

Findings From the Nevada Safe Schools/Healthy Students Initiative

September 30, 2013 - September 29, 2018



Background and Outcomes

Part I - Background

- Pat Sanborn, State Coordinator



Part II - Outcomes

- Al-Stein-Seroussi, Lead Program Evaluator



- Marguerite Grabarek, Evaluator
- Sean Hanley, Data Management

The History of Safe Schools/Healthy Students (SS/HS)

- In 1999 the USDOE, HHS, DOJ collaborated to form the SSHS Initiative intending to prevent youth violence, substance abuse and increase school safety.
- Program uses a simple framework
- It was comprehensive across 5 elements and was awarded to LEA's and County Offices of Education
- Served 386 communities, 13 million youth, all 50 states.
- \$2 billion funding distributed
- Findings from an evaluation of SS/HS shows that the model works.

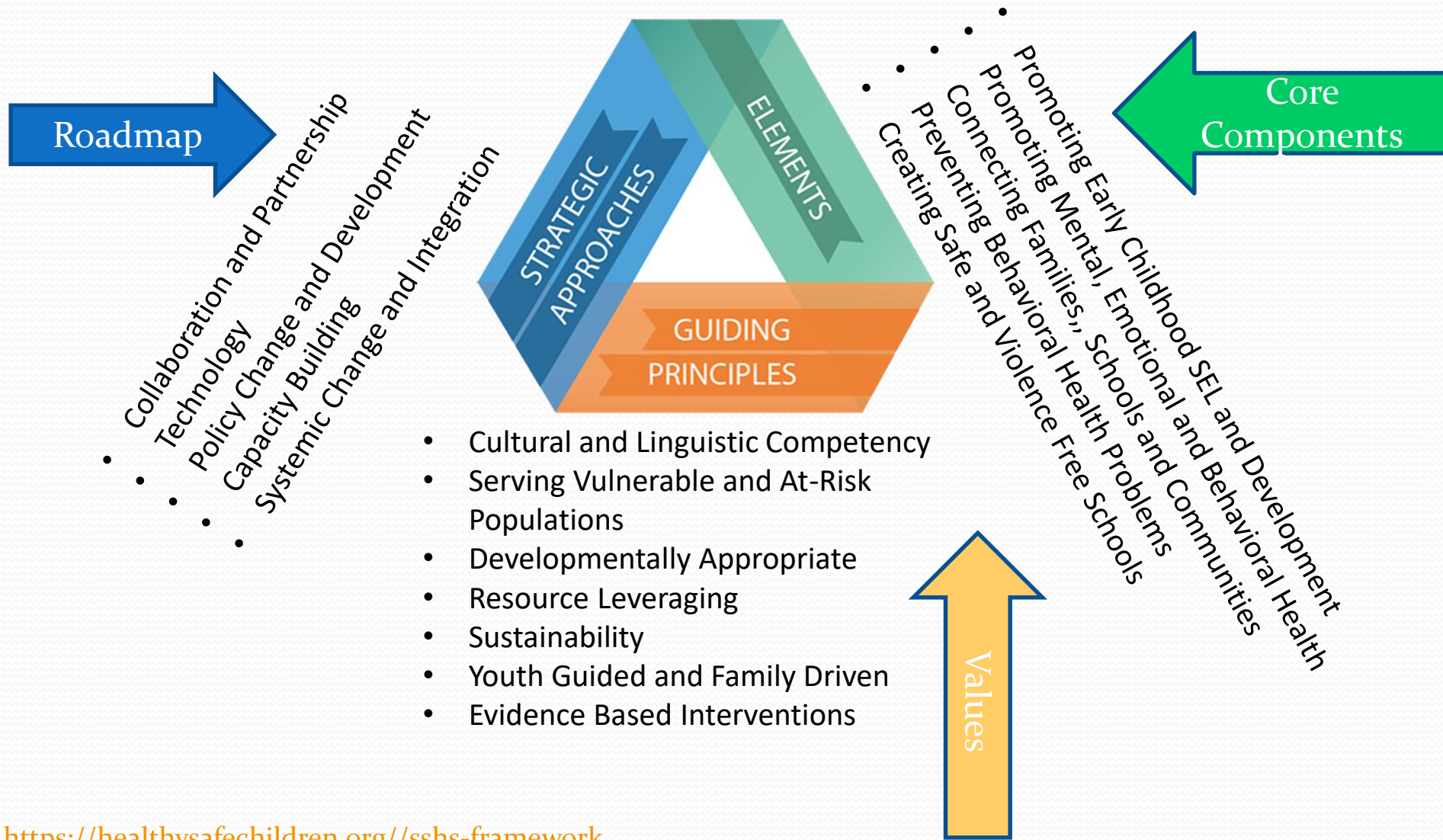
SS/HS State Model ...October 2013

- The SS/HS model was scaled up and offered at the state level with 3 pilot districts
- Awarded to 7 States – Connecticut, Michigan, New Hampshire, Ohio, Pennsylvania, **Nevada** and Wisconsin
- Nevada is the only state that has a coalition Community Based organization model.
- Four year grant with a No-Cost Extension – First year was a planning year
- Intense Needs Assessment, Gap Analysis and Logic Model prior to implementation
- Collaboration, Partnership, Integration, Sustainability
- Evaluation is a necessary component; including a Disparities Impact Report
- We are at the end of our NCE

5 Elements

- Promote early childhood social and emotional learning
- Promote mental, emotional and behavioral health
- Connect family, schools and communities
- Prevent behavioral health problems, including substance abuse
- Create safe and violence free schools

SS/HS Framework



Nevada's SS/HS Site-Based Coalition Structure



SS/HS Communities:

- Healthy Communities Coalition – Lyon County SD
- NyE Communities Coalition – Nye County SD
- The Children's Cabinet – Washoe County SD

Each community has a Program Manager that manages local activities.

Lyon County School District and the Healthy Communities Coalition Dayton, NV.

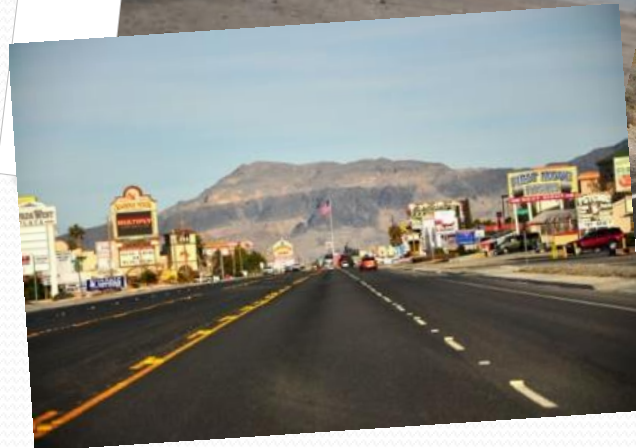
- Lyon County is a rural county with 18 schools spread out over 2,024 square miles
- 8,348 total enrollment
- Predominantly white (65.8%; Hispanic 26%)
- Rich mining history and a stop on the Pony Express



Nye County School District and Nye Communities Coalition Pahrump, NV.

Nye County is a rural/frontier county with 27 schools spread out over 18,159 square miles

- Enrollment of 5,032 students
- White: 72.74%
- Hispanic: 42.09%
- Nye County is nicknamed "The Kingdom of Nye" from the radio program Coast to Coast AM, created by the late Pahrump resident Art Bell
- Also has a rich mining history



"The Frontier"

Washoe County School District and The Children's Cabinet Reno, NV.

Reno is an urban city,
nicknamed the
“Biggest Little City in
the World”.

- It has 112 schools
- 63,919 enrollment
- Two largest ethnicities are 44.8% White; 40.1% Hispanic



Innovation That Works

State Programs

- Since 2014, over 200,000 students have been served by SS/HS programs and services in 21 communities across seven states.
- More than 30,000 students have received mental health services in school settings. A significant number of teachers, staff, and others have been trained to better detect possible mental health problems among students.
- More young children are now screened for behavioral issues before starting school.
- Fewer students have experienced or witnessed bullying and violence on school grounds—and there are fewer suspensions, expulsions, and disciplinary actions reported at SS/HS schools.

Primary Strategies – Local Level

Early Childhood Social and Emotional Development

- **Ages and Stages Questionnaire** for Pre-K and early childhood
- **Pyramid Model Training** for site based implementation
- **Quality Rating & Improvement System**

Mental, Emotional and Behavioral Health

- **Project Success**
- **Resource Coordinators**
- **School based mental health services**
- **Mental Health First Aid training**
- **Signs of Suicide training**

Primary Strategies – Local Level

Connecting Family, Schools and Communities

- Comstock Youth Works
- Volunteer Coordinator including AmeriCorps
- Parent University
- Restorative Practices training

Preventing Behavioral Health Problems

- Service Learning
- SBIRT screening
- Project Northland/Class Action

Primary Strategies – Local Level

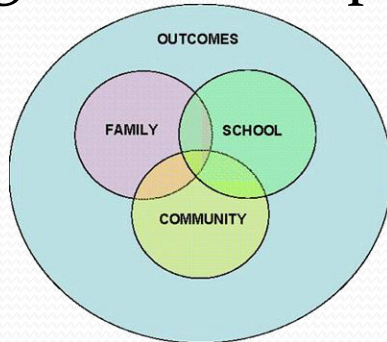
Safe and Violence Free Schools

- MOU's with Juvenile Probation
- Bully Prevention
- Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS)
- Safe School Ambassadors
- Reconnecting Youth

State Systems Development

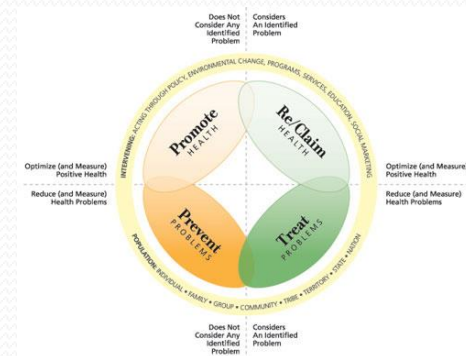
Connecting Family, Schools and Communities

- Statewide School Climate Survey
- Equity training and policy review
- Progressive discipline plans



Preventing Behavioral Health Problems

- Behavioral Health workers in schools



State Systems Development

Safe and Violence Free Schools

- Bullying hotline
- PBIS
- Safe Voice Anonymous Tip Line



Implementation and Funding Comparison

Coalition/CBO Recipient

- Nimble in implementation quick to change
- Year round staffing
- Flexible budgeting – braiding and partnering
- Apply for outside grants
- Decisions made with partners
- Full scope services

LEA Recipient

- Direct access to students
- Ability to braid with USDOE or other district funding
- Decisions usually made from within (do not always involve partners)
- Less likely to have continual coordination with local community partners
- Priority is academics



Sustainability

Early Childhood Social and Emotional Learning

- ASQ-SE screening
- SEL Competencies curriculum in schools
- Birth to Three
- Developing legislation around pre-school for all

Promoting Mental, Emotional and Behavioral Health

- Social Workers in Schools State Funding (SSP)
- Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths Screening (CANS) – Coming Soon!
- Local Resource Coordination
- Integrated Data Collection
- Medi-Caid billing (developing)

Sustainability

Connecting Families, Schools and Communities

- Social Workers and Resource Coordinators
- Volunteer Network

Preventing Behavioral Health Problems incl. Substance Abuse

- Behavioral Health workers in schools

Create Safe and Violence Free Schools

- Governors School Safety Task Force recommendations
- School Safety Grants
- PBIS
- Title Iv.a. funds

Part II: Outcomes and Data

Al Stein-Seroussi

Marguerite Grabarek

Sean Hanley