

Connecting School Climate and Learning:  
*How Schools are Preventing Bullying, Building Respect, & Engaging All Students*  
June 29<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup>, 2010

Presenter Biography's



**Kevin Jennings**

**Assistant Deputy Secretary, Office of Safe & Drug-Free Schools**

*Kevin Jennings was appointed by Secretary of Education Arne Duncan in July 2009 as assistant deputy secretary to head the Office of Safe and Drug-Free Schools. Jennings brings to this role over two decades of experience as a writer, a teacher, and a leader in the fields of K-12 education and civil rights. In 1990, Jennings founded the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network (GLSEN), a local volunteer group in the Boston area bringing together lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender (LGBT) and straight teachers, parents, students, and community members who wanted to end anti-LGBT bias in the state's K-12 schools. Jennings earned an M.B.A. from New York University's Stern School of Business in 1999. He has authored six books, of which **Telling Tales Out of School: Gays, Lesbians, and Bisexuals Revisit Their School Days** won a Lambda Literary Award, and his latest, **Mama's Boy, Preacher's Son**, was named a Book of Honor by the American Library Association in 2006.*

**William K. Preble, EdD.**



**President, Main Street Academix and Founder, Center for School Climate & Learning**

*Bill Preble is a Professor of Education at New England College, President of Main Street Academix, and the founder of the Center for School Climate and Learning. He is co-author of **The Respectful School** (ASCD) with Stephen Wessler, recently authored an article for Educational Leadership called, **School Climate Through Students' Eyes**, and is currently writing his second book with Rick Gordon called, **Transforming School Climate and Learning: Students and Teachers as Partners in School Reform** for Corwin Press.*



**Stan Davis**

**School Counselor, Consultant, and Author, [stopbullyingnow.com](http://stopbullyingnow.com) & [youthvoiceproject.com](http://youthvoiceproject.com)**

*Beginning in 1970 as a Social Worker, Stan worked with abused and grieving children and trained Child Protective Workers. He designed and implemented training for rape crisis centers and collaborated with police to develop interventions for domestic abuse. Since 1985 he has worked as a school counselor at all grade levels. Since the mid-1990s he has worked to prevent bullying. He has written two books: **Schools Where Everyone Belongs** and **Empowering Bystanders in Bullying Prevention**.*



**Sameer Hinduja, PhD.**

**Co-Director, Cyberbullying Research Center and Associate Professor of Criminal Justice & Criminology, Florida Atlantic University**

*Dr. Sameer Hinduja is an Associate Professor in the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice at Florida Atlantic University and Co-Director of the Cyberbullying Research Center ([www.cyberbullying.us](http://www.cyberbullying.us)). He works nationally and internationally with the public and private sector to reduce online victimization and its real-world consequences. Dr. Hinduja is a member of the Research*

*Advisory Board for Harvard University's Internet Safety Task Force, and has given trainings and keynotes to a range of audiences including Fortune 500 companies, NGOs, federal law enforcement, school districts, parents, and youth. His most recent book is entitled **Bullying Beyond the Schoolyard: Preventing and Responding to Cyberbullying** with Sage Publications (Corwin Press). Dr. Hinduja's interdisciplinary research is widely published in a number of peer-reviewed academic journals, and has been featured in hundreds of print and online articles around the world, as well as on radio and TV. He received his Ph.D. and M.S. in Criminal Justice from Michigan State University (focus area: computer crime) and his B.S. in Criminal Justice (minor in legal studies) from the University of Central Florida Honors College. At FAU, he has won both Researcher of the Year and Teacher of the Year, the two highest honors across the entire university.*



**Donna M. San Antonio, EdD.**

**Appalachian Mountain Teen Project, Wolfeboro, NH, Program Development & Evaluation Specialist**

*Donna M. San Antonio currently serves as the project manager for the Classroom Conversations Research Project, a collaborative effort of the Harvard Graduate School of Education and Governor Wentworth Regional School District. She is developing a project in northern NH called Inventing the Future to increase access to, and success*

*in, good fit post-secondary career and educational opportunities. Donna began her career as a community organizer addressing poverty as a political and social issue in partnership with families in southern NH. She then became a classroom teacher and spent 10 years teaching in mainstream and alternative classrooms in middle and high schools. In 1987, she became the founding director of the Appalachian Mountain Teen Project, where she served for 22 years. She was a Lecturer on Education at the Harvard Graduate School of Education Risk and Prevention Program from 2002-2009. Her main effort in the last few years has been to initiate collaborative, cross-role partnerships to focus on solutions to challenging educational concerns. Donna has presented at numerous national and local conferences addressing adolescent social and emotional development within a socio-political context. For 15 summers, she led therapeutic outdoor adventure trips with teens and she continues to integrate experiential education in classroom and counseling work with adolescents. She is the author of **Adolescent Lives in Transition: How Social Class Influences the Adjustment to Middle School** (NY: SUNY, 2004).*



**Rick Gordon, PhD.**

**Founding Director of Compass School**

*Rick Gordon has a PhD. in Social and Multicultural Foundations of Education from the University of Colorado-Boulder. He was Founding Director of Compass School, a grade 7-12 school that has scored highest on a national survey on Respect, Safety, and School Climate. He was Co-Director of The Critical Skills-Education by Design Program at Antioch New England Graduate School and has worked extensively with schools and higher education on Service Learning (including editing the well*

*received **Problem Based Service Learning Fieldguide: Making a Difference in Higher Education**). Rick has long experience in Experiential Education with Outward Bound and Interlocken, and has traveled extensively around the globe leading programs for youth.*



**Richard W. Cole, Esq**  
**Attorney-At-Law, Civil Rights & Safe Schools Consultant**

*Richard W. Cole, Esq. is a Civil Rights and Safe Schools Consultant from Boston, Massachusetts. He is a nationally known civil rights attorney, former Assistant Attorney General and Civil Rights Division Chief in the Massachusetts Office of Attorney General. Richard assists and trains educators and law enforcement throughout the U.S. on promoting school safety, race relations and equity, and in investigating and addressing harassment, bullying and hate crimes in schools, communities and cyberspace. Richard was national co-chair of the federal-state effort resulting in the acclaimed U.S. Department of Education's publication, **Protecting Students from Harassment and Hate Crime--A Guide for Schools**. He also co-chaired the "Massachusetts Safe Schools Initiative," a multidisciplinary collaboration with more than 70 partners to provide the training and technical assistance K-12 schools need to make them safe from harassment, bullying and hate crimes. Richard has published on civil rights, hate crimes, mental health and education topics. He has authored legal briefs to and argued once before the U.S. Supreme Court. He has presented at conferences and training programs sponsored by the U.S. Department of Justice, U.S. Department of Education, state education departments and associations, National Association of School Resource Officers, Massachusetts Juvenile Police Officers Association and the International Association of Chiefs of Police. As a consultant for the United States Information Agency, Richard advised the attorneys general, police and military leadership and leading human rights advocates in Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Nepal on employing effective civil rights enforcement, community relations and advocacy strategies.*



**Jo Ann Freiberg, PhD.**  
**Education Consultant, School Climate, Bullying and Character Education, Bureau of Accountability and Improvement Connecticut State Department of Education**

*Jo Ann Freiberg is an Educational Consultant with the Connecticut State Department of Education working with the Bureau of Accountability and Improvement. She manages the wide arena of Bullying, Improving School Climate and Character Education. She has worked as a classroom teacher and as a teacher educator, and has held faculty appointments at a number of universities, including Central Connecticut State University, Eastern Connecticut State University, the University of Hartford and the University of Connecticut. Jo Ann holds a Ph.D. in philosophy of education from Ohio State University, and her areas of academic teaching and research include moral and character education, educational studies, professional ethics and multicultural education. She has served on the statewide task force on bullying, and has served as an educational consultant in a variety of settings both in Connecticut and nationally. Jo Ann provides a wide range of professional development and educational content to many groups and organizations throughout the country about issues including those above as well as general violence prevention, professional ethics and related subjects in the school, family and community partnership arena. As a parent, she sees the issues from multifaceted levels.*