

What Works!

2009 Moving Forward – Graduation Summit
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• Weak Promoting Power High School

0-60%

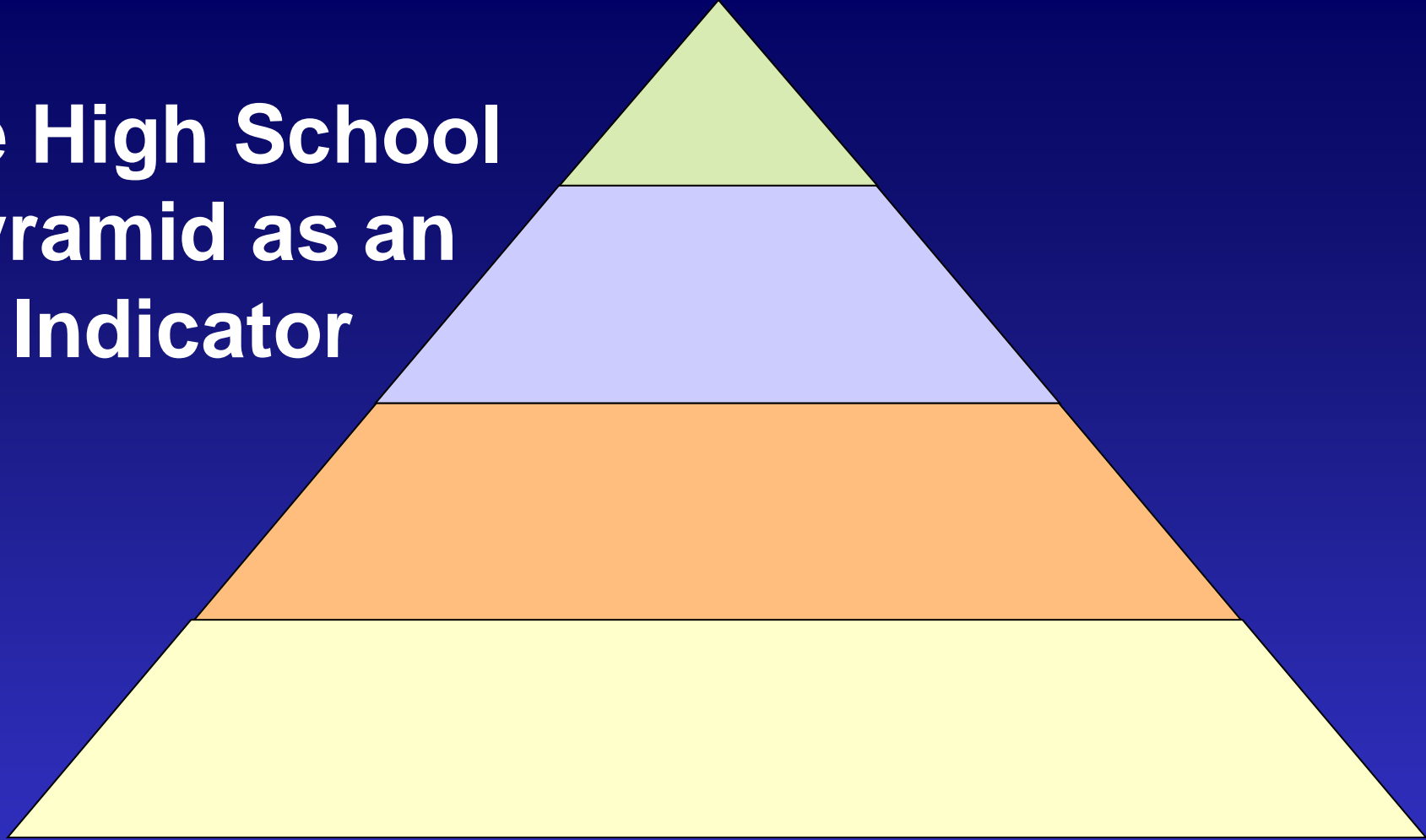
61-70%

71-80%

81-89%

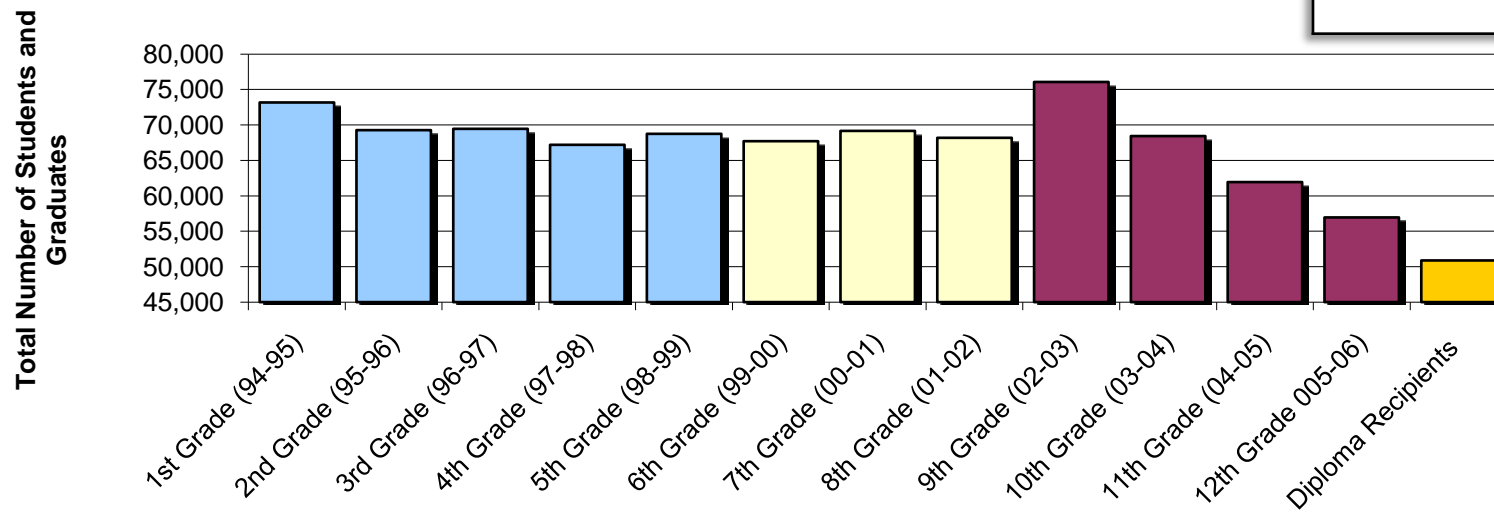
90% or more

The High School Pyramid as an Indicator



Nationally, 1.23 million students drop out of school each year. This translates into 3000 students dropping out of school each day (or about 7,000 each school day)

The Shape of Things Over Time: The Tennessee Public School Class of 2006 -- Grade Enrollments and Graduates



Graduation Rate Indicators



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Improvement Gauge



↑	★	↑	★	↑	★

Tops in Change 2002-06

State	Change in AFGR	Change in PP	Change in 12 th / diploma
Tennessee	11.2	3.8	9.0
Delaware	6.8	5.3	4.1
Kentucky	6.8	6.8	0.4
South Dakota	5.3	1.8	3.7
Arkansas	5.2	1.3	4.6
Alabama	4.1	2.1	3.6
North Carolina	3.6	5.9	-1.5
New York	3.5	7.3	1.8
U.S.	0.4	3.3	-3.1

Southern Change 2002-06

State	Change in AFGR	Change in PP	Change in 12 th / diploma
Alabama	4.1**	2.1*	3.6
Georgia	1.3*	5.1*	-3.3
Mississippi	0.3*	3.1*	-1.6
North Carolina	3.6**	5.9**	-1.5
South Carolina	2.2*	3.4*	-4.4
Tennessee	11.2***	3.8*	9.0***
U.S.	0.4	3.3	-3.1

Southern States' Concentration of WPPHS*

(*WPPHS = weak promoting power high schools)

(2006 , regular and vocational high schools, >100 students)

State	Total High Schools	Number of WPPHS	% of High Schools that are WPPHS
Alabama	362	59	16 %
Florida	451	185	41 %
Georgia	343	127	37 %
Mississippi	243	54	22 %
North Carolina	362	79	22 %
South Carolina	190	97	51 %
Tennessee	297	36	12 %

Getting Better Faster

What Works!

Students: Attend on time and every day; behave well, gain earned credits for promotion to the next grade, and maintain a B average or higher

Learning is relevant, participatory and experiential.

School builds bridges to adulthood.

Interventions

Know who, when, where, and why students are dropping out

Transform schools (re-organize or new)

Develop comprehensive student support systems (in-and out-of-school)

Establish supportive policies and allocate resources

Build community will and capacity

What We've Learned

Struggling students don't "self-correct" without help.

Early – right away, same morning, same day, same week – immediate care and intervention is essential.

The most common and very harmful response to struggling students is that "they'll grow out of it" – and so we wait.

But typically, students don't recover, they drop out.

A Giant Engineering Challenge!

The right strategies

For the right students

At the right time

With the required intensity

* Use the Grad Nation Action Tool
to assess progress

Grad Nation Action Tool

Rally Your Community

Understand Your Dropout Rate

**Devise Solutions for Comprehensively
Addressing the Dropout Crisis**

**Establish a Community Collaboration to
Create Lasting Change**

Reforms

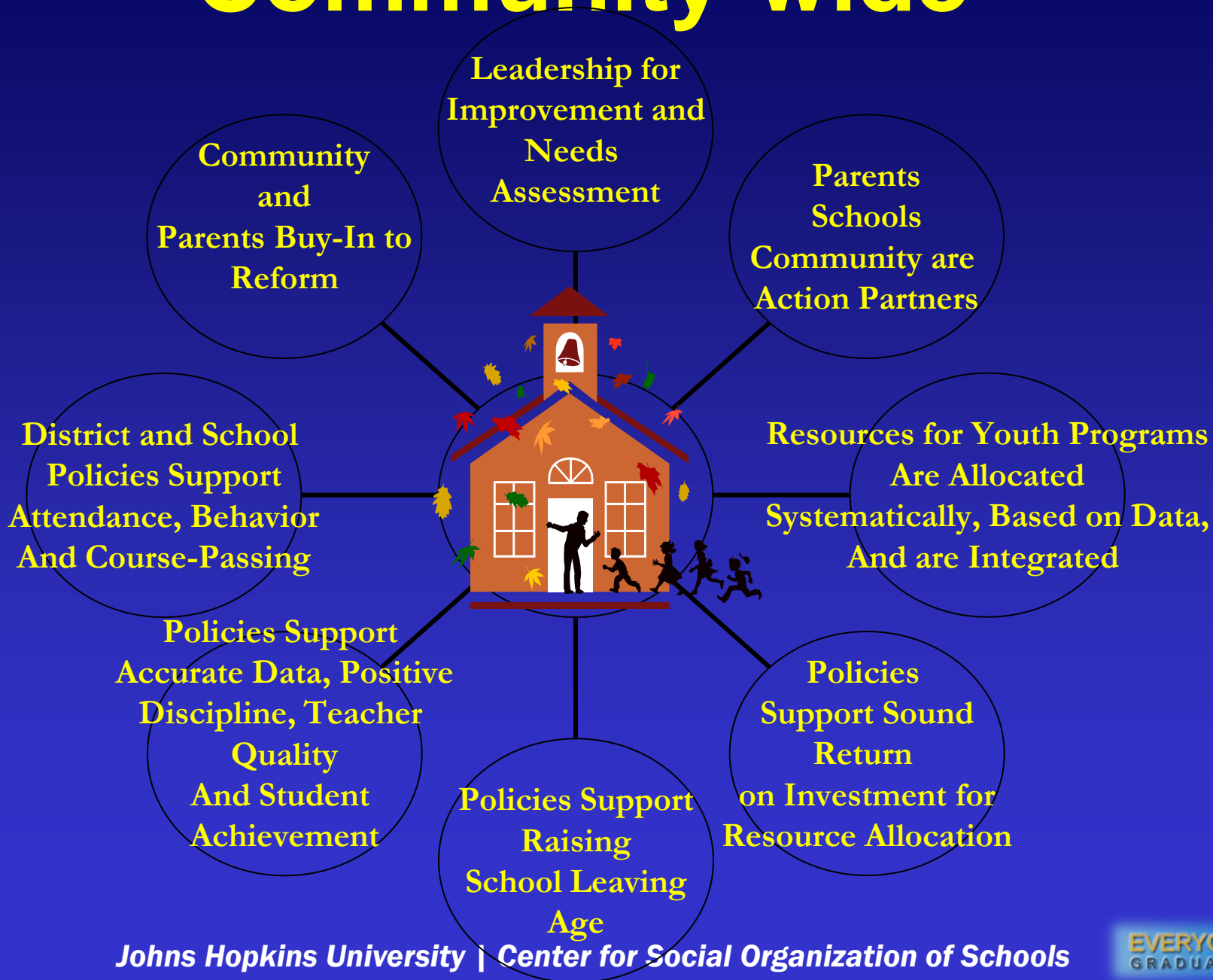
Comprehensive and data-based

Systematically link early warning systems and interventions

Review and revise existing policies and practices

Build community will

Community-wide



A 3-Tier Model of School Reform

School-wide reforms aimed at 75% to 100% of the students

Targeted (1:15 to 20) for 15% to 20% of students who need additional supports

Intensive (1:1 to 1:5) involving specialists (counselors, social workers, tutors) for the 5% to 10% who need case-managed support

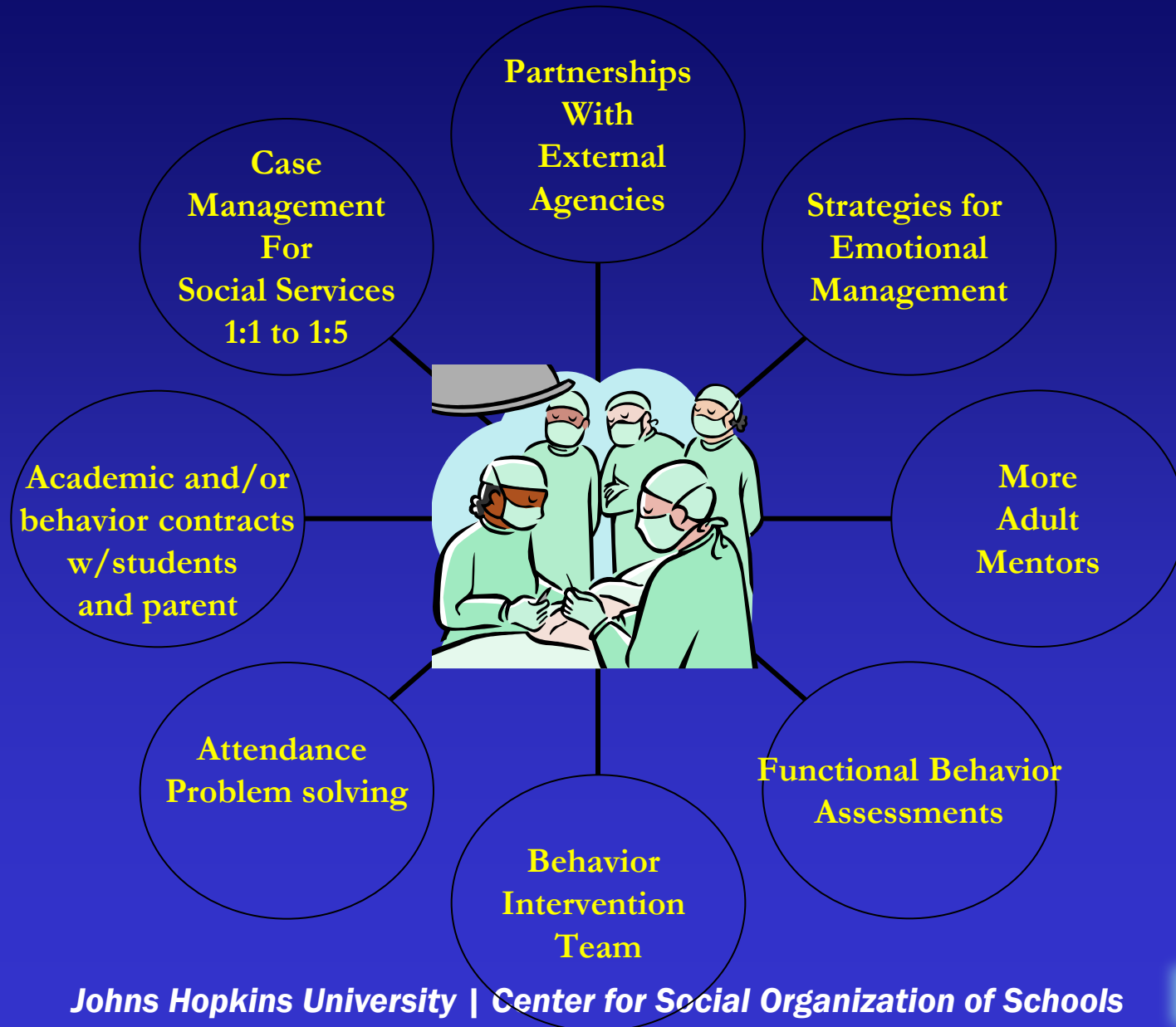
School-wide



Targeted



Intensive



Build Community Will

Analyze, synthesize and use data

Revisit attitudes and beliefs, and reconfigure

Revisit and redesign policies

Target, integrate and re-allocate resources

Build a leadership team, and cross-functional community teams

Support schools and districts

Hold summit

Commit to a Community Graduation Compact

A Community Graduation Compact

Schools can't solve the dropout crisis alone

Communities bear the costs of the dropout crisis and need to be part of the solution

5 to 10 year commitment

Bring together multiple sectors into teams

Integrate the direction of resources to problems

Data based plans and on-going evaluation

What Does a Teacher Do?

“Not only does good teaching require broad knowledge, it requires the nurturing skills of a parent, the timing and humor of a comedian, the public relations skills of a politician, the record-keeping skills of an accountant, the diagnostic skills of a doctor, the physical stamina of an athlete, and of course, the patience of a saint.”

(Gail Markowitz, teacher, Washington Post, 1/19/09)

For further information:

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and read

<http://www.americaspromise.org>
[and every1graduates.org](http://every1graduates.org)