Friday Beat
May 6, 2022, Edition

The newsletter that takes a [Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child](#) approach.

Announcements
Say What! Virtual Summit
The Texas School Safety Center (TxSSC) is hosting a Say What! Tobacco-Free Virtual Summit on May 18. The summit will cover the dangers of vaping and its impact on mental health and wellness. Participants will learn how the tobacco industry has evolved the e-cigarette to addict more people every year. Discussion includes what advocates are doing to fight back and how you and your youth group can join the fight. Please check out the Say What! website to [learn how to host a watch party of the virtual summit and to register](#) to attend.

Wildfire Smoke and Children
The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recognizes May as [Wildfire Awareness Month](#) and has developed a [wildfire smoke and children resource](#). View tips to protect children before, during, and after a wildfire. Schools can share this resource with families and talk to students about the importance of preparedness.

Professional Development
School-Based Law Enforcement Trainings
The TxSSC developed four free, in-person school-based law enforcement (SBLE) training courses. The courses include the most critical topics relevant to SBLE officers today. These SBLE trainings support the TxSSC mission to serve schools and communities to create safe, secure, and healthy learning environments for all. Share this opportunity with Texas peace officers working in or responding to schools. Register for [introductory](#), [intermediary](#), [advanced](#), and [master](#) trainings.

School Nurse Self-Paced Course: School Nurses are All for Them: Human Papillomavirus Vaccination in Schools 2021-2022
The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston developed a self-paced course for school nurses. Course topics include the importance of the Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine, school nurses as HPV vaccination champions, effective strategies for communicating with parents, and much more. Continuing nursing education (CNE) credit is available. [Register for the School Nurses are All for Them: HPV Vaccination in Schools 2021-2022 course](#).

Webinar for the New Toolkit: "Increasing Well-Child Visits and Vaccinations in School-Aged Youth"

The School-Based Health Alliance (SBHA), the National Association of School Nurses (NASN), and the School Superintendents Association (AASA) created an online Toolkit to help schools and health providers encourage families to catch up on their children's well care visits (WCVs) and all immunizations. Since COVID, many families have postponed necessary visits and shots, yet schools must still adhere to their states' immunization requirements. This Toolkit includes ideas on operations, partnerships, and communication strategies. It also has practical resources such as MOUs, consent forms, letters, talking points, and flyers/posters. A webinar on this New Toolkit: "Increasing Well-Child Visits and Vaccinations in School-Aged Youth" will take place on May 12, 2022, 2:00 p.m. Central Time.

Funding Opportunities
2022-2023 Federal Grant Application Trainings

The Texas Education Agency (TEA) will release the consolidated applications for various federal grants beginning May 11, 2022. The TEA will conduct webinar training sessions for grant applications support in June. Please visit the TEA Grant Resource page for training dates, times, and descriptions. For additional information, please contact the TEA at grants@tea.texas.gov.

Health Services
Vision and Hearing and Spinal Screening (VHSS) Reporting

The reporting period for vision, hearing, and spinal screening (VHSS) is open for the 2021-2022 school year. Schools are required to submit the results to the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) online through the Child Health Reporting System (CHRS) between January 15 and June 30 of each year. The reporting platform will be disabled after June 30, 2022. Access this DSHS flyer about VHSS annual reporting to learn more. To log in and report now, visit the Child Health Reporting System.

Counseling, Psychological and Social Services
Texas OnCourse Resources

Texas OnCourse is a state-funded initiative implemented through partnership from The University of Texas at Austin, The TEA, the Texas Workforce Commission, and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. The initiative created a variety of resources to support middle and high school students as they plan for the future and to improve college and career readiness. Texas OnCourse resources include websites, games, webinars and other tools. Middle Galaxy is a virtual game to help students learn about areas of interest or skill options in high school. MapMyGrad supports high school students through course selection. Roadtrip Texas is a recorded webinar of professionals and former students sharing their experiences as students.

Employee Wellness
Lunch and Learn: Beyond Burnout: Exploring the Cost of Caring
The TxSSC, in partnership with the Trauma and Grief Center at The Hackett Center for Mental Health, will host this virtual event on May 13, 2022, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Central Time. This event is geared towards educators, administrators, and school safety professionals. Participants will be given tools to decrease risk for compassion fatigue, stress, trauma, and burn-out. The presentation will reframe self-care and offer a live Q&A session. Register for the Beyond Burnout: Exploring the Cost of Caring training.

Family Engagement
Managing Asthma in School: A Guide for Parents
The Allergy and Asthma Network released a guide for parents to support managing asthma in schools. It's important for parents and schools to work as partners to care for students with asthma. Parents should communicate their child's asthma needs to school staff and provide the necessary medication and paperwork. School staff and school nurses should develop school health policies and plans so they are prepared to deal with asthma at school. View the Managing Asthma in School: A Guide for Parents.

Social Media Toolkit: Water Safety
May is National Water Safety Month. The Texas Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) released a social media toolkit on water safety. Use these tools on your school or organization's social media to share important water safety messages with parents and families. The toolkit includes information on outdoor water safety, indoor water safety, and links to other resources.

Community Involvement
CDC Healthy Schools Partner Toolkit
Out of School Time (OST) can include before- and after-school programs on a school campus or facilities such as academic programs, specialty programs, and multipurpose programs that provide an array of activities. Many OST organizations have adopted voluntary standards to help make physical activity and nutritious foods and beverages an everyday part of their programs. The Oak Ridge Associated Universities prepared a toolkit of resources for the CDC to support OST, healthy eating, and physical activity. Explore the resources on the CDC's Healthy Schools Partner Toolkit, including webinars, guides, articles, and ready-to-go handouts to share with staff and families.

Quote to Note
"The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams." - Eleanor Roosevelt

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