



# GOOSE CREEK

## CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

### Volunteers needed for Goose Creek 'Reach Out Walk' on Sept. 8

Volunteers are needed for Goose Creek CISD's annual Reach Out Walk on Saturday, Sept. 8. The event is from 8:30 a.m. to noon, beginning and ending at Ross S. Sterling High School.

The Reach Out Walk is an effort to get some students to come back to school and to encourage others to become successful graduates. When a student fails to show up for class at the beginning of the school year or needs some guidance with respect to school work, volunteers go to the homes of these students and offer the encouragement and resources that they need in order to complete their high school education.

Last year, nearly 300 volunteers met at Sterling High School before dispersing in teams to knock on doors. Teachers, administrators, and community volunteers went to the homes of 262 former students and made them aware of after-school programs that could help them finish their education.

News reports show that on a daily basis in our country, more than 1,200 young men and women decide to drop out of school. Once students make the decision to drop out, they lack the tools to compete in today's society. In the Lone Star State, about 18 percent of the high schools have graduation rates of less than 60 percent. The social and economic realities are staggering.

There is no single reason why students drop out of high school. The decision to drop out is complex and relates to the individual student and his/her family, school, and community. The decision is personal, reflects the student's unique life circumstances, and is a part of a slow process of disengagement from school.

A high school graduate in 2000 earned about 25 percent more a year than a high school dropout, while a college graduate will make more than twice as much a year as a high school dropout.

Statistics show that high school dropouts are four times more likely than college graduates to be unemployed and three times more likely than high school graduates to receive public assistance.

Compared to proportions of the general population, a much larger percentage of prison inmates do not have high school diplomas.

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#### Reach Out Walk 2012 at a glance

**What:** Through a community and district partnership, Reach Out Walk is a door-to-door program that recovers students who have not returned to school or who may need encouragement to be successful graduates.

**Who:** District employees and community volunteers

**When:** Saturday, Sept. 8, from 8:30 a.m. to noon.  
8:30-9 a.m. – Registration and breakfast  
9-9:30 a.m. –Volunteer Training  
9:30 a.m. – noon – Reach Out Walk

**Where:** Sterling High School, 300 W. Baker Road

GCCISD invites anyone who wants to participate to volunteer by Wednesday, September 5.

Fill out the volunteer registration form [here](#) or call Guidance and Counseling department at 281-420-1591 to sign up.

That's why Goose Creek officials are asking for employees, parents, alumni, local leaders, and other community members to show students that they care about their future by contacting them at their homes on Saturday, Sept. 8, and encouraging them to complete their high-school education.

Goose Creek officials and teachers want each student not only to graduate from high school but also be prepared for post secondary opportunities.

With community support, the district will provide a way for students to return and graduate from high school.

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