Many school districts across the country operate effective dropout prevention programs. Despite these best efforts, more than 1.2 million students drop out of high school in the United States each year. The reasons are many—learning challenges, language barriers, teenage pregnancy/parenthood, homelessness or hardship, residential placements, incarceration/detention, having to join the workforce to help support one’s family—but the end results are, unfortunately, consistent: research data evidencing sharp downward trends in future employment and life outcomes for young adults without a high school diploma or GED.

To meet this challenge, SESI has created a brand-new offering that goes beyond dropout prevention alone. Working in tandem with partnering school districts, our DBIC Program actively seeks out potential enrollees and offers them a comprehensive, easily accessible, results-oriented program that allows them to meet their academic and vocational goals.

Highlights of the program include:

- Flexible programming (with a.m. & p.m. sessions) to accommodate students’ schedules
- Common Core–aligned credit recovery software
- Preparation for state & district assessments
- Accommodates students with language barriers & special needs
- Post-graduation & career readiness training
- Completely free to students under 22 years of age

SESI President & CEO Michael L. Kaufman, Ph.D., explains the addition of this new program: “Throughout SESI’s history, we’ve specialized in designing customized curriculums that adapt to students’ current ability levels and meet their individualized needs, particularly at-risk students. Our DBIC Program is the latest offering in this tradition—a highly targeted model tailored specifically for students aged 16 to 22 who have dropped out of school. It’s a perfect fit for our company, because we already have the resources in place to carry out our focused mission here: credentialed teachers fully experienced and prepared to deliver one-on-one instruction to students who have struggled in the past, computerized instructional materials specifically designed for credit recovery and accelerated tracks to high school graduation, support staff trained in helping reluctant learners overcome barriers to education, and robust transitional programming that prepares young adults for future educational endeavors or gainful employment. We’re very excited about the prospects for this new model—how each DBIC we open will take on a life of its own specific to the community it serves.”

John Sullivan, the company’s Executive Director of Dropout Recovery, agrees. Previously COO of Alternatives Unlimited, a recognized pioneer of dropout recovery services in U.S. education, Sullivan states: “SESI’s 30 years of proven expertise in specialized education services and its well-earned reputation for expanding opportunities for students facing an array of challenges is why I joined the team this year to spearhead this project. The DBIC Program is exactly the impetus needed to take the dropout recovery model to the next level in this country.” He can be reached at jsullivan@sesi-schools.com or 443-570-0396.

Getting Graduation-Ready • Launching Careers • Improving Lives

About SESI

As a leading nationwide provider of specialty education services and programs, SESI collaborates with public schools and educational organizations to expertly and comprehensively serve the academic, behavioral, and emotional needs of special education and alternative education students facing significant learning, language, and social challenges. With close to 30 years of experience in 60+ schools and programs throughout the country, SESI delivers customized programming, flexible curriculums, and personalized attention for students with intensive special needs.