

# School District Grant: Reducing School Violence

## School District of Philadelphia

**GRANTEE:** School District of Philadelphia

**ADDRESS:** 440 North Broad Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19130

**AMOUNT:** \$6,423,139

**DURATION:** 38 months

**POPULATION SERVED:** Students attending Overbrook High School in Philadelphia.

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION:** Overbrook High School is a comprehensive neighborhood high school with an enrollment of 1,993 students. It is one of 11 high schools in Philadelphia that were designated as persistently dangerous prior to the start of the 2007-2008 school year. Grant funds will be used to implement the following new initiatives at the school:

- A Summer Bridge Program will be started for all for entering 9<sup>th</sup> graders. This will be a five-week program that will include intensive remediation in English and Math as well as other enrichment activities.
- Class sizes will be reduced in 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grade English and Math, as these are subjects with high rates of failure and that are key to students eventually either graduating or dropping out of school.
- Career Academies will be started at the school in Health, Finance, Urban Education, and Liberal Arts.
- A 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Success Academy will be started as the 9<sup>th</sup> grade is a crucial year in determining whether students eventually graduate or drop out of school.
- A mentoring program will be started that will include using both adult and peer mentors.
- An in-school suspension program will be started to reduce the number of students who receive traditional suspensions, which typically result in students falling even further behind in their course work.

**GEOGRAPHIC AREA TO BE SERVED:** Philadelphia.

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