

Building the Heart of Successful Schools

DECEMBER 6 & 7, 2007



**Kalahari
Resort/
Convention
Center**

**Wisconsin Dells,
Wisconsin**

*Wisconsin Department
of Public Instruction*

CO-SPONSORS:
Cooperative Educational Service Agencies
Wisconsin Student Assistance Association
Wisconsin Congress of Parents and Teachers

**Together
We
Are...**



This program sharing conference will provide educators with practical examples from Wisconsin schools that have embraced our shared responsibility and commitment to provide our students with the tools they need to build bright futures. The conference will feature useful ideas and practical models to achieve our goal of providing every child in Wisconsin the opportunity to a quality education.

CONFERENCE AUDIENCE:

*Teachers • Administrators • Pupil Services Professionals • AODA Coordinators • Health Professionals
Law Enforcement Officers • Prevention Professionals • Parents • School Board Members*

THE NEW WISCONSIN PROMISE

Greetings:

The New Wisconsin Promise is our commitment to ensure a quality education for every child. As educators, we need to learn about effective prevention and student services programming and initiatives. I am confident that this year's Building the Heart of Successful Schools Conference will be a great opportunity for you to learn about what works in Wisconsin's schools and communities. I hope you will take information back to your schools that will allow you to create and nurture effective programs and activities in your district.



I wish to extend a special invitation to you to attend our 2007 Building the Heart of Successful Schools Conference. Our department's Student Services/Prevention and Wellness staff look forward to seeing you in the Wisconsin Dells on December 6th and 7th. Together, at our conference, we can learn, reflect, and build our knowledge and skills to advance the learning and achievement of all students.

Elizabeth Burmaster

Elizabeth Burmaster
State Superintendent of Public Instruction

Thursday, December 6

SECTIONAL PRESENTATIONS

▶ 10:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

Engaging a Generation Against Big Tobacco

Luke Witkowski, FACT Movement; Patricia Belke, Juneau County Health Department; and Keri Schneider, American Lung Association

Get a behind the scenes, a down and dirty look at the Big Tobacco problem affecting Wisconsin youth. The power of youth is highly underrated! See and hear about the impact FACT's (Fighting Against Corporate Tobacco) peer-to-peer movement has had in Wisconsin, how T.A.T.U. (Teens Against Tobacco Use) teens are influencing younger children to live tobacco-free lifestyles and how the evaluation based N-O-T (Not On Tobacco) program has helped many Wisconsin teens quit smoking. Make a difference today, find out how you can help the youth you work with!
Audience: K-12

Building a Community of Respect Among Youth

April Burbach, Augusta School District

Are you looking for usable life skill activities that you can use with the youth you work with? Do you want your youth meetings or classrooms to be respectful and safe, and include core character education values? Attend this session and you will participate in icebreaker, team-building and life skills activities that you can use in a variety of situations. Other topics will include communication, how to set contracts or guidelines for behavior, and ways to build respect in your environment. These activities will help youth become good citizens with respect and values.
Audience: Middle and High Schools

Learning Outside of the Box: Inside of the Classroom

Jennifer Ehren, Denise Sather, Milwaukee Public Schools

Participants will experience an exploration of activities, games, and initiatives

NEW FOR 2007!

▶ Wednesday, December 6
9:20 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.

State Superintendent's School-Community Prevention Partner Awards

State Superintendent Burmaster will recognize the outstanding contributions of selected community and state organizations working with schools to support prevention, health, and safety, programs. Representatives of programs receiving awards will offer best practices, strategies to overcoming challenges, lessons learned, and the impacts of effective school-community partnerships for prevention.

that would provide the practitioner with valuable tools to use in the classroom to build community, enhance academic achievement, and enhance student's life skills. Participants will walk away with practical knowledge of the experiential education model and how to incorporate the theory into everyday practice. Be prepared for an active learning experience.
Audience: K-12

Engaging Students to Define Their Own Success Pathways: Classroom Activities that Promote Resilience Skills

V. Scott H. Solberg, Wisconsin Careers; Kathleen McDonald, West Allis School District; and Kathelyne Dye, Milwaukee Public Schools

Learn how to engage students in establishing their own academic success strategies. Educators will learn: how to create "ready-to-learn classrooms" by establishing stronger relationships between educators and students; relevance by helping students become aware of how school success prepares them for the world of work and post-secondary opportunities; and resilience skills associated with academic confidence (self-efficacy), stress and health management, and motivation. Emerging out of over 15 years of research and intervention programming, the presentation will describe the steps taken to establish "real" and authentic classroom conversations about key resilience skills that are linked to school and future success.
Audience: Middle and High Schools

Discipline Less and Enjoy it More: The Journey of Restorative Practices at a Wisconsin Middle School

Roberta M. Felker, and Patty Kexel, McFarland School District

Tired of disciplining more and enjoying it less? See what restorative practices (including circling and conferencing) can add to your school or classroom's climate and accountability. This presentation walks you through one school's journey, demonstrating how a point-based system can coexist peacefully and successfully with a restorative philosophy and practice. Participants will leave with inspiration, ideas, and resources to help them discipline less and enjoy it more!
Audience: K-12

Legal Concerns Involved in Investigations and Searches at School

Sheri Pollock, DPI

This session will summarize the law on what is and is not allowed in investigations at school. Topics will include drug testing, use of canines in searches and investigations, and interviewing suspects, victims and witnesses.

Thursday, December 6

► 1:00 – 2:15 p.m.

What You Never Dream— Creating a Film Project to Unite a Community and Reduce Under- age Drinking

Ron Holder, Kiel School District; Ron Haese, Lakeshore Technical College

A powerful and emotional award winning film project created by Kiel High School students and community members to address the dangers of alcohol abuse and underage drinking. The film depicts an extremely realistic portrayal of an all too common occurrence in many of our communities—an underage drinking party and the far-reaching, tragic aftermaths that can result. Learn how to produce a similar project and present it in a way that will have a huge impact on how your community views and deals with this problem—a comprehensive “how to” manual is provided. This project will definitely rally your community around the cause of reducing alcohol abuse and underage drinking.

Audience: Middle and High Schools

Great’s Anatomy: Find the “Great” in Your School, Seriously!

Carrier Siler, Wisconsin Rapids Public Schools; and Hilary Bilbrey, Inspired by Family

School should be a safe place...a comfortable place...a place where students feel empowered to make positive changes. We will give background on how Wisconsin Rapids Public School has made positive climate changes at individual schools in a very short period of time. Participants will be armed with purpose-driven, measurable ideas that will inspire the greatness in their schools. Participants will gain concrete strategies for improving and/or implementing their own character-building/leadership programs in their districts. Everyone will leave with an action plan enabling students and staff to feel more connected, empowered and fulfilled.

Audience: Middle and High Schools

Taking Steps to a Healthier School through Community Partnerships

Donald Groth, Cumberland School District; and Jeanette Olsen, RN, Healthier Cumberland Coalition

No educational tool is more important than good health! However, our nation’s leading health experts are alarmed by the growing rates of childhood obesity. This session will provide information on the obesity epidemic and what you can do in your school and community to improve the health of your students. Learn how to engage and energize your community to create a culture that supports student health both in and out of school.

Audience: K-12

Life Tune-Ups—A New and Ener- gizing Program for School Staff

Barbara J. Reisner, RRR Training & Publishing & Racine Student Assistance Program; and Linda Budlow, RRR Training & Publishing

The primary focus in schools is to address the needs of students. One of the best ways to help students is to maximize the potential of the school staff. LIFE Tune-Ups is a training program that focuses on energizing school staff! Everyone can gain from a ‘tune-up’ that results in initiating change and improving life satisfaction. What makes LIFE Tune-Ups unique is its interactive training approach and practical resources featuring a special maintenance manual for easy reference at school and home. LIFE Tune-Up resources are not only easy to follow, but they are also practical and easy to remember. The five LIFE Tune-Up topics are: Communication, Time Management, Relationships, Energy and Inner Peace. At the onset of training, participants will be asked the important question: What do you want? Staff members deserve the opportunity to take time out of their busy schedules to think about what they would like to change and how to sustain change. LIFE Tune-Ups has been developed by two former school counselors who have experienced first-hand the dedication and commitment it takes to stay positive, healthy, and energized.

Audience: K-12

Fostering a Social Conscience in Our Adolescents

Tom Kraus, Heather Szerbat, and Heather Metzler, Hortonville Area School District

“Only a life lived for others is a life worthwhile”—Albert Einstein. How do you develop an adolescent’s mind to be socially motivated? Or compassionate towards a fellow human being? These questions and more will be addressed in this session as we discuss, model, and engage you in activities to foster a social conscience in your school. This session will take a realistic look at the entertainment industry and the social effects it has upon our culture. We’ll explore social issues (poverty, drug/alcohol usage, mental illness, environmental concerns, etc.) and activities that students could delve into to facilitate an awareness and action towards addressing these topics.

We CAN Motivate Teens to Make a Change in Alcohol and Drug Usage!

Joan Lerman, Consultant for Madison Metropolitan School District

We CAN influence students to make a change in their alcohol and other drug usage. What we say and how we say it can make a huge difference. Learn how to implement a research-based practice into your school based on motivational interviewing strategies.

Audience: High School

► 2:45 – 4:00 p.m.

Wow—What a Ride—Letting Youth be the Driver

Debbie Fischer, Rock County Youth2Youth

Wow—What a Ride! Anyone that works with teens knows that the road can be bumpy but it also can be very exciting and your destination can be amazing, if you just let go and let them do the driving (with your assistance of course). Rock County Youth2Youth will share some of the strategies they have implemented to make a positive change in their communities and county. The reduction in substance abuse in Rock County and the empowerment that the teen peer-educators receive are the outcomes of letting go and letting them lead the way!

Audience: Middle and High Schools

Thursday, December 6

Youth Without Borders—A Middle School Diversity Club: Empowering students to make their school a safe and friendly place to learn

Diane W. Doersch, Neenah Joint School District

Youth Without Borders, Neenah's middle school diversity club, is helping to promote positive change in school. Student members are empowered to promote respect and dignity throughout the whole student body with a variety of activities that help connect students to their school and learning community. Attend this session to learn about Neenah's middle school diversity club—its inception, funding acquisition, club promotion, club activities, and student outcomes. Most importantly, witness testimonials will describe how Youth Without Borders has empowered the young people of our school to take action to make our schools a safe and friendly place to learn.

Audience: Middle School

Who's the Target? Action Steps to Reduce the Broad Impact of Anti-Gay Bullying and Slurs

Brian Juchems, Gay Straight Alliance for Safe Schools; and Bonnie Augusta, Madison Metropolitan School District

Any student can be the target of anti-gay bullying and slurs, regardless of their real or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity. Anti-gay discrimination reduces academic performance, leads to lower attendance rates, and diminishes aspirations for future success among targets. Learn which laws protect targets from this kind of discrimination. Identify and practice simple intervention strategies. Leave equipped with tools you can use both as an individual and a whole team to create safer learning environments. Leave ready to respond to common objections that arise when schools address lesbian, gay, bisexual, and trans gender issues. You can make a difference.

Audience: Middle and High Schools

Service Learning Curriculum Development with At-Risk Youth

Melanie Mendez, and Tami Trulock, St. Aemilian-Lakeside School

Service Learning can be creative and it can also be required. It is a mandatory and wonderful part of the curriculum at St. Aemilian-Lakeside Day Treatment and Residential School in Milwaukee, WI. The Arts/ Service Learning Specialist and School Principal will share the facets of their four-part "compass" program model including: inter-generational groups, court-mandated service projects, a weekly graded course, and annual public arts performances. Next, they will share the details of the curriculum, documentation procedures, grant sponsors, and student recognition. Lastly, you will love their DVD video as you hear, see, and feel the impact of at-risk youth service is with local, national, and international community partners.

Audience: K-12

It's Time! Teachers and Teens Addressing Youth Depression

Sue McKenzie, InHealth Wisconsin

It's Time! Teacher and Teens Addressing Youth Depression is a staff in-service and teen peer education program. The program assists teachers and peers in identifying potential problems, offering initial support and referring students to mental health teams. Academic evaluation, conducted through UW-Madison, has shown increased use of effective strategies in the classroom, with parents and peers. The real stories of youth help participants gain:

- Understanding of depression and related conditions in youth and the impact on their school experience.
- Skills to support students dealing with mental health issues and engage them in learning.
- Communication skills for conversations with students, parents and other school staff.
- A sense of the profound positive impact that their interactions have with struggling students.

Students with mental and emotional concerns often challenge teachers' ability to choose appropriate learning expectations and create environments conducive to

learning. Stigma held by staff, students, and the struggling youth can hinder the building of positive relationships. The staff in-service and peer education program focus on effective classroom strategies for staff and peer leadership in creating safe environments for all students in school settings. The positive outcomes of taking illness seriously and making accommodations to allow for a focus on healing are evident in the video stories.

Audience: Middle and High Schools

Friday, December 7

▶ *8:45 – 10:00 a.m.*

Delta-9 Marijuana Curriculum for Middle and High School Students

Carrie Kulinski, Janesville School District

Marijuana is currently becoming the drug of choice for many American teenagers. Students in the Janesville School District asked for more information on marijuana. The district delivered by writing the Delta-9 Marijuana Curriculum for Middle and High School Students. This copyrighted curriculum consists of eight lessons on marijuana including myths and facts on marijuana, how marijuana affects the brain, patterns of adolescent abuse and addiction, and drugged driving. This highly engaging and interactive curriculum has helped teens recognize myths and truths about the nature of marijuana use.

Audience: Middle and High Schools

Is Your School Ready for a Challenge? Bringing Challenge Day to your School

Vicki Bayer, Neenah Joint School District, and Jackie Schoening, CESA 6

Challenge Day is a one-day workshop where youth, teachers, parents, administrators, counselors, and members of the community experience for themselves that love and connection are indeed possible in our schools. As seen on The Teen Files and Oprah, learn how Neenah Joint School District, in partnership with CESA 6 ATOD, brought Challenge Day to their school, what steps you would need to take to bring the program to your community, and how Neenah is using this activity to build a community of acceptance and respect.

Audience: High School

Friday, December 7

► 8:45 – 10:00 a.m.

Strategies that Build Rapport, Connections, and Motivate Students to Stay in School

Nancy Bloackwell, M.Ed., Longevity of Success, Colorado Springs, Colorado

Eighty-two percent of teachers' messages are nonverbal, especially when managing the classroom. Learn to positively influence the student relationship with practical application and practice. Become aware of the difference between the influence of power vs. the power of influence. Also, receive strategies such as music, paired shares, modeling, and discussions. Learn how to have more time to do what you entered the profession to do—teach!

Building Relationships with a K-9 Companion

Andrew Place, Marshfield School District

Classroom/therapy dogs are trained to assist special educators, teachers, and therapists who work with physically, mentally, or emotionally disabled children. They are integrated into the current educational curriculum as motivators and serve as an additional innovative teaching tool for the children.

Individuals that attend this session will fully understand the educational/social value of having a therapy dog in their classrooms. Through open discussions and the sharing of case studies, individuals will have concrete evidence that therapy dogs in the classroom are truly an effective way to reach hard to reach students.

Audience: K-12

Freshmen Survival: An Opportunity for a Successful Transition to High School

Janene Beck-Hafer, Mike Blood, Lila Gallenberg, Antigo Unified School District

In an effort to ease the transition for students between middle school and high school, the Antigo School District developed a summer school program for incoming freshmen students to assist with the academic, social, emotional, and en-

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

► Friday, December 7
10:30 a.m. – 11:45 p.m.

Building Blocks for Positive, Caring, and Healthy School Environments

Michael McGowan, President of Michael McGowan and Associates, Inc.



For the past 15 years, the State of Wisconsin, in partnership with the National Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), has promoted a framework for coordinated school health programs for our collective work in prevention, health education, and youth development. At its core is the creation or continuation of a healthy school environment and a positive peer culture. This keynote will address the elements of healthy school environments such as trust, empowerment, humor, and empathy. Mr. McGowan, who has worked extensively with Wisconsin schools and communities, will provide examples of how these components can be used to create the kind of school environment that is healthy and successful. He will describe the strategies to promote these components. You are sure to find his approach and delivery educational, humorous, thought-provoking, but above all inspiring.

vironmental demands of the high school setting. This program provides regular education, at-risk, and special education students with the information and activities that build character and confidence in teens to ensure success as they continue their journey through secondary education.

Audience: High School

What Are They Thinking? Teen Thoughts on the Effectiveness of Sex Education and Strategies to Help Them Avoid Risky Sexual Behavior

Tami Schlickman and Sue McKenzie, Impact Strategies

Listen to our youth! Through this presentation, you will discover what youth around the state have to tell us about the messages they receive from adults, the effectiveness of the messages, the topic areas, which specific messages have the greatest positive impact on youth, what methods or strategies are effective, and who should deliver these messages. Also hear from the youth themselves how the relationship and communication with an adult in their life helped them avoid risky behaviors. Discuss with your peers the impact of this information on current practices in schools and communities.

Audience: Middle and High Schools

Using a Peer Approach to Help Rid Your School of Bullying and Harassment

Michael McGowan, President of Michael McGowan and Associates, Inc.

Many schools in our state employ student led prevention and youth development strategies that included peer education, peer leadership, peer mediation, peer support, peer mentoring, and peer tutoring. This workshop will explore specific strategies in using peers to help create a bully-free environment. Using case studies from Wisconsin schools. Mr. McGowan has worked with, he will explore the challenges they faced, the specific models they employed, and the successes they enjoyed as a result of training and employing peers as agents for change or in establishing a positive, caring, and nurturing environment. Don't miss this important presentation.

Audience: K-12

REGISTRATION INFORMATION & WEBSITE:

Register on-line at dpi.wi.gov/sspw/bldhrtcon.html. You may pay by credit card or check. It's fast and accurate!

The conference fee is \$125/person if registered by November 16, 2007. Registrations after November 16, will be charged \$165/person. The registration fee covers conference materials, breaks, two breakfasts, and one lunch.

There will be no refunds after November 16, but substitutes will be welcome. Prior notification is appreciated.

LOCATION AND ACCOMMODATIONS:

Kalahari Resort/Convention Center
1305 Kalahari Drive, Wisconsin Dells, WI 53965
Phone: 1-877-253-5466 Website: www.kalahariresort.com

A block of lodging rooms has been reserved for attendees of the Conference until Monday, November 5, 2007. To receive special conference rates, you must mention "DPI Building the Heart of Successful Schools." Conference rates are \$99/night/single. Government rates of \$62/night/single are available, but you must be prepared to show proof of employment. To reserve your room, call 1-877-253-5466.

DPI Contact Information

Linda Carey
Phone: (608) 267-9354
E-mail: linda.carey@dpi.state.wi.us

Exhibits

Explore prevention program resources at an exposition that will be staged during the conference from 8:00 a.m. Thursday to noon Friday.

Conference Events:

TOD Coordinator Track

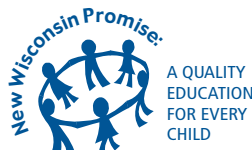
Networking Reception and Poster Session

State Superintendent's Advisory Council Open
Forum and Breakfast Meeting

The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, creed, age, national origin, ancestry, pregnancy, marital status or parental status, sexual orientation, or disability.



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Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

Agenda

BUILDING THE HEART OF SUCCESSFUL SCHOOLS

Day 1 - Thursday – December 6, 2007

8:00–9:00 a.m.	Registration/Continental Breakfast
9:00–9:20 a.m.	Welcome
9:20–10:15 a.m.	State Superintendent’s School-Community Prevention Partner Awards
10:15–10:30 a.m.	Transition to Sectionals
10:30–11:45 a.m.	Sectionals
11:45–12:45 p.m.	Lunch
12:45 –1:00 p.m.	Transition to Sectionals
1:00–2:15 p.m.	Sectionals
2:15–2:45 p.m.	Break/Network
2:45–4:00 p.m.	Sectionals
4:00–5:15 p.m.	Evening Networking Reception and Poster Session
6:00–7:30 p.m.	State Superintendent’s ATODA Advisory Council Dinner

Day 2 - Friday, December 7, 2007

7:00–8:30 a.m.	Breakfast
7:30-8:30 a.m.	State Superintendent’s Advisory Council Open Forum and Breakfast Meeting
8:30–8:45 a.m.	Transition to Sectionals
8:45–10:00 a.m.	Sectionals
10:00–10:30 a.m.	Breakout/Network/Hotel Check Out
10:30–11:45 a.m.	Building Blocks for Positive, Caring, and Healthy School Environments <i>Michael McGowan, McGowan and Associates</i>
11:45–Noon	Announcements/Closure