Salahaddin University-Erbil College of Arts Social Work Department



# Social worker skills in preventing school Dropout

Submitted to the Department of (Social Work) in Partial Fulfilment of the Requirements for the Degree of B.A. In (social work)

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# Abstract:

The aim of this study is to understand the causes of dropout and its consequences on students, families and society. The study relies on the triangulation method. It consisted of a cross-sectional survey and interviews with some students who dropped out of school. and critical factors. layer. What is the role of social workers in reducing the number of students who drop out of school? Identify the negative consequences of dropping out of school and make some suggestions to reduce this. It is a phenomenon in society.

# Acknowledgment:

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# Chapter One

# 1.1 Introduction

The education process is one of the most important areas of development

Society is considered in the social, scientific and economic fields, because education is an important basis for investment in cultural capital in both material and spiritual dimensions at the individual and community levels.

Its human and economic capacity base will be weakened. Most of the studies on primary school dropout have concluded that isolated students have entered into grueling work that is not suitable for their physical abilities, which is more related to males , while females have resorted to marriage They married early at an early age and many of them suffered divorce due to their physical, personal and intellectual immaturity. The negative legacy of not completing school has a profound impact on students, families and communities, and most of those at risk of isolation are mentally stable

Those who drop out of school have poor mental health and are more likely to commit deviant acts and crimes. In addition, many lead to membership in mafia groups and use Alcohol and drugs go, their deviant and criminal possibilities increases (Blakemore & Low, 1984).

The education process is one of the most important areas of development Society is considered in the social, scientific and economic fields, because education is an important basis for investment in cultural capital in both material and spiritual dimensions at the individual and community levels.

Its human and economic capacity base will be weakened. Most of the studies on primary school dropout have concluded that isolated students have entered into grueling work that is not suitable for their physical abilities, which is more related to males , while females have resorted to marriage They married early at an early age and many of them suffered divorce due to their physical, personal and intellectual immaturity. The negative legacy of not completing school has a profound impact on students, families and communities, and most of those at risk of isolation are mentally stable

Those who drop out of school have poor mental health and are more likely to commit deviant acts and crimes. In addition, many lead to membership in mafia groups and use Alcohol and drugs go, their deviant and criminal possibilities increases (Blakemore & Low, 1984).

#### 1.2 Research problem:

School Dropout is a visible Phenomenon in kurdistan region. It exists in different proportions . This phenomenon has become an important issue of interest to researchers and education experts , And a large number of researches have been conducted on this subject. That the purpose behind them is to Determine the extent of problems and causes . This is in order to propose appropriate solutions, Because this phenomenon causes other phenomena . Like, believes that one social phenomenon can be explained by another one. In other words, any social phenomenon is related to other phenomena in its formation and its consequences cause other phenomena to emerge .

Most of the researches on dropping out of school have been conducted in primary school, They concluded that isolated students were subjected to exhausting work.

That doesn't fit their physical tone . This is mostly associated with the male gender, And females are more likely to resort to early marriage , that is, they got married before they reached the age of maturity . Due to their physical, personal and intellectual immaturity, many of them have collapsed and separated .

This phenomenon is also present in the Kurdistan Region , what has been observed as an important issue with a variety of negative consequences Not much scientific work has been done on it . According to the official statistics of the Ministry of Education of the Kurdistan Regional Government in only one academic year 2016-2017 , On all stages of education The number of students who have dropped out of school It has reached 34,857 people .

# 1.3 Research Object:

This research tries to show and find out the reasons for quitting education affecting the education process in the Kurdistan Region in relation to the type of society by achieving some of the goals that are

1- Knowing the size of the phenomenon of quitting education in the Kurdistan Region in general, Erbil city in particular

2- Knowing the extent of the impact of school-related reasons and education programs on students' resignations

3- Knowing the effect of community and family reasons on students' abandonment of education

4- Knowing the rate of economic reasons for students' abandonment of education

# 1.4 Research questions:-

1. What are some of the factors that can lead to a student dropping out of school?

2. How can the education system prevent students from dropping out of school ?

3. How social workers can spread awareness?

4. How social workers can liaise with institutions?

# 1.5 Concept definition

# 1.5.1 social worker

A social worker is a professional who is trained to help individuals, families, and communities deal with a wide range of social and psychological issues that may affect their well-being. Social workers are typically employed by government agencies,non-profitorganizations,hospitals,schools,or private practices.(scot,2014, p. 295)

# 1.5.2 Dropout:

The concept of quitting education is sometimes called a break from studying for students who quit school before completing their classes and this is under the influence of various drugs to give up studying in some other behaviors As the absence of a course or non-segregation is different from the fact that the continuation of the education process is a complete separation from the education process before the final stage and the UNESCO organization thinks that quitting these students including who dropped out of school before finishing school (UNESCO, 2008) Quit studying

Students often stop studying without their will under some community, psychological, and economic effects at a time when students reach the highest disappointment in the education process

School dropout can be defined simply as any person who fails to earn a high school diploma. In practice, however, it can be a challenge to identify students who will drop out with precision. Dropouts have relatively high rates of mobility and school transfers can make graduation a difficult achievement to track. Additionally, studies of school dropout often begin with high school students, but dropout occurs in the middle grades too. Finally, some students "stopout" of school and then return or subsequently enroll in equivalency credential programs This entry summarizes key points in understanding the prevalence, antecedents, and consequences of school dropout and efforts to prevent its occurrence.

#### 1.5.3 Prevention:

preventive work prevention any work that seeks to stop a potential problem emerging or an existing problem becoming more acute, whether for individuals, families or whole neighbourhoods. Preventive practice aims to direct resources and intervention towards addressing early signs of social difficulties or social problems before they accelerate and intensify into emergencies that require vastly greater resources in terms of time, energy and money.

The notion of 'preventive work' is not wholly satisfactory, first, because it raises the question of what exactly is being prevented and, second, because it suggests that it is a kind of optional extra as if

social work is not really social work until it is reacting to harm or imminent catastrophe. The phrase takes on greater clarity when defined by its opposites such as 'reactive work' or 'crisis intervention'. Preventive work in health offers a clear example: between 1997 and 2002 there was a decline of 23 % in deaths from heart disease; some of this was a result of improved acute surgical intervention – angioplasty, transplants, bypass procedures; but a good %age was achieved also because of improved life choices, better diet, taking exercise or giving up smoking. In other words heart disease was reduced through a double-pronged approach combining both acute intervention and prevention(barker, 2014, p. 540)

#### 1.5.4 Social work:

the paid professional activity that aims to assist people in

overcoming serious difficulties in their lives by providing care, protection or counselling or through social support, advocacy and community development work. From the inception of social work in the mid-19th century, there has been controversy over what in essence it seeks to achieve. The argument has been between those who believe social work is an activity that seeks to provide particular groups of people with the tools and resources to change the social structures that disadvantage them and those who believe it should assist individuals to adapt to their circumstances. The first view was promoted by settlement houses, established in low-income urban neighbourhoods from the 1880s on, which combined educative tasks, research into social conditions and mutual support for local people under one roof. The second was represented by the Charity Organisation Society, which systematized the approach called casework, which combined home visiting record keeping and a focus on individual conduct as the source of social problems.(barker, 2014, p. 347)

#### 1.5.5. Skill:

skill means a relatively precise set of manual or mental techniques that, though they may depend on aptitude, have to be learned through training or schooling. Sociological work, though not denying this aspect of skill, is primarily concerned with the management of skill; that is, how skill is defined, constructed, and recognized. Since the publication of Harry Braverman's work in the 1970s, much scholarship has been devoted to examining Karl Marx's claim that 'valorization' in the capitalist labour process requires a continual attempt to de-skill expensive forms of labour. Deskilling means either the disintegration and mechanization of craft techniques; or a refusal adequately to recognize established or new capabilities still required of the worker. The latter is very common in women's employment. Many writers, Marxist and non- Marxist alike, argue that de-skilling is not inevitable. Workers, individually or through \*trade unions, may resist mechanization, or insist that deskilled processes are reserved for workers with established training, who continue to be paid a premium for their displaced skill Also, employers may upgrade workers: because they wish to recognize and retain dependable or experienced workers; or to control and inhibit labour unrest; or because, notwithstanding Marx, the development of technology has created new skills in place of older ones. In any case, jobs may be de-skilled without necessarily implying the de skilling of individual workers, or indeed the labour-force as a whole. A selection of empirical case studies are reported in Roger Penn et al.(scott, 2014, p. 258)

#### School :

School is something that we all know and understand, as we all have to go there as children whether we like it or not. It means very different things to very different people, though. In the USA, any educational establishment can be described as a school, when as in the UK, school is a place you go to up to the age of 16. A school is also a group of fish, although we will focus on the educational establishment in this essay.

For me, school is primarily a place to learn and to improve my chances of success in my career and life as a whole. It's a place to better myself, not just for the good grades, but for the satisfaction of knowing that I'm a better for going through it. School doesn't just teach you facts and academic skills, but disciple, social and communication skills, leadership and so many more things too. Other people aren't interested in what they can get out of school, though, and see it as a place to socialize, become popular, have lots of boyfriends or girlfriends and have a good time. Having friends and fitting in is probably an important part of school for everyone though, be they popular and carefree or hardworking and academic. For some children and young people, school is so much more than these trivial things. School can be a place of safety, perhaps from an abusive home life, or for children in third world countries, as a way of avoiding dangerous manual labor from a young age and giving themselves the best chance to have a better future than they would have otherwise. For many such children, school can also be the place where they get their only hot meal of the day, or even their only meal full stop, and it offers the only opportunity they will ever have to learn to read and write, count and add up.(school, 2013)

# Chapter Two: Literature Review:

literature review: this talks about other related research and books, literature review findings explain our findings in research and books that we used

# Research (Al-Rubaie, Majid Zidan 2006)

Entitled: (**The phenomenon of dropping out of primary school, causes and Reflections and Treatments**) This study was conducted in collaboration with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) in Iraq. The objectives of the study are:

1. Showing the number and %age of students who dropped out of school in different provinces of Iraq.

2. Know the dropout rate inside and outside the cities.

3. Also know the reasons behind the dropout phenomenon. This study is an analytical descriptive study and was conducted through the use of survey method. To collect the data for the study, recourse was made to second-hand data, which include annual statistics from the Ministry of Education of the Iraqi Government

Questionnaire was taken to find out the reasons behind the phenomenon. The study reached several important conclusions:

1. 86% of school-age children attend school, however, 600,000 children do not attend school at the specified age.

2. 21% of girls of legal age have not attended school. 3. 24% of students drop out before completing compulsory education

He has brought education.

4. The study found that 31% of girls in urban areas and 51% of them They have dropped out of school in the villages.

5. Difficulty of the curriculum, not suitable for the age of the students.

6. Teachers' inability to build appropriate relationships with students.

7. Unemployment of parents of students, encouraging their children to work to ease the burden

The burden of life on the family.

8. Financial inability of students' families to pay for their children's education responsibility.

Research (Aliasri, Dr. Abdul Zeid 2010)

# entitled: (The phenomenon of dropping out of school in school stages and the role of the social protection network in setting limits for it) The objectives of the research are:

1. Know the reality of dropout.

2. Identify the causes of the phenomenon and its economic, social and educational consequences.

3. Know the efforts made by the relevant parties to prevent and treat it the phenomenon. This study is descriptive of the analysis survey approach used. It also relies on data from the Ministry of Education and documents obtained on this issue, regarding the stages of education in Iraq until the academic year 2005-2006. The most important results of the study:

1. Lack of attention of families in following up and caring for their children. Due to poverty and poor economic situation, they put their children to work. Under the influence of social customs, they marry their daughters early, especially in rural areas.

2. Weakness in enforcing the law on compulsory education, weakness in enforcing the child welfare law to prevent child labour.

3. Poor performance of some students and high dropout rates, as well as high absenteeism rates.

4. Poor level of some teachers and their poor relationship with students, two shifts and large number of students in the classroom, difficult curriculum and subjects, use of corporal punishment and Psychology of students by teachers and school administration.

5. Family problems of dissolution and separation, such as weak family relationships School, illness and coping and poor care in schools, poor levels of family novels about school health education.

Edona Bego Study (2014)

# entitled (Girls Dropout: Based on Gender Differences as Barriers to Continuation) The objectives of the study are:

1. Identify gender differences in girls' school dropout in Kosovo.

2. Try to compare the difference between the two sexes to find out which sex is more likely to quit They bring education.

3. Familiarity with social and educational factors and their impact on dropout.

4. Know the impact of work on dropout. His research method is social survey through sampling, he used purposeful sampling. The data collection tools include questionnaires and interviews, and relied on statistics and information from relevant institutions to collect data. The study population consisted of students in grades 1 to 12. The sample of students who dropped out of school in 2007-2 The results of the study showed that:

1. Gender differences have had an impact on dropout.

2. It has been found that the dropout rate of male students is higher than that of female students Female.

# Chapter Three: Methodology

In this section of research discuss the research methodology, the research community and the survey participation rate.

# **Research Method:**

The scientific method is one of the scientific methods that a researcher uses to organize his thoughts and opinions about the subject of his research. Due to the nature of our research subject, we had to use various data collection tools, so we resorted to them. took to the mixed method as follows.

The triangular method of this. The method is the most well-known mixed method for further data availability and reliability. In the truth of the results and the reduction of errors, we resorted to this. Method Within the framework of the method, we chose the quantitative data method, which is the third of four classification types. done according to the classification. (Bogdan, 2006)

**Triangulation Method** in "social research refers to the use of multiple datasets, methods, theories, and/or investigators to address a research question. It is a research strategy that can help enhance the validity and credibility of findings and mitigate the presence of any research biases in work." (Biklen, 2006). Triangulation is an analysis technique used in multi-method research designs. The mixing of data or methods so that diverse viewpoints or standpoints cast light upon a topic is also referred to as triangulation in social science.

**Qualitative Research:** find a tension between scientific explanations that are based on observation and quantification and interpretative research (Lazarsfeld and Barton 1982).

"This glimpse into history leads us back to the lack of a coherent account condensed in the definition of qualitative research. Many of the attempts to define the term do not meet the requirements of a proper definition: A definition should be clear, avoid tautology, demarcate its domain in relation to the environment, and ideally only use words in its definiens that themselves are not in need of definition". (Hempel 1966)

**Quantitative research:** "one of the most important qualities of quantitative research is the requirement that the findings it produces reflect the attributes of the population namely that the conclusions drawn through the study are related to the whole population". (Saratakos, 1993)

To ensure this, quantitative researchers have introduced several, criteria, the most important of which is the representativeness of the sample requires that the sample be selected to reflect a high degree of characteristics of the population it represents. To this end specific techniques are used to ensure representativeness, and statistical techniques have been developed to aid in this process:

The **research community** consisted of a group of social researchers and social counselors in the form of an online survey that consisted of 21 items in order to get a correct answer to the study

**Research examples** are school students, Also interview a group of students who have dropped out of school and ask some questions about the reasons for their dropout.

The study was conducted online for 49 **participants** We also **interviewed** 5 students who had dropped out of school.

# Chapter Four: Findings and Discussion

In this section, we discuss the results and conclusions of the study as well as the recommendations of the study

# Data analaize

poverty

l'm with	I agree with him to some extent	I don't agree with him
20 (%40)	25 (%51)	4 (%8)

51 % of the respondents agreed, 40 % agreed and 8 % agreed. Poverty has a positive effect on dropping out of school, which is a major problem for the backwardness of society in all areas

#### Provision of daily expenses by. from the family

I'm with	I agree with him to some extent	I don't agree with him
16 (%32)	26 (%51)	7 (%14)

53 % somewhat agree 32 % agree 14 % agree There is no doubt that the lack of daily expenses has a negative impact on students and must be addressed. The relevant party to fill this. It is a problem in society according to this. Survey of this. It is the provision of daily expenses by. Family is a reason for dropping out of school

Family needs for boys to work. To earn a living

I'm with	I agree with him to some extent	I don't agree with him
24 (%49)	19 (%38)	6 (%12)

49 % agree with this item, 38 % somewhat agree with it, 12 % disagree with it. According to the survey, the family's need for boys to work is a very important reason for dropping out of school due to the poor financial situation of society in general

Loss of student belief in the value of education in achievement. Be. Material goals in the future

l'm with	I agree with him to some extent	I don't agree with him
26 (%53)	20 (%40)	3 (%6)

I agree with 53 % of this. 40 % somewhat agree 6 % disagree In today's society due to the lack of justice, lack of proper supervision and lack of bright future that makes students lose faith in education and drop out of school as a result of this. Survey Lack of student belief in the value of education is the reason for students to drop out of school in society

#### Dropout among family members

I'm with	I agree with him to some extent	I don't agree with him
12 (%24)	22 (%44)	15 (%30)

I agree with 44 % of this. 30% Agree 24% Disagree The presence of this phenomenon in our society is relatively low, so according to the results of this paragraph, the presence of dropout is not an effective reason for dropping out of school in society

#### Lack of family awareness about the importance of education

	<b>I</b>	
l'm with	I agree with him to some extent	I don't agree with him
18 (%38)	25 (%51)	6 (%12)

51 % somewhat agree 36 % agree 12 % disagree According to the results of this item, of course, in our society, family awareness about the bad consequences of dropping out of school is generally low

Poor teaching methods of teachers

l'm with	I agree with him to some extent	I don't agree with him
13 (%26)	22(%44)	14(%28)

45% somewhat agree 28 % disagree 26 % agree In schools, teachers are somewhat negligent about teaching methods due to the lack of special courses for teaching methods. Teachers Therefore, according to the results of this paragraph, poor teaching methods of teachers have a central impact on dropout in society. Lack of welfare activities such as sports and arts in schools

I'm with	I agree with him to some extent	I don't agree with him
18(%36)	12(%24)	19(%38)

38 % somewhat agree 36 % agree 24 % disagree Therefore, according to the results of this section, the lack of welfare activities such as sports and arts in schools is a central reason for dropping out of school

# Discrimination among students

6		
I'm with	I agree with him to some extent	I don't agree with him
21(%42)	13(%26)	15(%30)

I agree with 42 % of this. 30 % with me. 26 % discriminated against them to some extent. among. Students, especially of both sexes, are a big problem in educational institutions that make a lot of differences between them. Students Therefore, according to the results of this paragraph, discrimination among students Discrimination among students has a significant impact on dropping out of school.

self-control With the Internet and electronic games

	0	
l'm with	I agree with him to some extent	I don't agree with him
24(%50)	18(%37)	(%12)

I agree with him 50 % on this point. 37 % somewhat agree. 12% agree with me Due to the advancement of technology, the emergence of tablets and iPads, as well as their misuse by adolescents and students has a great impact on students to the extent of dropping out

### Poor treatment of teachers towards students

l'm with	I agree with him to some extent	I don't agree with him
11(%22)	23(%46)	15%30)

47 % somewhat agree. 30 % with me 22 % with me. In our society, especially in schools, teachers have a good way of treating students and there is no way of hurting students

# Family will for early marriage

2			
I'm with	l agree	e with him to some exter	nt I don't agree with him
13(%26)		23(%46)	13(%2)

47 % somewhat agree, 26 % agree, 26 % disagree. Because the majority of students in schools are boys and the marriage rate is relatively low, especially under the age of 18, according to the results of this article, the family's desire for early marriage has a normal effect on dropping out of school

# People with disabilities

l'm with	I agree with him to some extent	I don't agree with him
20(%40)	14(%28)	15(%30)

40% agree 30% disagree 28% somewhat agree The presence of people with disabilities and the lack of necessary centers in all areas The lack of experienced teachers for students with disabilities is a reason for dropping out of school It is the main reason for dropping out of school in society

# Coaxing students to drop out of school

l'm with	I agree with him to some extent	I don't agree with him
7(%14)	25(%52)	16(%33)

52 % somewhat agree, 33 % agree, 14 % agree. In our society, imitation of dropping out of school is rare, so according to the results of this paragraph, imitation of students to drop out of school does not have much effect on dropping out of school in society.

# Lack of family care. For the student's situation in school

I'm with	I agree with him to some extent	I don't agree with him
24(%49)	19(%38)	6(%12)

52 % somewhat agree, 33 % agree, 14 % agree. In our society, imitation of dropping out of school is rare, so according to the results of this paragraph, imitation of students to drop out of school does not have much effect on dropping out of school in society

# Frequent change of family residence

I'm with	I agree with him to some extent	I don't agree with him
7(%14)	24(%39)	18(%36)

I agree with 49 % of this. 38 % somewhat agree 12 % disagree Lack of continuous monitoring of students' situation by families for students, especially in public schools and not paying attention to them properly causes students to go astray Education in society

Divorce of the student's parents

I'm with	I agree with him to some extent	I don't agree with him
21(%42)	16%32)	12(%24)

I agree with 49 % of this. 38 % somewhat agree 12 % disagree Lack of continuous monitoring of students' situation by families for students, especially in public schools and not paying attention to them properly causes students to go astray Education in society.

Presence of autism

l'm with	I agree with him to some extent	I don't agree with him
27(%56)	15(%31)	6(%12)

I agree with 43 % of this. 32 % somewhat agree 24 % disagree Due to the high rate of parental divorce and child victimization, especially in the field of education, which has a direct impact on students dropping out of school in studying

Lack of educational services such as air conditioning and heating

	U	U
l'm with	I agree with him to some extent	I don't agree with him
13(%26)	15(%30)	21(%42)

I agree with 43 % of this. 32 % somewhat agree 24 % disagree Due to the high rate of parental divorce and child victimization, especially in the field of education, which has a direct impact on students dropping out of school in studying

High absenteeism and absenteeism in a certain stage of education

I'm with	I agree with him to some extent	I don't agree with him
16(%32)	24(%49)	9(%18)

56 % agree 31 % somewhat agree 12 % disagree The presence of this case is increasing in our society due to the lack of centers for this disease and the lack of equipment for this disease Autism is a major reason for dropping out of school due to lack of centers and backwardness of society

Lack of social workers

l'm with	I agree with him to some extent	I don't agree with him
20(%40)	19(%39)	10(%20)

40 % agree with this item 38 % somewhat agree 20 % disagree Lack of social workers in schools and not paying attention to them and not opening courses on their working methods and low number of them in schools and lack of awareness among students There are many dropouts due to lack of family awareness

#### Interviewes

One of the students we interviewed who had dropped out of school asked us what was the reason for dropping out of school. He replied that the first reason was to stay in the same class for two years Psychological reasons or other reasons He replied no, only because of family poverty and also stayed in a class for two years and after dropping out he resorted to work From Erbil in my opinion The reason for abandoning this The student is attributed to poverty and lack of support by from the family.

The second student who had dropped out of school when we interviewed him with did our first question That's how many grades you dropped out of school He replied that he had dropped out of 10th grade. He brought it from studying and from us He asked why he had quit and he replied that he could not continue. Because my father worked alone without pay our financial situation was not very good There was another reason why he dropped out of school which was to imitate his friends and relatives who also dropped out He had brought it from school.

In our interview with the third student When he dropped out of school we asked him some questions He explained at what stage he had dropped out of school and responded a little in class. The reason for dropping out was that his father had died because his elder brother had no family after his father death Management Be dropped out of school wanted to work and very much that liked to study Make it completely Death of a worker was the main reason for dropping out of school.

In our interview with the fourth studentWhen he dropped out of school we asked him why he dropped out She was forced to marry by her family She has been prevented from studying by her husband's family.

In our interview with the fifth student who dropped out of school she was a female We first asked her how many grades she dropped out of school She said she dropped out of school in 8th grade The student became a victim of the problem and was not supported to continue. In studying by His parents.

# Chapter Five: Conclusion, and Recommendation

In this section, we discuss the results and conclusions of the study as well as the recommendations of the study

# Conclusion:

After conducting a reaserch on student dropout in society it is obvious that due to economic changes and social in this Later in the Kurdistan Region especially in Erbil they have a great impact on students dropping out of school which will have a negative impact on the mentality and future of this society They were Poverty and lack of proper family care for students, which causes the high dropout rate in recent years society is going to backwardness and illiteracy as well as more murder and drug addiction Finally social workers play an important role in preventing dropout by providing a range of support services to students families and schools. Effective social work interventions can include individual counseling and family support groups academic support and advocacy for policy changes that benefit students at risk of dropping out To be successful in this role, social workers need a range of skills including communication problem solving skills cultural and collaboration with other professionals By using their expertise and working in partnership with schools and communities social workers can help ensure that all students have the support they need to stay in school and succeed academically

# **Recommendations:**

There are several recommendations to prevent school dropout, including:

- Talking to a guidance counselor
- Providing effective classroom instruction from the beginning of a student's education
- Offering alternative school programs and mentorship programs
- Encouraging students to become involved in extracurricular activities that help them feel more engaged
- Providing expanded learning opportunities outside of regular school hours
- Opening a course on the risks of dropping out of school for parents by From the Ministry of Education

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