Summary of Working Lunch

Prevention of Bullying Abuse and School Violence
Challenges you face with respect to prevention

• Lack of time and resources
• Need for buy-in from and communication between key players:
  – teachers, parents, administration, students
• Media/technology promotes violence
• Diversity/cultural differences
  – Both between and within schools
• Need for effective programs
  – training for parents and teachers
  – giving them something that works
Challenges you face with respect to intervention

• Many of the challenges listed for prevention exist for intervention too
• Coping with the effects of being bullied
  – resilience
• Identification:
  – who is being bullied by whom
  – who are the by-standers
• Breaking down the code of silence, fear, secrecy
• Enabling attitudes by parents, teachers, administration, students (school culture)
• Need for buy-in of administration
Your unmet needs with respect to prevention

- Consistency in identification of bullies
- Consistency and continuity of effective programs
- Time, money, materials, other resources
- Proactive or preventative approach
- Parental connection
- Skill building/training
- Classroom management strategies for teachers
- How does one create change in culture?
- Volunteers, finding people committed to it
- More school counselors and social workers
- More leadership opportunities for the ringleaders (make them prosocial)
Your unmet needs with respect to intervention

• Many of the challenges listed for prevention exist for intervention too
• Proactive interventions
• Outside resources
• More funding/school counselors
• Teacher involvement and ownership – follow through
• Reaching parents and providing training – changing the home environment
Creative ways to address these problems

• Mentoring programs and team building
• More elementary school counselors and social workers
• PBIS
• Big Brother/Sister programs
• Corporate, community partnerships
• Increasing the importance and resources devoted to promoting prosocial behavior (relative to academics)
• Integrating social-emotional skill training into academics
• Parental involvement and parenting classes
• Using technology and media e.g., anti-bullying video game


Creative ways to address these problems

- Peer tutoring
- Rachael’s Challenge
- Therapeutic interventions in ISS
- Student created assemblies
- Clear procedures for what to do and awareness training
- Use humor
- Incentive programs for good behavior
- More positive leadership opportunities for the ringleaders