

PSST – Protecting Surrey Schools Together



ABOUT PSST

- PSST is a unique, innovative website designed by Surrey School District in partnership with the Surrey RCMP and sponsored by the BC Lions.
- It is based on the U.S. Secret Service Threat Assessment Model, which was developed in response to the American school shootings such as the Columbine massacre.
- The primary goal is to encourage students to get personally involved in ensuring the safety and security of their school.
- The site was designed for students and by students who wanted to discuss school safety issues but wanted to remain anonymous to avoid retaliation; they don't want to be labelled as tattle-tails or snitches. The site was reviewed by numerous youth focus groups from grade 7 to grade 12.
- It is the first website of its kind in Canada and is a great resource for young people who now spend a lot of time on the computer or internet.
- It includes an on-line “**REPORT IT**” tip box which allows students to confidentially report dangerous or illegal activity such as bullying, vandalism, drugs or other issues happening at their schools or in their community.
- The site contains fun things like movie reviews, contests, band and music articles – to give students more incentive to use the site. Also included are resources for youth, providing reliable sources of information on bullying, drugs, gangs, online safety and other concerns.
- The website, launched in September 2005, has proven beneficial in keeping our schools and children safe.

BENEFITS OF SITE FOR STUDENTS AND COMMUNITY

- Provides an effective tool to prevent violence.
- Provides an avenue for students to report incidents in complete confidence.
- Tip box allows students to speak up in a safe environment.
- Increases student accountability and social responsibility.

SOME FACTS ABOUT VIOLENT INCIDENTS AMONG YOUTH

- Students usually know about underground activities before they happen, as well as when and where they will occur.
- There is power in numbers – these instigators or bullies often do it for coolness, bystanders give them that power – the more that watch, the better.



www.psst-bc.ca

