

Bulldog Health News

Artesia Public Schools

• See Something Say Something •

March 2023

Sandy Hook Promise

From Tragedy to Transformation



Sandy Hook Promise is a national nonprofit organization founded and led by several family members whose loved ones were killed at Sandy Hook Elementary School on December 14, 2012. Based in Newton, Connecticut, the intent is to honor all victims of gun violence by turning the tragedy into a

moment of transformation. By empowering youth to “Know the signs” and uniting all people who value the protection of children, we can take meaningful actions in schools, homes, and communities to prevent gun violence and stop the tragic loss of life.



On December 7th, Artesia Public Schools announced the launch of the “Say Something Anonymous Reporting System” (SS-ARS) at Artesia Intermediate, Artesia Junior High, and Artesia High School.

This program teaches students, teachers, and administrators how to recognize warning signs and signals, especially within social media, of individuals who may be a threat to themselves or others and *Say Something* to a trusted adult OR use its anonymous reporting system. Specifically, the program educates participants to:

- Recognize the signs and signals of at-risk behaviors – especially within social media.
- Take every sign and signal seriously; act quickly to get help by talking to a trusted adult **OR**
- Report it anonymously through SS-ARS 24/7 Crisis Center, mobile app, or website.
- Respond to and manage the submitted tip via a multi-disciplinary educator and administrator teams.
- Sustain the curriculum and awareness via student clubs, in-school activities, and call-to-action weeks.

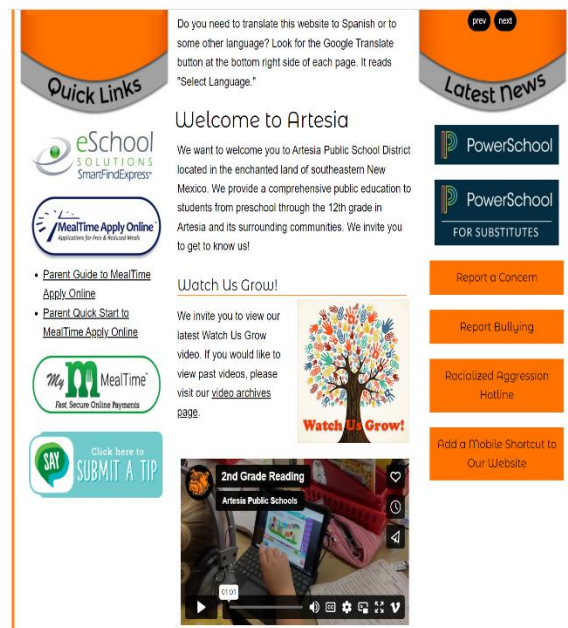
Our students often are aware of the problems their peers are facing, so we must empower them to know the danger signs and give them the tools to help each other with the assistance of trained and caring adults. As you know, most conversations are taking place on social media, therefore it is critical that we teach our students to be looking out for one another as these digital conversations are taking place. SS-ARS teaches

them what to look for in text, video and photos while empowering them to act quickly to help a fellow student.

The SS-ARS program is being provided through Sandy Hook Promise (SHP), a nation-wide non-profit organization. SHP's programs are in 50 states – with 7,000+ schools and over 3.5 million students and adults trained. They have a track record, reputation, and knowledge of how to work effectively with kids, parents, and teachers to improve school safety and culture.

The program is age-appropriate and research-based. They also have funding to provide and sustain the program at NO COST to the district. To date, SS-ARS and other SHP prevention programs have helped stop multiple school shootings, suicides, and gun threats; reduced bullying and cyberbullying; intervened upon cutting, drug use, racial conflicts, and other violent and victimization acts. We know this program will do the same for our district.

Anyone in our community can report a tip by visiting our homepage at www.bulldogs.org and clicking on the “Submit a Tip” icon located on the bottom left-hand corner of the page. Please *Say Something* if you know a child is in need of help or know of a potentially dangerous situation. It takes all of us caring about one another to ensure safe and healthy lives.



If you would like to learn more about the Sandy Hook Promise click on the links below:

<https://www.sandyhookpromise.org/>

<https://youtu.be/A8syQeFtBKc>

<https://youtu.be/0o7XonP6sRs>