

Too many of today's 9th graders...

have arrived at school in poor condition and academically unprepared due to compromised health and well-being

have been socially promoted automatically and have never actually completed one grade before advancing to the next grade

have been taught in the early grades with idealistic "part" language practices

have a long history of school failure

have been subjected to a daycare version of developmentally appropriate policies and practices geared for 3-and 4-year-olds (DAP-LITE)