

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES SOLUTIONS, INC.

WWW.S4EDCONSULTANTS.ORG

IT'S NATIONAL RUNAWAY PREVENTION MONTH!

WHAT SYSTEMS DO YOU HAVE IN PLACE
TO IDENTIFY AND SUPPORT THESE STUDENTS ?

Each year, one out of every seven children will run away from home before they turn 18 years of age, resulting in about 1.6 million runaway and homeless children and youth living on the streets nationally. Some reasons children run away include, but are not limited to, abuse/violence in the family, separation or divorce of parents, death or birth of a new baby in the family, alcohol or substance abuse, shame-based behaviors, or one explosive argument at home. When these children remain on their own and out on the streets for more than two weeks, there is an increased likelihood of substance abuse, early parenthood, depression, posttraumatic stress disorder, and the risk of being trafficked. (See the article on *Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children*.) What we need to remember is that these children are not “bad kids” but are usually good kids caught in a bad situation.

Although November is almost over, the issue will continue to exist. Schools can serve as a safe haven for these children and youth. Schools are where they can find stability and routine, consistent faces, shelter from the elements, and meals, among other forms of support. It begins with proper and immediate identification of these students, and providing them the resources available at school and in the community so that they do not resort to behaviors that put them at risk. Perhaps, it is designating a point-person at each school site to serve as an extension of the local educational agency's liaison for homeless education so that students can receive timely assistance and referrals to needed services. The posting of the educational rights and protections afforded to homeless children and youth, pursuant to Education Code section 48852.5, not only reaches those students who may not have initially wanted to share their situation with anyone else, but the information also serves as a reminder to staff of their duties and responsibilities. It is critical that staff are trained on and reminded of how to better address the barriers and challenges of these students to ensure positive educational outcomes.

What systems do you have in place?



Student Support Services Solutions, Inc. (S4) is committed to ensuring that children and youth attend school in a safe, secure and nurturing environment. We specifically focus on the “Engagement” priorities of the Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) -- Student Engagement, School Climate, and Parent Involvement. We build the capacity of adults to help children and youth through technical support, training, identification of appropriate resources, and dissemination of timely information.

ALSO IN THIS EDITION...

HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Raising awareness to the commercial sexual exploitation of children.

IMPORTANT DATES

Other awareness month information for November and December.

EVERY STUDENT, EVERY DAY

National initiative to combat chronic absenteeism

UPCOMING EVENTS

List of upcoming events that address areas under student services.

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COMMERCIAL SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN

Commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC) is a \$32 billion dollar global industry that includes sex trafficking, child pornography, and child sex tourism. It is considered to be one of the fastest growing criminal industries in the world because unlike drugs and weapons, humans are a renewable resource to be sold and resold several times over. No community is immune as a direct result of technology, which has given predators anonymity and widespread access to children. However, California has been found to be a magnet for sex trafficking of children, and schools are being used as recruiting grounds.

Below is information that should be shared with staff, particularly those who serve on student success teams (SST), school attendance review teams/boards (SART/SARB), and other assessment teams.



COMMON TARGETS

Children and youth 11-14 years of age who:

- Have been pushed out or have run away from home
- Are homeless
- In foster care or have been involved in the child welfare system
- Are pregnant
- Are active on social media or participate in massively multiplayer online role-playing games (MMORPG)

ASSESSMENT QUESTIONS

- Control of his/her ID documents? If not, who is?
- Movement or communication restricted or monitored?
- Afraid to speak about himself/herself in the presence of others?
- Aware of his/her location (city & state)?
- A minor engaged in commercial sex?
- Evidence of physical or sexual assault
- Doing a job he/she was recruited for or something different?
- Salary being confiscated to pay off a debt to the employer?
- Held against his/her will?
- Family threatened with harm if he/she attempts to escape or report the abuse?

RESOURCES

National Human Trafficking
Resource Center

traffickingresourcecenter.org

National Center for Missing
& Exploited Children

missingkids.com

California Health & Human
Services Agency

chhs.ca.gov

Polaris Project for a World
without Slavery

polarisproject.org

NATIONAL & STATE EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH AWARENESS DATES

NOVEMBER 2015

- National Runaway Prevention Month
- National Child Safety and Protection Month
- Good Nutrition Month
- School Psychology Awareness Week (11/9-11/13)
- World Kindness Day (11/13)
- America Recycles Day (11/15)
- International Day for Tolerance (11/16)
- American Education Week (11/16-11/20)
- National Parental Involvement Day (11/19)
- Great American Smokeout (11/20)

DECEMBER 2015

- National Impaired Driving Prevention Month
- Safe Toys and Gifts Month
- World AIDS Day (12/1)
- Special Education Day (12/2)
- International Day of persons with Disabilities
- International Volunteer Day (12/5)
- Human Rights Day (12/10)

every student, every day

Obama administration launches initiative to eliminate chronic absenteeism in our Nation's schools

The Obama Administration recently launched ***Every Student, Every Day: A National Initiative to Address and Eliminate Chronic Absenteeism***. Led by the White House, U.S. Departments of Education (ED), Health and Human Services (HHS), Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and Justice (DOJ), the Administration announced new steps to combat chronic absenteeism and called on states and local communities across the country to join in taking immediate action to address and eliminate chronic absenteeism by at least 10 percent each year, beginning in the 2015-2016 school year.

As part of this initiative, the Administration is partnering with states, local communities, and nonprofit, faith, and philanthropic organizations to support local, cross-sector efforts.

A community toolkit which includes guidance to help schools combat chronic absenteeism and support coordinated community action

01

Spring 2016 release of school-level chronic absenteeism data from across the nation

02

Nationwide Summit in Spring 2016 focusing on best practices, prevention, early identification and cross-section interventions and supports

03

Technical assistance and training for school districts to implement early warning systems

04

Public Awareness Campaign to raise awareness about chronic absenteeism through public-private partnerships

05

Mentoring models through public-private

06

SOME COMPONENTS OF THE INITIATIVE

On November 12, 2015, a virtual summit addressed strategies to improve school attendance, eliminate chronic absenteeism, and close achievement gaps. A panel representing New York City Department of Education, Grand Rapids Public Schools and the Tennessee State Department of Education shared promising examples of how to take a comprehensive approach to addressing chronic absenteeism.

A recording of the webinar is available at:
https://uww.adobeconnect.com/_a17179333/p8my0meh9tc/?launcher=false&fcsContent=true&pbMode=normal

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES SOLUTIONS, INC.

We're presenting!

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

DECEMBER 7, 2015
9:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.

San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools
West End Educational Service Center
8265 Aspen Avenue
Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730

\$65 Registration Fee
(Includes breakfast & Legislative Guide)

Register at:

<https://sbcss.k12oms.org/eventdetail.php?id=106727>



The *Student Discipline in California Schools* features 56 pages of easy-to-read guidelines and checklists, 26 sample forms and notices, and all pertinent codes and regulations related to the suspension and expulsion process. Includes sections on maintenance of discipline records and data collection obligations. Available as a book, eBook, or both.



The *Legislative Update Guide* is a compilation of newly enacted legislation related to student support services. Provides amended and/or added language, and highlights policy and notification requirements.

To purchase, go to the "Resource" page on our website. Contact us to find out how we can provide workshops based on these publications to your local educational agency or organization.

PURCHASE YOUR
COPY TODAY!

UPCOMING EVENTS RELATED TO STUDENT SERVICES

Association of California School Administrators (ACSA) Every Child Counts Symposium

Connecting Hearts and Minds
January 13-15, 2016 – Monterey, CA
www.acsa.org

California School Nurses Organization (CSNO)

Mission Impossible: Focus on the Future
February 4-7, 2016 – Fresno, CA
www.csno.org

CUE National Conference

March 17-19, 2016 – Palm Springs, CA
www.cue.org/national

California Association of Supervisors of Child Welfare and Attendance (CASCWA) State Conference

Celebrating 80 Years of Advocating for Children
April 20-22, 2016 – Garden Grove, CA
www.cascwa.org

California League of Schools School Climate & Culture Summit

Creating and Sustaining Safe, Inclusive and Respectful Campuses
April 24-25, 2016 – North Lake Tahoe, CA

ACSA North State Spring Conference

Together our journey continues...
April 24-26, 2015 – Reno, NV
<http://regions.acsa.org/2/about/north-state-spring-conference/>

5th Annual Central California Truancy Summit

Using LCAP to Address the Root Causes of Truancy
May 4-6, 2016 – Visalia, CA
<http://kings.k12oms.org/89-103355>

We're presenting!

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Visit and learn about us at... www.s4edconsultants.org

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