



Safe Schools
Healthy Students



The Faces of Safe Schools/Healthy Students

The Faces of Safe Schools/Healthy Students (SS/HS)

June 2004





Safe Schools
Healthy Students



The Faces of Safe Schools/Healthy Students

The Faces of SS/HS
Placeholder for Video





Safe Schools
Healthy Students



The Faces of Safe Schools/Healthy Students

SS/HS Background

- The SS/HS grant program is a unique Federal collaboration among the U.S. Departments of Education, Health and Human Services, and Justice.
- SS/HS grants are awarded to local education agencies (LEAs) working in partnership with local law enforcement and mental health agencies.
- SS/HS grants are 3-year demonstration grants awarded to more than 150 communities since 1999.





Safe Schools
Healthy Students



The Faces of Safe Schools/Healthy Students

SS/HS Initiative Goals

- Improve/increase services to “at-risk” children and their families.
- Link child-serving agencies in a consistent and complementary way.
- Decrease violence, substance abuse, and school disciplinary activity.
- Increase the healthy development of children.





Safe Schools
Healthy Students



The Faces of Safe Schools/Healthy Students

SS/HS Underlying Principles

- Link security with healthy childhood development.
- Take a school-based public health approach.
- Provide comprehensive, coordinated services that are developmentally appropriate.
- Encourage school/law enforcement/mental health partnerships.
- Implement science-based programs with demonstrated outcomes.





Safe Schools
Healthy Students



The Faces of Safe Schools/Healthy Students

Six Core SS/HS Elements

- To ensure a comprehensive approach to violence prevention and healthy development, SS/HS grantees link and integrate six core elements:
 1. Safe school environment.
 2. Violence, alcohol, and other drug prevention and early intervention.
 3. School and community mental health preventive and treatment intervention services.
 4. Early childhood psychosocial and emotional development services.
 5. Educational reform.
 6. Safe school policies.





Safe Schools
Healthy Students



The Faces of Safe Schools/Healthy Students

SS/HS Is Working

- Real partnership at the Federal level.
- Real partnerships at the local level in more than 150 communities.
- Effective, comprehensive, and coordinated approaches to youth and school violence prevention.
- Evolving, vibrant learning community on youth violence prevention and healthy development.





Safe Schools
Healthy Students



The Faces of Safe Schools/Healthy Students

SS/HS Is Reducing Violence

“Referrals for discipline infractions had been cut by more than half; short-term suspensions had declined by a third; and reports of fights, harassment, and threats had decreased substantially.”

—Project director, Olympic SS/HS initiative, Bremerton, WA





The Faces of Safe Schools/Healthy Students

SS/HS Is Improving Academic Achievement

On the California Standards Test scores, all students showed substantial increases in their Academic Performance Index scores, and, on the English/language arts section, 40 percent of the students were at the "proficient" or better level. Prior to the SS/HS grant, proficiency among the same group was less than 30 percent.

—Project director, Redding SS/HS initiative, Redding, CA





Safe Schools
Healthy Students



The Faces of Safe Schools/Healthy Students

SS/HS Is Building Communities

“The Pinnacle Program has touched every child, every mom, and every neighbor in the community. We have done so much in really infiltrating where our kids are in school, after school, evenings, Saturdays, and Sundays at church. Outreach is one of our powerful components.”

—Project director, Weslaco SS/HS initiative, Weslaco, TX





The Faces of Safe Schools/Healthy Students

SS/HS Is Helping To Sustain Communities

“Sustainability means that you’ve got something that works and you want it to stay there... If it’s making a difference, you go out and find whatever you need to incorporate—collaboration, additional funding—and the way to do that is [to] use your evaluation...promote it... People won’t support something they don’t see being successful... That’s again where your evaluation data is so important.”

—Project director, Jonesboro SS/HS initiative, Jonesboro, AR





Safe Schools
Healthy Students



The Faces of Safe Schools/Healthy Students

SS/HS Is “a Stroke of Brilliance”

“Somebody in Washington had a stroke of brilliance to decide that they could put monies together, decide [on] a common direction, and have a common vision for children and families across our United States. I say to them if it can be done in our Nation’s capital, I know it can be done locally.”

—Project director, Omaha SS/HS initiative, Omaha, NE





Safe Schools
Healthy Students



The Faces of Safe Schools/Healthy Students

SS/HS Is Changing Lives

“My child likes to talk and share more with other children; he has more desire to go to school and likes it more than before. He seems to have more energy and self-esteem and is studying better.”

—Mother, Salinas SS/HS initiative, Salinas, CA





Safe Schools
Healthy Students



The Faces of Safe Schools/Healthy Students

SS/HS Is a Catalyst for Partnership and Sustainability

“Ninety-seven percent [of SS/HS sites funded in 1999 and 2000] reported that they are trying to continue or expand the programs and services implemented as part of their SS/HS initiative.”

—*SS/HS Sustainability Study, Prevention Research Center, Penn State University (with funding from SAMHSA)*





Safe Schools
Healthy Students



The Faces of Safe Schools/Healthy Students

For More Information
www.sshs.samhsa.gov

