Using Community Action Planning to Support School-wide Positive Behavior Support

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Purpose of Today's Presentation

- Introduction to community building
- How to build activities within district and school leadership teams
- Strategies for conducting a self assessment and action plan

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Assumptions about Community Planning in SWPBS

- Increase effectiveness of school-wide PBS
- Many problems at school reflect larger community issues
- Effective support for students receiving individualized plans
- Building community means creating a larger network of collaborators

"The solution to many societal problems require that we learn how to mobilize groups and organizations to take action."
Tony Biglan

Use SWPBS Planning Processes for Community Building

- Strengths based model
- Create a vision and build consensus
- Use strong team processes
- Conduct a community self assessment
- Create a planning team that represents your community
- Create an action plan
- Meet on a regular basis
- Use data for decision making

Community Development

- Identify unique strengths of your community
- Connect community services with schools
- Create better service integration for children
- Identify gaps in supports and services
- Collaboratively address issues that impact both school and larger community

Community Development Characteristics

Asset-based:
- Team understands what exists right now in the community,
- Abilities/resources of residents, associations, institutions

Internally Focused:
- Team does not rely on outside experts

Relationship Driven:
- Local people work hard to connect
- Communication with others is the key to success

Kretzman & McKnight (1993)

Common Barriers

- Assuming people know the jargon you are using
- Failing to attend to everyone's agenda for attending meetings
  - *"They don't need me, I don't have anything to offer"*
  - *"This is about schools and I can't see why I am even here"*
  - *"I have other meetings to attend, why is this one important?"*

Focus on Assets and Strengths

- Create strong action-oriented meetings
- Use data for decision making
- Set the stage for a positive focus
  - Ground rules to avoid dwelling on negatives
  - Bring tools to build connections
  - Build on existing strengths
- Evaluate positive outcomes and celebrate

Consider New Team Dynamics

- Relationship-driven
- Careful attention to different viewpoints, values, and language
- Facilitator of meetings must hold cultural uniqueness of individuals collectively
  – Always define acronyms
  – Encourage questions to ensure understanding

"Strong communities value and use the skills that residents possess."
(Lionel Beaulieu
   http://srdc.msstate.edu/publications/227/227_asset_mapping.pdf)

Expanding the Leadership Team Vision

- Think about the culture of the existing team
- How will you bring new community members in or expand the vision of the team process
  – Spend time introducing new members
  – Being sensitive to new dynamics of the group
  – Separate meetings and events dedicated to community

Sensitivity to Different Experiences: Focus on Vision and Mission

- Make sure everyone who attends knows the purpose of the meetings
- Review of SWPBS may need to occur at each meeting
- Summarize major actions and accomplishments
- Activities that "break the ice" can help ensure everyone actively participates

Identify the Community Vision

- What are the values that bring your team together?
- What is the current vision statement for the leadership team?
- How will you use this vision to unite new members?

Which Community Members Currently Attend Your:

District Leadership Team?
School Leadership Team?
What is Your Team Vision?

Describe Key Concepts to Community Members

Describe major concepts of school-wide PBS and how they may relate in other community settings and in the home

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Ways to Active Community Participation

- Meet with community members prior to team meetings
- Create newsletters, introductory packets, and pair team members up to go through materials prior to the meeting
- Check for understanding during meetings
- Link SWPBS concepts to broader community topics

Toyota Service Department

- *We will treat you with respect*
- *We will be responsible for ourselves & you*
- *We will do our best*
- *Safety is our primary goal*

Native Alaskan Community Values

Example of Cup'ik Values
- Help other people
- Respect other people's belongings
- Respect the animals you catch for food
- Remember what you are taught and told

Saint Lawrence Island Yup'ik Values
- Give service to others
- Gather wisdom and knowledge

Oleksa, M. (2005). *Another culture/ Another world*. Association of Alaska School Boards

Native Alaskan Community Values

Aleut Values
- Take care of the land
- Take care of the sea/ocean
- Take care of the water
- Be kind to other people

Southeast Traditional Tribal Values
- Hold each other up
- Live in peace and harmony
- Respect for nature and property

Oleksa, M. (2005). *Another culture/ Another world*. Association of Alaska School Boards

Setting the Stage for Community

- Encourage everyone to feel free to ask questions about jargon words
- Use flip chart paper to write them down during initial meetings
- Create a glossary of terms together
- Hand out at all meetings
- Start all community meetings with a review of main goals and progress

Good Meeting Behaviors

- Develop vision and mission of group
- Prepare agenda, keep meeting minutes
- Set dates for meetings for the year
- Create "ground rules" with the team

Good Meeting Behaviors

- Focus on building positive interactions
- Meet in settings that aren't distracting
- Use data for decision making
- Establish team roles

Identify Team Roles and Responsibilities

- **Coach**- facilitates meetings, reviews past meeting minutes, keeps focus of group on agenda
- **Record Keeper** - writes down the actions and activities
- **Timekeeper**- before meeting gets consensus on time to be spent on each topic, monitors time for each topic, and gives warnings when time is running out (i.e., "we have 5 minutes left")
- **Data Entry Person-** trained to enter and access office referral data and brings the data to the meetings
- **Behavior Specialist**- a person who has received training in individual positive behavior support
- **District Coordinator-** district-level individual who coordinates SWPBS efforts

Areas of Assessment

- People within the community
- Informal organizations
- Formal organizations
- Major activities or events within the community

Major Institutions

- Political
- Economic
- Kinship (family)
- Education
- Churches
- Associations

Informal Organizations

- Youth sports leagues
- Bowling leagues
- Neighborhood groups
- Religious and spiritual groups
- Political groups
- Boys and girls clubs
- Community celebrations and events

Major Methods for Dissemination of Information

- Newspapers
- Newsletters
- City website
- Search internet for important online resources in the community

Focus Assessment on Areas of Community Interest

- Interview key community leaders to find out what priorities are considered critical in the community
- Consider how these priorities relate to SWPBS
- Search out resources that might meet community & SWPBS goals

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What Information is Available on the Internet to Assist in Community Planning?

General Google Searches
Community Mapping
Community Assessment
Local Community Resources

Northwest Regional Education Lab
http://www.nwrel.org
(Search for Community Mapping)

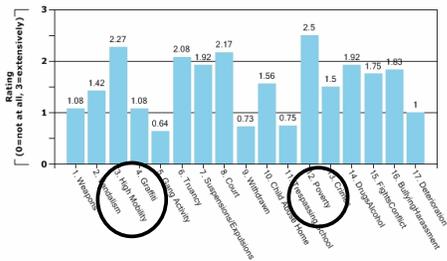## What Sources of Reliable Data are Available in your Community?

PBS Assessment Tool:
Oregon School Safety Survey

www.pbis.org
www.pbssurveys.org
Go to Online Library
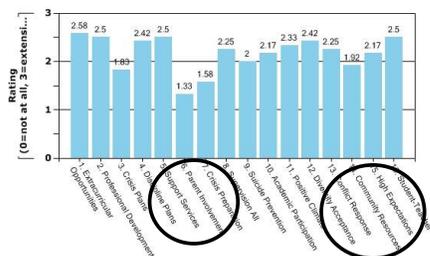Click on the Tools Section

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Kansas High School Example: School Safety Survey Risk Factors

Risk Factor Item Summary Statistics for 2006-07


Kansas High School Example: School Safety Survey Protection Factors


Protection Factor Item Summary Statistics for 2006-07

Working Together in Groups to Gather Information

- Create opportunities to record information together
- Structure brainstorming based on the numbers of people attending
- Summarize information and organize for action planning

Community Mapping Tool

Found at:http://www.actionforchange.org/mapping/chart1.html
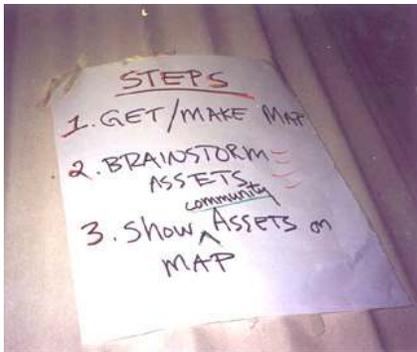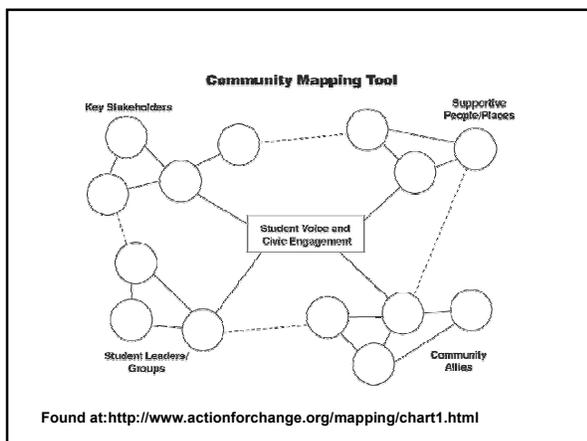
Create a Community Action Plan

- Use meeting minutes to track progress
- What specific goals does your community want to accomplish within 2 years?
  – Break down the goals into smaller steps
    - 12 month objectives
    - 6 month objectives
    - Next steps
- Create regular meeting process
- Celebrate successes at each meeting

Mental Health and SWPBS

Bazelon Center Documents

- http://www.bazelon.org/newsroom/2006/6-7-6-WayToGo.html

- Bazelon Center's Checklist for Advocates

Community Forums

- Bring community members together
- Share major SWPBS efforts
- Discuss major concerns community members have
- Brainstorm solutions
- Develop action plans that will connect school and community
- Recruit volunteers and resources for our schools

Action Planning Examples

- Create newsletters that describe what is happening in the school
- Celebrate with family members in the newsletter by listing children who have been "caught doing the right thing"
- Share data and other stories about progress
- Use your school/district's website to share information

Action Planning Examples

- Create helpful packets for families that show how to do PBS at home
- Work with community members to teach expectations in other public settings
  - Library
  - Park
  - Softball
  - Swimming Pool
  - YMCA

Implementation Examples

- Links for high school students with local businesses for transition to the workforce
- Possible spaces made available for events
- Mobilize resources for activities that benefit all groups
- Donated items that are businesses are willing to give to schools
- Increase communication for students in transition
  - From alternative settings to community
  - From foster care back into home settings

Identify Public Settings Where Students Congregate

- Teach community importance of teaching and reinforcing positive behaviors
- Connect with corner store businesses
- Share information within community churches and spiritual centers

Evaluating Community-building Efforts

- Number individuals attending leadership meetings representing important community settings
- Increased representation on the leadership team
- Special events dedicated to community building
  - Community Forums
- Information disseminated
  - Website
  - Newsletter articles
- Number of Goals and objectives met

Modifying the EBS Team Checklist for Community Planning

community mapping worksheet final draft 7-11-08 ATH v5.pdf

Evaluating Community-building Efforts

- Locations in the community where PBS expectations are taught,
- Amount of donations made by community members,
- New services provided
  - Substance abuse programs introduced in schools,
  - Community mentoring and tutoring systems,
- Increase in after school activities and events,
- Awareness presentations presented to key community members,
- Number of articles, website, and other materials disseminated

Evaluating Community-building Efforts

- Changes in policies that result in improved service coordination,
  - Satisfaction surveys of children and family and human service professionals indicating improved communication and supports,
  - Outcome data for children receiving intensive individualized positive behavior support plans.
- Larger long-term impact
  - SWPBS evaluation data
  - Community stats

Creating a SWPBS Community Logic Model

http://www.uwex.educes/pdande/index.html

Internet Searches

Community Toolbox
http://ctb.ku.edu/

**The Asset-Based Community Development
    Institute (ABCD)**
http://www.northwestern.edu/ipr/abcd.html

Mentoring Resources
http://www.nwrel.org/learns/resources/mentor/index.html

Internet Searches Continued

Community Mapping
http://www.actionforchange.org/mapping/

Common Ground Community Mapping Project
http://www3.telus.net/cground/index.html

Mapping Community Assets Workbook
http://www.nwrel.org/ruraled/publications/com_mapping.pdf

Mapping the Assets of Your Community
http://srdc.msstate.edu/publications/227/227_asset_mapping.pdf

Find this presentation at
www.pbskansas.org/schoolwide

Networking on APBS.ORG

- Learn more about what other states are doing to build interagency collaboration
- Connect with other districts with similar interests
- Change how the APBS Conference is organized
- Member's Open House Coming Soon!

Save this Date ➡ October 30-31, 2008

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