

STRENGTHENING CONNECTIONS: Challenging Conversations to Enhance School Climate

November 29–30, 2016 Richmond, Virginia



SOCIAL MEDIA AND NOTES



This year's conference will include a live Twitter feed from **VA_cntr4SchoolSafety** using **#VACLIMATE**. Look for special announcements or scheduling changes here. You are welcome to add your own tweets!



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Please note: Photos and/or videos from this event may appear on the DCJS website, social media sites, and in other agency materials.



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department of Criminal Justice Services

Francine C. Ecker
Director

1100 Bank Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219
(804) 786-4000
TDD (804) 786-8732

November 29, 2016

Dear Forum Participant:

On behalf of Governor McAuliffe and the Department of Criminal Justice Services, welcome to our forum, "2016 Strengthening Connections: Challenging Conversations to Enhance School Climate."

We are pleased to join with the Departments of Education, Health, and Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to bring you this comprehensive school climate forum and we thank our partner agencies for their contributions.

Experience in communities nationwide has shown that a nurturing school climate and uniform discipline practices are key elements of healthy and high achieving schools. We have learned that the zero-tolerance policies we once thought of as cutting edge simply do not work. They are, in fact, detrimental to the very climate that is needed to sustain learning and provide engagement and attachment for students in school.

This forum will give you opportunities to learn about these and other important topics, and to share information and network with your colleagues from around the state. Our ultimate goal is to send you back to your communities inspired and better equipped to help improve the learning climate in your schools.

Thank you for taking the time to attend and for your dedication to the well-being of our students. School safety and a school climate conducive to learning are priorities for all of us at DCJS and we look forward to continuing our work with you and your colleagues throughout Virginia toward those ends in the months and years ahead.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Francine C. Ecker".

Francine C. Ecker
Director

AGENDA: DAY ONE

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2016

- 7:30am–8:30am **Coffee, Registration, and Participant Check-in**
- 8:30am–9:00am **Welcome and Introductions**
Teresa P. Gooch, *Division Director, Law Enforcement, Department of Criminal Justice Services*
The Honorable Brian Moran, *Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security, Commonwealth of Virginia*
The Honorable Dietra Trent, *Secretary of Education, Commonwealth of Virginia*
- 9:00am–9:20am **Statewide Perspectives on Keeping Kids in Classrooms and Out of Courtrooms**
Kami Patrizio, Ed.D., *Assistant Professor, Virginia Tech*
- This presentation will highlight research findings based on data from the Departments of Criminal Justice Services, Juvenile Justice, and Education. Researchers will present detailed results on referrals of students to law enforcement by the schools, including what influences their involvement in the criminal justice system.
- 9:20am–10:30am **You Don't Know Me Until You Know Me**
Michael Fowlin, Psy. D., *Morristown, NJ*
- This is a one-person show that deals with the issues of race, discrimination, violence prevention, personal identity, suicide, gender equity, homophobia, and the emotional pain felt by special education children. In a gripping, fast paced performance, Michael Fowlin slips into and out of nine characters, both male and female, who “share their stories.” They share their stories in an often humorous, but at times heartbreaking, manner.
- 10:30am–10:45am **BREAK**
- 10:45am–12:00pm **Disciplined Too Young & Too Often: Understanding the School-To-Prison Pipeline**
Nubia Peña, *Training & Prevention Education Specialist, UCASA, North Salt Lake, UT*
- Across the country, school systems are shutting the doors of academic opportunity and funneling children into the juvenile and criminal justice systems by using overly harsh discipline practices and law enforcement to address student misbehavior. Anti-sexual violence advocates and community partners must be aware of current issues that increase a youth's vulnerability to perpetration in order to create innovative and relevant ways of engaging with targeted youth. This presentation will provide an overview of the pipeline and the various intersections of vulnerability that increase a child's risk of victimization. In addition, advocates will be encouraged to get involved in mitigating STPP issues to increase protective factors within schools by addressing policy change and reform.
- 12:00pm–1:00pm **LUNCH**

AGENDA: DAY ONE *(continued)*

1:00pm–1:30pm

Strengthening Connections at a State Level to Enhance Local School Environments

JoAnn Burkholder, *Director, Office of Student Services, Virginia Department of Education*

Donna Michaelis, *Manager, Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety, Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services*

Data shows that a strong school climate is instrumental in creating a great learning environment and a safe place for teaching and learning. What factors create a great school environment? What resources, trainings, and initiatives are in place at the state level to help eliminate the barriers to a strong school climate and support schools in strengthening connections with staff and students?

1:30pm–4:30pm

Paper Tigers: A Facilitated Discussion on Adverse Childhood Experiences

Jeanine Harper, *Executive Director of SCAN*

Fred Orelove, *TICN Trauma-Informed Schools Committee Co-Chair*

More than two decades ago, two respected researchers, clinical physician Dr. Vincent Felitti and CDC epidemiologist Robert Anda, published the game-changing Adverse Childhood Experiences Study. It revealed a troubling but irrefutable phenomenon: the more traumatic experiences the respondents had as children (such as physical and emotional abuse and neglect), the more likely they were to develop health problems later in life—problems such as cancer, heart disease, and high blood pressure. To complicate matters, there was also a troubling correlation between adverse childhood experiences and prevalence of drug and alcohol abuse, unprotected sex, and poor diet. The results of the study painted a staggering portrait of the price our children are paying for growing up in unsafe environments, all the while adding fuel to the fire of some of society's greatest challenges. However, this very same study contains the seed of hope: all of the above-mentioned risk factors—behavioral as well as physiological—can be offset by the presence of one dependable and caring adult. That person doesn't need to be the mother or the father or even a close or distant relative. More often than not, that stable, caring adult is a teacher. It is here, at the crossroads of at-risk teens and trauma-informed care, that Paper Tigers takes root. Set within and around the campus of Lincoln Alternative High School in the rural community of Walla Walla, Washington, Paper Tigers asks the following questions: What does it mean to be a trauma-informed school? And how do you educate teens whose childhood experiences have left them with brains and bodies ill-suited to learn? Join us for a screening of the movie and facilitated discussion.

AGENDA: DAY TWO

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2016

7:30am–8:30am **Coffee, Registration, and Participant Check-in**

8:30am–11:30am **5 Things You Need to Know About Kids**

Jim Harris, LICSW, Ed.D., *Motivational Speaker, Child Development Specialist, Proctorville, OH*

Get ready to laugh and learn as Jim brings some of the most important developmental principles alive with his down to earth presentation style. Jim will focus on some of the common misconceptions people have about children and talk about how they affect our ability to intervene effectively. He will pay specific attention to the neurological connection between adults and youth, the error in simple answers to behavioral problems, and power of relationships as an intervention.

11:30am–1:00pm **LUNCH and TAKE IT HOME: RESOURCES FOR IMPLEMENTATION**

1:00pm–2:15pm **5 More Things You Need to Know About Kids**

Jim Harris, LICSW, Ed.D., *Motivational Speaker, Child Development Specialist, Proctorville, OH*

Are you ready for more? In this session Jim builds on the content from his keynote address to help you better understand what you can do to support the development of youth. Jim will focus specifically on issues related to behavior as communication, setting boundaries, and developing self-regulation skills in youth.

2:15pm **WRAP UP**



Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services

The Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS), one of 11 agencies in the Secretariat of Public Safety and Homeland Security, occupies a unique place in state government because of its scope and responsibilities.

The Department directs programs and services to specific parts of the criminal justice system, for example crime victim assistance, or law enforcement; but DCJS is also charged with viewing the system as a whole in order to understand how changes in one component will affect the other so that plans and programs can be effectively coordinated.

DCJS is responsible for distributing federal and state funding to localities, state agencies, and nonprofit organizations for law enforcement, crime and delinquency prevention, juvenile justice and related services, victims services, corrections, and other areas; establishing and enforcing minimum training standards for criminal justice and private security personnel; and licensing and regulating the private security industry and other

professions specified in the *Code of Virginia*. In connection with these activities, DCJS also provides training, technical assistance, and program development services to all segments of the criminal justice system; develops short- and long-range criminal justice plans; and conducts research and evaluations.

The agency has a broad constituent base that includes local and state criminal justice agencies and practitioners, non-profit agencies, and various private practitioners and businesses. DCJS also works with other local and state agencies, the federal government, and advocacy groups and associations.

The agency's budget consists of both state and federal funds, over 90% of which are distributed to localities, criminal justice agencies, and organizations through grants and other types of financial assistance.

The 29-member Criminal Justice Services Board is the agency's policy board, with representatives from all aspects of the criminal justice system, the private security

industry, the public-at-large, and the General Assembly. Thirteen members serve by virtue of the offices they hold; 16 are appointed by the Governor.

The Board is the approving authority for the regulations that DCJS promulgates in accordance with the *Code of Virginia* and the Administrative Process Act. It also approves most of the grants the agency awards to localities, state agencies, and private non-profit organizations.

The DCJS website provides information on training and educational opportunities, grant funding, regulatory oversight processes, and the Department's programs. Recipients of grants from DCJS can use the site to access our online Grants Management Information System for specific grant award information at any time. The site also allows businesses and individuals to request information, register for trainings, and apply for various registrations, certifications, and licenses.

VIRGINIA CENTER FOR SCHOOL AND CAMPUS SAFETY

The Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety provides training, resources, and technical assistance for law enforcement officers and school safety practitioners throughout Virginia.

Public Safety Training and Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety Staff

Donna Michaelis, *Public Safety Training Manager, Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety*
(804) 371-6506
donna.michaelis@dcjs.virginia.gov

James Christian, *School Safety Coordinator*
(804) 786-4303
james.christian@dcjs.virginia.gov

Marc Dawkins, *Campus Safety and Violence Prevention Coordinator*
(804) 225-3431
marc.dawkins@dcjs.virginia.gov

Shellie Evers, *School and Campus Safety Conference Coordinator*
(804) 678-8993
shellie.evers@dcjs.virginia.gov

Kristina Fawcett, *Administrative Specialist*
(804) 225-3948
kristina.fawcett@dcjs.virginia.gov

Jessica Smith, *Information Dissemination and Resource Development Specialist*
(804) 786-5367
jessica.smith@dcjs.virginia.gov

Albert Stokes, *Crime Reduction and Law Enforcement Grants Supervisor*
(804) 225-2091
albert.stokes@dcjs.virginia.gov

The Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services' Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety (VCSCS), reflects Virginia's commitment to providing safe and productive learning environments for all students and staff in our schools today. VCSCS is a resource and training center for information and research about national and statewide school safety efforts and initiatives. School Safety, Campus Safety, and Public Safety efforts are key priorities for VCSCS. Staff and resources are available to educate and assist localities around Virginia in these areas, among others.

WHAT'S NEW FROM THE VIRGINIA CENTER FOR SCHOOL & CAMPUS SAFETY?

VCSCS is proud to host a variety of conferences, forums, and trainings and to offer resources on new and emerging safety topics. All events and resources are listed on our website along with additional information.

Informational Videos

To inform constituents about new legislation, requirements, and best practices, VCSCS developed several informational videos and accompanying manuals. Topics include Critical Incident Response, Bus Driver and Monitor Safety and Security, and K12 Threat Assessment. All videos and manuals can be found on the VCSCS publications page.

Threat Assessment

Since the passage of legislation which mandated the creation of a threat assessment team in all Virginia public schools, threat assessment has been a hot, and oftentimes confusing, topic. To assist, the VCSCS published model policies and procedures and legal updates for threat assessment teams, and offers basic threat assessment and legal issues training. Additionally, to assist schools in explaining threat assessment and reporting to students, parents, and staff, VCSCS will be launching Virginia C.A.R.E.S. Virginia C.A.R.E.S. is a multi-pronged approach to engagement and awareness in schools that will include videos and resources on threat assessment. The campaign will work to build **C**aring, **A**wareness, **R**ecognition, **E**ngagement, and **S**upport in Virginia schools. To receive notifications regarding this program, and other VCSCS trainings and resources, modify the subscription options on your DCJS user account.

Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services
Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety
Training Schedule as of November 29, 2016

*Trainings are limited to target audiences and offered at no charge unless otherwise noted.
 Pre-registration is required to ensure space.*

November 29-30, 2016	Strengthening Connections Climate Conference Cost \$25 <i>DoubleTree by Hilton Richmond-Midlothian, Richmond, VA</i>
December 5, 2016	Animal Cruelty and Fighting Investigations Training Course <i>Advanced Technology Center, Virginia Beach, VA</i>
December 5, 2016	Next Steps in Crisis Management Planning for Schools: Ensuring Seamless Recovery and Reunification Procedures <i>Williamsburg, VA</i>
December 6, 2016	Next Steps in Crisis Management Planning for Schools: Ensuring Seamless Recovery and Reunification Procedures <i>Fredericksburg, VA</i>
December 7-9, 2016	Financial Investigations Basic Training <i>Richmond Police Training Academy, Richmond, VA</i>
December 12, 2016	Animal Cruelty and Fighting Investigations Training Course <i>Richmond Police Department, Richmond, VA</i>
December 12-14, 2016	Interview and Interrogation <i>Germanna Community College, Fredericksburg, VA</i>
January 30, 2017	Responding to Alzheimer's Disease: Techniques for Law Enforcement and First Responders <i>Thomas Nelson Community College, Hampton, VA</i>
January 31, 2017	Responding to Alzheimer's Disease: Techniques for Law Enforcement and First Responders <i>Albemarle County Police Department, Charlottesville, VA</i>
February 1, 2017	Responding to Alzheimer's Disease: Techniques for Law Enforcement and First Responders <i>Prince William County Criminal Justice Academy, Nokesville, VA</i>
February 27 – March 2, 2017	School Resource Officer, School Security Officer, & School Administrator Training: Building a Team to Support Students and Ensure School Safety <i>Montpelier, Orange, VA</i>
March 6-9, 2017	2017 Campus Safety and Violence Prevention Forum <i>Renaissance Portsmouth Hotel, Portsmouth, VA</i>
March 14, 2016	Basic Gang Awareness for School Personnel and Community Stakeholders ~SAVE THE DATE~ <i>Lynchburg, VA</i>
April 11, 2016	Basic Gang Awareness for School Personnel and Community Stakeholders ~SAVE THE DATE~ <i>Winchester, VA</i>
May 8-11, 2017	School Resource Officer, School Security Officer, & School Administrator Training: Building a Team to Support Students and Ensure School Safety <i>New River Criminal Justice Training Academy, Dublin, VA</i>
May 16, 2016	Basic Gang Awareness for School Personnel and Community Stakeholders ~SAVE THE DATE~ <i>Location to Be Determined</i>

For e-mail notifications on DCJS trainings, grants, and/or announcements,
 subscribe to DCJS Updates at <http://www.dcjs.virginia.gov/subscribe>

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

PLANNING COMMITTEE

We would like to thank the planning committee for their efforts in providing this valuable professional development experience.

Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services

1100 Bank Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219 • www.dcjs.virginia.gov

Donna Michaelis, *Manager, Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety* | donna.michaelis@dcjs.virginia.gov

Shellie Evers, *School and Campus Safety Conference Coordinator* | shellie.evers@dcjs.virginia.gov

Kristina Fawcett, *Administrative Specialist* | kristina.fawcett@dcjs.virginia.gov

Jessica Smith, *Information Dissemination and Resource Development Specialist* | jessica.smith@dcjs.virginia.gov

Virginia Department of Education

PO Box 2120, Richmond, VA 23218 • www.doe.virginia.gov

Jo Ann Burkholder, *Director of Student Services* | joann.burkholder@doe.virginia.gov

Vivian Stith-Williams, *School Social Worker Specialist* | vivian.stith-williams@doe.virginia.gov

Virginia Department of Health

P.O. Box 2448, Richmond, Virginia 23218-2448 • www.vdh.virginia.gov

Bob Franklin, *Sexual and Domestic Violence Community Outreach Coordinator* | robert.franklin@vdh.virginia.gov

Anya Shaffer, *Suicide Prevention Program Coordinator* | anya.shaffer@vdh.virginia.gov

Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services

P.O. Box 1797, Richmond, VA 23218-1797 • www.dbhds.virginia.gov

Malcolm King, *Child and Adolescent Family Program Specialist* | malcolm.king@dbhds.virginia.gov

Resource Hour Participants (Confirmed as of 11/14/16)

Anthem Healthkeepers Plus

Art 180

DCJS Victim Services

Greater Richmond SCAN

Sink or Swim

Virginia ABC

Virginia Center for Restorative Justice

Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety

Virginia Commonwealth University Treatment Center for Children

Virginia Department of Education

Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services

Virginia Office of the Attorney General

Virginia Mentoring Partnership

Virginia Department of Health

YAVOSO

Please note that Resource Hour participation does not constitute or imply an endorsement or recommendation by the Department of Criminal Justice Services

