



## Safe Schools/Healthy Students Initiative (SS/HSI)

### FACT SHEET

#### **Historical Background:**

In the fall of 1999, 54 communities across the United States (including the San Francisco Unified School District – SHPD) were awarded funding under the Safe Schools/ Healthy Students Initiative. The Initiative is a joint effort of 3 federal agencies: the Department of Education, The Department of Justice, and The Department of Health and Human Services. Communities received funding for 3 years to establish school community partnerships that will work together to improve the health and well-being of students.

#### **What is SS/HSI:**

SFUSD – School Health Programs Department project is based upon the vision of developing student’s resiliency by building personal and social skills to prevent substance abuse and reduce violent behavior.

What are the goals of SS/HSI?

- All children and youth at the 10 Wellness Elementary and 7 Wellness High Schools will be able to resist drug use, weapon carrying and violent behavior.
- All staff, parents and youth at “Wellness Schools” will develop the capacity to create a safe and healthy school environment.
- SFUSD will build infrastructure and institutionalize interagency coordination that creates and sustains comprehensive school health and safety activities at all schools.

#### **Current Status:**

- Seven High Schools: Galileo, Lincoln, Lowell, Marshall, McAteer, Mission and Washington participate in this project and receive the following enhanced services: 2 days a week of a School District Nurse, 1.0 Peer Resources Coordinator, stipend for a site Wellness Coordinator, professional development for site staff including teachers, counselors, security guards, and parents regarding Student Assistance Programs (SAP) and Student Success Teams (SST), Safe Schools and other health and safety issues and School Resource Officer on site.
- Ten elementary schools: Bessie Carmicheal / FEC, Cleveland, DeAvila, Harvey Milk, Malcolm X, Marshall, Moscone, Sanchez, Sunset and E.R. Taylor receive the following enhanced services: 2 days a week of a School District Nurse, 1 or 2 day(s) a week of Learning Support Consultant time (mental health professional), stipend for a site Wellness Coordinator, professional development for site staff including teachers, counselors, security guards, and parents regarding SST. Collaboration with SFUSD “COPS” program to provide mobile response unit (Car 29) support on site will occur. A SHPD transition coordinator is collaborating with sites to develop protocols and procedures for transitioning students between 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade as well as 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grades.
- The Interagency Action Committee is comprised of representatives of the local police department, juvenile probation, Department of Public Health (including community mental health and substance abuse prevention, department of human services and the Mayor’s office (Department of Children, Youth and Families). The purpose of the IAC is to provide prevention, early intervention, and increase communication between city agencies/ departments acting as a city-wide/Student Assistance Program (SAP). Evaluation is a crucial component of this project. We are viewing both process and outcome data to help guide the project and insure that we maximize resources and achieve our objectives.

**Activities within SFUSD and SHPD that support SS/HSI:**

- Student Assistance Program
- Student Success Team
- Peer Resources Programs
- Safe School Plans
- Comprehensive School Health Programs
- Health Advocates
- Expanded Learning–After School Learning
- School Health Center
- Coordinated Services
- Healthy Start
- Health Education Curriculum
- School Resource Officers
- Health Promotion Committees
- Healthy School Teams

**For further information contact:**

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