



Safe Schools  
Healthy Students

# MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN COWLITZ COUNTY

*The Cowlitz County Partnership for Safe Schools and Healthy Students partners with families and the community to create safe, secure school environments. An effective network of prevention, intervention, and treatment resources ensures the healthy development and learning of all children.*

## Project Goals

1. Increase school safety
2. Decrease school violence
3. Reduce adolescent substance use
4. Change destructive adolescent behaviors
5. Increase mental health access
6. Increase school readiness

## Partners

Educational Service District 112

### Public School Districts

Castle Rock School District  
 Kalama School District  
 Kelso School District  
 Longview School District  
 Toutle Lake School District  
 Woodland School District

### Private School Districts

Kelso Christian Academy  
 Kelso-Longview Adventist School  
 Three Rivers Christian School  
 St. Rose Catholic School  
 Family House Academy

### Law Enforcement / County Agencies

Health and Human Services/Regional  
 Support Network Director  
 Juvenile Court Administrator  
 Cowlitz County Sheriff  
 Castle Rock Police Department  
 Kalama Police Department  
 Kelso Police Department  
 Longview Police Department  
 Woodland Police Department

## Together, we've already made a BIG difference in Cowlitz County

*(Source: 2006 and 2008 Healthy Youth Surveys, 2009 Brief Student Survey)*

- » **TODAY, fewer students are bullied.** Reduced bullying across grades 6, 8 and 10, including nearly one-quarter fewer 8th grade students (23%) who reported being bullied at school.
- » **TODAY, students feel safer.** The number of 8th and 10th grade students who reported feeling unsafe at school declined by over half as compared to previous years.
- » **TODAY, fewer students fight.** One third fewer 8th graders (32%) reported fighting at school across the three reporting periods.
- » **TODAY, fewer students use marijuana.** Fewer students in grades 8, 10 and 12 reported using marijuana including 22% fewer 8th graders and 24% fewer 12th graders. County-wide that's 114 fewer youth who used marijuana!
- » **TODAY, student alcohol use has declined.** Alcohol use declined considerably among 6th, 8th, 10th and 12th graders. In fact, the number of 8th graders reporting use fell by nearly half (44%), with 30% fewer 10th graders and 36% fewer 12th grade youth using alcohol. County-wide that's 399 fewer students who used alcohol!
- » **TODAY, more students have access to mental health services:** (From June 2008—April 2010):
  - \* 1,340 students referred to school-based services
  - \* 824 screened
  - \* 455 enrolled in school-based services
  - \* 275 referred to community-based services
- » **TODAY, more families have increased knowledge and skills to prepare their children for kindergarten.** Nearly all parents who participated in READY workshops agree they gained knowledge and skills to help them teach their child about shapes, sounds, math, and social skills.

## Would you like to get involved? You can!

1. Help us think creatively about how we can sustain the great work we've started.
2. Share the good news of our success!



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The Safe Schools/Healthy Students Initiative is a program of the US Department of Education, Department of Health and Human Services, and the U.S. Department of Justice