

## **2009-10 Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Grant Summary**

Grant Overview: The Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities grant shall be used to establish, operate, and improve local programs of school drug and violence prevention and early intervention. The local educational agency may seek public or private entities such as the Drug and Alcohol Single County Authority (SCA) and others to provide technical assistance, conduct training, demonstrations, and evaluations. These entities may also provide supplementary services and community-wide drug and violence prevention planning, as well as organize activities for the prevention of drug use and violence among students and youth. Additionally, the Principles of Effectiveness codified by this legislation must guide the development and implementation of programs.

The administration intends to submit a Safe and Drug-Free application that will fund SAP in the district for the 2009-10 school year. The district has used the Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities awards to fund the district Student Assistance Program (SAP) in this manner for over five years.

SAP is designed to assist school personnel in identifying issues including alcohol, tobacco, other drugs, and mental health issues which pose a barrier to a student's success. The primary goal of SAP is to help students overcome these barriers to promote academic achievement, remain in school, and advance.

SAP team members are professionally trained to identify problems, determine whether or not the presenting problem lies within the responsibility of the school and to make recommendations to assist the student and the parent. When the problem lies beyond the scope of the school, the SAP team will assist the parent and student so they may access services within the community. SAP team members do not diagnose, treat or refer to treatment; but they may refer for a screening or an assessment for treatment.

Amount of Award: Not yet available from funder.

Due Date/Notification of Award: June 30, 2009. Notification of actual amount will not occur until after the U.S. Department of Education releases award information to the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

Alternatives if not Awarded: If not awarded, the district would have to either fund the Student Assistance Program through its budget, or discontinue the program for 2009-10.

WCSD Resources Required: None.

Administrative Recommendation: That the Board of School Directors instructs the administration to submit an application to the 2009-10 Safe and Drug-Free School and Communities Grant to provide Student Assistance Program services for district students.