



Snapshot of U.S. Department of Education Office of Safe and Healthy Students (OSHS) Safe and Supportive Schools (S3) Grant to West Virginia Department of Education

TOTAL AMOUNT AWARDED TO WEST VIRGINIA (2010-2014): \$2,244,586

WV S3 PROGRAM SUMMARY

The West Virginia Safe and Supportive Schools (WV S3) grant primarily sought to reduce high rates of drug- and violence- related behavior in 22 high schools across 18 school districts. WV S3 worked with participating schools and districts to use annual school climate survey data – as well as discipline, incident, and other administrative data – to choose and implement interventions tailored to those districts’ and schools’ specific populations and needs. WV S3 used the WV Model for Positive School Climate (WVMPSC) as the framework for WV S3 grant activities. These activities made a positive impact on both school climate and academic outcomes. Notably, the WV S3 work triggered restructuring and revision of State policy regarding student behavioral expectations as well as the responsibilities of schools in creating safe and supportive learning environments.

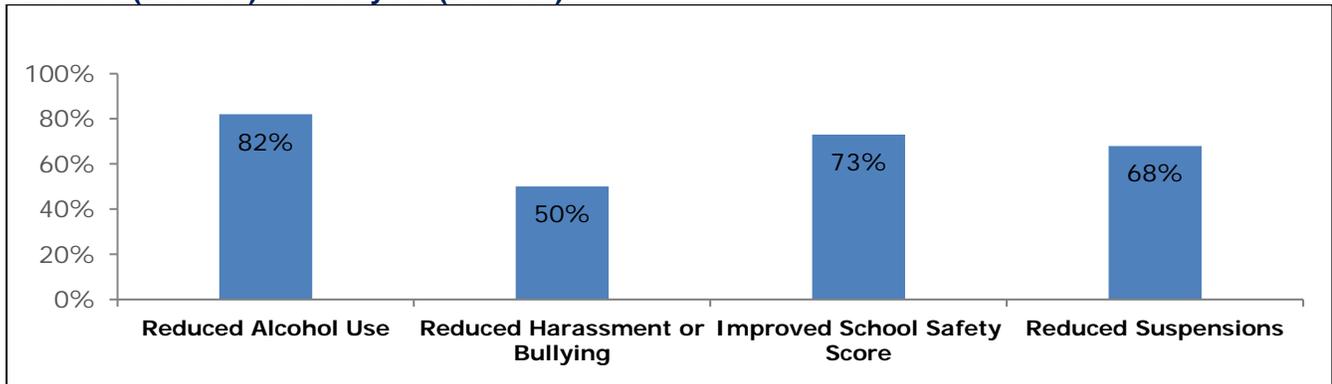
GOAL OF THE SAFE AND SUPPORTIVE SCHOOLS PROGRAM

S3 grantees reported annually on the number of participating schools with:

- A decreased percentage of students who reported alcohol use in the past 30 days;
- A decreased percentage of students who reported harassment or bullying on school property;
- Improvement of school safety scores (as defined by each grantee); and
- A decrease in the number of suspensions for violence without injury.

SUCCESSES & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Percentage of fully implemented participating WV S3 schools that improved on GPRA measures, baseline (2010-11) to final year (2013-14)



- WV S3 explored linkages between its measure of school climate and academic achievement. The study found that school climate enhancements were positively linked with improved academic outcomes and mitigated factors such as high poverty rates.
- WV S3 led the West Virginia Department of Education to enact "[Policy 4373 – Expected Behavior in Safe and Supportive Schools](#)." This new policy required schools to coordinate efforts around harassment/bullying; alternative education for disruptive students; racial, sexual, religious/ethnic harassment and violence; substance abuse and tobacco control; and student rights and responsibilities. It also required schools to limit out-of-school suspensions.

DATA SOURCES

The WV S3 was a data-driven effort that utilized administrative and survey data to focus school climate improvement efforts, decide where to concentrate resources, and help select appropriate interventions.

Administrative Data

Administrative, attendance, truancy rate, suspension, and expulsion data were collected through the West Virginia Discipline Management System.

School Climate Surveys

The WV S3 administered two surveys annually, each spring, from 2011 to 2014. These surveys were the [West Virginia School Climate Survey](#) and the [Health Education Assessment Project](#) (HEAP).

School Climate Safety Scores

The school climate score was known as the West Virginia School Climate Index (SCI). It drew from the West Virginia student and staff school climate survey data and selected incident and discipline data. The SCI was based on 20 indicators and used a 9-point scale with 9 representing the most positive or desirable school climate conditions.

INTERVENTION FRAMEWORKS, PROGRAMS, AND PRACTICES

Frameworks	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports (PBIS)• WV Model for Positive School Climate	
Programs	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Behavior Coach• Capturing Kids' Hearts*• Character Education• LINKS Program• ILEAD (student leadership)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rachel's Challenge/Friends of Rachel• Random Acts of Kindness Project• Respect and Protect• Time to Teach
<i>*Classified as an evidence-based program (EBP) on the National Registry of Evidence-based Programs and Practices (NREPP) or What Works Clearinghouse.</i>	
Practices	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Afterschool detention/detention hall• Anti-bullying• Freshman orientation or transition supports• Graduation coach	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mentoring program• In-school suspension program• Services and supports by community providers

SUSTAINABILITY AND SCALING UP

- Wellness specialists trained student assistance teams on the components of the S3 model and implementation of the initiative to enable teams to transfer this information to new staff.
- WV S3 schools prepared strategic plans to sustain school climate, including ways to integrate social and emotional learning.

WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION S3 DEMOGRAPHICS

- Students served by project (as of final year): 12,887
- Number of districts served: 18
- Number of schools served (as of final year): 22
 - 2 PK-12 schools
 - 3 middle/high schools (1 grades 5-12; 1 7-12)
 - 17 high schools
- Average school size: 586

Participating Districts	Participating Schools
1. Barbour County	1. Philip Barbour High School
2. Boone County	2. Sherman High School
3. Calhoun County	3. Calhoun Middle/High School
4. Fayette County	4. Midland Trail High School 5. Oak Hill High School
5. Grant County	6. Union Educational Complex
6. Harrison County	7. Lincoln High School
7. Kanawha County	8. Herbert Hoover High School 9. Riverside High School 10. Sissonville High School
8. Lewis County	11. Lewis County High School
9. Lincoln County	12. Lincoln County High School
10. Logan County	13. Logan Senior High School
11. McDowell County	14. Mount View High School 15. River View High School
12. Mercer County	16. Montcalm High School
13. Roane County	17. Roane County High School
14. Summers County	18. Summers County High School
15. Tucker County	19. Tucker County High School
16. Wayne County	20. Tolsia High School
17. Webster County	21. Webster County High School
18. Wetzel County	22. Valley High School

FURTHER DETAIL

- West Virginia state profile: <https://safesupportivelearning.ed.gov/state-profiles/west-virginia>
- S3 Descriptive Study executive summary: <https://safesupportivelearning.ed.gov/state-grantees/safe-and-supportive-school-s3-grants>

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Project evaluator: Andy Whisman, coordinator, WVDE Office of Research, swhisman@k12.wv.us

Web site: <https://wvde.state.wv.us/healthyschools>

Project director: Don Chapman (fall 2010–spring 2014, retired), Assistant Director; Josh Grant (fall 2014–conclusion), Coordinator, Office of Secondary Learning, jgrant@k12.wv.us