

# Pathways to PUSHOUT

Over a million students who start high school this year won't finish.<sup>7</sup> Push back for dignity and fairness!

## SUSPENSIONS AND EXPULSIONS<sup>5, 6</sup>

More U.S. students are being suspended than ever before. In 2006, 3.3 million students were suspended out-of-school at least once and 102,000 were expelled.

Most suspensions are for minor misbehavior like "disruptive behavior," "insubordination" or school fights. Even preschool students are being expelled - at more than three times the rate of K-12 students.

## SCHOOL BASED ARRESTS<sup>1, 2, 8</sup>

More and more law enforcement officers are in schools and stepping in to handle discipline issues. Arrests in school are increasing and adding to the time students are out of class. Most school arrests are for minor incidents like "disturbance of the peace" or "disruptive conduct," not dangerous or violent crimes.

## HIGH STAKES TESTING<sup>1,3,4,5</sup>

Some schools increase their test scores by pushing out low-scoring students.

Low-scoring students are suspended during testing days, transferred to alternative schools, enrolled in GED programs or just expelled.

# PUSHED OUT!

**Sources Used**

1. Advancement Project (2010). Test, punish, and push out: how zero tolerance and high-stakes testing funnel youth into the School-to-Prison Pipeline. Advancement Project, 14.
2. Advancement Project (2005). Education on Lockdown: the schoolhouse to jailhouse track. Advancement Project, 14-15.
3. Fidic, D. (2006). Testing, crime and punishment. Journal of Public Economics, 90(4-5).
4. New York Civil Liberties Union (2011). Education Interrupted: The Growing Use of Suspensions in New York City's Public Schools. New York Civil Liberties Union, 25.
5. Plaut, M., et al (2009). The Condition of Education 2009. National Center for Education Statistics. Institute of Education Sciences, U.S. Department of Education, Washington, DC, 70.
6. Skiba, R., et al (2006). Are zero tolerance policies effective in the schools? American Psychological Association Task Force, 63.
7. Swanson, C. (2010). Progress, postponed: graduation rate continues decline. Education Week, 20(34), 22.
8. Wild, J., and Thirau, L. (2010). First do no harm: how educators and police can work together more effectively to preserve school safety and protect vulnerable students. Charles Hamilton Houston Institute for Peace and Justice Policy Brief, 1.