

Violence Prevention Programs for Middle School Students

On May 27th 2015 Governor Sandoval signed into law Senate Bill 394, also known as Erin's Law. This law requires pupils in public schools to be provided with age-appropriate instruction in personal safety specified in the bill to mean "recognition of various hazards and dangers that are particular to children, including, without limitation, the danger associated with unsafe persons, both known and unknown to the child, abuse...and awareness of age-appropriate steps a child may take to avoid, lessen or alleviate those hazards and dangers, including, without limitation, reporting threats of harm to a responsible adult". In an effort to assist schools with meeting this requirement, which will take full effect in 2020, with minimal disruption to instructional time and no cost to the schools The Rape Crisis Center, Nevada Child Seekers, Prevent Child Abuse Nevada, and members of law enforcement have assembled this information packet on violence prevention programs available to Clark County schools.

Each program is provided by a local non-profit agency at no cost to the school. Presenters of each program are well trained staff or volunteers of the providing agency, specifically prepared to address the sensitive subject matter covered, and are trained in mandated reporting. These programs have been reviewed by the CCSD health curriculum office and each meets certain health curriculum standards.

We strongly recommend that all of these programs be brought into your school to ensure that all safety messages are delivered at developmentally appropriate times and within a context of on-going safety education by subject matter experts. Below you will find a SAMPLE schedule illustrating one way in which all three programs may be covered with minimal impact on curriculum hours. This sample schedule is not mandatory for the use of these programs and does not indicate that each program is restricted to this scheduling option. This sample schedule does represent the optimal opportunity for students to receive this important information in such a way that information is regularly reinforced built upon over students' middle school career.

On the following page you will find additional details on each program including content, time constraints, appropriate age groups, and contact information. Also enclosed with this packet is information about relevant parent education workshops which can serve as companions to the information given to students.

Sample Schedule of Programs

Grade Level	Program	Providing Agency
6th Grade	SM@RT Connections	Law Enforcement
7th Grade	Reach Out, Stop Dating Violence	Safe Nest
8th Grade	YourSPACE	The Rape Crisis Center

Program Details

Below you will find additional details on each program including the length of the presentation, the preferred delivery method, the subject matter covered, and the health curriculum standards met by the program. If you have questions about a particular program – including questions about content, delivery, or which schools are using the program – contact information for each has been provided.

Program Title: SM@RT Connections

Grade Levels: 6th, 7th, and 8th

Agency: Law Enforcement (presented by professionals with experience in investigating predatory crimes against children)

Time: Flexible 30 to 45 minutes

Delivery Method: Flexible classroom, assembly, or live internet streaming where available

Content: SM@RT Connections is primarily focused on preventing “sexting” among students and increasing predatory awareness. We will discuss how “sexting” or sharing nude photos will impact the student’s school experience, warning signs of predatory contact, and what the student should do if they are asked for images or contacted by a predator online.

Health Curriculum Standards: (8)13.2, (8)13.3a, (8)13.3b, (HS)13.1, (HS)13.2, (HS)13.3 (HS)13.5, (HS)13.6

Contact: Detective Chris Holman chris@beingsmart.org

Program Title: Reach Out, Stop Dating Violence

Grade Levels: 7-12

Agency: Safe Nest

Time: 50 -90 minutes

Delivery Method: flexible – classroom or small assembly

Content: Learn about healthy and unhealthy relationships by defining types of abuse, warning signs to look for in an abusive personality, teens rights in a relationship, boundaries, how to help a friend, resources to assist teens in the community.

Health Curriculum Standards: 10.3

Contact: Debbie Goldner, 702-877-0133 x244, dgol@safenest.org

Program Title: YourSPACE

Grade Levels: 8th only

Agency: The Rape Crisis Center

Time: 3 hours (or three 50 minute class periods)

Delivery Method: classroom only

Content: Teens are introduced to sexual violence prevention. Students learn about gender and objectification in the media and their effect on gendered violence, identify sexual harassment behaviors and prevention methods as well as the effect of harassment on victims, and identify red flags to sexual abuse and human trafficking. This program utilizes videos, games, and group discussion to engage students on a sensitive subject.

Health Curriculum Standards: 13.2, 13.3a, 13.3b, 13.6

Contact: Education Programs Coordinator, 702-385-2153

ALSO AVAILABLE

Program Title: Expect Respect

Grade Levels: 7-12

Agency: Prevent Child Abuse Nevada at the Nevada Institute for Children's Research and Policy

Time: 8 hours

Delivery Method: classroom

Content: The Expect Respect program consists of eight one-hour sessions that focus on reducing risk factors for violence and promoting protective factors for healthy relationships. Topics include: preventing teen violence with a focus on bullying and sexual harassment, skills to develop healthy relationships, how to be respectful and positive, and leadership development.

Health Curriculum Standards: 10.1, 10.2, 10.3, 10.4, 13.3a, 13.4 1.3, 13.1, 13.3, 13.5,13.6 (5.1, 5.3, 5.5)

Contact: Patricia Haddad, 702-895-1040, patricia.haddad@unlv.edu