

San Marcos Unified School District
Woodland Park Middle School
Administrative Safety Assurance Statement
2009-2010

Woodland Park Middle School is home to almost 1400 students and over 100 staff members. The goal at Woodland Park Middle School is to be proactive in our approach to safety for all students and staff. The Safe School Plan is revised annually and approved by the Woodland Park Middle School Site Council. The Safe School Plan addresses several essential components along with strategies in place at our school to ensure that safety for students and staff is enforced at all times. The school maintains high standards of safety, appropriate student behavior and a safe and drug free environment while actively enforcing our *Zero Tolerance* policy.

One of the philosophies for student supervision at WPMS is to be proactive and visible! Administrators, supervisors and teachers supervise before and after school, as well as during passing periods. Due to our site's design, we reduce access to our campus by closing and locking gates during school hours. Security cameras are continually taping, twenty-four hours a day, from seven locations on campus. Visitors can only enter our school through the Administration building and they must sign in and receive a "Visitor" badge to wear while on campus. We provide identification badges for all staff to wear while on campus. Full-time and part-time campus supervisors, a crossing guard, teachers on duty for school events and administrators carry two-way radios allowing communication at all times.

It is our intention to carry out a comprehensive program designed for all students to prevent the use, possession, and distribution of alcohol, tobacco, and illegal drugs by students and to prevent violence and promote school safety. We keep copies of crime reports on the site and use the data when revising our Safe School Plan. We plan, practice and evaluate fire, earthquake and lockdown drills on a regularly scheduled basis.

At the beginning of the school year, the administrators and counselors present a Responsibility Assembly for students. During these assemblies, students receive information about the school's motto: *I am Responsible for Myself* and *Bulldog Pride*, rules and expectations for student behavior in and out of classrooms, emergency procedures, *Zero Tolerance* policy, dress code and items to be left at home. The counseling staff presents information about academic, personal, and social counseling issues. Students are introduced to the theme *Be a Buddy, Not a Bully*, and to the *Bully Box* where students can anonymously report students who bully other students.

In addition to structuring a safe physical environment for the staff and students, Woodland Park Middle School places a strong emphasis on developing the whole child. We believe that safety begins by each person showing responsibility for their behavior. Via our closed circuit television, *WPTV*, we stress the importance of being responsible and reporting to an adult when inappropriate behaviors are seen. The administrators and school counselors instruct students on anti-bullying techniques. Our *ASB, Bright Future*

and *Plus* programs empower, support, train and unite students by building an understanding of individualism and diversity. These extra curricular programs create a positive campus culture which establishes an atmosphere for all students to feel safe and to achieve academic success.

The Counselors facilitate *SAFE* (Student Assistance for Everyone) groups for students. These groups meet once a week and are designed to help students build self worth, confidence, express feelings, develop healthy lifestyles, learn assertive communication skills and understand the short term and long term consequences for inappropriate behavior.

Our goal at Woodland Park Middle School is to develop positive character traits, promote a nurturing learning environment, provide students with resiliency skills and inform students about appropriate behavior. Throughout the school year, students are reminded of appropriate behavior and are held accountable for appropriate behavior. Providing a safe and productive learning environment is a priority at Woodland Park Middle School. We promote a positive atmosphere to ensure that WPMS will have a school environment that supports academic and emotional learning and is safe place for all students and staff.

David Cochrane, Principal

Patricia Kurylo, Assistant Principal

