



 **Safe Schools
Healthy Students**

**Volume 3
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- Special points of interest:**
- Protecting You/Protecting Me provided lessons to 504 1st-3rd Grade Students.
 - Birth To Five touched over 1050 individuals through their home visits.
 - DIPLOMAS has served 19 teen mothers with child care and parenting training during the 2010-11 school year.

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Communities In Schools

Communities In Schools (CIS) is the nation's leading community-based organization helping kids stay in school and prepare for life. For more than 30 years, CIS has championed the connection of needed community resources with schools.

Communities in Schools of Wayne County offer two different levels of services. Level One services are provided to help address identified school-wide needs or to build and reinforce student assets. Level Two Services are provided for specific students who are identified as having the greatest risk of eventually dropping out of school.

As of December 2010, 67,597 Level One touches and 516 Level Two case managed students were served for the 2010-11 school year .

CIS works with RCS staff to determine student needs and establish relationships with local businesses, social service agencies, health care providers and parent and

volunteer organizations to provide needed resources.

Distributing information, school supplies, and clothing are a few ways CIS helps to meet students' needs. CIS makes student & parent contacts, including referrals for vision, housing, utilities, food and dental assistance. Other referrals are made to the Trustee, Community

enhanced this year by CIS connecting students to mentors.

CIS participates in several family events during the school year such as Literacy and Math Nights. CIS also participates in Career Day, Lemonade Day, On the Road to Middle School/Reality Store, and helping students sign up for 21st Century Scholars.

In the summer of 2010, CIS partnered with IU East and conducted enrichment activities for 19 middle school students. The students experienced a wide range of interactive activities including music, writing, cooking and acting.



Partners for Child Safety, Salvation Army, Centerstone, Wayne County Health Clinic, Open Arms Ministry and other services.

Students are connected with tutors or after school programs such as Boys & Girls Clubs, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Girls, Inc., and other school activities. The RCS mentoring program has been

Safe Schools/Healthy Students help fund the CIS coordinators to make it possible for their involvement in RCS.

In summary, the CIS coordinators are in each school helping to bridge the gap for each student to receive resources to give them the opportunity to achieve in school and life.



Help Increase The Peace

Recently, Safe Schools/Healthy Students began funding Help Increase The Peace Program (HIPP), a new program offered through Boys & Girls Clubs of Wayne County.

HIPP curriculum combines serious, focused reflection with energetic, fun activities, creating a balance that engages youth.

HIPP...

- starts with participant’s own experiences, and teaches skills in the context of real world situations.
- builds a heightened awareness among participants of the need to reduce hatred and build understanding among different social groups.
- builds a community based on dialogue and encourages participants to see each other as valuable resources for creating



Aaron Nell, the instructor, meets with students during two Saturday morning sessions four hours each. Students normally ranging from ages 13-18 are referred from the Department of Corrections to participate in the HIPP program.

change.

- supports participants in becoming leaders and addressing problems in their own communities.

Core topics/skills that are addressed:

- *Peaceful Conflict Resolution Skills*
- *Interpersonal Competence*
- *Planning and Decision Making*
- *Cultural Competence*

In this picture the youth were concerned about keeping their identities anonymous. Knowing Aaron wanted a picture, one student suggested using the “Feeling Faces Plates” as a way to meet his need for a picture as well as their privacy. It was a great win/win strategy, the kind they are seeking in other conflicts.

Aaron states, “In summary the main goal of HIPP is for each student to reflect on their decisions and think about how their decisions will affect their future.”

Teen Intervene

Teen Intervene is an evidenced-based treatment program for substance abusing teens ages 12-19 who are suspected of experiencing mild to moderate problems associated with alcohol or other drug use. This program is offered by Centerstone and works together with RCS and the probation department to place students in the program.

The program incorporates multiple approaches to help teens reduce, and eventually eliminate their chemical use. Implemented by trained profes-

sional staff, Teen Intervene seeks to help teens obtain the ultimate goal of abstinence from substance abuse.

The initial step in the process is educating the teen about changes in behavior that will reduce harm. Any behavior change that leads to a reduction in harm is positive. A variety of techniques are used to establish individualized behavior change goals for adolescents.

The client is helped by:

- understanding the treatment ap-

proach.

- using the treatment effectively.
- learning new skills that promote healthier behaviors.
- taking responsibility for self-change.

To find out more about this program, contact Stacey VanPelt with Centerstone at 888-983-8000. Safe Schools/Healthy Students provides funds for students that need financial assistance in order to participate in the program.

Parents As Leaders Academy



The Parents As Leaders (P.A.L.) Academy started their second year with their first session on January 8, 2011. Twenty new parents participated. P.A.L. is designed to help equip adults with children in Richmond Community Schools to be leaders in their respective school buildings.

The Academy offers training in the following areas:

- how to communicate with your principal
- leadership and learning styles
- Powerschool and navigating the DOE
- “No Child Left Behind”
- communication skills with school staff and families

Three sessions are offered. The first two sessions focus on training. The third session celebrates their

accomplishments.

A goal of P.A.L. Academy is that it become completely a parent initiative. Currently, four Communities In Schools Site Coordinators serve as the main facilitators.

Also, six 2009-10 P.A.L. Academy parent graduates help co-facilitate. The CIS Site Coordinators and the Co-facilitating parents received training in preparation for this year’s P.A.L. Academy.



Adults attending all three sessions receive a certificate of completion and a \$50 gas card to help with their cost for attending the P.A.L. Academy session.

CIS Manager, Jan Chance, said “several parents liked learning how to ask questions of their school principals and teachers. One parent that participated had never used

a computer. The parent was shown how to use a netbook to access Powerschool, DOE and RCS website. The parent gained a great amount of knowledge at the first training session.”

All sessions are held at Richmond High School utilizing the cafeteria and conference room. The Tiernan Center gym and pool are used for childcare which is provided by YMCA’s Y-Care. Parents and children are provided with healthy snacks and lunch during each session.

P.A.L. Academy is offered as a free opportunity to participating adults including free child care through a partnership with Communities in Schools, Richmond Community Schools, and Safe Schools/Healthy Students.



Did You Know????

.....**Did you know** Safe Schools/Healthy Students (SS/HS) funds several different Transportation programs?

Early Learning Center Transit provides pre-school children the opportunity for transportation to and from school.

Highland Heights & Crestdale Transit provides transportation home for students who received afterschool tutoring.

.....**Did you know** Richmond Volunteer Corp is in great need for volunteers to help provide male

role models in school hallways, cafeterias, ballgames, dances, etc.? The adult male role model can help students make right decisions and provide a good example to students. If you are interested in participating, please contact Officer Thalls at RHS 765-973-3239 ext. 3331.

We're On The Web!
www.cpywayne.org



COUNTYWIDE
PARTNERSHIP
FOR YOUTH

cpywayne.org

Formed in 2004, the Partnership's Youth Development Plan provides a vision for enhancing positive factors in a child's life. CPY consists of volunteers from all areas of the county. Business, Non-Profits and Individuals alike are stepping up to make a stand for the youth of Wayne County.

CPY supports the work of Wayne County partners who bolster positive youth development. By working collec-

tively we will have better outcomes for our youth and more effective use of our resources. Come, connect, share and empower – for the sole purpose of giving the youth in our community the opportunity to excel.

You are welcome to view our web site at www.cpywayne.org for past meeting notes or materials related to Positive Youth Development.

Safe Schools Healthy Students is a Federally funded initiative under the umbrella of the Countywide Partnership for Youth. For more information on the Safe Schools/Healthy Students Grant, please call Misty Hollis at 973-4930 or email: mistyd@rcs.k12in.us.

It is the policy of Richmond Community Schools not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age or disability in its educational programs or employment policies.



**Safe Schools/Healthy Students
Richmond Community Schools
300 Hub Etchison Parkway
Richmond, IN 47374**