

## Check & Connect works with students by...

- Building a persistent, positive, and trusting relationship with students and their families;
- **Checking** and tracking situations which may put a student at risk of failing classes or leaving school, such as excessive absences, behavior referrals, and poor grades;
- **Connecting** with students to find ways to address disengaged behaviors and help students re-connect to school and academics;
- Teaching students skills aimed at improving academic success, such as problem-solving and goal setting ; and
- Facilitating home-school collaboration to ensure students' educational success.

## Grounded in Research

Check & Connect is a nationally-recognized program with proven success. Of the dropout prevention interventions reviewed by the U.S. Department of Education's [What Works Clearinghouse](#), Check & Connect is the only program found to have strong evidence of positive effects on staying in school.

Check & Connect was developed through a partnership between the University of Minnesota's Institute on Community Integration and Minneapolis Public Schools. Since its inception in 1990, Check & Connect has been studied and implemented with K-12 students with and without disabilities, in suburban and urban settings. Check & Connect is currently being implemented by schools and community organizations across the U.S. as well as abroad.

For more information, contact your site's Check & Connect coordinator (see front of brochure) or visit:

[checkandconnect.umn.edu](http://checkandconnect.umn.edu)

UNIVERSITY  
OF MINNESOTA  
**Driven to Discover™**

You are invited to participate in the



at

*Vernonia School District  
Youth Reengagement Pilot Program*

**Check & Connect Program  
Manager**

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## What is Check & Connect?

Check & Connect is a model of ongoing, systematic intervention and support to promote students' engagement at school and with learning.

Each student participating in Check & Connect is assigned a mentor. Check & Connect mentors seek to build long-term, sustained relationships with participating students that will connect them with their school and help them make academic progress.

## Key Features of Check & Connect

- **Preventive:** Check & Connect focuses on watching for signs of withdrawal and providing timely interventions to keep students engaged.
- **Builds capacity:** Check & Connect works with students to build new skills such as problem solving and goal setting.
- **Efficient and Adaptable:** Check & Connect builds on existing programs, services, and resources within the home, school, and community.
- **Provides outreach:** Check & Connect creates long-term trusting connections between schools, youth, and families.
- **Individualized:** Check & Connect uses a systematic and organized approach, focusing on the needs of each individual student.

## Check & Connect in Vernonia School District

Vernonia School District will begin implementing Check & Connect Mentor initiative February, 2021, second semester, help students ages 14-22 to be successful in school through June 30, 2021.

Students participating in Check & Connect will meet with their mentors weekly to collaboratively problem solve challenges, get connected to local resources, participate in career exploration, job opportunities and have access to individualized, youth-identified **incentives for engagement and achievement of personalized goal.**

**Parents/guardians/caregivers** whose students are participating in Check & Connect will receive regular updates and have **access to discretionary funds up to \$400 for your family** to get your basic needs met in connection with student success.



## Join Us Virtually for Parent/Participant Information Session Kick Off

*Please join us virtually on Tuesday, February 23rd from 6-7pm via Google Meets to hear more and get your questions answered at the Kickoff Information Session with the Superintendent and Youth Reengagement Team*

**Googlemeeets link**

**<https://meet.google.com/gud-gsdm-ccx>**

*Please return Consent Form by February 26th to confirm your participation in this opportunity.*