

***NATIONAL NETWORK for SAFE AND DRUG-FREE SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES (SDFSC)***

DATE: May 15, 1996

TO: SEAs and Governors Representatives

FROM: Regional Contacts from the *NATIONAL NETWORK FOR SDFSC*

SUBJECT: NEWLY FORMED *NATIONAL NETWORK FOR SDFSC*

On February 16 and 17, 1996 a group of interested SEA and Governors Representatives met in Washington D.C. to discuss the value of a national network between state level Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities leaders. A list of those attending the meeting and their accompanying addresses and phone numbers are enclosed.

The two day meeting began with Mike Lowther, Director, Southwest Regional Center and Nancy Cunningham, Director, Southeast Regional Center explaining the purpose of the meeting and basically informing the group that what was known as the National Drug-Free Schools and Communities Steering Committee had died a "natural" death and we were looking at whether or not a new organization would be necessary or valuable in any way. At this point, the meeting was turned over to those present and a series of activities exploring those issues followed. Some of the benefits of a new organization were listed: 1. It would serve as a data collection source; 2. Influence the new technical assistance centers, and 3. act as a legislative liaison between the states and the Congress (please find attached a copy of our newsprint notes for your information).

As part of the meeting agenda, Bill Modzeleski, Director and David Quinlan, Program Officer from USDE were included in the discussion of whether or not to form a new organization and what its relationship with USDE might be. Mr. Modzeleski indicated enthusiasm for such an organization and discussed the benefits of having a working group where data concerning SDFSC could be accessed in a timely manner. He offered some logistical support for future meetings and agreed to attend a meeting in Washington D.C. on June 23 and 24, 1996.

Please consider attending the June 23 and 24, 1996 meeting in Washington D.C. where the future role of the *National Network for SDFSC* will be mapped out. Hotel and meeting sites are attached for your convenience. Also, included is a list of the regional contacts for the newly formed organization and the states they represent. If you have any questions concerning the meeting or the organization, please feel free to call your regional contact. Also, please fax your response concerning attendance at the meeting to your regional contact.