

National Network for Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities June 23, 1996  
One Washington Circle Hotel

Attendees:

John Brownlee, Governors Office, Arkansas  
Mike Lowther, Southwest Regional Prevention Center, University of Oklahoma  
Jilma Shackelford, Governors Office, North Carolina  
Kathie Jackson, Education Department, Colorado  
Kay Beth Stavley, Education Department, Texas  
Leticia Pena Martinez, Governors Office, Texas  
Carol Strong, Education Department, Washington  
Susie Roberts, Governors Office, Washington  
Cathy Olson, Education Department, Arizona  
Chris McIntier, Education Department, Arizona

Meeting Notes:

Mike Lowther discussed the history of the previous National Steering Committee. The National Steering Committee began in late 1991. The by-laws were written in July 1992. At that time Alicia Coro was the Director of the Drug Free Schools and Communities Program at the US Department of Education. The Committee compiled two reports briefly describing each states programs, one of the education programs, and one of the governors office. A position paper was put together as an evaluation of the Drug Free Schools and Communities Programs. This was an effort to educate congressmen on the importance of DFSCA prior to reauthorization.

Problems plaguing the National Steering Committee were discussed. They included: 1. not working well with the U.S. Department of Ed,  
2. being a rather closed committee (all states were not invited to participate), and 3. a few people making decisions for the group.

The purpose and mission of the *new* National Network were discussed.

Purpose:

networking,  
partnering with USDE,  
encourage and promote collaboration  
produce useful products - i.e., data collection summaries support group

Mission: The mission of the National Network for Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities (SDFSC) shall be to work in partnership with USDE for the successful administration of the Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act and to encourage and promote collaboration among federal, state, regional and local agencies.

The group present made changes to the by-laws. Changes included:

- Delineating membership (all states in both programs can be members)
- . Delineating membership voting status
  
- Forming partnerships with the 15 Comprehensive Centers for IASA, including them as non-voting members
- . Encouraging partnerships with CSAP, NASADAD, Southwest Prevention Center and any other organization needed to assist in the work of the Network
  
- The National Steering Committee will be called the National Network
- . Four regions were identified, each regional contact has committed to pass information to states within their region
- . Further sharing will occur at the IASA Regional Meetings
  
- Sub-committees will only be convened as needed
  
- Meetings will be held three times a year in Washington DC to facilitate meeting with the director of the SDFSCA Program at the USDE
- . An additional meeting will be held at a national conference where most SDFSCA coordinators attend
- . Elections will be held every two years in January
- . Instead of stating tobacco, alcohol, and other drug prevention, violence prevention will be added, terminology will be changed to drug and violence prevention.

By-laws will be retyped and copied for dissemination to members.

The organizational structure was determined as follows:

Interim Chairperson Interim Vice-Chairperson Interim Secretary  
4 regional Contacts

General Membership will consist of:

- 1 SEA SDFSC Rep from all states and territories
- 1 GOV SDFSC Rep from all states and territories
- 1 Rep from each of the 15 Comprehensive Centers
- 1 Rep from associate national, state and local agencies

3 meetings will be held in Washington DC annually with additional meetings at conferences and appropriate gatherings, i.e., NPN conference in Tucson.

Funding of the committee was discussed: Travel will be the responsibility of each person. George Washington University, the Region 3 Comprehensive Technical Assistance Center has agreed to provide meeting space in DC. Several members present have volunteered in-kind copying and mailing services for the committee:

John Brownlee — Arkansas

Kathie Jackson — Colorado

Kay Beth Stavely — Texas

Jilma Shackelford - North Carolina

Cathy Olson/Chris McIntier - Arizona

Each Regional Contact person will provide mailing and fax service, as well. Other costs should be about \$3,000 per year. The Network will see if the USDE can fund this portion of the partnership. If that is not possible, a registration fee will be assessed for meeting attendance.

Currently, Cathy Olson from the Arizona Department of Education has taken on the responsibility as Acting Chair until the elections in the January. Essie Page from the Washington DC public schools had agreed in February to be the DC contact, however, new responsibilities in the city will not allow her time. Therefore, Cathy will be the contact.

Mike Lowther discussed the services provided by the Southwest Prevention Center. The Center is available for training, community training, materials development, program evaluation and information dissemination. The Southwest Center will also provide a certificate program in Prevention in the near future.

Network members' needs were identified and discussed:

- *Evaluation*
- . *Educating LEA's on writing measurable goals and objectives*
  
- *Peter Benson, SEARCH Model*
- . *Violence Prevention*
- . *Tie the Principles of Prevention into teacher certification, for safer schools*

John Brownlee has invited Stephanie McGensey, Director of Prevention Services for NASADAD, to join the Network meeting tomorrow. Stephanie actively works with CSAP. John also said that a place has been put on the agenda for the National Network to meet on Sunday, September 8th from 1 :00 to 4:00 P.M. at the National Prevention Network (NPN) meeting in Tucson. Presenting at this meeting will be the Center for Disease Control (CDC), Office of Juvenile Justice Delinquency Program (OJJDP), and CSAP. State Substance Abuse Coordinators and Prevention Coordinators will also attend this meeting. Researchers and Program Administrators will attend this meeting. It was also mentioned that Peter Benson's model, the SEARCH Review will be on the agenda. The entire agenda will be a networking opportunity.

National Network for Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities June 24, 1996  
One Washington Circle Hotel

Present:

John Brownlee, Governors Office, Arkansas  
Jilma Shackelford, Governors Office, North Carolina  
Kathie Jackson, Education Department, Colorado  
Kay Beth Stavley, Education Department, Texas  
Leticia Pena Martinez, Governors Office, Texas  
Carol Strong, Education Department, Washington  
Susie Roberts, Governors Office, Washington  
Cathy Olson, Education Department, Arizona  
Chris McIntier, Education Department, Arizona  
Stephanie McGenchy, NASADAD  
Bill Modzeleski, USDE, SDFSC Director  
Essie Page, Washington DC Public Schools  
Tom Donaldson, NOFAS, Washington D. C.

Toni Ann Koren, Washington DC Public Schools - NOFAS Youth Conference  
Kwesi Rollins, George Washington University Comprehensive Center  
Sharon Beckstrom, George Washington University Comprehensive Center

Stephanie McGenchy introduced herself and the work of NASADAD. She encouraged collaboration with NASADAD and the National Prevention Network. NASADAD creates policy issues in terms of prevention, supports technical assistance to states, and looks at models of how state agencies are working. She mentioned that Wisconsin will be closely watched in the future because they recently have organized all prevention funds into a single state agency, to create one funding stream for prevention. Stephanie sees things remaining relatively stable until after the election. She participated in the days discussion.

Bill Modzeleski, the Director of the Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities Program at the United States Department of Education presented his perspective on the National Network. He clarified that an advisory committee must be appropriated by Congress, thus it must abide by meeting laws, formal procedures and minutes. He saw the National Network as a way for states to work together with his office and assist with examples when needed. For example, what is going on at the LEA's? What are they funding? Find ways for LEA's to look ahead, evaluate, analyze problems when results are not obtained and fund programs accordingly.

Bill brought the following example to our attention. Last week 30 security chiefs from the largest school districts in the nation were brought to a town hall meeting. Only 50% had heard of the Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities Program at their schools, only one received funding from the program. Bill emphasized that we need to work with LEA's in terms of school safety. There must be a willingness to change with the times.

USDE may need assistance from the National Network with the GAO hearing in July. This will not be a friendly hearing for the SDFSC Program. The hearing is designed to look at the negative issues. Specific complaints are being addressed. The Network can assist with these items by compiling positive programs and outcomes in states.

Bill addressed consolidated applications from states, performance indicators are what is being looked at. Clarification is also being requested in other priority areas. The consolidated application must address all components of the SDFSC program addressed in the law. Most states will be asked to do more clarifying. USDE needs to measure the success of the programs.

Bill mentioned that marketing the SDFSC program is weak. The Network could work at getting the word out to LEA's as well as the general public. All states can assist in this.

Bill clarified some questions the Network raised:

- . The Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities legislation is an act and is codified as part of the Improving America's Schools Act (IASA)
- . Congress should level fund next year, Bill predicts
- . Congress will still be looking for outcome data
- . The Biennial Report form will be out in the Fall. Changes could still be made.
- . Another type of data collection on the Gun Free Schools Act will be requested. That form should be sent to states soon.
- . The Protection of Pupils Rights Act (PPRA) has been in existence for some time. It affects all USDE surveys.

Kwesi Rollins and Sharon Beckstrom from Region 3 Comprehensive Center, George Washington University spoke to the group about the Center's focus. They have agreed to arrange for meeting space for the Network's meetings in DC.

Tom Doanaldson from the National Organization of Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (NOFAS) and Toni Ann Koren from DC Public Schools spoke to the group about the work of NOFAS and about an upcoming youth conference to be held in New Orleans in the Spring. State sponsorship of youth is being requested.