

# Friday Beat

## September 2, 2022, Edition

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

### Announcements

#### **2023 Texas Environmental Excellence Awards Application Open**

The [Texas Commission on Environmental Quality \(TCEQ\)](#) is accepting applications for the 2023 Texas Environmental Excellence Awards. These awards recognize achievements in environmental preservation and protection. Citizens, communities, and organizations can apply to receive the state's highest environmental honor. Education, youth, and civic/community are among the ten award categories. Applications are due Friday, September 23, 2022. [Learn more about the Texas Environmental Excellence Awards](#) and apply.

### Professional Development

#### **Learning Collaborative to Address Adolescent Relationship Abuse and Human Trafficking for School-Based Health Centers**

The [School-Based Health Alliance](#) is partnering with [Health Partners on IPV + Exploitation](#) to offer a six-session learning collaborative. The [Healing-Centered Approaches to Addressing Adolescent Relationship Abuse and Human Trafficking for School-Based Health Centers Learning Collaborative](#) is for adolescent-serving school-based health centers. Participants will build capacity to promote healthy relationships and prevent adolescent relationship abuse and human trafficking. The collaborative will meet biweekly from October through December. Apply for the learning collaborative by September 12, 2022. Read the [full program description](#). Contact Emily Baldi at [ebaldi@sbh4all.org](mailto:ebaldi@sbh4all.org) for questions.

#### **Attend the Webinar on Implementing New Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) and New School Health Advisory Council (SHAC) Rules**

[Texas Action for Healthy Kids](#) is hosting this webinar on September 20, 2022, at 11:30 am CT. Discussion will focus on the new rules for SHACs and the new TEKS for health and physical education. Participants will learn how different districts have implemented these new rules. Districts will also share their processes for approving new curriculum. [Register for the webinar](#).

### Funding Opportunities

#### **Oliver Foundation Healthy Choices Grants**

The [Oliver Foundation's](#) goal is to encourage children, families, and communities in Texas to improve eating and physical activity patterns. The Oliver Foundation has several Healthy Choices grants available for schools ranging from \$750 to \$5,000. The grants require physical activity and nutrition education components. Grant

applications have rolling deadlines until October 15, 2022. Learn about [eligibility for the grants and how to apply](#).

## **Health Education**

### **Tobacco Education Resources for Parents and Teachers**

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) collaborated with the American Academy of Pediatrics to develop a video series on youth tobacco use. Pediatricians answer questions about youth nicotine addiction and cessation resources. The website includes tobacco education resources for parents and teachers. View the [FDA resources and watch the videos](#).

## **Physical Education and Physical Activity**

### **Every Kid Outdoors**

The National Park Service has an [Every Kid Outdoors](#) initiative for fourth-grade students. Teachers can submit requests for all fourth-grade students to receive a free National Park Pass. The pass is valid from September 1, 2022 – August 31, 2023. There are also activities and resources to use with students to learn about the parks. Use this resource to encourage students to stay active and learn about the environment.

## **Counseling, Psychological and Social Services**

### **Texas School Mental Health Resource**

The Texas Education Agency, Advancing Wellness and Resiliency in Education, and the University of Texas at Austin Texas Institute for Excellence in Mental Health partnered to create the [Texas School Mental Health website](#). It aims to provide districts and campuses with the resources to help develop a comprehensive school mental health system. Free toolkits, training, and events are all available.

## **Social and Emotional School Climate**

### **Ensuring Child Safety During Times of Disruption**

The [Children's Safety Network](#) published a fact sheet on [Ensuring Child Safety During Times of Disruption](#). This fact sheet describes times of disruption and their effect on children. Read about strategies, examples, and resources to keep children safe during times of disruption. [Download the full resource](#).

## **Quote to Note**

"Life is really simple, but we insist on making it complicated." - Confucius

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