

Summary of Involvement for Beatrice Public Schools
Beatrice, Nebraska
Safe & Responsive Schools Project
2000-2001

Four schools in the Beatrice Public School district continued their participation in the Safe & Responsive Schools project during the 2000-2001 school year. These participating schools include four elementary schools and the high school. Although the Beatrice Middle School is not currently involved in the project, there is a standing invitation to re-join the project at any time.

Throughout the summer and the current school year, the SRS teams began the process of implementing the plans that had been developed the previous school year. These plans were designed to address the core areas of the project including creating a positive climate, early identification and intervention, and effective responses.

Stoddard & Paddock Lane Elementary Schools. One of the Stoddard-Paddock team's interests was to provide a means for linking community support with the school and to create a resource for teachers and parents. During the summer, two members of the Stoddard-Paddock team compiled book of community resources available in Beatrice and surrounding communities with the aid of the Family Resource Center. The 97 page resource book encompasses a wide-range of services including basic needs, health care, hotlines and websites, networking agencies, and support agencies. A copy of the resource book was made available at each school building. The SRS team continues to update the material in the resource book as necessary and has considered the option of making the resource book available on the SRS website.

The Stoddard-Paddock SRS team is also in the process of implementing a mentoring program in each of their buildings. The original plan had been to pair high school student cadet aides that are available in the buildings several days per week with elementary students who may benefit from a mentoring relationship. The high school mentors were to be provided with initial training and support throughout the program. The SRS team devised criteria for selecting appropriate mentees and presented the program and nominations forms to the teachers. However, due to a lack of mentee nominations in the fall, the SRS team again presented the program to teachers and hopes to pilot the program with several elementary students this spring. The SRS team is looking at several other avenues to improving the mentoring program next year and increasing the number of mentors & mentees.