

Safety Always First in Education



A Message from the Director



Happy New Year! **The Center** is pleased to announce our team has expanded! In this month's newsletter you will be introduced to our new staff and learn about upcoming summer professional development campus trainings.

We also want to assure our partners that **The Center** is staying on top of the potential impact the new legislative session can have on school safety.

Dr. Julia Y. Andrews

Director, HCDE Center for Safe and Secure Schools

New Year, New Team

Introducing the newest CSSS team members

See the new faces that will work to make our schools and communities more safe and secure!



Jeremy Foster

Officer of School Safety and Security

Jeremy has over 30 years of safety and security experience and worked in Alief ISD as the safety and security emergency manager while also serving as the district's active shooter response trainer since



Alysia Chatman

Climate and Culture Specialist

Alysia Chatman has 15 years of educational experience in various school settings. She received her Bachelor of Arts in Education from Huston-Tillotson University and her Master of Arts in Special



Sergio Lopez

School Safety and Security Specialist

Sergio Lopez has over 15 years of experience working as an athletic coach, teacher and school administrator with public school districts in Harris county. He received his bachelor's degree from

2013. He has a bachelor's degree in Administration of Justice from the University of Missouri.

Education from the University of Texas at Austin. She is pursuing her doctoral degree in organizational leadership, focusing on response to intervention from Abilene Christian University.

the University of Texas-Pan American in Kinesiology. After several years he decided to advance his career by pursuing a master's degree in Educational Administration from Lamar University.

Climate and Culture

CSSS provides customizable training to meet your district's needs to support your mission



In education, building relationships is similar to creating a climate and culture in that you have to be intentional. It requires a shift in mindset. To look at actions and behaviors and see them from a perspective that wants to provide support instead of casting blame. That is where we can help.

Our **summer leadership retreats** and **staff professional development (PD)** are around the corner. We offer professional learning in leadership development through team training, which allows you to discover your unique leadership style and how it connects with your colleagues. In addition, this training enables you to learn strategies to work with teammates in a way that holistically supports your campus and community. We also have certified team members that provide training that helps incorporate mindfulness to start the year on a positive note and prevent burnout.

Reach out so we can help you support your campus in creating customizable PD training that meets your needs and supports your community's mission and vision.

Contact one of our **climate and culture specialists** for more details on our customizable professional development or to schedule a training.



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Alysia Chatman
Climate and Culture Specialist
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Grant Opportunities



Public Safety Office Criminal Justice Grant Program

Deadline: Thursday, Feb. 9

Award: \$10,000+

Description:

The purpose of this program is to support projects that promote public safety, reduce crime and improve the criminal justice system. Awards may be used to provide additional personnel, equipment, supplies, contractual support, training, technical assistance and information systems for criminal justice purposes, which are defined as activities pertaining to crime prevention, control, or reduction, or the enforcement of criminal law.

Crime prevention and education includes cultivating an individualized, understanding-based system that takes a multi-pronged approach, infused with basic life skills and alternative tracks to crime prevention; state priority areas include life-skills training programs and community-based prevention programs

Eligible applicants include:

- State agencies
- Public and private institutions of higher education
- Independent school districts
- Native American tribes
- Councils of governments
- Nonprofit corporations, including hospitals and faith-based organizations
- Units of local government, defined as non-statewide governmental bodies with the authority to establish budgets and impose taxes

Take Care Tuesday Podcast

The image is a promotional graphic for a podcast episode. It features a circular portrait of Mark Sims, Principal of Endeavor High School, on the left. To the right, the text reads "Take Care Tuesday" in a large, stylized font, followed by "PODCAST EPISODE" and "ARE YOUR STUDENTS OK? BE IN TUNE WITH YOUR CAMPUS VIBE". Below this, it says "WITH GUEST SPEAKER, MARK SIMS, PRINCIPAL OF ENDEAVOR HIGH SCHOOL, CHANNELVIEW ISD". The graphic includes logos for "The Center for Safe and Secure Schools" and "Harris County Department of Education".

Are Your Students OK?

Be in Tune With Your Campus Vibe

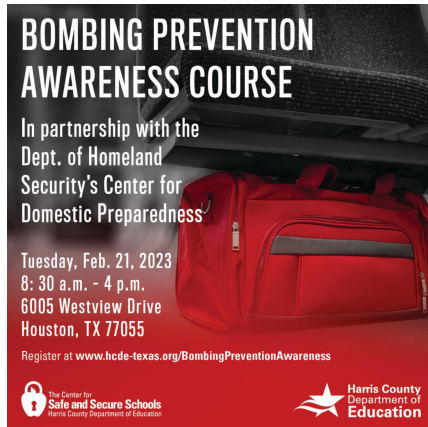
*Mark Sims, Principal Endeavor High School
Channelview ISD*

The Center's **Take Care Tuesday** podcast reaches listeners throughout the United States as well as abroad in Ireland, Nigeria, the

Available Now!

Listen

Upcoming Workshops and Events



Tuesday, Feb. 21

The Bombing Prevention Awareness Course (BPAC) provides participants knowledge of general bombing prevention measures from improvised explosive device (IED) construction and classification through protective measures for potential bombing incidents.

This **FREE** course will enhance the participant's understanding of the IED threat and potential response picture that aids the participant in mitigating the impact of a bombing incident while considering time constraints of critical infrastructure (CI) owners and response personnel.

NOTE: You must complete the one-time [registration](#) process for a FEMA Student ID (SID) in order to register.

Register Today

More Upcoming Climate and Culture Training

- [June 13](#): Youth Mental Health First Aid
- [June 27](#): Tier 1: Introduction to Restorative Practices
- [July 11](#): Putting the Pieces Together: How to fuse instruction, IEPs/504 service plans and classroom culture
- [July 25](#): Aligning Instruction and Culture: Holistically Connecting TEKS with SEL Strategies
- [Aug. 1](#): Self-Care: How to Buffer Fatigue and Burnout Through Understanding De-escalation Strategies

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