Oregon Center for School Safety

- Welcome and Introductions
- Review of Center Mission and Responsibilities
- Discuss
  - Clearinghouse functions
  - Report to the legislature
  - Funding for the Center
  - Suggestions for new board members
- Housekeeping
  - Next meeting
  - Other
Center Mission

• The mission of the center shall be to:
  – Serve as the central point for data analysis;
  – Conduct research;
  – Disseminate information about successful school safety programs, research results and new programs; and
  – Provide technical assistance for improving the safety of schools in collaboration with the Department of Education and others.

• To fulfill its mission, the Center for School Safety shall:
  – Establish a clearinghouse for information and materials concerning school violence prevention and intervention services.
Intervention Services

- Provide program development and implementation expertise and technical support to schools, law enforcement agencies and communities. The expertise and support may include coordinating training for administrators, teachers, students, parents and other community representatives.
  - Screening to identify students at risk for emotional disabilities or antisocial behavior;
  - Direct instruction in academic, social, problem-solving and conflict resolution skills;
  - Alternative education programs;
  - Psychological services;
  - Identification and assessment of abilities;
  - Counseling services;
  - Medical services;
  - Day treatment;
  - Family services; and
  - Work and community service programs.
Data Analysis and Reporting

- Analyze school safety data
- Research and evaluate school safety programs so schools and communities are better able to address their specific needs.
- Promote interagency efforts to address discipline and safety issues within communities throughout the state.
- Prepare and disseminate information regarding the best practices in creating safe and effective schools.
- Advise the State Board of Education on rules and policies
- Provide an annual report on the status of school safety in Oregon by July 1 of each year
Statewide Data Collection System

• Incidents of violence and assault against school employees and students on school property or at school functions;
• Incidents of possession of guns or other deadly weapons on school property or at school functions;
• Incidents of possession or use of alcohol and inappropriate use of prescription drugs or controlled substances on school property or at school functions;
• The number of juveniles taken into custody on school property or at school functions, the offenses and whether civil damages were pursued by the injured party
• The number of expulsions.
A Plan for Identifying Processes and Timelines for an Assessment of Public School Safety

- Reports of school incidents relating to disruptive and disorderly behavior;
- A school’s rules regarding student behavior and discipline, the clarity of those rules and whether there is appropriate notice to students and parents;
- A school’s hierarchy of responses to student discipline problems and actual disciplinary outcomes;
- Training needs of instructional staff in the areas of classroom management, student learning styles and other specialized subjects to enhance capacity of the staff to engage students and minimize disruptive and disorderly behavior;
- The array of school services to students at risk of academic failure, dropping out or truancy;
- The engagement of parents at the earliest stages of problem behavior;
- Training needs of students in anger reduction, conflict resolution, peer mediation and other skills;
- Training needs of parents.
Assessment of Public School Safety

• Existing policies of the 21st Century Schools Council relating to student behavior and discipline and student information;
• A school’s physical environment;
• A school’s student supervision plan;
• Existing components of the district or school improvement plan that focus on school safety and at-risk students and the effectiveness of the components; and
• Other data deemed relevant by the 21st Century Schools Council or school administration.
School District Safety Plans

As a result of district-wide assessment of data, resources, policies, procedures and needs, each school district board shall adopt a plan prior to the 2004-2005 school year for immediate and long-term strategies to address school safety and student discipline. The development of the plan shall involve representatives from schools in the district as well as representatives from the community. The process of planning shall be determined locally depending to a large extent on the size and characteristics of the district.
ODE and OCSS Responsibilities

• Develop recommendations and statewide guidelines designed to improve the learning environment and student achievement and to reduce the dropout rate in the state’s public schools.

• Identify successful strategies that are used in Oregon and other states to improve the learning environment and student achievement and to reduce the dropout rate.

• Provide technical assistance to those school districts requesting assistance in reducing the dropout rate.
Clearinghouse functions
Data Collection and Analysis

School Safety
Sources of Vulnerability in School Settings

Design, Use and Supervision of School Space
- Height of windows
- Number and type of entrances/exits
- Location and design of bathrooms
- Patterns of supervision
- Traffic patterns and their management
- Lighting
- Ratio of supervising adults to students
- Size of school relative to capacity

Administrative and Management Practices of the School
- Quality of administrative leadership
- Positive inclusive atmosphere
- Consistency of Student supervision
- Direct teaching of social-behavioral skills
- Positive recognition of all students
- Effective academic support for all students
- Support for teachers in classroom and behavior management

Nature of the Neighborhood Served by the School
- Crime levels in neighborhood
  - person
  - property
  - drugs and alcohol
- Domestic violence
- Child abuse and neglect
- Lack of cohesion

Characteristics of Students Enrolled
- Poverty of student body (% eligible for free and reduced lunch)
- Number of at risk students enrolled
- Frequency and type of juvenile arrests
- Number of school discipline referrals, suspensions and expulsions
- Academic achievement levels (% students not meeting academic standards)
Sources of Data

• ODE database project
• IVDB/OCSS data collection tools
Funding for the Center
Suggestions for new board members