Student performance in 9th grade is a strong indicator of later high school success or failure. Yet intervention is critical during middle school to ensure students get and stay on track to graduate.

**MAKE BREAK**

**9TH GRADE YEAR**

Students who have a 2.0 GPA or lower in their freshman year have significantly lower graduation rates compared to those who earn a 2.5 or higher.

Compared to other high school grades, 9th graders have:

- **9th grade is too late to start implementing a middle to high school transition program.**
- **Algebra I and English I are considered gateways to high school success.**

Why Educators Must Intervene Before the Middle-To-High School Transition

Students who finish 9th grade on-track are 4 times more likely to graduate from high school.

Approximately 1/3 of recent high school dropouts never were promoted beyond 9th grade.

On-time graduation rates are higher for students who stay on track for grade 10 promotion.

Approximately 22% of students repeat 9th grade.

Students who have a grade 9 GPA of 2.5 or higher, pass Algebra 1 with a C or higher by grade 8, and fail at most one class are more likely to graduate.

...of dropouts said they were not prepared when they started high school.

...Each course failed in 8th grade increases the odds of non-promotion from 9th to 10th grade by...

...Only 34% of 8th grade students performed at or above the Proficient level on National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) mathematics assessments.

...The lowest grade point average and the most missed classes in a single semester are associated with higher rates of chronic absenteeism and dropping out.

...Of students who are underprepared in middle school, 45% struggle in 9th grade, 34% struggle in 10th grade, and 36% struggle in 11th grade. This affects their ability to succeed in college and career.

CLOSE THE MIDDLE SCHOOLS ACHIEVEMENT GAP WITH DIGITAL CURRICULUM

To help students succeed in 9th grade, districts must identify middle school students who need intervention and remediation, and take steps to get them back on track. Effective digital curriculums can help districts...

**STUDENTS NEED INTERVENTION PRIOR TO 9TH GRADE**

Of students who are underprepared in middle school, 45% struggle in 9th grade, 34% struggle in 10th grade, and 36% struggle in 11th grade. This affects their ability to succeed in college and career.

Learn more about supporting the transition from middle school to high school.

More Success for More Students