

Please Help Us



Keep Kansas Kids Safe, Drug-free, and Informed!

PREVENTING SCHOOL VIOLENCE

The National Consortium of School Violence Prevention Researchers and Practitioners (www.ncsvprp.org) suggests a thoughtful, 4-element approach to safer schools:

- A **balanced approach** that addresses physical safety and educational practices and programs that support the social, behavioral, emotional, and academic needs of children.
- **Communication** is critical. Law enforcement studies conclude that the most effective means of preventing targeted acts of violence is by maintaining close communication and trust with students and the community at-large.
- **Connectedness** refers to what binds us together as a community. Students need to feel they belong and that the school staff and community as a whole cares for them. In turn, students need to be invested in their school community.
- **Support** is critical for effective prevention. Every school should have the resources to maintain evidence-based programs designed to address bullying and other forms of student conflict. Research-based violence prevention and related supports program should focus on a three-tier approach, operating at the universal (school-wide), targeted (for at-risk students), and intensive (for the most chronic problems) levels.

All school staff, parents, and community members have a critical role to play in observing, recognizing, and responding to signs of youth high-risk behavior. **Timely, effective interventions and ongoing prevention**—in addressing bullying as well as other areas of high-risk behavior—are critical components to student safety, well-being, and success.

Constant and keen observation, knowing how to recognize signs and symptoms, timely response, diligence, understanding, nonjudgmental attitudes, implementation of early and effective prevention strategies and interventions, the desire to make a difference in a child's life, never assuming 'it's probably just a phase...this, too, will pass,' having the will and the fortitude to follow through—these are some of the most crucial tools needed in promoting the health and safety of today's youth in homes, schools, and communities across America.

The bottom line is that we must all work together, respecting each other's concerns and ideas, toward the common goal of keeping our school children safe. Kids' lives are counting on it!



For information regarding bullying prevention, school safety planning, school violence/shooting prevention, and drug prevention contact Dr. Karen Seals at kseals@ksde.org or Kent Reed at kreed@ksde.org.

NOT AT MY SCHOOL!



STOP THE VIOLENCE

If you think someone at school
may hurt themselves or someone else,
you can't stay silent.


1-877-626-8203

Anonymous • Toll Free • 24 Hours a Day



Kansas State Department of Education

STOP SCHOOL VIOLENCE



Anonymous - Toll Free
1-877-626-8203
Kansas School Safety Hotline