Enhance School Safety and Healthy Youth Development

Dear School Counselors, Administrators and Violence Prevention Practitioners,

Violence and tragedy that once occupied the streets and international news has brutally emerged in our classrooms. Such traumatic events have diverted academic attention to the preoccupation of personal safety and emotional well-being. Education professionals are responsible for enhancing education standards and the academic performance of today's youth, while having to shoulder the burden of safeguarding the social welfare of millions of our nation's students.

Recently, the Department of Education established a new office for Safe and Drug-Free Schools. With their lead, The Performance Institute invites you to learn from education experts and violence prevention practitioners on how to devise emergency plans to prevent and respond to school violence. Learn how to establish a cooperative effort among key community stakeholders and execute crisis strategies at the Seven Steps and Scenarios to Safer Schools Conference in Arlington, VA, March 3-4 2003. You will learn to identify a plan that will educate and inform you and your faculty and students for better response in the time of need.

Seven Strategies for Comprehensive Solutions for School Violence

The seven steps outlined in this summit encompass community involvement, prevention and intervention practices, professional development, grant opportunities, response plans and behavioral assessment. Recent reports published by the FBI and Secret Service highlight that profiling and reliance on local law enforcement are poor answers to combating school violence. Identify and implement effective measures that prevent violence in schools and protect students.

Presentations will focus on evidence-based strategies that examine how to mitigate risks while promoting proven protective factors, including behavioral analysis and faculty-student communication. Identify and perpetuate the common elements of successful programs to implement in your schools.

Learn from the Four Most Pressing Scenarios

The second day of this event will focus on responding to four scenarios: violence prevention, bully intervention, school shooting response and suicide aftermath. With the guidance of field experts, learn strategies that best navigate the issues and crises so your school responds accurately and appropriately in timely situations.

Strategies and best practices from the nation's leading violence prevention experts are waiting for your review! Register today by calling 703-894-0481 or visit us online at www.PerformanceWeb.org!

Sincerely,



Christi Crovato
Director of Education Policy
The Performance Institute

Who Should Attend

- School Counselors and Psychologists
- Assistant Superintendents
- School Violence Prevention Practitioners
- Program Administrators
- Principals
- Curriculum Specialists
- Teachers
- School Administrators

...And All others Concerned with Safe Schools!

Learn Strategies for Violence Prevention, Intervention and Response

Seven Steps & Scenarios to Safer Schools

March 3-4, 2003 • Arlington, VA

- **Devise Comprehensive Response Plans**
  Learn Proven Strategies for Comprehensive Violence Preventative and Crisis Response Plans
- **Learn to Identify Behavioral Warning Signs**
  Conduct Assessments, Counsel Students and Emphasize Conflict Resolution



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Seven Steps and Scenarios to Safer Schools

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Learn Strategies for Violence Prevention, Intervention and Response

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- **Learn to Identify Behavioral Warning Signs**
  Conduct Assessments, Counsel Students and Emphasize Conflict Resolution
- **Ensure Financing of Safety Programs for Your School**
  Examine Federal Funding Opportunities and School Grant Management
- **Coordinate Violence Prevention Efforts**
  Integrate Strategies with Law Enforcement, Businesses, Civic Leaders, and Social and Mental Health Professionals

Plus: Interactive Training Simulations Prevention, Intervention, Response and Aftermath Scenarios and Strategies Every School Should Know!



Is this the only solution?

Access the Latest News and Research in Best Practices for Violence Prevention and Intervention for K-12 Schools

Presented by:

The Performance Institute

Learn Innovative Steps to Fostering School Safety in Your Community!

Identify & Implement Effecti

Day One: Monday March 3, 2003

Agenda and Speaking Faculty

8:30 **Keynote Address: Making the Link and Devising a Strategic Plan for Addressing Violence in Schools:**

- Eliminating the Roadblocks to Learning
- Fostering School Safety and Healthy Youth Development
- Creating a Healthy Learning Environment
- Launching a Strategic Planning Process to Address Safe Schools
- Involving the Community, Teachers and Parents in the Planning Process

Charles "Chic" Williams, *Intervention Specialist for the City of Geneva, Illinois and former Dean of Students for the Geneva School District and* ***Joseph Heinrich,*** *Detective Sergeant, Geneva, Illinois*

9:30 **STEP ONE & TWO: Creating Violence Reduction Programs and Curriculum for Students AND Addressing Staffing and Professional Development Needs for Violence Reduction Strategies**

- Promote programs in peer mediation, conflict resolution, anger management, social skills training, and problem solving
- Improve Mental Health Services
- Conducting assessments, counseling students and consulting school staff and parents on interventions
- Enhance Skills Development and Academic Supports

Camille McCann, *Former Supervisor of Student Affairs, Office of Safe and Drug-Free Schools, Prince George's County, Maryland*

10:30 **Break**

10:45 **STEP THREE & FOUR: Behavior Analysis and Creating Intervention Strategies : Establishing Assessment and Early Warning Systems in Schools**

Adolescents are excellent observers but poor interpreters. Violence in music, television and video games can promote unhealthy behavior while preventing children from human interaction to acquire the social skills necessary to emotionally develop. Learn how to identify unhealthy behavior and promote curriculums that teach social skills, tolerance and peaceful alternatives to conflict resolution.

- Address Violent and Unhealthy Behavior
- Identify and Eliminate Risk Factors
- Early Detection, Early Response
- Increase Awareness Among Students and Faculty
- Provide At-Risk Youth with the Necessary Resources
- Implement Proven Strategies

Lynn Linde, *Branch Chief of Student Services and Alternative Programs, Maryland's School and Community Outreach Office*

12:00 **Networking Luncheon**

1:15 **STEP FIVE: Creating Violence Response Strategies and Crisis Protocols**

- Best Practices and Lessons Learned
- Risk Assessment
- Professional Development
- Establishing a Task Force
- Implementation of Hardware and Non-Hardware Measures

Ronald Stephens, *Executive Director of National School Safety Center*

2:15 **STEP SIX: School Partnerships and Cooperative Communities: Promoting School Health Together**

- Comprehensive, Integrated Community-Wide Strategies
- Coordinate Violence Prevention Efforts
- Develop Partnerships to Maximize Effectiveness
- Enhance Skills Development and Academic Supports

Michael Lieberman, *Anti-Defamation League**

3:15 **Break**

3:30 **STEP SEVEN: Financing of Safe School Programs: Procuring and Managing Safe and Drug-Free School Grants**

- Examine Federal Funding Opportunities Available
- Manage Safe School Grants
- Explore Alternative Sources of Funding to Improve Services

Jane Hodgdon, *U.S. Department of Education**

4:30 **Adjourn**

Why The *No Child Left Behind Act* Will Make Schools Safer

ANTICIPATES the potential for violence in schools. Violence prevention programs must meet specified principles of effectiveness and be grounded in scientifically based research that provides evidence that programs will reduce violence and illegal drug use. States must report school safety statistics to the public on a school-by-school basis, and districts must use federal school-safety funding to establish a plan for keeping schools safe and drug free. These plans must include:

- appropriate and effective discipline policies
- security procedures
- prevention activities
- student codes of conduct
- a crisis management plan for responding to violent or traumatic incidents on school grounds

Day Two: Tuesday March 4, 2003

8:30 **Developing a Comprehensive Threat Assessment Plan for Schools and Communities**

This 3 hour session will provide strategies and recommendations on programs and procedures that create a climate of safety. Learn how to design and implement this comprehensive school safety plan, developed by Detective Sergeant Joseph Heinrich and Intervention Specialist, Charles "Chic" Williams, to respond in various scenarios.

Prevention: Creating a Culture of Safety

Scenario One

In almost every case of school violence the circle of friends surrounding the perpetrator(s) knew of their plans and intentions. Though fatal violence is quite rare in the classroom, bullying, harassment and acts of rage are commonplace.

HOW does a school open the lines of communication and trust between its students and faculty?

HOW can social skills development be integrated into the curriculum?

WHAT policies and programs can be developed to reduce bullying?

HOW must faculty respond to bullies?

Lesson Application:

- Assessment of Risks
- Brainstorm Reform
- Implement Changes

Review: Oversights and Enhanced Approaches

10:00 **Break**

Intervention: Targeted Best Practices

Scenario Two

Walking into Blair's cafeteria it is quite apparent that students of different backgrounds and ethnicities segregate themselves into their corresponding group and corresponding color. Though students do mix, overall they remain closely tied to their homogeneous click. This failure to genuinely mix has subsequently sparked tension and aggression between the various groups. Frequently, fights break out. Some students fear going to the bathroom and are constantly afraid of giving "the other" the wrong "look" while walking by in the hallway.

HOW does a school promote cultural competency?

WHAT are some effective measures that will mitigate increased religious tensions, especially directed toward Islamic and Arab-Americans?

WHAT role must faculty assume?

Lesson Application:

- Identify Issues
- Investigating Further
- Asking the Right Questions
- Intervention

Review: Oversights and Improvements

Emergency Response: Executing Plans

Scenario Three

It is 10:27 am, a cold Wednesday in March, and third period has yet to begin. Students are at their lockers, crowding the hallways and loitering in front of their next class already making next weekend's plans. Two gunshots pierce the loud voices into a desperate frenzy. Students run for cover in classrooms, and out exit doors. No one is quite sure where the shots came from but rumors quickly circulate. One person is said to be down and the perpetrator is looking for more.

Lesson Application:

- Identify Risks
- Initial Response
- Executing Predetermined Plan

Review: Oversights and Enhanced Approaches

Aftermath:

Scenario Four

It was before midnight when John Matthews, 16, took the keys to his father's Ford Explorer. For hours he cruised around his small town, calling friends on his cell phone to relay his final wishes: Share my CDs; tell my parents I love them; don't tell anyone what I'm about to do. Then, at 1:23 a.m., John aimed the sawed off shotgun at his head and pulled the trigger. This was the second suicide that school year. Students that knew John were ravaged with guilt. They knew of his intentions and never spoke up.

Lesson Application:

- Grief and Bereavement
- Mitigating Fear and Anxiety
- Faculty's Role

Review: Oversights and Improvements

Scenerio Consultants:

Charles "Chic" Williams, *Intervention Specialist for the City of Geneva, Illinois and former Dean of Students for the Geneva School District and* ***Joseph Heinrich,*** *Detective Sergeant, Geneva, Illinois*

11: 30 **Luncheon**

1:00 **Developing a Comprehensive Plan to Enhance School Discipline**

This 2 1/2 hour session will focus on how to design a strategic plan using a model provided by the Safe and Responsive Schools Project. This model demonstration and technical assistance project, funded by the U.S. Department of Education, is dedicated to enabling schools and school districts to develop a broader perspective on school safety and violencen prevention, stressing comprehensive planning, prevention, and parent/community involvement.

Dr. Russell Skiba, *Associate Professor and the Director of the Indiana University Institute for Child Study, Indiana University*

**Denotes Invited Speaker*

Key Reasons to Attend

1 Crisis Prevention Mandates

- Learn compliance for crisis prevention and intervention guidelines
- Schools deemed as dangerous for two years in a row allows students to opt out and enroll in a neighboring safe public school

2 New Comprehensive Strategies

- FBI, Secret Service, and Department of Justice reports on School Violence Prevention call for comprehensive approaches to devising prevention and response plans
- Collaborate with law enforcement and key community stakeholders to provide safe learning environments

3 Replicate Effective Response Programs

- Access best practices in violence prevention as implemented at the Cypress-Fairbanks School District in Texas

4 Create a School Culture of Safety

- Open lines of communication between faculty and students
- Reach out to students who are isolated and distant
- Encourage parental involvement during school hours

5 Know Your Funding Options

- Win formula grants allocated through *The No Child Left Behind Act*
- Learn the requirements, provisions and limitations for formula grants

6 Identify Unhealthy Behavior

- Learn how to identify the gradual behavioral process towards violence through behavioral analysis

7 Eliminate Roadblocks to Learning

- Students cannot effectively learn in an environment of fear and anxiety
- Faculty must focus on the social and emotional needs of students

8 Increase Your Awareness

- In almost every case of school violence, peers knew of the intentions and plans of the perpetrators
- Maintain open lines of communication between faculty and students to curtail violence

Free Subscription to Institute Research:

The Performance Institute serves as the nation's leading repository of thoroughly researched, documented, catalogued and peer-reviewed "best practices" in a multitude of issue areas. Each month, the Institute publishes its research through a variety of e-mail publications. For more information on Institute programs and services, visit us online at www.PerformanceWeb.org.

Hotel Information:

The Seven Steps and Scenarios to Safer Schools conference will be held at the Performance Institute in Arlington, VA, just minutes from the nation's capitol.
From its celebrated symbols of patriotism to its undiscovered neighborhoods, the sites and sounds of the nation's capitol inspire millions of visitors every year. Packed with famous sights, free attractions, and an endless calendar of special events, Washington, D.C. offers year-round inspiring experiences.

For a better traveling experience, a limited number of rooms have been reserved at the Hilton Garden Inn in lovely Arlington, VA, at a discounted rate of $148. To make reservations directly, call 703-528-4444 and remember to ask for the Performance Institute conference rate.

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Tuition Rates:

The registration fee for *Seven Steps and Scenarios to Safer Schools* is as follows:
Conference: $995

Group discounts are available.
Contact James Simpson, Simpson@PerformanceWeb.org or 703-894-0481, at the Performance Institute regarding group rates to *Seven Steps and Scenarios to Safer Schools*.

*Administrative Note: A 10% cancellation fee on registration will be charged for cancellations received less than three weeks from the date of the conference. As speakers are confirmed 6 months before the event, some speaker changes or topic changes may occur in the program. The Performance Institute is not responsible for speaker changes, but will work to ensure a comparable speaker is located to participate in the program.