

The White House Blog

Subscribe

Add Your Voice to the White House Conference on Bullying Prevention

Posted by Kevin Jennings on March 10, 2011 at 06:00 AM EST

Today, President Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama are hosting the White House Conference on Bullying Prevention to bring together students, parents, educators, policymakers, non-profit leaders, and administration officials to address the challenges posed by bullying, to highlight successful efforts of those who are taking action, and to send the message we must all work together to make our schools and communities safe for all students.

Last fall several tragic suicides linked to bullying caught the nation's attention and focused it on what has been a longstanding and pervasive problem in our schools. This was not "news" to us in DC: in 2009 we had convened an interagency task force on bullying, staged a national summit on the subject in August 2010 (you can watch segments on CSPAN [here](#)), and remain engaged on many fronts in efforts to reduce bullying, including launching a new web site today, [stopbullying.gov](#). But with the President's involvement today, we are sending the strongest message we can that all of us need to do more. (And in case you missed it, the President and First Lady released a special video message yesterday).



We need you to be a part of the dialogue, too. You can watch portions of the Conference on Bullying Prevention live right here on [WhiteHouse.gov](#) and join in several special online discussions throughout the day.

Here's the lineup:

- 10:35 AM: Opening Remarks by First Lady Michelle Obama and President Obama**
 Watch live on [WhiteHouse.gov/live](#).
- 11:00 AM: A conversation with experts on effective programs and policies to prevent bullying**
 Panel Discussion with Susan Swearer-Napalitano, Justin Patchin, Catherine Bradshaw, and George Sugai moderated by White House Senior Advisor Valerie Jarrett. Watch live at [WhiteHouse.gov/live](#)
- 12:20 PM: Special "Facebook Live" Event at the White House Conference on Bullying Prevention**
 Assistant to the President and Deputy Senior Advisor Stephanie Cutter, Facebook Chief Security Officer Joe Sullivan, MTV Vice President for Public Affairs Jason Rzepka and Rosalind Wiseman take questions from the public via Facebook on bullying prevention. Watch live at [WhiteHouse.gov/live](#) and submit your questions on [Facebook](#).
- 1:15PM: Open for Questions: iVillage with Secretary Sebelius at the White House Conference on Bullying Prevention**
 Kelly Wallace poses questions from the iVillage audience on bullying prevention to Secretary of Health and Human Services Kathleen Sebelius. Watch live at [WhiteHouse.gov/live](#).

WHITE HOUSE BLOGS

[The White House Blog](#)
[Middle Class Task Force](#)
[Council of Economic Advisers](#)
[Council on Environmental Quality](#)
[Council on Women and Girls](#)
[Office of Management and Budget](#)
[Office of Public Engagement](#)
[Office of Science & Tech Policy](#)
[Office of Urban Affairs](#)
[Open Government](#)
[Faith and Neighborhood Partnerships](#)
[Social Innovation and Civic Participation](#)
[US Trade Representative](#)
[Office National Drug Control Policy](#)

CATEGORIES

[Civil Rights](#)
[Defense](#)
[Disabilities](#)
[Economy](#)
[Education](#)
[Energy & Environment](#)
[Ethics](#)
[Family](#)
[Fiscal Responsibility](#)
[Foreign Policy](#)
[Health Care](#)
[Homeland Security](#)
[Immigration](#)
[Poverty](#)
[Rural](#)
[Seniors & Social Security](#)
[Service](#)
[Taxes](#)
[Technology](#)
[Urban Policy](#)
[Veterans](#)
[Women](#)
[Additional Issues](#)

ARCHIVES

[March 2011](#)
[February 2011](#)
[January 2011](#)
[December 2010](#)
[November 2010](#)
[October 2010](#)
[September 2010](#)

• 2:00PM: Administration Officials Deliver Closing Remarks at Conference Wrap-Up Session

Watch live on WhiteHouse.gov/live.

the WHITE HOUSE PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA



For too long, people have excused bullying by saying things like "What can you do? It's just how things have been going on forever. Kids are mean." Or "She just made a bad joke, she didn't mean to hurt anyone." Or worse yet, "Bullying is just part of growing up. A rite of passage." We reject those excuses. As the President, I have a moral obligation to ensure that our schools are safe for all of our children. We can, and we will, stop bullying now.

Kevin Jennings is the Assistant Deputy Secretary for Safe and Drug-Free Schools.

[+](#) Share/Bookmark

See more about [Education](#), [Family](#)

- [August 2010](#)
- [July 2010](#)
- [June 2010](#)
- [May 2010](#)
- [April 2010](#)
- [March 2010](#)
- [February 2010](#)
- [January 2010](#)
- [December 2009](#)
- [November 2009](#)
- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [April 2009](#)

WWW.WHITEHOUSE.GOV

En español | [Accessibility](#) | [Copyright Information](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Contact](#)
[USA.gov](#) | [Subscribe to RSS Feeds](#) | [Apply for a Job](#)