

Michigan Department of Education Safe and Supportive Schools Grant Conference: Create the Change II

May 3-4, 2012

Kensington Court
Ann Arbor, MI

AGENDA Thursday, May 3, 2012

8:00 a.m.

Registration and Continental Breakfast

FOYER

8:30 a.m.

Welcome, Agenda Overview & Journal Tool

All sessions on May 3 will be held in the Grande Ballroom.

Emcee: Barb Flis, BIS

Founder, Parent Action for Healthy Kids
Farmington Hills, MI

Staff Introductions and Opening Remarks

Kyle Guerrant, Director of School Support, Coordinated School Health & Safety Programs, Michigan Department of Education, Lansing, MI

8:50 a.m.

S3 Logo/Branding Launch

Michael Sundermann, BFA, Creative Director, Ciesa Design, Lansing, MI
Chris Grindem, MBA, Executive Director, The Utmost Group, Holt, MI

9:15 a.m.

Systems Thinking, Systems Changing Simulation

Jessica Lawrence, Health Teacher, Regional Vice President, Community and Learning Solutions

Jamie Sparks, Coordinated School Health Project Director, Kentucky Department of Education, Frankfort, KY

Systems Thinking/Systems Changing (TM) is used by teams in workshop settings to experience what it takes to make effective systemic change in schools. It teaches educators, school boards and councils, leadership teams, school administrators, educational consultants and reformers about the structures and strategies that schools need to be continuously improving learning organizations that are the best they can be.

In an intense three-part team session, participants will be confronted with realistic decisions and experiences, be compelled to consider new ways of looking at their goals and their work, be challenged to review what they consider legitimate indicators of success, try proven methods for making system-wide changes, distill their experience into action-oriented learning and have fun! This activity allows colleagues to participate in a simulated activity that builds team building and stronger communication.

10:30 a.m.

Break

10:45 a.m.

Systems Thinking, Systems Changing Simulation, Continued

12:15 p.m.

Lunch

BUFFET IN FOYER

1:00 p.m.

Systems Thinking, Systems Changing Simulation, Closing

2:00 p.m.

Processing Time

2:30 p.m.

Break and Prize Drawing



3:00 p.m.

Bridging from Systems Thinking to Systems Improvement

Beth Steenwyk, Systems Design and Implementation Consultant,
Michigan Department of Education, Stanwood, MI

This 90-minute session is intended to provide teams a guided bridging activity to extend learning around “Systems Thinking” to enable the school team to:

1. Identify potential gaps and challenges and articulate potential data sources to verify those gaps;
2. Clearly articulate the areas in need of improvement;
3. Be able to match the critical features of a programmatic intervention with identified needs;
4. Make an informed choice of the programmatic intervention they will implement; and

5. Use this compiled information related to programmatic interventions to complete the application for funds for the 2012-13 school year.

The above expectations fulfill a necessary requirement for effective implementation practices. These foundational activities insure building teams are grounded in the necessary steps toward improvement and fidelity of implementation of effective practices based on an identified need.

4:30 p.m.

Coach and Team Reception

FOYER

Room locations for meetings with coaches will be announced.

AGENDA Friday, May 4, 2012

8:00 a.m.

Continental Breakfast

FOYER

8:30 a.m.

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Morning sessions will take place in the Grande Ballroom.

8:45 a.m.

Process Time and Q & A

Barb Flis, BIS

Founder, Parent Action for Healthy Kids, Farmington Hills, MI

9:15 a.m.

Gayrilla Theater: LGBTQ Visibility, a project of Neutral Zone’s Riot Youth Program

Riot Youth is a youth-led, safe space for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered, queer, questioning youth and their allies (LGBTQQA) at the Neutral Zone, Ann Arbor’s youth-driven teen center. Through leadership skill building, community organizing, networking, support and socializing, Riot Youth connects youth to build an inclusive community. Riot Youth is working to create change in the schools 1) policy changes; 2) trainings of administrators, teachers and counselors on creating a safe and respectful climate; and 3) youth ally trainings. We have done this through: 1) a climate survey; 2) theater (personal stories and statistics from the survey) with discussions; 3) participation in school board and other meetings with decision makers on how to create effective climate change to stop the bullying and harassment; and 4) hosting a GSA coalition.

10:15 a.m.

**Break and Prize Drawing
Hotel Check Out**

10:30 a.m.

Breakout room locations will be announced.

Breakouts: Effective Practices Round Up

Session #1: Michigan Model for Health

Mary Teachout, MA, Coordinated School Health Education Consultant, Michigan, Department of Education, Lansing, MI

Mary Beno, MS, Regional School Health Coordinator, Livingston Educational Service Agency, Howell, MI

The Michigan Model for Health® is a comprehensive and sequential K-12 health education curriculum that aims to give school-aged children (ages 5-19 years) the knowledge and skills needed to practice and maintain healthy behaviors and lifestyles. It provides age-appropriate lessons addressing the most serious health challenges facing school-aged children, including social and emotional health; nutrition and physical activity; alcohol, tobacco and other drugs; personal health and wellness; safety; and HIV. This workshop will show participants where the curriculum fits in the coordinated school health model and how it can help support their activities to provide safe schools for their students, families and staff with hands-on activities from the curriculum.

Session #2: Safe Schools for Sexual Minority Youth

Lara Slee, S3 Regional Coach, Michigan Department of Education, Lansing, MI

Amorie Robinson, PhD, LCP, SMY Trainer, Michigan Department of Education, Lansing, MI

Research consistently finds sexual minority youth (i.e., gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, or questioning) to be at higher risk of homelessness, alcohol and substance abuse, harassment, assaults, suicide, school failure/dropout, and truancy. The MDE has developed a resource guide and day-long training to help schools understand, assess, and improve school climate for all students, including sexual minority youth. In this workshop, you will learn about how S3 schools can

benefit from these trainings and make incremental changes in policies, programs, and practices. Students will speak about how these changes can make real differences in the lives of sexual minority youth as well as the entire student body.

Session #3: Bully Free Schools

Nancy Buyle, MA, LLPC, NBCC, SW

Macomb Intermediate School District's Safe Schools/Student Assistance Specialist

Effective bullying prevention requires a systems approach that impacts the climate and culture of a school as a whole. This session will examine an effective comprehensive, systems approach which includes: a positive school climate, clear limits and consequences, effective social and coping skills, and parent and community partnerships.

Session #4: Restorative Justice

Bob Higgins, MA, ICPS, CPC-R, S3 Program Director, Coordinated School Health & Safety Programs, Michigan Department of Education, Lansing, MI

Cliff Barry, Restorative Justice Practitioner

Dale Anderson, Restorative Justice Practitioner

Restorative Justice is a philosophy that defines accountability as "repairing the harm," instead of simply "taking the punishment." When misbehavior or conflict occurs, a facilitator may offer to prepare and conduct a Restorative Justice Conference or a Restorative Practices Circle. This workshop will take participants through the steps to initiate and implement such Restorative Practices.

11:30 a.m.

Team Processing Time

GRANDE BALLROOM

12:15 p.m.

Lunch Buffet in Foyer

1:00 p.m.

Breakout room locations will be announced.

Breakouts: Systems of Support for Effective Practices

Session #A: What Evaluation Can Do for You

James O'Neil, PhD, Associate Vice-President for Reaccreditation, Madonna University, Livonia, MI

Learn how to use data from your first year of the S3 project to identify progress and challenges, promote successes to the school and community, and plan for next year. The session will include interactive case examples from participating S3 schools.

Session #B: Public/Media Relations/S3 Messaging

Emily Gerkin Palsrok, Managing Director, Lambert & Edwards Associates, Lansing, MI

Lisa Gill, Senior Associate, Lambert, Edwards & Associates Lansing, MI

Lambert, Edwards & Associates (LE&A) and Ciesa Design will host a session that combines information on the messaging aspects of the Safe & Supportive Schools Grant with additional information regarding the new Safe & Supportive Schools branding campaign. Hey, we might be biased, but collectively we know that an effective communications campaign can help each school be more successful with the grant project. Many individuals have had the chance to meet with LE&A and Ciesa, separately or together. This session will provide further information on messaging and branding progress and what the next steps for the coming six months will include.

Session C: Essential Elements for Parent Engagement

Barb Flis, Founder, Parent Action for Healthy Kids Farmington Hills, MI

In this session, we will examine the needs that your school currently has that authentic parent engagement can impact; what schools must absolutely do to address the need; and how your school will look when the need is met.

Session D: A Framework for Effective Implementation of Improvement Activities

Beth Steenwyk, Systems Design and Implementation Consultant, Michigan Department of Education, Stanwood, MI

Over the past decade the science related to developing and identifying evidence-based programs and practices for children and families has improved significantly. However, the science related to implementing these programs with high fidelity in real-world settings has lagged far behind. This session will introduce some critical concepts related to a framework for supporting effective implementation practices & 15 reasons educational initiatives fail. The content of this session is an introduction to a 4 part module entitled "Going the Distance: Developing Capacity to Effectively Implement Educational Practices".

2:00 p.m.

Team Processing Time

GRANDE BALLROOM

2:30 p.m.

Closing Remarks and Prize Drawing

GRANDE BALLROOM

Bob Higgins, MA, ICPS, CPC-R, S3 Program Director, Coordinated School Health & Safety Programs, Michigan Department of Education, Lansing, MI

2:45 p.m.

Adjourn