

MISSOURI SAFE SCHOOLS

Newsletter of the Missouri Center for Safe Schools
2004

May

FROM THE DIRECTOR . . .

Think safety during the summer! Across Missouri children, educators and parents are looking forward to summertime activities including vacation trips, swimming, biking riding and walks to the park. However, the medical field knows the summer season as “trauma season”. The National SAFE KIDS Campaign reports, each year nearly 3 million children are taken to emergency rooms for injuries from motor vehicle crashes, drowning, bike crashes, pedestrian incidents, falls and other hazards. More than 2,500 of these children will die.

There is no vacation from safety. The factors causing the peak of tragedies in the summer are less supervision of children, lack of proper protective gear, increase in outdoor activities and more free time. For more ideas on summer time safety, <http://safekids.org>.

As the school year winds down, I wish each of you a safe and successful graduation and closing of the school year. May you have a relaxing summer. Keep up the good work!

Glenn Berry

CHARGES FOR CENTER SERVICES DURING SCHOOL YEAR 2004-2005

The Missouri Center for Safe Schools

continues to provide school districts with a wide array of services to help improve safety. Some of our services will have a small charge to offset expenses. Following are the services and associated charges:

- Student training (i.e. peer mediation, etc.) \$30 per hour
 - Staff inservices \$50 per hour
 - District safety reviews:
 - 3 or fewer buildings—\$100
 - 4 to 8 buildings—\$200
 - 9 to 15 buildings—\$300
 - 16 or more buildings—\$400
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FROM SUSAN . . .

In February of 2004, Deb Sutton of the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education sent a letter to Safe Schools and Pilot School Grant recipients. In the letter, she stated that the Governor’s budget request called for continued funding of the Safe Schools Education Program. Despite the uncertainty of the appropriation holding throughout the session, the Department continued the practice of receiving continuation grants for FY05. While no one can predict what withholdings might occur, the good news is that the appropriation did hold through the session. The Department is aware that sustained funding is critical to sustain quality programs. Because of

continued budget uncertainties, first-year programs are not being offered for the next funding cycle.

In the February letter, Ms. Sutton announced that “the Department will continue to offer continuations grants (to quality programs) beyond the original three-year sunset. For FY05, districts may apply for a Fourth-year Continuation Grant.” 67 Districts and 18 Pilot Safe School programs submitted continuation applications for FY05. The Department is in the process of negotiating those applications for funding to begin July 1, 2004.

Certainly the Safe Schools program has assisted many districts in establishing intervention and prevention programs. The Department hopes to be able to fund continuation grants at their current level of support. In addition, the match requirement has been reduced to 10% of the approved state amount. In subsequent newsletters we will try to profile some of the successful programs that have benefited from the Safe Schools Program.

Susan Cole, Coordinator
State Programs
DESE

INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT

Do you have an integrated pest management (IPM) program at your school? Are pest management procedures in place that reduce the dependence on costly and dangerous pesticides? EPA publication 735-F-93-012, August 1993, *Pest Control in the School Environment: Adopting Integrated Pest Management*, provides information

about what you should be doing to manage pests while safeguarding the environment at school. The goal is to reduce the usage of pesticides while effectively managing pests. Schools with integrated pest management programs could answer in the affirmative for each of these questions:

- a. Is there an assessment of the pest problem (using traps, baits, etc.) in order to decide upon a specific treatment?
- b. Are openings in external walls, around doors and windows sealed as part of pest exclusion practices?
- c. Is it procedure to always bag food waste before loading in the dumpster?
- d. Is the dumpster located as far as appropriate from an entrance to the school?
- e. Are vacuum cleaners equipped with HEPA (High Efficiency Particulate Air) filters, capable of capturing 99.97% of airborne particles 0.3 microns and larger?
- f. Is there a pre and post treatment notification to all building occupants and parents for pesticide applications?
- g. Does the school keep a written record of pesticide applications?
- h. Is a list of pesticide sensitive students and staff maintained?

The Missouri Center for Safe Schools is collaborating with Judy Grundler, Integrated Pest Management Program Administrator, Missouri Department of Agriculture, 573-526-0837, to introduce IPM to Missouri schools. We would like to know about your IPM programs. If you have what you would consider an IPM program, please send information about your program to the Missouri Center for Safe Schools at thompsonrs@umkc.edu, or fax (816) 235-5270, or postage UMKC School of

Education, Suite 024, 5100 Rockhill Road,
Kansas City, MO 64110-2499.

In the future we will be passing along information about IPM training opportunities throughout Missouri.

SCIENCE LAB SAFETY

On June 25th the science lab safety committee formulated by the Missouri Center for Safe Schools will be meeting in Kansas City to review the cost estimate being developed for the lab clean-up project we initiated 7 months ago. We will then be arranging to present the proposal to potential funding sources. As stated at the outset of this project there is no certainty funding will be provided. Committee members represent: DESE, Department of Natural Resources, Department of Health and Senior Services, State Fire Marshall, Missouri Center for Safe Schools, Regional Professional Development Centers, universities, school districts, parochial schools, Science Teachers of Missouri, KCMO Household Hazardous Waste, and HAZMAT industry.

We received applications from 92 school districts (105 public schools), 1 charter school, and 1 parochial school by the December 20 deadline. We met with the project committee on January 8, 2004 to review the applications. We then began consolidating the applications onto one spreadsheet. When the committee next met on February 13, the spreadsheet development was still incomplete. Calls were being made to schools to clarify data. We eventually completed that consolidation on March 3 and had 2,424 different item descriptions listed. The spreadsheet was

turned over to the HAZMAT professionals from KCMO Household Hazardous Waste for combining rows that represent the same item, determining items that should not be included in the collection, and adding Department of Transportation and other relevant coding.

Meanwhile, in March, representatives from Department of Natural Resources, a partner organization in this project, visited three rural schools that applied, and KCMO Household Hazardous Waste visited three urban schools. The purpose of the visit was to confirm the inventory. We learned that the inventories submitted should be considered “approximations” of what will actually be on hand when the clean-up is conducted.

We have added the development of a training program on science lab safety as a component of this effort. Each school cleaned up would also receive a CD-ROM developed by Dr. Jack Gerlovich, Drake University, in collaboration with the project committee. The CD-ROM and the associated training will include information that science teachers in Missouri need to have available to them regarding safety standards. The CD-ROM will also include inventory management tools (for producing labels, separating non-compatibles, conducting inventories, generating material safety data sheets, etc.). The cost of the CD-ROM and associated training will be included in our grant application. Schools/districts not included in the grant application will have the opportunity to buy the CD-ROM at \$70 per copy when completed.

We had hoped to meet on May 21 to review the refined spreadsheet, the

associated cost estimate for clean-up, and the CD-ROM. That meeting has now been delayed to June 25. We will provide another update regarding our progress in our August newsletter.

SAFETY COORDINATOR TRAINING

Regional Safety Coordinator trainings provided by the Missouri Center for Safe Schools are tentatively scheduled as follows for next school year:

Rolla RPDC—Nov 2
Southeast RPDC—Nov 3
St. Louis RPDC—Nov 4
(advanced training only at St. Louis)
Kirksville RPDC—Nov 5
Warrensburg RPDC—Nov 16
Maryville RPDC—Nov 17
SW Center for Ed. Excellence, Webb City
Dec 2
Kansas City RPDC—Dec 7
Columbia RPDC—Dec 8

Basic Safety Coordinated Training (3.5 hours) will be presented in the morning. Advanced Safety Coordinator Training (3 hours) will be presented in the afternoon.

All District Safety Coordinators are encouraged to complete the 3.5 hour basic course at least one time. The material is updated continuously and it may be beneficial to attend this course every other year. The material presented includes:

- Role of the Safety Coordinator
- The components of a comprehensive school safety program (*Safety Review Checklist*)
- Missouri Safe Schools Act
- Violence prevention and the *Missouri Violence Prevention Curriculum Framework*

The 3 hour advanced course addresses different topics from year to year. Some of the information addressed in the advanced course will be rolled into the basic course for subsequent years. Safety Coordinators should attend the advanced course each year. We begin the advanced course by updating you on changes to our Safety Review Checklist. The material presented as part of the advanced course during school year 2004-2005 is just now being identified. Your input is invited. Let us know what you would like to have addressed. We will let you know in our August newsletter what we decide on.

i-SAFE INITIATIVE

The Center for Safe Schools and the Regional Professional Centers are partnering with i-SAFE to train educators and law enforcement officials on how to present the Internet safety curriculum in the classroom. The i-SAFE curriculum integrates teaching and learning activities for grades K-12, which cover key topics such as the tools and techniques that online predators use to lure and seduce kids. The lessons combine age appropriate discussions on collaborative learning projects that can be utilized in classrooms with and without computer access.

At this time, the RPDC's are organizing i-SAFE training dates. Dates for the trainings will be posted in the August newsletter. The curriculum is FREE.

SCHOOL SAFETY SUMMIT

The Southwest Regional Professional Development Center, in collaboration with this center, is hosting a school safety summit on October 20, 2004, at the Clarion Hotel in Springfield.

Topics will include:
Classroom Safety
Extra Curricular Activity Security
Internet Safety
Media Relations During School Crisis
Meth Labs
MSIP Cycle Four
School Searches
Suicide Prevention

Registration will be online at
<http://education.smsu.edu/rpdc/>.

LIBERTY ADDS GPS TO THEIR SAFETY ARSENAL

The Liberty School District has outfitted all of its buses with global positioning satellite technology, making it something of a pioneer around the country. The district had looked at GPS several times, but it wasn't until Nextel presented the opportunity that Dr. Phil Wright, Assistant Superintendent for Business Operations and Liberty's Director of Safety, felt it was fiscally advantageous. Liberty's out of pocket costs are in the \$900 to \$1,000 a month range to use the technology. The state picks up roughly 60 percent of that as a reimbursable transportation equipment cost since it is used for direct bus communication.

With this technology, buses can be located instantly in case of an emergency. The buses can be tracked wherever they

travel, a significant improvement over the two-way radios that have a range of about 50 miles at best. Liberty students travel around the state to competitions and this technology allows the district officials to be in contact with the buses at all times.

The Nextel equipment can track the speed of buses, as well as their exact location within 15 feet. This allows officials to improve route planning by recording elapsed time for each leg of the route and for each stop along the route, while providing precise mileage computations.

For more information contact Dr. Wright at pwright@liberty.k12.mo.us or (816) 415-5300.

Dr. Russ Thompson, Associate Director of the Missouri Center for Safe Schools, is the newsletter editor. If you would like to submit an article for a future *Missouri Safe Schools Newsletter*, please send him your submission by e-mail to thompsonrs@umkc.edu or mail it to:

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Check out the web page for the Missouri Center for Safe Schools at <http://www.umkc.edu/safe-school> and call us at our offices in the School of Education, University of Missouri-Kansas City, (816) 235-5656.