



School Safety

School safety – including physical and emotional safety – is a critical priority for state and local education leaders as they move to shape policies and procedures that support and protect their students, teachers, and communities.

WestEd enhances school safety through research and evaluation studies, professional development, and technical assistance designed to showcase promising practices. Through our collaborative work, school leaders can foster equitable, safe, supportive, and healthy schools that promote deep engagement in learning, resilience, and physical, social, and emotional well-being.

Unparalleled Expertise Nationwide Since 1966

WestEd is a nonpartisan, non-profit research, development, and service agency that partners with education and other communities throughout the United States and abroad to promote excellence, achieve equity, and improve learning for children, youth, and adults.

Services and Support Tailored to Client Needs

WestEd delivers comprehensive supports designed to promote a positive climate and culture and enhance school safety nationwide. Our staff lead a range of services, projects, and initiatives with work that is uniquely tailored to the needs of our clients.

Highlights of WestEd's nationwide work in areas related to school safety:

- » Comprehensive School Safety Initiative (Atlanta Public Schools, Atlanta, GA)
- » The No Bully System Study (Oakland Unified School District, Oakland, CA)
- » The School Climate Transformation Project (Jefferson Parish Public Schools, Jefferson Parish, LA)
- » Positive School Climate Model (Santa Ana Unified Public School District, Santa Ana, CA)
- » Keeping Kids in School Initiative (KKIS) in Sonoma, CA
- » Capturing Kids' Hearts (CKH) Study in South Carolina
- » Texas Research-Based Framework for School-Based Law Enforcement Study



SCHOOL SAFETY SPOTLIGHT

Justice Prevention and Research Center (JPRC)

JPRC.WestEd.org

Through research, evaluation, and partnerships, WestEd's JPRC actively works to increase safety for all children, adults, schools, and communities. The Center works with districts and states to:

- * Assess implementation readiness for school safety programs
- * Conduct needs assessment to identify opportunities for enhanced school safety
- * Manage data inventories and systems assessments to determine effective data collection strategies, conduct gap analyses, and create school climate report cards
- * Construct and administer surveys of school climate, safety perceptions, and crime and discipline issues for students, staff, administrators, and parents →



For more information about WestEd and solutions to support your school safety efforts, please contact Anthony Petrosino.

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- * Evaluate existing school safety interventions and analyze and summarize the evidence base for particular school safety strategies

Additionally, the Center supports cross-sector collaboratives as they fund, implement, and advance

the knowledge base related to preventing crime and violence, and other high-risk behaviors.

The Center is led by Director Anthony Petrosino, who has more than 30 years of experience conducting research in areas such as violence prevention, school safety, and juvenile justice.

Recently published and produced by the JPRC, this **series of briefs** provides research-based insight into topics that impact school safety planning.



Are Metal Detectors Effective at Making Schools Safer?

BY JACLYN SCHILDKRAUT, KATHRYN GROGAN

→ WestEd.org/JPRC-School-Safety-Metal-Detectors

What Do We Know About the Effects of School-Based Law Enforcement on School Safety?

BY ALEXIS STERN, ANTHONY PETROSINO

→ WestEd.org/JPRC-School-Safety-Law-Enforce

Five Misconceptions About School Shootings

BY PETER LANGMAN, ANTHONY PETROSINO, HANNAH PERSSON

→ WestEd.org/JPRC-School-Safety-Five-Misconceptions



SCHOOL SAFETY SPOTLIGHT

Center to Improve Social and Emotional Learning and School Safety (SEL Center)

The national SEL Center works to expand the knowledge and capacity of state and local education agencies to integrate evidence-based social and emotional learning (SEL) and school safety practices and programs. The SEL Center focuses on the most urgent and important needs of the field in its approach to work. Selcenter.WestEd.org



SCHOOL SAFETY SPOTLIGHT

Trauma-Informed Practices and Resilience at WestEd

Trauma-Informed Practices and Resilience at WestEd provides expertise and resources to help overcome trauma and its effects and encourage environments designed for safe, healthy, and engaged learning.

WestEd.org/TIP



SCHOOL SAFETY SPOTLIGHT

School Climate and Wellness Partnership

School Climate and Wellness Partnership creates a foundation of safety, support, and health – the necessary conditions for effective teaching and learning. WestEd collaborates with key stakeholders to increase staff capacity and design and implement a school climate and wellness improvement plan.

WestEd.org/SCWP

LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR WORK

Visit us online to discover WestEd's full portfolio of research, evaluation, resources, and services dedicated to health, school safety, and well-being.

WestEd.org/School-Safety



To learn more about WestEd, visit WestEd.org. We also invite you to sign up for our semi-monthly e-newsletter, the WestEd E-Bulletin, to receive the latest research, free resources, and solutions from WestEd.

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