

# SAPP Network News

May 2004

## ***End of Year Thoughts***

Understandably, you are multi-tasking right now, wrapping up the year while looking forward to much needed rest and relaxation. I urge you to just take a minute to reflect with the SAPP Office on a great year and to plan with us for next year.

We have accomplished much this year, but I will not focus on those accomplishments. I will focus on what the data is telling us in BVSD. Our Youth Risk Behavior Survey results are in. While there are some things to celebrate, there is much work to do. Our highest priorities in the SAPP Office for next year will be suicide prevention, substance abuse prevention, and closing the "risk gap" for our Latino and GLBTQ youth.

Suicide prevention will take place on many levels; we will continue to offer the ASIST training. This summer, we are sending a team of trainers to Denver for the "SAFE (Suicide Awareness for Everyone): Teen" training. This cadre of community and school folks will then be prepared to train secondary staffs in suicide prevention. We will also take the student curriculum from "SAFE: Teen" to see how it fits with the new Health Curriculum and roll that curriculum out to student opinion leaders in schools. Concurrently, the curriculum will be offered to parents. This effort will help us achieve ultimate prevention, reaching teachers, paraprofessionals, administrators, students, and parents.

We will continue to work with PEN (Parent Engagement Network), individual schools, and students to put a dent in our substance use issues; I will have more details on this in the Fall. Finally, with the help of the Equity Office, we will look at our "risk behavior gap" and address issues facing our Latino and GLBTQ youth.

We are still looking at our budget for next year; however, we hope to offer our annual prevention training in Estes Park, a "SAPP Sampler" of topics in prevention, bully-proofing training, ASIST (Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training), N-O-T (Not-On-Tobacco), and Understanding and Meeting the Needs of GLBTQ Youth (which we will offer on a weekday this year instead of on a Saturday). Please refer to <http://www.bvsd.org/sapp/Classes.html> for upcoming SAPP events.

I still believe each and every one of us can make a difference in these issues. Have a wonderful break!

Lisa Cech