



Teacher Education to Achieve **Child Safety**: TEACH Safety™

A Learn Safe™ Companion Curriculum for School Safety



Empowering educators with knowledge: the critical prevention component to a comprehensive school security program.

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TEACh Safety™

A Learn Safe™ Companion Curriculum to School Safety

As school psychologists and educational consultants, we are continually overwhelmed with requests for staff training in behavior management. Generally speaking, traditional behavior management approaches that have been implemented in schools—largely reactive and punitive—are not as effective in maintaining student compliance and on-task academic behavior as they once might have been. Given the dramatic increase in the frequency and intensity of student misbehavior over the course of the past decade, school systems are compelled to respond with innovative approaches to maintain safe learning environments; the use of non-intrusive, cost-effective, and state-of-the art physical security systems implemented in combination with comprehensive educator training in positive behavioral support represents such innovation.

A Powerful Partnership for School Safety

Total site survey, data and information capture, access and security, security staffing, local coordination, and special investigations—the core competencies of the Learn Safe™ Initiative—in conjunction with the TEACh Safety™ curriculum, represent the premier and most comprehensive school security program available. By adding the critical component of staff training and development offered by the TEACh Safety™ curriculum, the Learn Safe™ Initiative not only provides a robust suite of technology and security services, but empowers school staff with the critical knowledge necessary to enhance positive behavioral outcomes; in creating and maintaining proactive, multi-tiered behavioral interventions, schools develop a culture of safety.

It is precisely this proactive versus reactive approach to behavior management that makes the Learn Safe™ and TEACh Safety™ partnership the ideal wrap-around school safety program. When school staff demonstrate confidence in their ability to prevent a situation from escalating by identifying early warning signs and responding appropriately, students perceive that confidence, which, ultimately, translates into a sense of security for them. In essence, calm, confident and secure teaching cultivates calm, confident, and secure learning.

About the TEACh Safety™ Curriculum

The TEACh Safety™ curriculum was developed to maximize educator capacity in behavior management by addressing the following essential components:

- Legal issues
 - An overview of relevant federal guidelines, including No Child Left Behind and the 2004 reauthorization of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, and their impact on school safety and behavior management
 - An overview of relevant state guidelines, including state interpretations of student codes of conduct and discipline procedures, and the Unsafe School Choice Option (USCO)
- Utilizing a Response to Intervention (RtI) service delivery model
 - Identifying and implementing universal, selected, and individual interventions, such as
 - School-wide behavior interventions
 - Conflict resolution programs
 - No-bullying campaigns
 - Anger management groups
 - Gang-prevention
 - Threat/risk assessment

- Conducting a functional behavior assessment
- Tracking behavioral data and analyzing outcomes for data-based decision-making
- Prioritizing teacher wellness
 - Gaining control of the classroom by managing with consistency, predictability, emotional warmth and firm limit-setting.
 - Identifying and responding to early warning and risk signs
 - Engaging in proactive coping and stress-management

Training, from the District to the Campus Levels

The TEACh Safety™ training model involves equipping district-level core teams via direct training. Recommended core-team participants include district-level administrators, campus principals, curriculum and instruction directors, special education directors, counselors, school psychologists, and behavioral support staff. After the district-level TEACh Safety™ training, core teams—empowered with knowledge and resources (e.g., trainer’s manual, power-point presentations, and note-taking guides)—are equipped to provide subsequent campus-based trainings throughout their district.

Participants receive a one-year certification through the TEACh Safety™ program, which documents compliance with federal and state teacher training mandates. An annual certification renewal can be completed online through the TEACh Safety™ website.

Conclusion

The TEACh Safety™ and Learn Safe™ collaboration is security program about empowering educators with relevant knowledge and equipping buildings with relevant technology to foster an ecology of safety. The goal of the TEACh Safety™ curriculum is to offer school districts a template for organizing their mental health resources, thereby identifying programmatic strengths and weaknesses. This approach allows districts to create a more standardized district-level protocol for addressing the mental health needs of the students they serve.

About the SBS Group

The SBS Group provides organizational and behavioral consulting to school districts, educational service centers, and private corporations with the goal of maximizing individual and corporate performance through training and staff development. In addition to its current partnership with Stratis Authority in the Learn Safe™ Initiative, the SBS Group has developed a Response to Intervention implementation manual—*Behavioral and Academic Success through Intervention Choices: BASIC RtI*—which has been utilized by numerous school districts throughout Texas, and presented at the Texas Council for Administrators of Special Education (TCASE) and Texas Elementary Principals and Supervisors Association (TEPSA) state conferences.

For more information regarding the TEACh Safety™ curriculum or any additional products or trainings offered by The SBS Group, please visit our website at www.thesbsgroup.org.