FAQ Corner

"Why do we need SAP Team maintenance?"

Every team, no matter how functional, should take time to review how things are going. Celebrate successes, review challenges, update, or change processes accordingly. Maintenance can include reviewing data and tweaking things to address the changing needs in our communities. Other times it may be completing team effectiveness checklists to determine if there are areas of potential improvement. The following are excerpts from the SAP Frequently Asked Questions and Answers Document (SAP FAQ) available by clicking here.

14. How is technical assistance provided to SAP teams?
At any point in time, school entities and SAP teams may contact their SAP Regional Coordinator to request assistance. Also, each year PNSAS requests SAP team information via survey from each school. This provides the most up-to-date information on SAP team structure and functioning. Upon review, SAP Regional Coordinators can offer technical assistance based on any identified area of need. Additionally, county SAP coordination teams routinely review local team implementation and extend assistance when needed.

15. What is SAP team maintenance, and how often should it occur?
Team maintenance includes those activities and processes designed to support collaborative working relationships, effective team functioning, and personal wellness among members within the SAP team. Best practice is for the school entity to provide time for team maintenance at a minimum once a year. SAP agency liaisons should be included in maintenance activities. It is advisable for the facilitator to not be a member of the team. Examples of facilitators include a PNSAS regional coordinator or a Pennsylvania Approved Student Assistance Training Provider.

For more information on team maintenance options or technical assistance, contact your SAP Regional Coordinator.

SAP Interagency

Department of Drug & Alcohol Programs (DDAP)

PA Department of Education (PDE)

Department of Human Services (DHS)

Training Opportunities

SAP Training - For upcoming training opportunities, click here.

Pennsylvania Association of Student Assistance Professionals (PASAP) Annual Conference - To be held 2/25/24-2/27/24 in State College - click here for details. Registration is now **open**.

Grants

For open PA Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) grant opportunities, click here.

Liaison Corner

Liaison Training: Each county and SAP liaison agency has their own specific training requirements for their liaisons. PNSAS suggests you contact your county or agency administrator to discuss what trainings are required. However, the questions below are excerpts fro the Liaison Frequently Asked Questions and will help guide you in what PNSAS requires and provides.

37. What training is a SAP liaison required to attend?
SAP K-12 training is required for all SAP liaisons and any additional training required by the County administrators.
38. What type of on-going training is available for SAP liaisons?
Training availability will vary from county to county. Optional trainings may include: PNSAS Liaison Networking zoom calls, PASAP conference (statewide and regional), County SAP Networking, and miscellaneous DDAP and OMHSAS trainings.

Many liaisons wear multiple hats and therefore it is hard to have one list of recommended trainings. However, there are opportunities to gain information from a variety of sources listed above. DDAP has also created a SAP Liaison Handbook, which is a helpful resource. If you have any questions, feel free to contact your SAP Regional Coordinator.

Information

2023-2024 PDE4092 SAP reporting form is available. Visit the Safe Schools website to download the updated form.

SAP Liaison Contacts for Cyber Schools has been updated and is now on the PNSAS site.

PSA Contest for Youth Suicide Prevention - Prevent Suicide PA is once again hosting the annual PSA contest for high school students. Engage students in dialogue around suicide prevention, the importance of positive messaging, and communicating effectively. Entries for video, audio, or poster PSAs are due no later than December 15th. Details are now available **here**.

Children's Interagency Conference - The 21st Children's Interagency Conference is scheduled for April 2024 in State College, PA. The conference theme is "Shine The Light on Mental Health-- Building Youth Wellness & Resilience." The conference will provide an excellent opportunity for participants to learn about changing trends, promising and best practices, resources, and various system of care activities across Pennsylvania.
Please visit the **conference website** for more information.