

Adapted from:

U.S. Department of Education

Guiding Principles: A Resource Guide for Improving School Climate and Discipline

(January, 2014)

GUIDING PRINCIPLE 1: CLIMATE AND PREVENTION	
<i>Schools that foster positive school climates can help to engage all students in learning by preventing problem behaviors and intervening effectively to support struggling and at-risk students.</i>	
Action Steps Checklist	Wayne RESA support (in italics) – Community support
1. Engage in deliberate efforts to create positive school climates.	<i>Michigan Profile for Healthy Youth (MiPHY)</i> <i>Michigan School Climate Assessment Instrument (MiSCAI)</i> <i>Michigan Student Academic Record (MiSTAR)</i> <i>Implementing Integrated Student Supports (Coordinated School Health)</i> <i>Creating a Healthy School Culture to Improve Academic Success</i> <i>Positive Discipline Strategies to Reduce Suspensions and Expulsions</i> <i>Silent Crisis: Creating Safe Schools for Sexual Minority Youth</i> <i>McKinney-Vento Homeless Grant services</i> <i>Bridging the Middle! Middle School Youth in Foster Care (proposed)</i>
2. Prioritize the use of evidence-based prevention strategies, such as tiered supports.	<i>Michigan Model for Health Curriculum – Social/Emotional Skills</i> <i>Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS)</i>
3. Promote social and emotional learning.	<i>Michigan Model for Health Curriculum – Social/Emotional Skills</i> <i>SOS: Signs of Suicide Prevention Program</i>
4. Provide regular training and supports to all school personnel.	<i>Circle of Support for Learning: Bully-Free Schools (Positive Feedback, Behavior Rubric)</i> <i>Cultural Proficiency</i> <i>Student & Staff Focus Groups</i>
5. Collaborate with local agencies and other stakeholders.	<i>Integrating Trauma-Informed Instruction into the Schools, Dr. James Henry</i> <i>DWCMH and other Community Partners</i> <i>Bridging the Middle! Middle School Youth in Foster Care (proposed)</i>
6. Ensure that any school-based law enforcement officers’ roles focus on improving school safety and reducing inappropriate referrals to law enforcement. (How many Wayne County schools employ School Resource Officers?)	<i>Michigan Student Academic Record (MiSTAR)</i>
GUIDING PRINCIPLE 2: CLEAR, APPROPRIATE, AND CONSISTENT EXPECTATIONS AND CONSEQUENCES	
<i>Schools that have discipline policies or codes of conduct with clear, appropriate, and consistently applied expectations and</i>	

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<i>consequences will help students improve behavior, increase engagement, and boost achievement</i>	
Action Steps Checklist	Wayne RESA - Other
1. Set high expectations for behavior and adopt an instructional approach to discipline.	<i>Circle of Support for Learning: Bully-Free Schools (Behavior Rubric & Reflection Process, Positive Feedback)</i> <i>Positive Discipline Strategies to Reduce Suspensions and Expulsions</i>
2. Involve families, students, and school personnel, and communicate regularly and clearly.	<i>Circle of Support for Learning: Bully-Free Schools (Positive Feedback, Strong Parent Partnerships)</i> <i>English Language Learners (ELL)</i>
3. Ensure that clear, developmentally appropriate, and proportional consequences apply for misbehavior.	<i>Circle of Support for Learning: Bully-Free Schools (Behavior Rubric & Reflection Process - "start with mild consequences")</i> <i>Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS)</i>
4. Create policies that include appropriate procedures for students with disabilities and due process for all students.	<i>Circle of Support for Learning: Bully-Free Schools</i> <i>Safe and Legal Management of Students' Health and Medication Needs</i>
5. Remove students from the classroom only as a last resort, ensure that alternative settings provide academic instruction, and return students to class as soon as possible	<i>Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS)</i> <i>Response to Intervention (RTI)</i>

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GUIDING PRINCIPLE 3: EQUITY AND CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT	
<i>Schools that build staff capacity and continuously evaluate the school's discipline policies and practices are more likely to ensure fairness and equity, and promote achievement for all students.</i>	
Action Steps Checklist:	
1. Train all school staff to apply school discipline policies and practices in a fair and equitable manner.	<i>Circle of Support for Learning: Bully-Free Schools Cultural Proficiency Positive Discipline Strategies to Reduce Suspensions and Expulsions Student & Staff Focus Groups</i>
2. Use proactive, data-driven, and continuous efforts, including gathering feedback from families, students, teachers, and school personnel to prevent, identify, reduce, and eliminate discriminatory discipline and unintended consequences.	<i>School Improvement Plans (SIP) Michigan Profile for Healthy Youth (MiPHY) Michigan School Climate Assessment Instrument (MiSCAI) Michigan Student Academic Record (MiSTAR)</i>