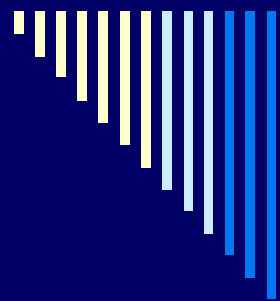


Character Education Progress

Eric Swensen, Director of School Counseling
Donato Saponaro, Asst. Principal, Indian Hill
Elizabeth Giacobbe, Principal, Village School



Overview

- The Beginning
- The Division of Safe and Civil Schools (DSACS)
- What programs have been implemented the last two years
- What the future holds



The Beginning

- Barbara Duncan meeting
 - Vickie P (Highland Park)
 - Maurice Elias
 - Formed initial steering committee

 - The Division of Safe and Civil Schools (DSACS)
 - State Initiative in its 4th year
 - We came on board when the state had only a few schools participating - now there are over 250!
 - Assists schools in developing Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) and Character Education programs
-



DSACS Goals

- Sustainability
 - Programs need to be related; be conscious of the language in all of them when developing new ones
 - Assistance
 - They review our district goals, and assist in our "staying the course."
 - Let's help you get started
 - Committee - get people that are driven to implement
 - Donnie Saponaro, Liz Giacobbe, Lisa Marino, school counselors
 - Patience
 - Effective Character Ed. Programs take time!
-



In the 2 years since . . .

- We went from 1 teacher using the Responsive Classroom SEL Program to over 40!
 - Heroes for Cool Kids
 - Peer Proof
 - "If the Shoe Fits"
 - Bullying programs
-



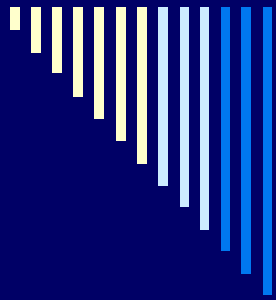
High School and Satz

□ Heroes for Cool Kids

- High school students visit elementary schools to assist a select group of children
- Program run by Randy Westrol
- The greatest benefit is actually for the high school students

□ Bullying Assembly

- Ryan's Story
 - Student and staff response
 - "Maybe now, they will stop!"
-



Indian Hill (cont.)

- Ongoing Professional Development
 - Classroom Observations at Conover Road School – Colts Neck
 - Patti Reynolds – Nationally certified Responsive Classroom Trainer
 - Visited for two district professional development days
 - Responsive Classroom Summer Institutes
 - Weeklong training to become nationally certified
 - Sent 8 teachers district wide last summer to RC1
 - Continue with RC1/RC2 this summer



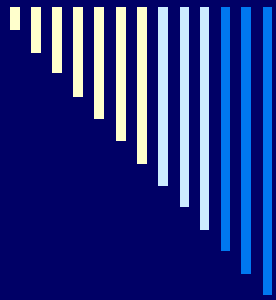
High School and Satz (cont.)

□ Peer Proof

- 6-week program with lessons in Peer Pressure, Internet Safety, Kindness, etc.
- James Bruce in collaboration with retired State Police Officer

□ DSACS surveys

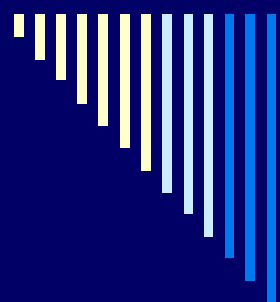
- Surveys given to staff and students by Ms. Magnotti
 - Survey results analyzed to begin a follow to those students who have been exposed to the Responsive Classroom
-



Indian Hill

□ Responsive Classroom

- Began with one class 2 years ago . . . And now have over 16 participating teachers throughout 4th and 5th grades
- Morning Meetings
 - Greeting
 - Morning Message
 - Share
 - Activity
 - Return to Morning Message to tie into curriculum



Village

- Responsive Classroom 18+ Teachers

- School-Wide Character Ed Program
 - "Going the Extra Mile"
 - Staff incentive
 - "If the Shoe Fits . . ."
 - Students earn "sneakers" for demonstrating the 6 Pillars
 - Character Ed. Committee - Assembly Programs
 - \$500 from Exxon to purchase 50 \$10.00 gift cards to Barnes and Noble
 - Service Learning Projects



Where do we go from here?

- Follow up program to Responsive Classroom to be implemented with Satz students
 - DSACS recently gave us an advisor who serves as a liaison for the District's Character Ed. Committee
 - Will implement goals in 8-week cycles for each school; to be monitored by DSACS
 - Continued Professional Development
-