



## **FACT SHEET**

### ***Time to Act—Time to React***

### ***Bullying Prevention Curriculum***

#### **Press Conference Speakers**

- Tony Evers, State Superintendent of Public Instruction
- Fred Evert, Executive Director of the WEA Trust
- Sue Klang, widow of Weston High School Principal John Klang

#### **School Safety and Bullying Statistics**

- Bullying is most likely to occur in schools where adult supervision is minimal, where teachers and students are indifferent to or accept bullying behavior, and where rules against bullying are not consistently enforced.
- School-wide commitments to end bullying are more effective than cracking down on individual bullies. In fact, bullying can be reduced by up to 50%.
- In 2009, Wisconsin high school students reported that 12.5% of males and 6.7% of females were in a physical fight at school in the past 12 months.
- 3.7% of Wisconsin high school students reported that they did not go to school at least once in the previous 30 days because they did not feel safe.
- 22.5% of high school age students in our state report that they had been bullied at school in the past 12 months.

#### **Curriculum Details**

- Two age-appropriate programs are available, one for Grades 3 through 5 and one for Grades 6 through 8.
- Curriculum includes both classroom instruction materials developed by DPI experts and a CD that demonstrates how teachers can utilize the research-based material.
- The new curriculum was tested by at least one school in every CESA district. Preliminary findings resulted in these positive outcomes: students were able to define bullying behavior, students could identify situations where bullying was happening, students could use effective communication skills to address bullying behavior, and students were more willing to talk to school adults about bullying.
- The WEA Trust is underwriting the cost of the printing of the curriculum so that every public grade school and public middle school can have this curriculum at no cost to the school district.

### **Contacts/Additional Information**

Jon Hisgen, School Health Consultant  
Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction  
608-267-9234 or jon.hisgen@dpi.state.wi.us  
**Web site:** [safeandrespectfulschools.com](http://safeandrespectfulschools.com)

### **Curriculum Endorsements**

Organizations that will appear in support of the DPI's anti-bullying curriculum include:

WEA Trust  
Wisconsin Education Association Council  
Wisconsin Association of School District Administrators  
Wisconsin Association of State Business Officials  
Wisconsin Association of School Boards  
United Way of Dane County  
Mental Health America of Wisconsin  
Wisconsin Psychological Association  
Association of Wisconsin School Administrators  
Wisconsin Professional Police Association  
Wisconsin Psychiatric Association  
Wisconsin Chiefs of Police Association  
Wisconsin Sheriffs and Deputy Sheriffs Association  
Wisconsin Prevention Network  
Wisconsin Association of School Nurses  
FACE Kids