



Snapshot of U.S. Department of Education Office of Safe and Healthy Students (OSHS) Safe and Supportive Schools (S3) Grant to Arizona Department of Education

TOTAL AMOUNT AWARDED TO ARIZONA (2010-2014): \$5,874,815

AZ S3 PROGRAM SUMMARY

The primary school climate improvement goal of Arizona's four-year Safe and Supportive Schools (AZ S3) grant was to reduce high rates of drug- and violence-related behavior in 26 high schools across 14 school districts. AZ S3 focused on building school capacity to provide continuous, systemic support for all students. AZ S3 worked with the participating districts and schools to use annual school climate survey data – as well as discipline, incident, and other administrative data – to choose and implement interventions tailored to those districts' and schools' specific populations and needs. Grant activities paid special attention to student engagement, emphasizing that student engagement is the strongest predictor of success and good behavior in schools. AZ S3 also focused on teaming processes (with coaching support), including using data systematically to work toward common goals.

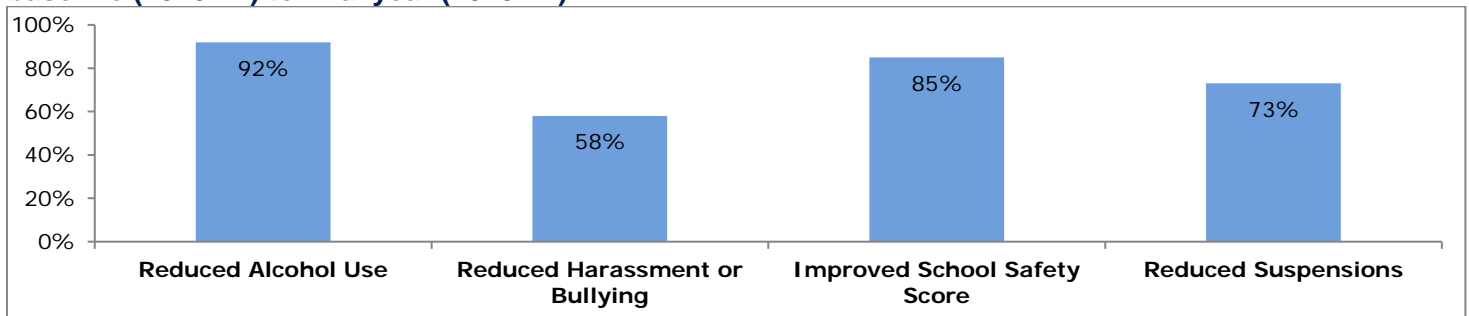
GOAL OF THE SAFE AND SUPPORTIVE SCHOOLS PROGRAM

S3 grantees reported annually on the number of participating schools with:

- A decreased percentage of students who reported alcohol use in the past 30 days;
- A decreased percentage of students who reported harassment or bullying on school property;
- Improvement of school safety scores (as defined by each grantee); and
- A decrease in the number of suspensions for violence without injury.

SUCCESSES & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Percentage of fully implemented participating AZ S3 schools that improved on GPRA measures, baseline (2010-11) to final year (2013-14)



- AZ S3 schools used two interventions as the cornerstones of the grant: Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) and Student Assistance Programs (SAPs). These programs built a strong foundation for safe and supportive learning environments.
- AZ S3 developed a logic model, which helped tie their goals, objectives, activities, outputs, and outcomes together. This model was a training tool for S3 staff and a road map for data collection and analysis.
- Students from different social groups served as leaders for school safety and change. At some schools, these students were the most effective advocates for school safety, especially in presentations to school board members and community groups.

DATA SOURCES

The S3 grant was a data-driven effort that utilized administrative and survey data to focus school climate improvement efforts, decide where to concentrate resources, and help select appropriate interventions.

Administrative Data

Administrative data on incidents, violence, and drug-related offenses were reported by schools to ADE¹ through Arizona Safety and Accountability for Education ([Az SAFE](#)), a statewide system for collecting, tracking, and reporting school safety and discipline incident data. Az SAFE's comprehensive, state-of-the-art design for data collection and reporting were integral to making data-informed decisions.

School Climate Surveys

AZ S3 utilized two surveys during the course of its grant: [Arizona Youth Risk Behavior Survey](#) (YRBS), which was administered in odd-numbered years (2011 and 2013 during the grant period) to students, and [AZ School Climate and Safety Survey](#) (SCSS), which was administered annually each spring from 2011–2014 to students, staff, and parents.

School Climate Safety Scores

AZ S3's safety score, the Climate Index (CI), was a figure calculated based on a formula that used data representing factors known to influence student and school success. The scores were used to facilitate comparisons between schools and for individual schools over time. The CI for each school, in each year, was calculated as follows:

$$CI = [1 - (\text{Average of prevalence/perception of school safety and school climate/connectedness}) + (\text{student violation score})] * 100$$

INTERVENTION FRAMEWORKS, PROGRAMS, AND PRACTICES

Frameworks
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports (PBIS)
Programs
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Alternatives to Suspension• BreakAway• Building Assets, Reducing Risks (BARR)*• Check-In/Check-Out (Ci/Co)• Class Action*• Community Development Model• Functional Behavioral Assessment (FBA)• Link Crew• NIDA Curriculum—The Brain: Understanding Neurobiology Through the Study of Addiction• Project Towards No Drug Abuse (Project TND)*• Rehabilitation, Empowerment, Natural Supports, Education & Work (RENEW)• Ripple Effects*• Student Assistance Programs (SAPs)• Too Good for Drugs and Violence*• Youth Empowerment Services (YES)
<p><i>*Classified as an evidence-based program (EBP) on the National Registry of Evidence-based Programs and Practices (NREPP) or What Works Clearinghouse.</i></p>
Practices
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Drug Impairment Training for Education Professionals (DITEP)• Peer mediation• Public Service Announcements (PSAs)• Student Study Team (SST) process• Teacher tips

SUSTAINABILITY AND SCALING UP

- Schools were required to submit action plans focused on sustainability of their grant efforts. These plans included actions and tasks to be completed May through September 2015 to sustain efforts. During the transition out of the grant period, AZ S3 made its website content and resources less grant-specific and more accessible to non-AZ S3 schools and districts across the State.
- School climate teams were trained on how to find and apply for grants, including how to incorporate the work of current grant partners and strategies for seeking new partners (e.g., faith-based and other local organizations).

¹ At the start of the grant period, schools varied in their accuracy of reporting incident data. ADE made improving accuracy a priority of the AZ S3 grant to ensure the validity of the school safety score (called the Climate Index [CI] by AZ S3).

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION S3 DEMOGRAPHICS

- Students served by project: 45,152
- Number of districts served: 14
- Number of schools served (as of final year): 26 high schools
- Average school size: 1,635

Participating Districts	Participating Schools
1. Cave Creek Unified	1. Cactus Shadows High School
2. Dysart Unified	2. Dysart High School 3. Sundown Mountain
3. Flagstaff Unified	4. Coconino High School 5. Flagstaff High School
4. Holbrook Unified	6. Holbrook High School
5. Kingman Unified	7. Kingman High School
6. Marana Unified	8. Marana High School 9. Mountain View High School
7. Mesa Unified	10. Mesa High School 11. Riverview Alternative Program 12. Superstition Alternative Program 13. Westwood High School
8. Paradise Valley Unified	14. North Canyon High School 15. Paradise Valley High School
9. Phoenix Union High School District	16. Alhambra High School 17. Carl Hayden High School 18. South Mountain High School
10. Scottsdale Unified	19. Coronado High School 20. Saguaro High School
11. Sunnyside Unified	21. Desert View High School 22. Sunnyside High School
12. Tolleson Union High School District	23. Copper Canyon High School 24. Sierra Linda High School
13. Willcox District	25. Willcox High School
14. Winslow Unified	26. Winslow High School

FURTHER DETAIL

- Arizona state profile: <https://safesupportivelearning.ed.gov/state-profiles/arizona>
- S3 Descriptive Study executive summary: <https://safesupportivelearning.ed.gov/state-grantees/safe-and-supportive-school-s3-grants>

CONTACT INFORMATION

Grant holder: Arizona Department of Education (ADE)

Web site: <http://www.azed.gov/prevention-programs/arizonasafesupportiveschools/>

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