



January 2010

ANW Special Education Cooperative

The 5 D's of Stopping School Violence

DENIAL: This is the first problem. Many schools and school leaders are in complete denial, thinking that this could never happen in their schools and/or community. The administrators will first need to pull their heads out of the sand!

DETER: The next step is to work hard at deterring a violent act of terror. Most juvenile mass murderers are looking for a soft target. A soft target is a school with no school resource officer, and no police presence. It is highly suggested that every school have an armed school resource officer stationed at the school. It is also very important that the police presence is highly active during the morning hours, the most probable time for a school shooting. It is a good idea to have a police car parked at the front of the school, locked school doors, alarms, cameras, and metal detectors when possible.

DETECT: Once we have moved past the Denial and Deter stage, the next step is to become very good at detecting these mass murderers before they strike. The faculty, school staff, and the administration should be taught what warning signs they should be looking for. One can also educate the students to the warning signs as well. The school should enact a no joking policy, similar to the airport. Jokes about having a bomb at the airport will lead to an arrest. Jokes about killing a teacher or a student at school should result in the same punishment. Also, anonymous ways for students to report threats, drug activity, abuse, or weapons should be provided. Lastly, it is suggested that a full assembly be held with the SWAT Team and K-9 officers, laying down the ground rules for the school year. Discussions should occur concerning threats, bullying, and other issues that need to be covered.

DELAY: The school setting should be set up with the safety of the students in mind in order to delay an active shooter until police can respond. This would include locked classroom doors, wire mesh glass, and code words that can be used over the intercom system. The administration should schedule drills so the students can get familiar with the active shooter plan.

DEFEAT: Personnel need to move quickly into the school and stop the offender quickly, with deadly force if necessary. Many of these mass murderers will use long guns and might have more firepower than the authorities. Many of them will also want to die, so aggression should be the plan in order to eliminate the threat quickly.

*Information provided by Phil Chalmers from the booklet titled "Inside the Mind of a Teen Killer".

W-2's Go Out This Month

Please make sure Sabrina has your current mailing address. If you have recently changed the name on your social security card and not sent a copy of the new card to the Central Office, please call Sabrina and notify her of the change.

2010 W-4's

If you need to change your payroll tax withholding for the 2010 tax year, please print a W-4 from the ANW Coop website or call Sabrina to have one sent to you. You may also call Sabrina to discuss how much your payroll taxes may increase or decrease by changing your withholdings.

IRS Withholding Tax Calculator

The IRS has a Withholding Tax Calculator available on their website

Purpose of the Withholding Tax Calculator: The purpose of this application is to help employees to ensure that they do not have too much or too little income tax withheld from their pay. It is not a replacement for Form W-4, but most people will find it more accurate and easier to use than the worksheets that accompany Form W-4. You may use the results of this program to help you complete a new Form W-4, which you will submit to your employer.

Tips For Using This Program

- Have your most recent pay stubs handy.
- Have your most recent income tax return handy.
- Fill in all information that applies to your situation.
- Estimate values if necessary, remembering that the results can only be as accurate as the input you provide.

Please go to www.irs.gov and click on Withholding Tax Calculator for more information.

State Assessments

The USDOE, United States Department of Education, have finished a review of Kansas Testing Practices and a few changes have been made from this review. Accommodations underwent some changes and test ethics are being emphasized.

Here are a few things to remember:

1. Local personnel will sign an agreement to abide by state testing practices.
2. Once testing in a subject has begun, no reviews, teaching or practicing of tested indicators may be conducted.
3. Do not coach or cue students in any way during test administration. This includes gestures and facial expressions.
4. Teacher/Staff may not say nor do anything that would let a student know whether an answer is correct.
5. Teachers/Staff may not ask students how they got an answer.
6. Teachers/Staff may not tell students to redo or review any part of the test.

Healthy Relationships

By Jane Stueve, Adolescent and School Health Consultant

In parents' conversations with adolescents, the topics of sex, pregnancy, tobacco, alcohol, and drugs are covered most of the time. There is one subject that is overlooked when conveying information to adolescents: a healthy relationship. This subject is of utmost importance because it will build a foundation for current relationships and for how they form relationships as adults.

The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy has developed a set of suggestions that they think might be important to cover in conversations with adolescents. Some of the points they make include:

- Parents influence their adolescents' decisions about dating and relationships.
- Actions speak louder than words— demonstrate respectful relationships.
- Encourage high school and higher education as goals because these teens have higher expectations and are more successful.
- Remind teens they are in charge of their life. Teach them friends first, dating, and relationships later.
- Do not dismiss teens' feelings, listen and help them to make responsible decisions. Don't lecture; listen and have conversations with the teen.
- Is the person the teen is dating respectful of others independence and not trying to control them? Teach the teen how to recognize dominating relationships and how to avoid them.
- Caution teens about dating older partners.
- Teach the teen that if sex is the price of the relationship, find someone else.
- If a teen is sexually involved, teach physical consequences (pregnancy and STDs) and emotional consequences.

Experts in the area of sexuality recommend parents or trusted individuals address teen questions and concerns with respect and sensitivity. Over time, the teen will become comfortable and consider the parent or trusted individual as a resource of reliable information and know that the teen's best interest is part of any advice they impact.

For more information on healthy relationships, go to:

www.thenationalcampaign.org/parents/relationships.aspx.

ANW Gifted Categorical Group Meeting

Sharon Clelland and chairperson Jean Johns shared findings from their journey to St. Louis where they attended the convention of the National Association for Gifted Children. Marcia Longberg, Angela Sauerwein, and David Jerdee traveled to the Kansas Gifted, Talented, and Creative conference and summarized what they learned for the group.

The group contemplated the fine points of successful IEP meetings, including what to do in preparation for the meetings, during the meetings, and after the meetings. The group also spoke about the progress of the local website that they have been working on. Another point of focus was the concept of student portfolios. The group discussed portfolios in depth and made considerable progress with the idea.

Teen Licensing Laws

By Jane Stueve, Adolescent and School Health Consultant

Changes to the teen licensing laws will be implemented by the Department of Revenue and by law enforcement across the state on January 1, 2010. The Kansas Traffic Resource Office and the Kansas Department of Transportation asks for assistance in bringing this message to teens and parent of teens across the state.

For more information on the changes in the drivers licensing laws for teens go to www.ktsro.org/index.cfm?Page=Teen.





JANUARY



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The habits we form from childhood make no small difference, but rather they make all the difference.

- Aristotle

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12 Sup. Meeting @ 9:30	13 Adv. Mtg. @ 8:30 / EA Mtg. from 4:30-5:30 / Board Mtg. @ 6:30	14 Mentor training @ 1:00	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22 Psych/Social Worker Cat. Mtg. @ 1:00	23
24	25	26 Autism Team Mtg. @ 3:30	27 New Para sign up @ 9:30	28	29 Gifted Cat. Mtg. @ 1:00	30



Mary Woldum lives in Cherryvale, KS. She teaches at Erie High School and has been teaching for 4 years. Mary graduated from City University in Bellevue, WA.

Welcome to ANW Mary!



Matt Loomis is a new teacher at Royster Middle School. He is a Pittsburg State graduate and is married.

Welcome to ANW Matt!

New Teachers