

Project Directors Consortia: Breakout Session Descriptions

Friday AM: 9:15 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Supervising Staff and Managing Contracts: Challenges and Successes

Grab a cup of coffee and join us for the Safe Schools/Healthy Students LIVE morning talk show, featuring guests Cynthia Smith, Project Director of a multidistrict 2008 site from Mount Vernon, IN, and Sandy Crawford, Project Director for the 2009 site from Alton, IL, as they share with the audience how they have supervised and managed an array of staff members and contracts. Be prepared: Audience participation is a must during this interactive session! We also invite you to bring any specific challenges, successes, funny stories, and anything else that you would like to discuss about your experiences supervising staff and managing contracts in your communities. See you at the show!

Project Directors Cynthia Smith, Metropolitan School District of Mount Vernon, IN, and Sandy Crawford, Alton Community United School District #11, IL; Technical Assistance Specialist Kelly Wells

Meeting the Needs of All Students and Bolstering School Climate Using School-Wide, Evidence-Based Programs

As SS/HS grantees strive to meet the needs of all students, they are faced with challenges to effectively plan, coordinate, and implement school-wide evidence-based programs and practices at all levels of the pyramid that effectively address student needs and are a good fit within the systems, bolster the school climate, and result in partners' commitments to reach desired outcomes. One grantee will share her experience with implementation of school-wide PBIS in the pyramid's three zones as well as additional programs to address student needs, including steps they are taking to ensure that there is buy-in and ownership to fidelity and full implementation, that students are matched to appropriate programs based on risk and need, and that evaluation data are used to determine whether outcomes are being achieved.

Project Director Christina Mann, Eudora Unified School District, KS; Technical Assistance Specialists Jennifer Kitson and Sandy Keenan

Addressing Racial and Ethnic Disparities Through SS/HS

SS/HS programs are designed to reach positive outcomes for all students, yet we sometimes find that outcomes (e.g., student achievement, substance use, involvement in juvenile justice) for students are not uniform and may follow racial or ethnic divisions much more than we would wish. Join this discussion with three Project Directors about how disparities become evident and how to address them.

Project Directors Penny Miller, Central Union Elementary School District, CA, and Johna Platero, Page Unified School District, AZ; Technical Assistance Specialists Lauren Gilman and Sue Vargo

Cyberbullying and Creative Bullying Prevention Strategies

SS/HS teams continue to create innovative and multifaceted strategies for preventing cyberbullying and traditional forms of bullying in their schools and communities. In this session, Melynn Huntley will present her team's innovative new program, called **The 4ever Project**, which is designed to involve students in addressing cyberbullying, cybersafety, and the legal and privacy issues of Internet use. Susan Linn will describe her team's multifaceted strategy, called **Circle of Respect**, which is designed to prevent bullying through parent education, student intervention, prevention counseling, mentoring, evaluation, and development of a comprehensive district policy to address new State antibullying legislation.

Project Directors Melynn Huntley, Amarillo Independent School District, TX, and Susan Lynn, Newton Public Schools, MA; Technical Assistance Specialists Ron Slaby and Connie Constantine

Five Tips to Enhance Team Function

This session will present tips/strategies to take your team from dysfunctional to FUNCTIONAL! A Project Director will share her experience in improving her site's team functioning to maximize its efforts toward implementation and sustainability.

Project Director Alice Marie Stevens, Farmington Municipal Schools, NM; Technical Assistance Specialist Nancy Kelly

Friday AM: 10:45 a.m. – 12 noon

SS/HS Early Childhood Efforts: Bolstering Families, Boosting Young Children

Learn how two SS/HS programs are working with families of young children to promote collaboration, strengthen parenting skills, and enhance children's development.

Project Directors Suzanne Masland, Caledonia North Supervisory Union, VT, and Sharon Verlarde, Carpinteria Unified School District, CA; Technical Assistance Specialist Jennifer Anthony

Financing School Mental Health Programs and Services

Two 2008 Project Directors will present financial strategies developed with community mental health partners to build successful SMH programs that are integrated within the whole school culture. They will address financial strategies used to provide an array of SMH services such as fee-for-service and blended funding streams; use of data to drive program development, revisions, and expansion; and lessons learned and sustainability strategies to maintain prevention and intervention programs. They will also discuss the importance of connecting with State agencies (mental health, education, health, juvenile justice) to develop State resources to fund SMH programs and services.

Project Directors Terry Lawler, Hot Springs School District, AR, and Greg Wallace, Johnson City Public Schools, TN; Technical Assistance Specialists Beth Freeman and Kelly Wells

A Look at Two Approaches to Truancy: Rural and Urban

A Project Director from Mount Carmel, IL, will explain how their community's juvenile justice community worked with the CMT to develop a truancy review board to identify and support students earlier in their absences, holding parents accountable. Montgomery, AL will discuss how their site developed a truancy pilot program involving multi-disciplinary teams that address the problems underlying truancy.

Project Directors Priss Parmenter, Wabash Community Unit School District #348, IL, and Teresa Green, Montgomery County Public Schools, AL; Technical Assistance Specialists John Rosiak and Connie Constantine

Making Connections Between ATOD and Mental Health

From the east to the west Coast, Project Directors share their strategies on when to start, stop, and continue when barriers arise in implementing ATOD and mental health prevention and intervention initiatives. A Project Director from South Carolina will describe specific challenges that have arisen in implementing intervention initiatives involving students referred to ATOD and mental health services. A Project Director from California will share the challenges her site faced in implementing universal

prevention of substance programs and the success of the mental health initiative in their middle schools.

Project Directors Kevin Rhodes, Kershaw County School District, SC, and Clara D'Agostino, East Whittier City School District, CA; Technical Assistance Specialists Sue Vargo and Gwen Willis-Darpoh

Decisions....Decisions.....How Do We Decide What to Sustain?!

This session will examine the complex decision-making process for prioritizing programs the community will support and sustain. A current SS/HS Project Director will share his experiences, both successes and challenges, in engaging the broader community in this decision-making process and in building support. There will be an opportunity for each participant to share her or his site's successful strategies in engaging multiple stakeholders in the process.

Project Director Curtiss Sarikey, San Francisco Unified School District, CA; Technical Assistance Specialists Sandy Keenan and Terri Yellowhammer

Friday PM: 1:30 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.

Developing and Sharing Information about Services in Your Community: Stories from the Field

Although we all understand the importance of sharing information to streamline services and reducing barriers for families attempting to access services, the thought of how to begin this process can often be daunting when you start to think about all the barriers to tackling this process. During this session, hear one site's story of how it went from a community of confidentiality barriers to a community in the process of developing a consented resource and referral system to streamline services through the use of a universal consent form.

Project Director Tracy Moseman, Helena Public School District #1, MT; Communication Specialist Patric Rayburn; Technical Assistance Specialists Valerie Larsen and Nancy Kelly

Engaging Families in SS/HS Initiatives

This session will discuss specific strategies for bringing families into SS/HS partnerships to engage them in a meaningful and authentic way in the initiative's work. Areas to be explored include Family Resource Centers and engaging monolingual Spanish-speaking parents in leadership positions on the CMT. In addition, the *Engaging Families in Safe Schools/Healthy Students Initiatives* guide will be introduced.

Project Directors Ben Franco, Donna Independent School District, TX, and Marina Bernheimer, Nevada County Superintendent of Schools, CA; Technical Assistance Specialists Mary Thorngren and Gwen Willis-Darpoh

Sustainability: Lessons from the Field

This session will tell the stories of two SS/HS grantees that have successfully sustained many functions of the initiative. After grant funding ended in 2006, Pam Smith led the way in building a \$10 million program from the \$7 million program funded under SS/HS. Lenny Mujica has worked with Project Director Amalio Nieves to transform an average program in a huge county (400,000+ students) into an outstanding initiative. Both presenters will describe how they worked with their core management teams, expanding them to include core community partners critical to their sustainability.

Project Directors Pam Smith, School District of Lancaster, PA, and Lenny Mujica, School Board of Broward County, FL; Technical Assistance Specialist Tim Dunn

Innovative Partnerships with the Business Community

In these tight economic times, understanding how to cultivate positive relationships with local businesses can broaden the support for your SS/HS initiative and might very well be a key to sustainability. During this session, grantee presenters will talk about different strategies of building relationships with businesses: through a community-wide character-building initiative and by encouraging small, targeted donations as an extension of existing collaborations. Please come prepared to share your own successes and challenges!

Project Director Meribeth McKean, School Board of Orange County, FL; Technical Assistance Specialist Lauren Gilman

Friday PM: 2:45 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Tools for Creating, Extending and Communicating a Shared SS/HS Vision

The Project Director from Pueblo, CO, will present how the site worked with the site's CMT to start a visioning process through the SS/HS initiative, which spun off work groups in the broader community. He will present why vision is important, and how to set up shared community priorities and metrics to determine its success. The Project Director from Randolph County, NC, will describe how he worked with CMT members in articulating their vision for the type of community they are working together to create, used a retreat to examine what success would look like in their community, and used their logic model to see how their activities aligned with achieving that future vision. The session will invite examples of different approaches from the audience.

Project Directors Randy Evetts, Pueblo City Schools, CO, and Todd Henderson, Randolph County Schools, NC; Technical Assistance Specialist John Rosiak

Using Policy to Advance Systems Integration

This session will discuss ways to use policy to benefit program implementation, create systems change, and lead to sustainability. Two Project Directors will share how they are working to use policy to maximize long-lasting effects for the SS/HS initiative.

Project Directors Misty Dees Hollis, Richmond Community Schools, IN, and Sherrie Williams, Vicksburg-Warren School District, MS; Technical Assistance Specialists Nancy Kelly and Gwen Willis-Darpoh

Creating an Efficient System for Appropriately Referring Students

An effective referral system requires protocols specifying when, where, and how to refer students and the ability to track and monitor services. However, students are often referred to programs and services for issues that are outside of the scope of the program. Participants in this session will hear from two grantee sites with coordinated referral systems in place and take part in a forum to discuss challenges and resolutions related to appropriately referring students.

Project Directors Gary Houseman, Public Schools of the City of Muskegon, MI, and Trudy Townsend, North Wasco County School District #21, OR; Technical Assistance Specialists Jennifer Kitson and Cynthia Wright

Collective Impact: the Conditions for Collective Success

Two Project Directors from the 2007 cohort will reflect on their experiences with the SS/HS initiative and their journeys to create systems that bring stakeholders together to achieve common outcomes. They

will facilitate a conversation to illustrate how collective impact differs from the traditional concept of collaboration and describes the conditions necessary for collective success.

Project Directors Beverly Kingston, Adams 12 Five Star Schools, CO, and Mary Sue Hansen, Independent School District #623, MN; Technical Assistance Specialist Barb Zandlo Hutchinson