RALEIGH, (SGRToday.com) - More than 11,000 North Carolina high school students dropped out of school during the 2012-2013 school year, and 61 percent of them were boys. The data was released this week by the Department of Public Instruction as part of the Consolidated Data Report.

Other data in the report: -- The annual high school dropout rate decreased from 3.01 percent to 2.45 percent for 2012-13 (18.6 percent decrease).
-- A total of 11,049 high school students dropped out in 2012-13 as compared to 13,488 in 2011-12 (18.1 percent decrease).
-- There were dropout count decreases in 77.4 percent (89 of 115) of school districts, which represents a 9 percent improvement from 2011-12 when 81 of 115 school districts reported dropout count decreases.
-- The number of high school students dropping out decreased at all grade levels and for all ethnic groups.
-- Attendance issues were again the reason most often cited for dropping out, accounting for 45.9 percent of all dropouts.
-- For the third year in a row, there was a decrease in the number of students reporting \"Enrollment in a Community College\" as the reason for dropping out.

The full report containing state, district and charter high school dropout counts and rates for 2011-12 and 2012-13 is available online at www.ncpublicschools.org/research/dropout/

