



TITLE IV: Safe and Drug Free Schools Annual Program Report Anchorage School District

POLARIS K-12 SCHOOL
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What methods did you use to report the results of your grant to interested members of the public? Some examples would be your school newsletter, parents' meeting, or your school web site.

Grant activities and results are communicated via classroom newsletters and at Polaris Parent Forum meetings.

Major Accomplishment

Polaris K-12 School has for many years offered "Intensives," as a non-traditional way to deliver curriculum to our k-12 population. Intensives are not new at Polaris, but in terms of the climate and culture of our school the program should be noted as a major accomplishment. Other benefits of the program are not so obvious. Teachers choose and design the courses they will teach, so they tend to be more effective. Intensives are an important part of our school's success as a place where real learning happens.

Students Served

Elementary	135
Middle School	0
High School	0

Services and Activities Provided:

During this school year, our school provided the following activities:

- After-School or before-school programs
- Alternative education programs
- Community service projects
- Conflict resolution/peer mediation
- Curriculum acquisition or development
- Drug prevention instruction
- Parent education/involvement
- Security personnel
- Student support services (e.g., student assistance programs, counseling, mentoring, identification and referral)
- Teacher/staff training
- Violence prevention instruction

Specialized Program Use

Our school used the following specialized program(s):

- Cooperative Learning
- Character Counts
- Student Support Groups
- Kelso's Choice
- Other Peer Mediation
- 40 Developmental Assets Framework
- Aggressors, Victims and Bystanders

- Skill Streaming classes for elementary students: Classes to promote positive values (i.e. caring, personal responsibility) and social skills (i.e. interpersonal communication, refusal skills) taught to students who are referred for behavior issues.

Coordination

Our school's drug and violence prevention program coordinates with the following other agencies and organizations for the services indicated:

Alcohol/drug counseling and/or treatment agency

- Joint Service Delivery, Referrals

Law enforcement officials

- Joint Service Delivery, Referrals

Health providers

- Joint Service Delivery, Referrals

Social services providers

- Joint Service Delivery, Referrals

Community-based group for violence prevention

- Joint Service Delivery, Referrals

Parent group(s)

- Joint Service Delivery, Referrals
- Advisory Council
- Fund Raising

Student and Parent Involvement

Students **were** involved in design, delivering, or critiquing drug or violence prevention programs.

Parents **were** involved in design, delivering, or critiquing drug or violence prevention programs.

Activity Reports

Skill Streaming social skills classes

Brief Description

Trained staff member(s) will conduct Skill Streaming classes for elementary students. Classes will be conducted to promote positive values (i.e. caring, personal responsibility) and social skills (i.e. interpersonal communication, refusal skills) for students who have been referred for behavior concerns.

Needs Assessment

- a. SCCS data: Peer Climate

Evaluation Methods

- a. Pre/post-course surveys given to all participants.

Data Summary

There were 26 students who were directly involved in skill streaming classes this year at Polaris. Of those students, 21 completed both a pre-class and post-class survey. The surveys were designed for primary elementary grades, but could be used with older students as well. The survey used a 4 point scale and had five statements for students to respond to. The statements were focused on emotional self awareness, empathy, and social competency. Pre- and Post-Surveys were compared for each student, and changes in their answers were noted and scored. In each of the five items on the survey the group as a whole showed improvement.

Attached (via email to Becky Severson) is a table showing data from pre- and post-surveys.

Other Comments

Students referred to the Skill Streaming program usually enjoy attending. The program is not punitive, and is focused on giving students additional coping strategies or social skills to help them in a school environment. Only students who are referred can attend, but other students often ask if they can participate. This is a positive reflection on students' interpretation of the Skill Streaming program.