



LRSP Status Report – June 2012

4.01 BHS School Environment SR 2012

Strategic Objective (SO):

4.01 Create safe, supportive, engaging and healthy school environments.

Topic of Strategic Objective (SO):

Foundations

Department/School: Bozeman High School

Leader: R. Watson, K. Gibson, G. Corneer

Team Members:

HS Leadership Team, Foundations

In a year, we hope to see the following progress on this strategic objective:

Decrease the number of office referrals related to school climate issues. Increase student awareness of the negative effects of drugs/alcohol/tobacco.

PROGRESS SUMMARY

In an effort to support a safe, supportive, engaging, and healthy school environment, the BHS staff has worked to implement counseling curriculum, assess classroom environments for safety, and to implement the Olweus bully prevention program.

We believe that school environment is directly related to student engagement. Our counseling staff has developed college and career readiness curriculum that was delivered in classrooms at every grade level this year. (Adding up all the visits from all the counselors, we estimate that there have been almost 200 classroom presentations completed this year.) The goal of the curriculum is to engage students in an analysis of their long-term goals and how their current 4-year course plan relates to their long-term goals. Along with goal setting, counselors provide support and instruction related to communication, study skills, and problem solving.

Teaching and modeling work place safety skills is an important career development skill for many of our classrooms. Several departments: Art, Trades and Industry, FACS, and Science have worked closely with the Montana Department of Labor and Industry to assess their environments for safety. Using feedback from the assessment, teachers were able to modify safety procedures and standards. Teachers in these areas have incorporated safety instruction as part of their regular classrooms routines. Safety rules and procedures are directly aligned to "industry standards." Not only do students receive instruction in how to create a safer classroom, but also how to avoid injury on the job site.

As a staff at BHS we recognize the importance of a creating safe and supportive school environment, free from issues of harassment and intimidation. To that end, we were excited to

learn that the district secured funding for the implementation of the Olweus bully prevention program. Our goal was to train all staff in the Olweus program at the April 13 PIR day. To accomplish this goal, our foundations team (including 16 teachers and 8 students) participated in a "train the trainer" model to prepare for the April 13 PIR. Involving students to serve as trainers helped to add relevance to our April 13 training. On that day we trained nearly 95% of our teaching staff, as well as some para-educators, secretaries, transportation staff, and kitchen staff.

We are in the third year of implementing the Dean of Students program. In that time, we have noted a decrease in the number of students who are referred to the attendance committee and a decrease in the total number of students losing credit for non-attendance. We note that parent communication has increased and we believe getting parents involved early has helped to decrease issues of non-attendance.