

## BIG SPRING SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Big Spring School District is an equal opportunity education institution and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, or disability in its activities, programs, or employment practices as required by Title VI, Title IX, and Section 504.

For information regarding civil rights or grievance procedures, or for information regarding services, activities, and facilities that are accessible to and usable by handicapped persons, contact the Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Title IX and Action 504 Coordinator.

Big Spring High School  
Student Assistance Team  
100 Mount Rock Road  
Newville, PA 17241

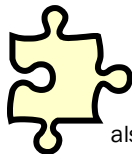
## STUDENT ASSISTANCE TEAM

### BIG SPRING HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT ASSISTANCE TEAM

The Big Spring School District has made a commitment to identifying and helping students demonstrating signs of use or abuse of alcohol or other drugs, as well as those with mental health concerns. A team of high school teachers, administrators, school counselors, school nurse, and other school personnel have been trained and are working hard in their role to aid students in finding success in their academic and social life at Big Spring High School. Contact Sherri Webber-Mains, SAT Coordinator at 717-776-2428.



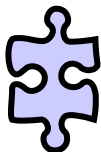
# THE STUDENT ASSISTANCE TEAM



## 1. What is the Student Assistance Team?

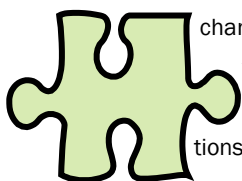
We are a team of educational professionals who want to see every student be successful. Our job isn't to get students into trouble or diagnose them, but if there are things going on in their life that make getting to school or getting good grades unusually difficult, we want to provide resources to help students find ways to tackle those obstacles. Some obstacles that we may be able to help students with include substance abuse, stressful relationships at school or at home, mental health issues including thoughts of suicide or depression, etc.

**2. Who makes referrals?** Anyone can refer a student. A teacher who observes physical or behavioral changes in a student might make a referral, but students often are the best observers of their friends and classmates, so they make referrals. Oftentimes, a parent or community

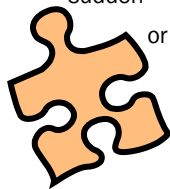


member is concerned and makes a call to a team member.

**3. Why should I refer someone?** There are a ton of "symptoms" or signs that might cause one person to refer another, but the most obvious are things like bragging about the use of alcohol or other drugs, coming to school under the influence, sudden



changes in friends, withdraw from social situations.



- 4. What happens to someone who makes a referral?** Nothing. That person might be asked for more information, but it is possible to remain anonymous when you make a referral.
- 5. How do I make a referral?** The most discreet way is to fill out a form in the counseling office and give it to Sherri Webber-Mains, SAP Coordinator, but you may talk to one of the other members of the Team and get his or her help with the referral.
- 6. If I make a referral, what happens to the person I refer?** The first thing we do is try to validate what the referral says, whether it came from a student, teacher, staff member, coach, or parent. Then, we have to contact the student's parents. We do not tell them who made the referral, and we never tell them there's a definite problem. We just tell them that a concern has been expressed and ask them to work with us to learn more.
- 7. When a referral involves drugs, are the police involved?** No, not when a referral is made. The objective is to determine and help to resolve problems that exist. The only time the police could be involved is when a student violates school substance use/possession policies.
- 8. Can the Student Assistance Team make someone go into therapy, or another program?** The Team does **not** make those decisions. Participation in the program is voluntary and the parents or the student may stop it at any time. If a recommendation is made for counseling, it is a family decision to make.

**Sudden changes in friends or appearance are some of the most obvious reasons for a referral.**

## Members of the SAT Team:

- Mr. August, Principal
- Mr. Smith, Assistant Principal
- Mr. Hoffman, Dean of Students
- Mrs. Winesickle, Home and School Visitor
- Mrs. Webber-Mains, School Counselor, SAP Coordinator (717-776-2428)
- Mrs. Creps, School Counselor
- Ms. Kraus, School Counselor
- Mrs. Heishman, School Psychologist, SAP Coordinator
- Ms. Herendeen, Teacher
- Ms. Whitmoyer, Teacher
- Mrs. Farrands, Teacher
- Mrs. Magee, Teacher
- Mrs. Best, Teacher
- Mrs. Detwiler, Teacher
- Ms. Stellfox, Teacher
- Mrs. Gleeson, Teacher
- Mrs. Madden, School Nurse
- Ms. Jones, Administration Assistant
- Mr. Chad Acker, Cumberland/Perry Drug & Alcohol Commission

**TRAINING:** The members of the team have participated in intensive training approved by the PA Department of Education. The team member's job is to use these skills in identifying students experiencing difficulty in school because of