

Grandma charged in bomb threat at local elementary

A 51-year-old woman who was barred from visiting her grandchildren at their school is facing a third-degree felony charge after a bomb threat was called in to the northeast side campus.

The woman was charged with making terroristic threats to Windcrest Elementary School. She was arrested Thursday and released from jail after posting bail. Bond for the third-degree felony charge was set at \$10,000.

When staff arrived at school on Thursday, they heard a voicemail message warning of a bomb threat. Administrators recognized the female voice that left the message – which had been left Wednesday night – as Brewster's, according to an affidavit for arrest warrant.

The trouble with Brewster began the day before, when the school's principal issued a trespass warning after the woman attempted to visit her granddaughters without permission from her daughter, police said. According to the warrant, Brewster was asked to leave the campus after causing a disturbance about 11 a.m. Wednesday.

The threatening message was left at 6:44 p.m. Wednesday, police said, but school employees did not check the voicemail system until about 7 a.m. Thursday.

The threat prompted the school to evacuate up to 678 students and 85 faculty employees, while the Windcrest and North East Independent School District police departments investigated.

The San Antonio Police Department's bomb squad also assisted in a search for explosives, but no suspicious devices were found at the scene. According to law, grandparents do not have legal guardian rights of children, unless the courts have assigned them guardianship. Parents can refuse visitation.

Mysa.com – By Robert Crowe, 9/5/2009

TEC Chapter 37 & PEIMS 425

October 29, 2009

This session, presented by the TEA Program Specialist (Leslie Smith) for TEC Chapter 37 Safety/Discipline, will provide an overview of laws related to discipline (TEC Chapter 37) as well as the PEIMS 425 record. The focus will be on positive, proactive school discipline.

The intended audience for this workshop will be PEIMS Coordinators, Principals, SDFSC Coordinators, Special Education Directors, Law Enforcement Officials and any other school personnel official.

FREE

Location: ESC-20 Conference Center

Register for workshop at the ESC-20 iLearning website: <http://ilearning.esc20.net>

Workshop numbers: IT91029-M02 and IT91029-M04

Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Program

The SRTS program makes walking and biking to school safer and more appealing to children, including those with disabilities. SRTS projects and activities reduce traffic, fuel consumption and air pollution near primary and middle schools (grades K-8).

SRTS, contained in the 2005 federal transportation bill SAFETEA-LU, provides a healthy alternative to riding the bus or being driven to school. Each state receives funding based on its percentage of the national total of children in grades K-8. Texas anticipates receiving approximately \$40 million in SRTS funding between 2005 and 2009. The SRTS program is a 100-percent federally funded cost-reimbursement program, which means recipients of the funds will front the cost of the project and will be reimbursed during the course of the project.

Projects eligible to receive funding under the SRTS program include those involving both infrastructure and non-infrastructure related activities. Applicants must have a SRTS Plan reviewed and approved by TxDOT prior to submission of a proposal.

An infrastructure project is a construction project designed to improve the bicycle and pedestrian safety of students in grades K-8. Infrastructure projects must be located within the public right of way (or private land with legal public easement) and within a two-mile radius of an eligible school.

Eligible infrastructure projects include (but are not limited to): sidewalk improvements; pedestrian and bicycle crossing improvements; on-street bicycle facilities; off-street bicycle and pedestrian facilities; traffic diversion improvements and traffic diversion away from school zones or designated routes to a school; traffic calming and speed reduction improvements on local roads; secure bicycle parking facilities; and other projects that promote pedestrian and bicycle safety of children within a two-mile radius of an eligible school.

Non-infrastructure-related activities encourage walking and bicycling to school and may include: public awareness campaigns and outreach to press and community leaders; traffic education and enforcement; student education on bicycle and pedestrian safety, health, and environment; and other projects that promote pedestrian and bicycle safety of children in and around schools.

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) is pleased to announce the 2009 Program Call for project proposals for the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Program. Announcement was published in the Texas Register on August 28, 2009. The department must receive completed applications at the location specified in the register notice no later than 5:00 p.m., Monday, November 30, 2009.

However, in order to apply for any type of SRTS funding, the school(s) must have a Safe Routes to School Plan approved by TxDOT. SRTS plans will be accepted for review and approval through September 28, 2009 only.

Information regarding the program, program guide and application forms is available from TxDOT district offices, the web sites

<http://www.saferoutestx.org> and www.txdot.gov/safety/safe_routes or by contacting the Traffic Operations Division at (512) 416- 3279, or by

E-mail at trftepgm@dot.state.tx.us.

Your Call!!!!!!

Is officer's pat-down of student for safety a Fourth Amendment violation?

A student was entering the alternative high school he attended. A school police officer subjected him to a pat-down search. Detecting an object in the student's pocket, the officer reached in and pulled out a plastic bag containing marijuana. The officer testified that the main objective of the search was the security of students and staff. He stated that every student was searched upon entering the school, no matter the circumstances. During the searches the school required students to remove their shoes, socks and belts, and to submit to a pat-down. The school informed all students and parents of its rules prior to enrollment, and it required students to sign a contract agreeing to be searched when they entered the school.

The student was charged with drug possession based on the evidence the officer discovered. The student appealed, arguing that the warrantless search violated his Fourth Amendment right to be free from unreasonable searches. Because the search was illegal, he claimed, the evidence should have been suppressed.

Do drugs found during daily pat search support student's drug conviction?

A. No. School officials must have reason to suspect that a student has violated the law or a school regulation before searching him. In this case, the officer did not have reasonable suspicion to search the student.

B. No. The administrative search was not reasonable, because requiring students to undergo a pat down search was too intrusive.

C. Yes. The search was tailored to promote the district's security goals.

How the court ruled: **C.**

The Texas Court of Appeals ruled that the administrative search was reasonable. In *Re: P.P.*, No. 04-08-00634-CV, 109 LRP 7563 (Tex. Ct. App. 02/11/09). The search was not overly intrusive and was tailored closely to achieve the alternative school's higher than usual interest in keeping guns and drugs out of the school. Moreover, the student clearly had notice of routine search requirement. In light of the student's consequent diminished expectation of privacy, the search procedures were relatively unobtrusive. An administrative search – a search conducted as part of a general regulatory scheme rather than as part of an investigation of a particular student – satisfies the Fourth Amendment if it is no more intrusive than necessary to satisfy the school's interest in instituting the search.

Answer A was incorrect. A routine administrative search of all students does not require reasonable suspicion that a particular person is violating the law or a school rule.

Answer B was incorrect. Pat-down searches at the alternative school were necessary to determine if students carried weapons or drugs.

Note: This feature is not intended as instructional material or to replace legal advice. This feature was taken from School Law Briefing, an MRP Publication (2009).

Teen Leadership Summit

Focus - Great Leaders Have It

December 2 or 3, 2009!!!!!!

ESC-20 is hosting the Second Annual Teen Leadership Summit with BACK 2 BACK opportunities!
Choose the day that you wish to attend!

Keynote Speaker:

Aric Bostick, nicknamed "Mr. Enthusiasm" because of his ability to fire up and inspire any audience. Aric is dedicated to one thing: helping students find the passion within, so that they can start living their dream today, not tomorrow!

Other summit topics may include: The truth about drugs and alcohol, binge drinking, bullying and cyber-bullying, and sexting

Lunch will be served....we begin at 9:00 am...done by 3:00 pm

Fee is \$10 per attendee

For Freshmen and Sophomores only!

Space is limited...first call/e-mail, first served basis!

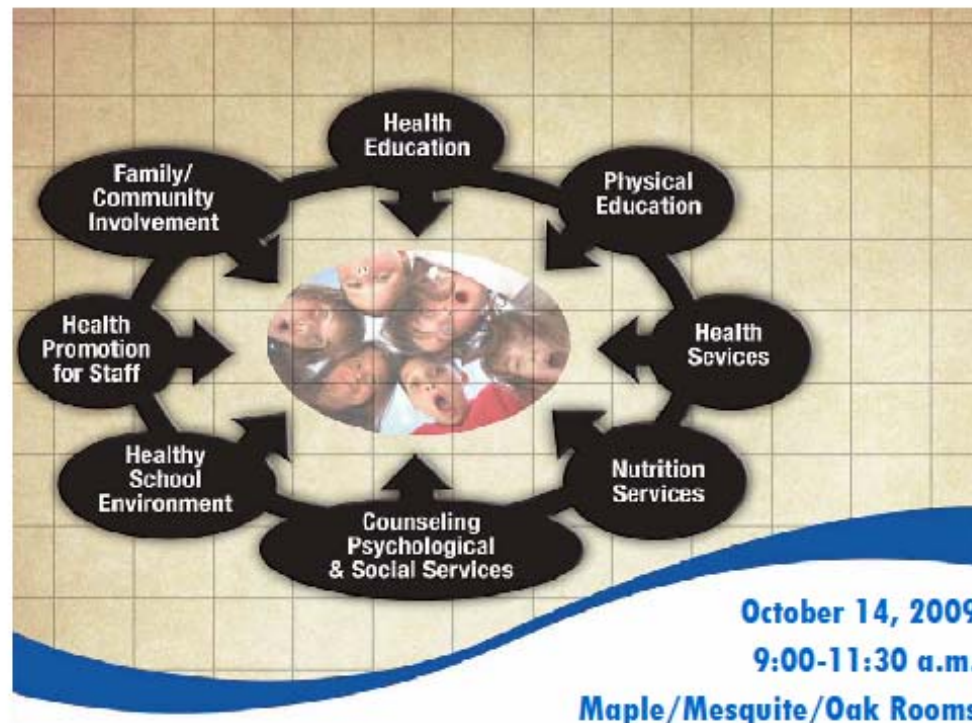
SDFSC Coop members are limited to
10% enrollment of freshmen and sophomores.
And attend at no cost.

To reserve your space, please contact...

Lucien Costley
lucien.costley@esc20.net
210-370-5493

Deanna Higginbotham
deanna.higginbotham@esc20.net
210-370-5659

CALL TODAY!!



Mark Your Calendar!

KEYNOTE SPEAKER
Dr. Richard A. Middleton,
Superintendent for NEISD

What other topics will be covered?

- ✓ Important Updates from the 81st Legislative Session
- ✓ SHAC & CSH Best Practice Sharing & Panel
- ✓ Guidance & Tools for Incorporating CSH into the Campus Improvement Plan

Who should attend?

Anyone within the CSH components...
 School Nurses, Health & P.E. Teachers,
 Child Nutrition Directors, Safe & Drug Free
 Schools Coordinators, Counselors, Social
 Workers, Employee Wellness
 Coordinators, Community Agencies,
 Parents and Administrators!

Please register at www.esc20.net.
Workshop # CF91014-K01.
There is no cost for this meeting.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

CONTACT:

Cassity Gutierrez
 Educational Specialist, School Health
 (210) 370-5489
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Upcoming Events and Trainings

October

Drug and Violence Education Internet Training

October 1, 2009

9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.; ESC-20

Workshop# CA91001-K11

Fee: No Cost

411 on Internet Safety

October 1, 2009

1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.; ESC-20

Workshop# CA91001-K12

Fee: \$35; SDFSC Co-op: No Cost

November

411 on Drugs

November 3, 2009

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.; ESC-20

Workshop# CA91103-K11

Fee: \$35; SDFSC Co-op: No Cost

411 on Teen Relationships

November 3, 2009

1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.; ESC-20

Workshop# CA91103-K12

Fee: \$35; SDFSC Co-op: No Cost

411 on Bullying

November 17, 2009

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.; ESC-20

Workshop# CA91117-K11

Fee: \$35; SDFSC Co-op: No Cost

411 on Gangs and Violence

November 17, 2009

1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.; ESC-20

Workshop# CA91117-K12

Fee: \$35; SDFSC Co-op: No Cost

December

Teen Leadership Summit

December 2, 2009

9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.; ESC-20

Contact Office of SDFSC for Registration

210-370-5493

Fee: \$10; SDFSC Co-op: No Cost (limited participants)

Teen Leadership Summit

December 3, 2009

9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.; ESC-20

Contact Office of SDFSC for Registration

210-370-5493

Fee: \$10; SDFSC Co-op: No Cost (limited participants)

SDFSC Quarterly Meeting

December 4, 2009

2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.; ESC-20

Workshop# CA01204-K11

Fee: No Cost

Peers Making Peace Mediation Facilitator Training – 3 Days

December 14, 15, & 16, 2009

8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.; ESC-20

Workshop# CA91214-K11

Fee: No Cost

SDFSC Co-op:

If your district or charter school is listed below OR your agency is an emergency first responder to the following districts areas, then eligibility is granted unto the Office of Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Cooperative for the 2009-2010 school year. Specific course offerings are listed at no cost. Please enter "Title IV 09-10" into the purchase order subject line when registering.

Brackett ISD, Carrizo Springs CISD, Devine ISD, D'Hanis ISD, Dilley ISD, Ft. Sam Houston ISD, Hondo ISD, Knippa ISD, Lackland ISD, La Vernia ISD, Leakey ISD, Lytle ISD, Natalia ISD, Pleasanton ISD, Poteet ISD, Poth ISD, Randolph Field ISD, Sabinal ISD, Southside ISD, Stockdale ISD. Gabriella Tafolla Charter, Geroge I Sanchez Charter, La Escuela de Las Americas, KIPP Foundation, John H. Wood Charter, Jubilee Academy, Positive Solutions, Por Vida Academy, School of Excellence, Southwest Preparatory Academy

**Office of Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities
Education Service Center, Region 20**

For more information, please contact

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