
Creating “Truly Safe” Schools

Kids can't learn if they don't feel safe and secure. Period. It's that simple.

In his General Session remarks at ASHA's 84th Annual School Health Conference, **Assistant Deputy Secretary of Education Kevin Jennings** will focus on bullying and harassment as education issues that detract from a student's ability to focus on learning. He will discuss how to create truly safe schools - ones where every student feels like they belong, where every student feels secure, and where every student feels valued.

Mr. Jennings, who heads the federal Office of Safe and Drug-Free Schools, will share his remarks Thursday, October 14, at the 2010 ASHA Conference in Kansas City, MO. The title of his General Session is - *Creating an Environment Where Everyone Can Learn: Addressing Bullying and Harassment in Our Schools*.

Appointed by Secretary of Education Arne Duncan in July 2009, Mr. Jennings is the first career educator to hold this position and brings to this role 25 years of experience as, a teacher, a writer, and a leader in the fields of K-12 education and civil rights.



A native of Winston-Salem, N.C., he became the first member of his family to graduate from college when he received his bachelor's degree from Harvard University. He taught high school history for ten years during which he served as faculty advisor for the nation's first gay-Straight Alliance student club and also founded the Gay, Lesbian, Straight Education Network (GLSEN) in 1990, launching his life's dedication to seeking to ensure that schools are safe places where every young person can focus on learning. In 1995 he left teaching to become GLSEN's founding Executive Director, a position he held for 14 years before stepping down in late 2008.

Mr. Jennings was named in 1997 to *Newsweek* magazine's Century Club as one of 100 people to watch in the new century. He received his master's degree in interdisciplinary studies in education in 1994 from Columbia University and earned an M.B.A. from New York University's Stern School of Business in 1999. He has authored six books, the latest of which, *Mama's Boy, Preacher's Son*, was named a Book of Honor by the American Library Association in 2006. He was also a writer and producer of the documentary *Out of the Past*, winner of the 1998 Sundance Film Festival Award for Best Documentary.

Among his many honors Mr. Jennings has received the Distinguished Service Award of the National Association of Secondary School Principals, the Human & Civil Rights Award of the National Education Association, and the Diversity Leadership Award of the National Association of Independent Schools.

Healthy Students . . . Successful Learners

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Universal Awareness of Adolescent Depression

Karen L. Swartz, MD, director of the Adolescent Depression Awareness Program (ADAP), will describe her innovative program during her keynote presentation on Friday, October 15, at the 2010 ASHA Conference in Kansas City, MO.

The title of her presentation is *Universal Awareness: The Adolescent Depression Awareness Program*.

ADAP is a school-based program designed to educate high school students, faculty, and parents about adolescent depression. Now in its 11th year, the ADAP curriculum has been taught to more than 16,000 high school students.

Dr. Swartz and the ADAP team have also developed a comprehensive training program that prepares high school counselors and teachers as ADAP instructors, which facilitates the dissemination of the program. In addition to the Baltimore-Washington area, the program has been taught in Oklahoma, Delaware, Texas, and Minnesota.

Dr. Swartz is now working with colleagues within the National Network of Depression Centers on further national expansion of this innovative program.

Dr. Swartz received the national 2007 Welcome Back Award, which honors one psychiatrist annually, in recognition of her leadership in destigmatizing depression through community education. In 2008 she was selected as the one psychiatrist in Maryland honored with the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill's "Heroes in the Fight Award" for both efforts to destigmatize mental illness and clinical excellence. In 2009 Dr. Swartz was inducted as a Distinguished Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association.

Her other research has focused on psychiatric disorders in women and psychiatric disorders in the general population, including the study of whether affective disorders predict migraine headaches, the incidence of social phobias in the Baltimore area, and the heterogeneity and course of affective disorders. Dr. Swartz has written articles for such journals as *Archives of General Psychiatry*, *Health Education & Behavior*, *Current Opinion in Psychiatry*, the *International Review of Psychiatry*, and the *Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry*.

Dr. Swartz received her B.A. from Princeton University and her M.D. from the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. She completed her psychiatry residency at Johns Hopkins Hospital, where she served as chief resident. She is the Director of Clinical and Educational Programs at the Johns Hopkins Mood Disorders Center. Dr. Swartz is also the Associate Director for Residency Education and an Associate Professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine.



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Former Surgeon General – An ASHA Keynote

Dr. David Satcher, 10th Assistant Secretary for Health and 16th Surgeon General of the United States, will be the featured keynote speaker on Saturday, October 16, at the 2010 ASHA Conference in Kansas City, MO.

Dr. Satcher's presentation is in conjunction with the Division of Adolescent and School Health (DASH) at CDC. His keynote will conclude the ASHA conference and kick off DASH's meeting for its funded partners. All attendees of both events are invited to participate in this exciting session.

Dr. Satcher serves as director of the Satcher Health Leadership Institute at Morehouse School of Medicine. The Institute's programs reflect his experience in improving public health policy and his commitment to eliminating health disparities for underserved groups and the poor and shedding light on neglected issues.



Sworn in as the 16th Surgeon General of the United States in 1998, Dr. Satcher's tenure of public service also includes serving as assistant secretary for Health in the Department of Health and Human Services, director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and administrator of the Toxic Substances and Disease Registry.

Dr. Satcher has received over 40 honorary degrees and numerous top awards from the National Medical Association, the American Medical Association, and the American Academy of Family Physicians. Additional honors include being named a Macy Foundation Fellow, a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Clinical Scholar and a Senior Visiting Fellow of the Kaiser Family Foundation. He serves on the board of directors of Johnson and Johnson, MetLife, the Kaiser Family Foundation, and locally on the board of United Way and The Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta.

Dr. Satcher holds a BS degree from Morehouse College and MD and PhD degrees from Case Western Reserve University.

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