



# Safe Schools/Healthy Students National Cross-Site Evaluation

Evaluation Meeting

January 29-30, 2009





# The National Evaluation Team (NET)

 MANILA Consulting Group, Inc.

 RMC Research Corporation

 Battelle Centers for Public Health Research and  
Evaluation



# Data Collection Overview

## Site Visits

## Surveys

- Project-Level Survey, School-Level Survey, School Climate Survey

## Telephone Interviews

- Project Director Interview, Group Telephone Interviews

## GPRA Measures



# 1-Day Site Visit

(Year 1)

-  Two-person team meets with key managers and stakeholders identified by the project director in February/March
-  Collect/clarify information regarding baseline conditions, program priorities, planned activities, and evaluation plan
-  Discuss future plans



# Online Surveys

(Annual)

## Project-Level Survey

-  Gather information about new/planned policies, programs, and operations related to the SS/HS program elements
-  Distributed by NET to project director or designee in late winter/early spring
-  30-45 minutes to complete



# Online Surveys (Annual)

(continued)

## School-Level Survey

-  Gather information about the nature and level of each school's involvement in planning, implementing, and supporting policies, programs, and activities related to the SS/HS program elements
-  Distributed by the NET to school coordinator or project director designee at all schools targeted by the grant in late winter/early spring
-  30-45 minutes to complete



# Online Surveys (Annual)

(continued)

## School Climate Survey

-  Gather information about perceived safety, learning environment, policies, services, and ATOD problems at each school
-  Distributed by PD or designee to sample of teachers and administrative staff at schools targeted by the grant (sites may opt to conduct a census)
-  7-8 minutes to complete



# Telephone Interviews: Project Director (Annual)

-  Individual telephone interview with project director conducted each summer
-  Addresses partner contributions to planning and implementation activities



# Telephone Interviews: Group

(Years 2, 3, and 4)

-  Similar to Year 1 site visit
-  Group interviews with project director, local evaluator, and key managers and stakeholders conducted in the summer
-  Update information regarding activities, planning and implementation processes, sustainability, and system changes



# Partnership Inventory

(Years 2, 3, and 4)

-  Completed by project director and key managers and stakeholders in the summer
-  Addresses contributions to planning and implementing activities
-  Approximately 5-10 minutes to complete



# Evaluation Questions

## Do SS/HS grants

-  Develop/enhance collaborative systems?
-  Reduce frequency of violent incidents in schools?
-  Reduce rates of ATOD use?
-  Improve access to mental health services?
-  Improve school climate?





# Conceptual Framework

## Existing Conditions and Resources (Pre-Grant Environment)

- Collaborative Mechanism
  - ✓ History
  - ✓ Composition
  - ✓ Structure
  - ✓ Barriers to collaboration
- Identified Target Populations
- System Resources
  - ✓ Pre-grant program & service investments
  - ✓ Funding

## SS/HS Activities

- Partnership Functioning
  - ✓ Assess needs
  - ✓ Search for best practice solutions
  - ✓ Analyze implementation requirements
  - ✓ Select, implement, & support best practice programs & services
  - ✓ Monitor & track performance
  - ✓ Recommend policy changes
  - ✓ Plan future activities
- School Involvement in Decisionmaking
- Training & Technical Assistance
- Leadership
- Project Advocacy

## Near-Term Outcomes

- Comprehensive Policies
  - ✓ Scope of policies
  - ✓ Diffusion to schools
- Implementation of Enhanced Services
- Improved Coordination
  - ✓ Service integration activities being implemented
  - ✓ Partner ratings of effectiveness
  - ✓ Extent of resource pooling/sharing
- School-level Organizational Change

## Long-Term Outcomes

- Sustainability
- Specific Elements
  - ✓ Prevention of violence
  - ✓ Prevention of substance abuse
  - ✓ Improved access to mental health services
  - ✓ Improved attendance
- Improved School Climate

## SS/HS Activities

### Partnership Functioning

- ✓ Assess needs
- ✓ Search for best practice solutions
- ✓ Analyze implementation requirements
- ✓ Select, implement, & support best practice programs & services
- ✓ Monitor & track performance
- ✓ Recommend policy changes
- ✓ Plan future activities

### School Involvement in Decisionmaking

### Training & Technical Assistance

### Leadership

### Project Advocacy

# Partnership Activities

The NET is collecting data to

 Examine the activities underway and key partner involvement related to -

- Planning
- Implementation
- Monitoring/tracking performance
- Sustainability

 Assess the influence on these activities of the -

- Partnership attributes
- Operating environment



# Near-Term Outcomes

## Near-Term Outcomes

Comprehensive Policies  
✓ Scope of policies  
✓ Diffusion to schools

Implementation of Enhanced Services

Improved Coordination  
✓ Service integration activities being implemented  
✓ Partner ratings of effectiveness  
✓ Extent of resource pooling/sharing

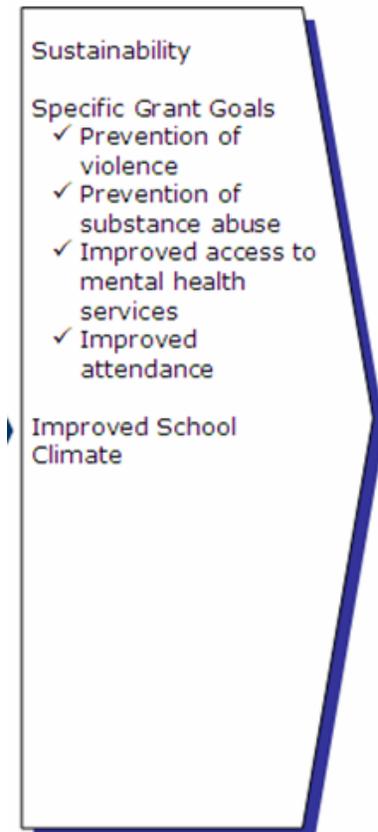
The NET is collecting data to:

-  Examine the near-term outcomes related to -
  - Number of planned and implemented activities
  - Use of evidence-based programs and practices
  - Number and type of coordination activities
  
-  Assess the influence on these near-term outcomes of the -
  - Partnership activities
  - Partnership attributes
  - Operating environment



# Long-Term Outcomes

## Long-Term Outcomes



The NET is collecting data to -

- 🏫 Examine the impact of the grant on important long-term goals, specifically -
  - Sustainability of programs and activities and the partnership
  - Improvements in safety, substance use, violence, and mental health services
  - Overall school climate
- 🏫 Assess the influence on these outcomes of the -
  - Near-term outcomes
  - Partnership activities
  - Partnership attributes
  - Operating environment



# Using GPRA Data for Long-Term Outcomes

-  GPRA data are reported in all annual reports and the final performance report
-  The NET follows up on these reports with GPRA templates
-  Enables the NET to measure change and perform additional analyses such as:
  - Differences by grade and school type
  - Comparisons to national and State trends



# 2008 GPRA Measures

-  Grantees are required to collect and report information annually on six measures.
-  Grantees are expected to conduct two data collections in Year 1: baseline (pre-implementation) and Year 1 actual performance data.
-  Grantees are asked to provide student-level data for each measure.



# School Climate Survey

-  NET will focus on four school types:
  - Elementary, Middle, High, Alternative
-  Per OMB's recommendation to reduce burden, the NET will sample school staff
-  Number of schools within each type determines the number of staff who are asked to complete the survey



# School Climate Survey

(continued)

-  Each site has its own instruction sheet based on information provided to the NET
-  PD compiles alphabetical list of staff for each targeted school
-  NET indicates which number from the list should complete the survey (e.g., every 4<sup>th</sup> staff member, every 10<sup>th</sup> staff member)



# Administering and Tracking

-  School-specific login and password information sent to PD via e-mail
-  PD or designee sends information to selected staff at each school
-  PD tracks response rates by school
-  PD can view real-time district results
-  Grantees interested in using the SCS for their local evaluation should contact the NET

