

# School Risk Review

Volume 35



## Reducing Risk and Threats in Schools across the Nation

The WeTip School Safety hotline has been designed to reduce risk and threats in schools. The

WeTip hotline is a valuable tool for students and school staff members who know about a crime, but are afraid to tell anyone. When someone calls WeTip, no one asks them who they are or where they live. The WeTip operator asks some questions to find out about the crime and who committed it. The WeTip School Safety hotlines are answered by bilingual tip operators, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Calls are taken on all crimes affecting schools and the communities surrounding schools. All calls are anonymous, not just confidential. No one will ever know who made the call...Not us... Not ever!

After the call is taken, a case number is assigned to the tipster. If they have more information, they can call back and give that number to add more information to their tip. The tipster is then asked if they are interested in a reward if there is an arrest and a conviction. If they say yes, they are given a fictitious code name. This is the name to give when they pick up their cash reward. If the person who was turned in gets arrested and is found guilty, then a reward of up to \$1,000 is offered to the tipster. The reward is paid at the post office chosen by the person who gave the tip. They will receive the cash reward by giving the code name that was given them when the tip was first given.

*WeTip is one of the most effective tools that we can use to keep our schools safe.*

WeTip provides the School Safety hotline service specifically for school liability insurance carriers of schools nationwide. This program has reduced property and liability losses significantly in the schools that utilize the program.

Proper utilization of the program depends upon education and understanding how WeTip can be used as a crime deterrent as well as a tool for crimes that have already occurred. School district administrators and risk managers have effectively implemented the WeTip program. WeTip has continued the process by educating thousands of school and insurance administrators through internet webinars and WeTip's resource CD.

WeTip benefits include ongoing information regarding crime trends, crime

- **Live Operators answering every call**
  - Neutral third party organization
  - 501 (c)(3) Non Profit
  - Tips taken 24 hours a day-365 days a year
  - Bi-lingual operators on all shifts
  - Rewards offered on all tips and all crimes
- **Total and complete Anonymity**
  - Not just Confidential
- **Tips immediately relayed to Law Enforcement, Staff Security, or School Officials**
  - Detailed reports on all Community Activity
- **Internet Tips and Unsolved Crime Reports**
  - [www.wetip.com](http://www.wetip.com)

**S. O. S.**  
**SAVE OUR SCHOOLS**  
 IF YOU HAVE INFORMATION ABOUT  
 WEAPONS OR CRIME IN YOUR SCHOOL



CALL  
**WeTip**  
**(800)78-CRIME**  
Anonymous  
**UP TO \$1,000-REWARD**

# School Violence Impacts School Safety Systems across the nation.

The incidents of school violence dominate the news in waves. After a period of quiet complacency a broadcast on the evening news will announce yet another horrific situation involving school violence. A threat suddenly becomes a very real crime and violence permeates a school without warning. We watch the carnage unfold before our eyes as lives are lost and children are affected forever more. We have seen the scenario over and over again. We know that no matter how many metal detectors, impenetrable doors and windows, clear book bags, open lockers and surveillance systems that we have, the human factor is what catches the bad guy.

At the recent presidential school summit held in Washington D.C. ,

President Bush called experts together after three deadly shootings at schools in Wisconsin, Colorado and Pennsylvania. In panel discussions led by members of Bush's Cabinet, speakers said the best response is basic: Get parents, school leaders, students and police to work together.

"Our first line of prevention is really having good intelligence," said Delbert Elliott, director of the Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence in Boulder, CO. He said, schools should encourage kids to speak up when they hear classmates boasting of violent plans.

The speakers hit the same themes — schools get safer when they take bullying seriously, practice their crisis plans, and talk to parents about what's happening with their kids. "The communication link is very important," said George Sugai, a University of Connecticut education professor. "Parents are not going to engage the schools if they have to walk through a metal detector, if they have to go through steps to access the teachers. The lack of magic-bullet solutions was not surprising. School safety experts have said for years that changing school culture is the best way to halt violence, although

it's hard to do."

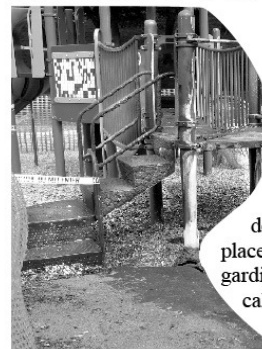
WeTip is helping to change school cultures and provide the "human factor" which creates the missing link to a crime. The critical factor is the conduit between the individual that knows about a crime or threat and the agency that needs the information. Informants will not give information unless they can absolutely trust the fact that their identity can never be known to anyone. Students trust WeTip and feel safe with the knowledge that they are absolutely anonymous.



Lisa Konarski (right) of Schools Insurance Authority (Sacramento Area Schools) accepts the "WeTip Woman of the Year Award" from WeTip CEO Susan Aguilar

**REWARD!** **WeTip** Inc.  
 UP TO **\$1,000**

## Arsonist Torches Playground



An arsonist set play equipment ablaze in Pulaski-Milwaukee Park at 16th and Cleveland Avenue during the morning hours of Wednesday, July 20, 2005. This act of vandalism will cost Milwaukee County tax payers over \$10,000 to repair, while in the meantime, leaving saddened neighborhood children with one less place to play. If you have any information regarding this crime or the person(s) involved, call WeTip at 1-800-78-CRIME.

**24 Hours a Day** **365 Days a Year**  
**1-800-78-CRIME**  
 1 8 0 0 7 8 2 7 4 6 3  
**You will remain completely anonymous!!**  
 Se Habla Espanol [www.wetip.com](http://www.wetip.com)

**WeTip**  
**800**  
**78-CRIME**  
**24/7**  
**Anonymous**  
[www.wetip.com](http://www.wetip.com)

### NO ONE WANTS TO BE AFRAID TO GO TO SCHOOL

No one likes to have someone tear up and destroy their school. No one likes to come to school and find that their classrooms have been vandalized, their computers have been stolen, and their walls have been spray painted.

No one likes to walk home from school and be afraid that someone will attack or rob them.

No one likes to watch their classrooms burn down because someone set a fire on purpose and it got out of control.

## What is WeTip's School Safety Hotline?

*It is one of your schools best defenses  
against violence!*

### As a member of WeTip's School Safety Program, the district receives:

- \* Access to the toll-free, 24-hour hotline, open seven days a week and answered by trained operators. Students can anonymously report wrong doing and potential violence while remaining absolutely anonymous. A Spanish speaking operator is available on each shift.
- \* Immediate notification of tips received.
- \* A safe and effective hotline that employs skilled operators to take information on tip forms that have been developed with the help of law enforcement to obtain the maximum amount of critical information.
- \* Student awareness public service videos and audio messages for schools.
- \* Appropriate posters, brochures, and school safety stickers are provided to the district as an informational reminder of the WeTip anonymous hotline solution.
- \* School safety communications tools designed to work within your existing internal procedures.
- \* Professional adult consultation seminars and youth participation workshops for implementing and using the WeTip School Safety program.



ASCIP Insurance representatives (Alliance of Schools for Cooperative Insurance Programs) Lee Hansen and Richard Samms are joined by WeTip's School Safety Director Sue Mandell displaying their customized "Do Tell/ We Tell" Program which was developed by WeTip.

***According to Richard Samms, ASCIP, "due to WeTip, crime losses at Compton USD decreased more than 90% from the 1994-95 school year, saving the District almost \$1.3 million dollars per year. ....this was phenomenal."***

## Idaho Schools Actively implement the WeTip School Safety Program in 102 Idaho School Districts



A united effort for safer schools!!! From left to right: Pat Pinkham, Moreton & Company; Sue Mandell, WeTip School Safety Director; Al Kehe, CNA Insurance and Allan Randstrom, Moreton & Company. CNA and Moreton & Company fund the WeTip program for the Idaho Schools.

A united effort between CNA Insurance, Moreton & Company Insurance and WeTip has provided the School Safety Program to 102 school district throughout the state of Idaho. Many insurance companies and JPA groups are taking the initiative in providing the WeTip Program to reduce crime and loss in schools throughout the nation.



*New Jersey School Boards Association Insurance Group has effectively and successfully provided the WeTip program to all of their insurance group members. Districts have enthusiastically embraced the WeTip anonymous School Safety program.*

*Marty Kalbach and Sue Mandell show some of the posters that have been placed in New Jersey Schools.*



### REPORTING CRIME TO WETIP

- Violent Crimes
- Property Destruction
- Threats and Bullying
- Unsafe Conditions/Safety Violations
- Workers Compensation Fraud/Insurance Fraud
- Drugs/Illegal substance or alcohol use
- Theft/Robbery/Burglary
- Discrimination/Harassment
- Arson/Terrorism/Bombs





# WeTip Specialists host seminars and workshops for students at member schools



Students at JFK High School in Woodbridge, New Jersey build tower communities in a united effort and then identify the threats and risk that may affect their schools and neighborhoods.

## How It Works

*“This is the WeTip Crime Hotline, do not give your name or identify yourself in anyway”.*

Questions asked have been developed with the help of law enforcement to obtain the maximum amount of information possible

Up to 65 questions are asked of informants  
If there is an arrest and conviction do you want a reward?- 3 part code name

School Violence doesn't make sense. Students and teachers are afraid, they are frustrated, and they are angry. The WeTip School Safety Action Plan helps to turn our anger into action by joining hands together and finding solution through the use of the WeTip Anonymous School Safety Hotline Program.

A school facilitator (counselor, teacher or parent volunteer) helps to coordinate a group of "socially connected youths" (youths from each sector of school life). These few students can make a big difference, they are the "communicators" and they can spread the message that other students can hear. These students meet to discuss the WeTip School Safety Hotline as a part of the five point solution to fight crime and violence in their school:

1. The Mission
  2. The Action Plan
  3. Implementation
  4. Involvement
  5. Sharpen Awareness.
- WeTip also involves students and staff in "hands on" activities including "Towers", "Chains that Unite", and Understanding how our differences balance our surroundings and make us fun and interesting. These activities augment the WeTip program by providing an interactive forum that includes student input, ideas and concerns. Student are then given time to discuss solutions for safer schools with their groups and create action plans to implement in their schools. WeTip has worked with thousands of students throughout the nation. For more information on WeTip student seminars and workshops contact WeTip's National School Safety Director, Sue

## Would you like more information about implementing WeTip in Your Schools?

Providing the WeTip Program in your schools literally costs a few cents per student per year. Can you afford not to have WeTip? WeTip offers an all inclusive, comprehensive program to single schools, school districts, JPA groups, and school insurance carriers. For information please return the information below to WeTip, P.O. Box 1296, Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91729, Fax 909 987-2477 or email [suemandell@wetip.com](mailto:suemandell@wetip.com).

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_  
 School District \_\_\_\_\_ Insurance/JPA \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_  
 ST \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ FAX (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Number of Districts \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Schools \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Students \_\_\_\_\_