ID of issue and strategy:

**Issue: Chronic Absenteeism**

27% of the students are chronically absent;  
35% of kindergarten students are chronically absent;  
36% of seniors are chronically absent

One of the problems is the high teacher turnover rate. For example, of the 13 elementary classrooms, 6 had new teachers.

Strategies to reduce rates:

Teacher home visits with targeted families.  
Education effort – target at risk students  
Use community in school facilitators as well as community school facilitators  
Use graduation coaches  
Secure $40,000 in funding for Energy Express

**Issue: Lack of certified teachers:**

Approx. 70 classrooms do not have a certified teacher (either those who are teaching out of field or who have a sub)

Strategies to increase number of certified teachers:

Branding – create pride.  
Grow Your Own initiative  
ID potential McDowell students who want to return to the county