

Sample SPEAK UP New Mexico Newsletter Articles

For practitioners:

New Mexico Public Education Department has made school safety a top priority. As part of this ongoing commitment, the Public Education Department has launched the SPEAK UP New Mexico Hotline Initiative. In 81% of school shootings, the attacker tells someone about his or her plans in advance. Most of the time, that person is a classmate, sibling or friend. Based on that insight, SPEAK UP New Mexico empowers students to report threats of weapon-related violence in their schools and communities, either by talking to a trusted adult or by calling 1-866-SPEAK-UP. The centerpiece of the initiative, 1-866-SPEAK-UP is an anonymous, free, statewide hotline that young people can call 24 hours a day to report weapon threats. The hotline is staffed by professional crisis counselors. Tips that come in are immediately relayed to the appropriate school district or charter school and local law enforcement agency so that they can be resolved quickly and safely. SPEAK UP New Mexico awareness materials have been distributed to every public school in the state. The school-based awareness initiative is supported by a statewide media campaign, including print, outdoor, television and radio public service announcements. These materials and the media campaign are a great way to start a conversation with your students about the importance of speaking up to keep your school safe. For more information about SPEAK UP New Mexico, please visit speakupnm.org.

For parents:

New Mexico Public Education Department has made school safety a top priority. As part of this ongoing commitment, the Public Education Department has launched the SPEAK UP New Mexico Hotline Initiative. In 81% of school shootings, the attacker tells someone else about his or her plans in advance. Most of the time, that person is a friend, classmate or sibling. Based on that insight, SPEAK UP New Mexico empowers students to report weapon threats in their schools and communities, either by talking to a parent or other trusted adult or by calling 1-866-SPEAK-UP. 1-866-SPEAK-UP is an anonymous, free, statewide hotline that young people can call 24 hours a day to report weapon threats. We all hope that our kids will feel comfortable talking to us about problems or threats, but for a number reasons young people do not always feel comfortable sharing what they know with the adults in their lives. That is why having an anonymous tool like 1-866-SPEAK-UP is so important. The hotline is staffed by professional crisis counselors who relay tip information to the appropriate school district and local law enforcement. You may want to take this opportunity to talk to your child about the importance of speaking up to prevent violence. For more information about SPEAK UP New Mexico, visit speakupnm.org.