



---

---

# Friday Beat

## March 2, 2007 Edition

---

---



For additional resources on these topics and others related to school health education and services, visit the School Health Program web site at [www.dshs.state.tx.us/schoolhealth](http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/schoolhealth)

### **Quote to Note:**

*“Dreams are the touchstones of our character.”*  
*-Henry David Thoreau*

### **Program Notices and Postings:**

#### **Texas School Health Advisory Committee Meeting-March 5, 2007**

The Texas School Advisory Committee (TSHAC) is set to meet March 5, 2007 from 9:30a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the DSHS Complex --Brown Heatly Bldg., 4900 North Lamar, Austin, Texas, Room 1410. This meeting is open to the public. To view the meeting notice and agenda, please visit

[http://info.sos.state.tx.us/pls/pub/pubomquery\\$omquery.queryview?P\\_OM\\_ID=92906&Z\\_CHK=6973](http://info.sos.state.tx.us/pls/pub/pubomquery$omquery.queryview?P_OM_ID=92906&Z_CHK=6973).

#### **\*Reminder--DSHS 2008 Competitive RFP for School Based Health Centers**

The Department of State Health Services through the School Health program is pleased to announce the 2008 RFP for school-based health centers. Two contracts at \$125,000 each will be awarded as start up funding for school-based health centers that will deliver primary and preventive health care to a school-age population located on a school campus. Application deadline is March 26, 2007. The RFP is available online at [www.dshs.state.tx.us/schoolhealth](http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/schoolhealth). For more information and questions, please contact Nancy Eichner at (512) 458-7111 ext. 2782.

### **Upcoming Conferences/ Meetings/ Professional Development:**

#### **2007 Texas Teen Tobacco Summit & Comprehensive Tobacco Prevention Conference—July 22-25, 2007**

The Texas Teen Tobacco Summit & Comprehensive Tobacco Prevention Conference, hosted by the Texas Department of State Health Services and the Center for Safe Communities and Schools, is a premier assembly of tobacco-control professionals, researchers, healthcare providers, community outreach specialists, law enforcement officers, counselors, teachers and youth. These individuals are dedicated to protecting Texas youth from the dangers of tobacco use and helping those who smoke to quit. This year's conference will take place on July 22-25, 2007 at the Woodlands Resort and Conference Center in The Woodlands, Texas. For more information, please visit [www.cscs.txstate.edu/cyi/cyi-tobacco-conf.htm#ConfInfo](http://www.cscs.txstate.edu/cyi/cyi-tobacco-conf.htm#ConfInfo).

#### **Lessons Learned in Diabetes Prevention and Control: Applying Best Practices—March 20, 2007**

The University of Texas at Austin, in collaboration with the Diabetes Program/ Council of the Texas Department of State Health Services, is presenting a one-day workshop on community-based prevention of chronic disease. This workshop is ideal for public health professionals who are implementing community-level interventions that target the primary risk factors for chronic disease who want to ensure that their work is coordinated with state-wide efforts. The workshop will be held at the J.J. Pickle Research Campus, The Common Conference Center, Room 1.102 in Austin, Texas on March 20, 2007 from 8:30am to 4:30pm. For more workshop information, please visit [www.dshs.state.tx.us/diabetes/PDF/brochure1.pdf](http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/diabetes/PDF/brochure1.pdf).

## ***Health Education:***

### **Texas Tobacco-Free Kids Day**

Texas students are flexing their muscles in the fight against tobacco March 28 to celebrate the first-ever Texas Tobacco-Free Kids Day. The event is an effort to partner with Texas schools to encourage students of all ages to live tobacco-free lifestyles.

Sponsored by the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) and the Center for Safe Communities and Schools (CSCS), the event is held in conjunction with the 12<sup>th</sup> annual Kick Butts Day, a national activity sponsored by the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids. Activities can be simple or elaborate, but the goal is to have every school in Texas participate in some way.

As an incentive, DSHS and CSCS are offering scholarships and travel stipends to the 2007 Texas Teen Tobacco Summit in The Woodlands for the first 20 schools or groups that submit event reports about their participation. Scholarships will provide registration, lodging and meals for three youth participants and one adult sponsor from each group.

Event information, activity guides and forms will be available soon at [www.cscs.txstate.edu/cyi.htm](http://www.cscs.txstate.edu/cyi.htm). Keep your eyes peeled for coming details in the Friday Beat.

### **2007 Polling Data on Teens and Adults Now Available**

Yesterday the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy released "With One Voice: America's Adults and Teens Sound Off About Teen Pregnancy". This national survey is the fifth in the series of national surveys dating back to 2001. Some survey highlights include:

#### **Abstinence and Contraception:**

- An overwhelming majority of adults (93%) and teens (90%) continue to believe that providing young people with a strong abstinence message is important.
- Adults (73%) and teens (56%) also continue to believe that young people need more information about abstinence and contraception, rather than either/or.

#### **Attitudes and Beliefs:**

- Most sexually experienced teens (60%) wish they had waited longer to have intercourse.

To view the entire survey, please visit [www.teenpregnancy.org/resources/data/pdf/WOV2007.pdf](http://www.teenpregnancy.org/resources/data/pdf/WOV2007.pdf).

## ***Healthy and Safe School Environment:***

### **Guide to Green Cleaning**

Healthy Schools Network, Inc. has made "Guide to Green Cleaning: Healthier Cleaning and Maintenance Practices and Products for Schools" available online. The guide provides a helpful checklist of things to consider in trying to establish a healthier school environment. The guide can be downloaded at [www.healthyschools.org/documents/green\\_cleaning\\_guide.pdf](http://www.healthyschools.org/documents/green_cleaning_guide.pdf).

## ***Counseling and Mental Health Services:***

### **New School-Connected Mental Health Services Grant**

The Robert Wood Foundation announced today the recipients of the Caring Across Communities grant program. Grants were awarded to programs in 15 communities to address the mental health challenges facing growing numbers of immigrant and refugee children. According to the Foundation, the new programs will aim to improve the mental health of new residents by addressing the effects of social factors such as language skills, cultural differences, poor education, and poverty on the more than 30 million immigrant and refugee children currently living in this country. Each of the 15 projects has been funded for three years for a maximum grant of \$300,000. For more information, please visit [www.rwjf.org/newsroom/newsreleasesdetail.jsp?id=10478](http://www.rwjf.org/newsroom/newsreleasesdetail.jsp?id=10478).

### **Teen Diabetes Discussion Board-- By Susan Young (DSHS Diabetes Prevention & Control Program)**

Attention teens! If you are at least 13 years old and you feel like chatting with someone who has diabetes...

you can enter a discussion board at the Joslin Diabetes Center in Boston, Massachusetts. Teens with diabetes can find information, share experiences, ask questions, and learn from others. The Joslin Conferences, as they are called, resemble a chat room; the discussions are moderated and everything is confidential. To log on, please visit: [www.joslin.org](http://www.joslin.org).

### ***Parent and Community Involvement:***

#### **U.S. Department of Education -- Parent Information and Training Grant Program—Deadline: March 14, 2007**

The U.S. Department of Education is accepting applications for its Parent Information and Training Grant Program. The purpose of this program is to provide training and information to enable individuals with disabilities, and the parents, family members, guardians, advocates or other authorized representatives to participate more effectively with professionals in meeting the vocational, independent living and rehabilitation needs of those with disabilities. Grants of \$700,000 will be awarded to seven applicants. For more information, visit <http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/01jan20071800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2007/pdf/E7-2370.pdf>.

### ***Staff Wellness Promotion:***

#### **Ideas and Resources**

The Tucson Unified School District (TUSD) has a great web page devoted to this important component of comprehensive school health. The web page offers ideas on how TUSD gets its staff energized about being healthy and making healthy choices. It also has an online form so that employees can submit their health ideas to be possibly incorporated into TUSD's Staff Wellness Initiative called Project Ship Shape. To view the web page, visit <http://instech.tusd.k12.az.us/comphealth/shps.asp>.

### ***Health Services:***

#### **You Can't Do It Alone: Free Materials Offer Information on Benefits**

Sometimes good social work depends on successful marketing. Getting a family the services they need may come down to making sure the family knows the services are available.

The Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) has free English/Spanish materials promoting CHIP and Children's Medicaid, two programs that provide healthcare coverage for children in low-income families. The posters, brochures and other promotional pieces can be seen and ordered at [www.chipmedicaid.com/cbo/order.htm](http://www.chipmedicaid.com/cbo/order.htm).

#### **Pandemic Influenza Preparedness for Schools Satellite Broadcast / Webcast—May 17, 2007**

Pandemic Influenza Preparedness for Schools is a satellite broadcast presented by the California Department of Health Services Immunization Branch and Emergency Preparedness Office, the California Department of Education, and the California Distance Learning Health Network. They are partnering to create a comprehensive multi-media training program to prepare local health department personnel, county and district school administrators for a possible influenza pandemic. The information will be geared to California, but should be helpful to anyone involved in Pandemic Flu Planning for Schools.

Topics that will be covered in the training include:

- school closure,
- continuity of education,
- average daily attendance (ADA),
- issues specific to certain populations such as preschools and students living in dormitories, and
- how schools can incorporate pandemic flu planning into their existing safe school plans.

Additional information and site registration for this broadcast is available at: [www.cdlnh.com/Schools.info](http://www.cdlnh.com/Schools.info)

## ***Physical Education:***

### **Finish Line Youth Foundation -- Grants for Youth Programs—Deadline: Rolling**

The Finish Line Youth Foundation is accepting applications for its Grants for Youth Programs. The purpose of this program is to support youth athletic and wellness programs that place importance on living a healthy lifestyle, bolstering confidence and leadership skills, and teaching the importance of teamwork. For more information, visit [www.finishline.com/store/youthfoundation/guidelines.jsp](http://www.finishline.com/store/youthfoundation/guidelines.jsp).

### **Physical Activity Program for Students in Middle and Junior High School**

On February 22, 2007, the Commissioner of Education sent a letter to all school superintendents regarding questions related to off campus physical activity. This letter provided clarification of the rules.

Here's a brief excerpt: "As the rules are written, students may not leave campus to fulfill local physical activity requirements. It was not, however, the intention of the board to eliminate the option for students to achieve their physical activity requirement through an off-campus activity offered during the school day."

For the complete text and details, visit [www.tea.state.tx.us/taa/comm022207.html](http://www.tea.state.tx.us/taa/comm022207.html).

## ***Nutrition Services:***

### **FDA Update on Peter Pan Peanut Butter**

On February 14, 2007, FDA advised consumers not to eat any Peter Pan peanut butter purchased since May 2006 and not to eat Great Value peanut butter with a product code beginning with "2111" purchased since May 2006 because of risk of contamination with Salmonella Tennessee. Salmonella is a bacterium that causes food borne illness, and "Tennessee" is a type of Salmonella.

All Peter Pan peanut butter purchased since May 2006 is affected; only those jars of Great Value peanut butter purchased since May 2006 with a product code beginning with "2111" are affected. Although Great Value peanut butter with the specified product code has not been linked by CDC to the cases of Salmonella Tennessee infection, the product is manufactured in the same plant as Peter Pan peanut butter and, thus, is believed to be at similar risk of contamination. Great Value peanut butter made by manufacturers other than ConAgra is not affected. To view the entire FDA Advisory, please visit [www.fda.gov/bbs/topics/NEWS/2007/NEW01565.html](http://www.fda.gov/bbs/topics/NEWS/2007/NEW01565.html).

---

External links to other sites appearing in the Friday Beat are intended to be informational and do not represent an endorsement by the Department of State Health Services. These sites may also not be accessible to people with disabilities. External email links are provided to you as a courtesy. Please be advised that you are not emailing the DSHS and DSHS policies do not apply should you choose to correspond.

For information about any of the programs listed, contact the sponsoring organization directly. For comments or questions about the Friday Beat, contact Laurie Anderson, information listed below.

Laurie Anderson  
Child Health and Safety Group  
Health Promotion Unit  
1100 W. 49th St., G407  
Austin, TX 78756  
512-458-7111, ext. 3032  
512-458-7555 fax  
[laurie.anderson@dshs.state.tx.us](mailto:laurie.anderson@dshs.state.tx.us)