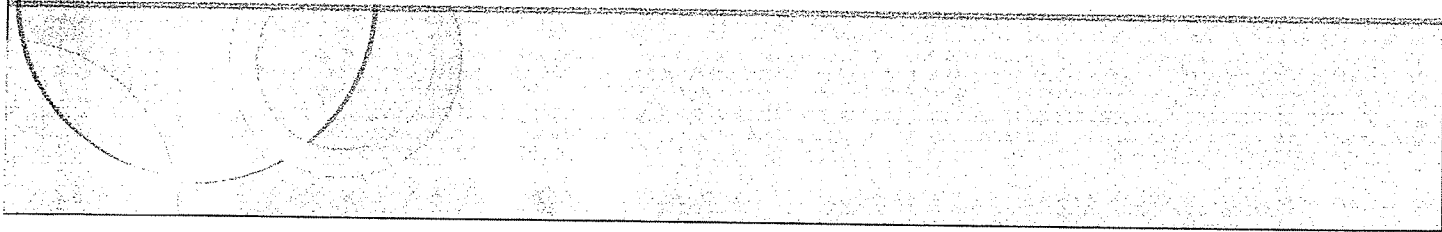


# System Gaps Identified by White Paper (April 2007)

- Less Restrictive/More Flexible Pathway Options
- Skill-Building and Credit-Bearing Interventions
- Post-Secondary Preparedness
- Increased Capacity

# Key District Activities 2006 - 2008

- 2007
  - Focus on program design for “gaps” in system
  - Limited Release “White Paper” on Multiple Pathways

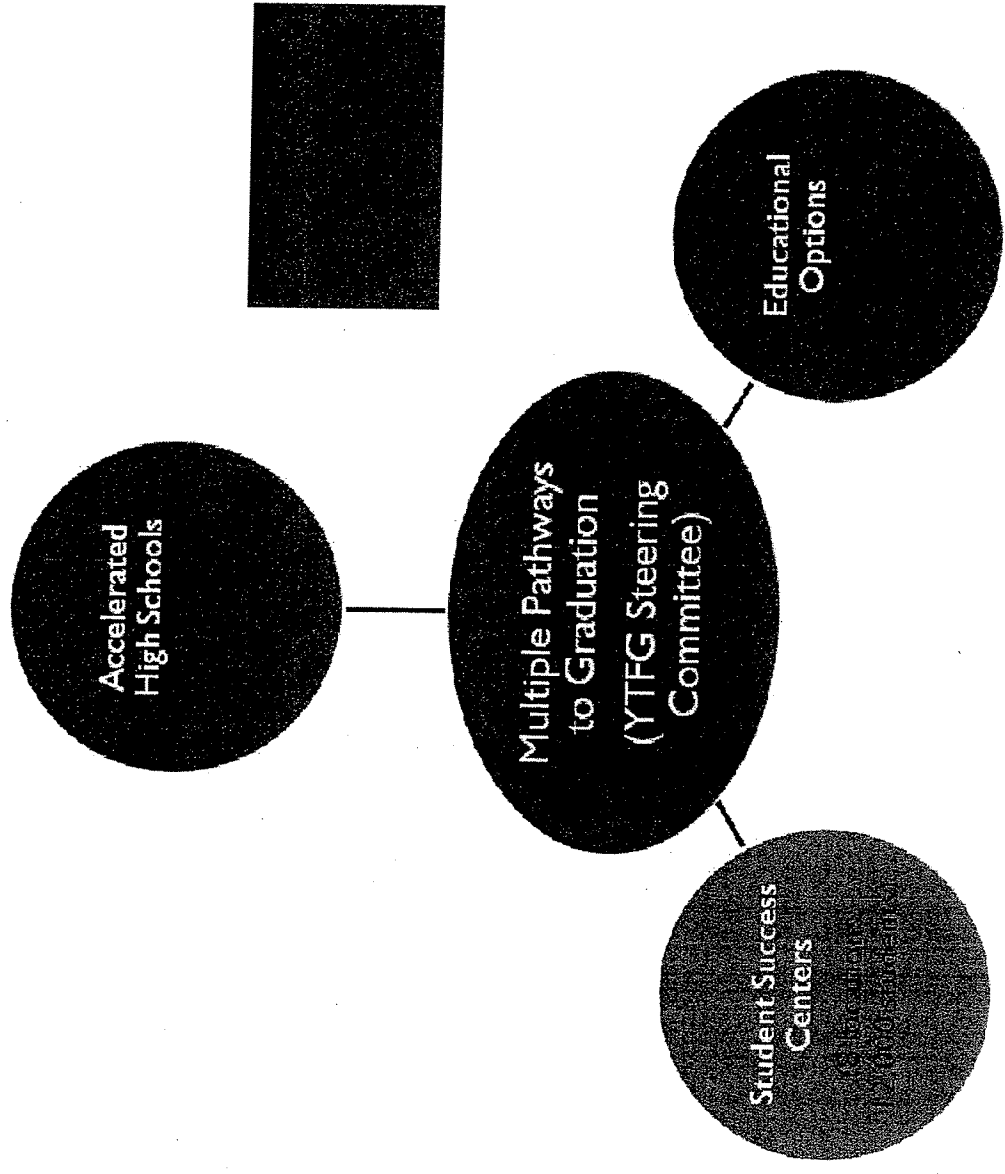


# Key District Activities 2006 - 2008

- 2006
  - Open Office of Multiple Pathways
  - Launch Gateway to College site
  - PUT launch and focus on workplan
  - Education of District staff about PUT research and goals
  - Laying foundation for messaging around dropout prevention/recovery as mission critical

# Multiple Pathways to Graduation System (SDP)

March 2006



Dropout Prevention

# MPG at SDP: March 2006

- Located in Office of Secondary Education
- 1 staff member & 3 programs
- 2,325 slots in recovery options
- Minimal dropout prevention
- No evaluation of effectiveness on AHS, EOP, or SSCs and lack of accountability across providers
- Project U Turn does not yet exist, SDP participates at YTFG table
- Budget:
  - \$7.6 m for recovery slots, \$1m for prevention



**Project U Turn Inside A School District:  
A Multiple Pathways to Graduation Approach**

**From Ideas to Implementation:  
2004-2009**

Courtney Collins-Shapiro, School District of Philadelphia  
Harvey Chism, Philadelphia Youth Network