

EFFECTIVE PREVENTION CURRICULUM

RESEARCH-BASED PREVENTION CURRICULA PROVIDES STUDENTS WITH:

- Information about various drugs and the consequences of their use.
- Behavioral skills including decision-making, values, clarification, assertiveness, and stress management.
- Normative education to debunk the myths that “everyone does drugs” or that using drugs increases one’s status among peers.
- Support in resisting pressures to experiment with risk taking behaviors.
- Social skills to decrease isolation and assist students in establishing positive friendships and social support networks.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES	
Principals: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Learn about principles of prevention and make school resources available to support effective prevention activities. They organize a process for selecting effective curricula that meet their school’s needs to prepare all faculty to implement it faithfully.	
All Staff Members: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Are positive role models who promote a protective school culture and activities that reinforce positive messages.	Teachers: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Actively participate in selecting research-based curricula and learning to implement each curriculum as it is designed.
Parents: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Seek accurate information about alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs. They talk to children in the family about substance use and their personal values.	Community Members: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Work with schools and community coalitions to identify and eliminate mixed messages about substance use that appear in the community (i.e., selling beer during teen night events).
Superintendents and School Boards: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Make prevention a priority and provide prevention efforts funding. They provide schools with direction and support in implementing research-based curricula.	State and Federal Politicians: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Learn about principles of prevention. They propose and endorse curriculum adoption standards and funding allocations that encourage schools to adopt research-based curricula.

TOOLS

Research has identified a number of curricula that have documented efficacy in reducing the use of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs, as well as other risk-taking behavior. Consult the following guides before making decisions about curriculum selection: (*Additional resources located in the handbook*)

Blueprints for Violence Prevention: www.colorado.edu/cspv/blueprints/index.html

A Guide to School Drug Prevention: www.drugstrategies.org