

# MICHIGAN *Safe Schools* INITIATIVE

## The Education Alliance

- Michigan Association of School Boards
- Michigan Education Association
- Michigan Association of Intermediate School Administrators
- Michigan Association of Secondary School Principals
- Michigan Parent Teacher Association
- Michigan Elementary and Middle School Principals Association
- Michigan School Business Officials
- Michigan Federation of Teachers and School Related Personnel
- Michigan Association of School Administrators
- Middle Cities Education Association
- Michigan Business Leaders for Education Excellence
- Michigan State University College of Education

Auburn Hills Police Department

Big Rapids School District

City of Sterling Heights

Crime Victim Services, Michigan Department of Community Health

Hazel Park Schools

Incident Management Team

Inkster Public Schools

Jackson Community College

Joseph A. Young & Associates

Lansing Schools District Department of Public Safety

Lansing Police Department

Marshall Public Schools

Mason Public Schools

Metropolitan Association of Improved School Legislation

Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police

Michigan Association of Public School Academies

Michigan Center for the Prevention of Violence in Schools, Ferris State University

Michigan Department of Education

Michigan Department of State Police Prevention Services

Michigan Department of State Police Emergency Management Division

Michigan Family Independence Agency

Michigan Municipal League

Michigan Regional Community Policing Institute

Michigan Sheriff's Association

Michigan Township Association

Michigan State University School of Criminal Justice

Middle Cities Risk Management Trust

National Center of Community Policing

Neighborhood Associations of Michigan

Office of Drug Control Policy - Michigan

Department of Community Health

Prosecuting Attorney Coordinating Council

School Employer Trust/School Employers Group

State 4-H Youth Program

Sterling Heights Emergency Services

U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco & Firearms

U.S. Secret Service

Walter French Academy

Western Michigan Risk Management Trust

# *Fast Facts....*

## Getting Parents Involved in Addressing School Violence . . . .

School violence is not just a school problem; it involves and affects the entire community. It is recognized that in order to effectively address, prevent, and respond to incidents of school violence, all parties concerned must be involved. Schools around the nation are developing safety and emergency response plans. One important component of these should be the involvement and participation of parents. This involvement of parents is a challenge that schools around the nation continue to face and address.

Below are some possible avenues for schools to involve parents in addressing issues such as school violence:

- Develop effective, ongoing communication techniques for working with all parents to ensure a positive relationship between home and school
- Parent/teacher problem solving conferences
- School policy and codes disseminated to and if possible, reviewed with parents (open houses, PTA, pamphlets)
- Town hall or community forum on school safety
- Parental involvement in the development of school safety and emergency response plans
- Parental notification of the existence of school safety and emergency response plans
- Provide parents with information concerning potential problem behaviors to look for in their children and how to respond if problem behavior is found
- Encourage parents to share information concerning problem behavior on their children or their children's friends (to hotlines if available)
- Encourage parental involvement in school activities
- Develop/implement volunteer programs for parents such as mentoring, teacher's aides, hall watches, bus stop/playground watches or patrols
- Providing parenting skills workshops (*like anyone is going to come to these*)
- Provide access for parents to outside agencies that offer counseling

Parents can provide a vital link in addressing school violence. The development of information sharing between schools and parents is an integral aspect in attempts to prevent future incidents of school violence.