

San Diego County Office of Education Collaboration and Resources for Schools

Jim Crittenden, ATOD Prevention Coordinator

February 9, 2023



Current Use Trends

- Number of students reporting any drug use is declining
- Students that do use are using more frequently
 - Daily use is on the rise
- Alcohol is still the most abused substance by teens (countywide, most districts)
- Substances are much more potent and dangerous
 - High potency THC and Fentanyl
- More available
- Less expensive
- More socially acceptable than ever





Comprehensive Approach

- Prevention
 - Delay the onset of use
 - Reduce current use
 - Assemblies and presentations (information dissemination)
 - Research validated curriculum
- Intervention
 - Brief intervention and other harm reduction strategies
- Treatment
 - Counseling and outside referrals to treatment providers/teen recovery centers





Youth Development/Engagement

- Friday Night Live High School
- Club Live Middle School
- Mentoring High School to Middle School
 - Safe, substance free environment and activities
 - Physical and emotional safety
 - Opportunities for community engagement
 - Interact and interface with community groups and leaders
 - Opportunities for leadership and advocacy
 - Youth voice





Collaboration – Resources for Districts

- 6 regional prevention providers/collaboratives
- 6 regional treatment providers and teen recovery centers
- 3 countywide initiatives
 - Substance Use and Overdose Prevention (formerly meth strike force and prescription drug abuse task force)
 - Marijuana Prevention Initiative
 - Binge and Underage Drinking Initiative





Recent local efforts in school-based drug education

- Currently no state funding for AOD work.
- Tobacco Use Prevention Education (TUPE) is the only source
 - Stanford Tobacco Prevention Toolkit
- San Diego County HHSA recently contracted with SDCOE to implement Project Alert in 6 – 8 grade
 - Focus on life skills
- Board of Supervisors is interested in additional curriculum material specific to fentanyl and cannabis
 - DEA's Operation Prevention material





Naloxone – "Narcan" https://www.sdcoe.net/students/health-well-being/school-nursing







Other Drug Education Resources for Educators

San Diego County Office of Education

https://www.sdcoe.net/students/substance-abuse-prevention-education

Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Operation Prevention

https://www.operationprevention.com/

National Institute on Drug Abuse

https://nida.nih.gov/research-topics/parents-educators/lesson-plans

San Diego County Substance Use and Overdose Prevention Taskforce

https://www.sdpdatf.org/fentanyl-toolkits

 San Diego County Harm Reduction Coalition (free naloxone training and distribution) Contact Tara Buesig at harmreduxsd@gmail.com





Contact Information

Jim Crittenden

Coordinator alcohol, tobacco, and other drug prevention

San Diego County Office of Education

Student Support Services

jcrittenden@sdcoe.net

(858) 298-2092

www.sdcoe.net