



# PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF NORTH CAROLINA

State Board of Education | Department of Public Instruction

## PSU Improvement Plan for Social Emotional Learning (SEL) and School Mental Health (SMH) (per NC SBOE Policy [SHLT-003](#))

Note: PSUs whose District MTSS teams have completed the Core SEL Practices course and developed a Core SEL implementation plan around instruction, curriculum, and environment will be well situated to develop a compliant local improvement plan for promoting student health and well-being by July 1, 2021, per SHLT-003 requirements.

In addition, it is strongly recommended that a local needs assessment and resource mapping be conducted prior to completing the improvement plan below. Completion of the [SHAPE Quality Assessment](#) and/or use of the [needs assessment](#) and [resource mapping](#) tools on the [NCDPI SEL and Crisis Response Practice Guide](#) will provide the data needed for the targeted improvement planning below.

### **New Hanover County Schools #650**

#### Team Members:

Julie Varnam, Assistant Superintendent of Student Support  
Glen Locklear, Safety Director  
Tanya Jordan, Supervisor of Counselors and Social Workers  
Al O'Briant, Executive Director of Secondary education  
Jennifer Booher, District MTSS Coordinator  
Heather Listebarger, Benefits Supervisor  
Allison Jones, Special Education Director

Kristin Jackson, Director of Student Support Services  
Susan Cole, SEL Coordinator  
Sherry Pinto, Drop-out Prevention Supervisor  
Jakki Jethro, Executive Director of Elementary Education  
Joelle Newman, Lead Teacher Health and PE  
Kim O'Briant, Staff Development Supervisor

## CORE SEL and Mental Wellness Supports

Content	Action Items/Status	Person(s) responsible & Timeline	Helpful Resources
SEL and MH Prevention Strengths & Needs	<p>Strengths:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Core Curriculum SEL K-8</li> <li>● MTSS K-12</li> <li>● School-Based Therapy in every school</li> <li>● WHAT Clinics in traditional high schools</li> <li>● Community partnerships including NHC Health Department, Coastal Horizons, Communities in Schools Cape Fear, Trillium, Carousel Center, Safer Schools Task Force</li> <li>● NHCS Crisis Team</li> </ul> <p>Needs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Incorporating SEL into the curriculum and culture of schools</li> <li>● Developing teaming systems to effectively and efficiently address the needs and capture the voice of students and families.</li> <li>● Professional development for certified and classified staff</li> <li>● Substance Misuse Programming/ Referral/ Treatment</li> </ul>	N/A	<p><a href="#">SHAPE</a> (School Health Assessment and Performance Evaluation)</p> <p><a href="#">District Report Card</a></p> <p><a href="#">Racial Equity Report Card</a></p> <p><a href="#">NHCS Student Support Services Webpage</a></p> <p><a href="#">NHCS SEL and Behavior Education Webpage</a></p> <p>NHCS Student Support Services end-of-Year Report</p>
Describe existing PSU SEL/ MH prevention initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● System –wide MTSS</li> <li>● Harmony Curriculum K-5</li> <li>● Second Step Curriculum 6-8</li> <li>● Student Safety Curriculum K-12 (Safer, Smarter Kids, Shifting Boundaries, Brining in the Bystander)</li> <li>● NHCS Family Life Curriculum</li> <li>● Continuum of Mental Health Services incorporating NHCS staff and Community Partners</li> <li>● School Based Therapy</li> </ul>	N/A	<p><a href="#">MTSS in NHCS</a></p> <p><a href="#">Harmony Curriculum</a></p> <p><a href="#">Second Step Curriculum</a></p> <p><a href="#">Safer, Smarter Kids Curriculum</a></p> <p><a href="#">Shifting Boundaries Curriculum</a></p> <p><a href="#">Bringing in the Bystander Curriculum</a></p> <p><a href="#">NHCS Family Life Curriculum</a></p> <p><a href="#">NHCS Continuum of Mental Health Services</a></p> <p><a href="#">NHCS School-Based Therapy</a></p> <p><a href="#">WHAT Clinics</a></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● WHAT Clinics</li> <li>● School Wellness Coaches/SHAC</li> <li>● Reporting Systems – Ethix360 and Say Something</li> <li>● SAVE Promise Clubs at every high school and middle school</li> <li>● Supplemental Intervention Programs such as Mind Up and Zones of Regulation</li> </ul>		<a href="#">NHCS SHAC</a>
Build/Align Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Adopt/implement mental health training program which includes adult SEL and mental wellness</li> <li>● Adopt/implement suicide risk referral</li> <li>● Improve SISP staffing ratios</li> <li>● Engage relevant stakeholders, including families, students, community providers, and cross-system partners (e.g., county agencies, faith-based organizations, professional associations, etc.), with the goal of building school, family, and community partnerships to strengthen SEL and MH prevention</li> </ul>	<p>Student Support Services</p> <p>Student Support Services</p> <p>Student Support Services</p> <p>Student Support Services</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <a href="#">NHCS Mental Health Training Plan 2021-2022</a></li> <li>● <a href="#">NHCS Suicide Protocol/Training</a></li> <li>● <a href="#">Student Support Annual Training</a></li> <li>● <a href="#">Ratios</a></li> <li>● <a href="#">MOU NHC Health Department</a></li> <li>● <a href="#">MOU Coastal Horizons-DT</a></li> <li>● <a href="#">MOU Coastal Horizons - What</a></li> <li>● <a href="#">MOU CIS Cape Fear</a></li> <li>● <a href="#">MOU Community Justice</a></li> <li>● <a href="#">School-Justice Partnership</a></li> <li>● <a href="#">Safer Schools Task Force</a></li> </ul>
Align with Academic Objectives	<p>2021-2024 Goal</p> <p>Each school will address the NC Star Indicator 4.05 in their School Improvement Plan for 3 consecutive years.</p> <p><i>“ALL teachers teach and reinforce positive social skills, self-respect, relationships, and responsibility for the consequences of decisions</i></p>	<p>Each School</p> <p>Student Support Services/Instructional Division</p>	<p><a href="#">Webinar Series Recordings: Integrating SEL into the Content Areas</a></p> <p><a href="#">Aligning SEL and Academic Objectives</a></p> <p><a href="#">Aligned SEL Sample Lesson Plan</a></p>

	<p><i>and actions.”</i></p> <p>Schools will develop individual plans for this indicator which include teaching methods that enhance SEL in the classroom and incorporating SEL into the curriculum for each subject.</p>		
<p>SEL/MH prevention curriculum</p> <p>SEL/MH prevention instruction</p> <p>SEL/MH prevention environment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● PBIS Strategies</li> <li>● Harmony Curriculum K-5</li> <li>● Second Step Curriculum 6-8</li> <li>● Student Safety Curriculum K-12 (Safer, Smarter Kids, Shifting Boundaries, Brining in the Bystander)</li> <li>● NHCS Family Life Curriculum</li> <li>● School Wellness Coaches/SHAC</li> <li>● Reporting Systems – Ethix360 and Say Something</li> <li>● SAVE Promise Clubs at every high school and middle school</li> <li>● Supplemental and Intensive Intervention Programs such as Mind Up and Zones of Regulation</li> </ul>	<p>Student Support Services</p> <p>Individual Schools</p>	<p><a href="#">NC Professional Teaching Standard II</a></p> <p><a href="#">CASEL Supportive School/Classroom Environment</a></p> <p><a href="#">NHCS SEL and Behavior Education Webpage</a></p>
<p>SEL and MH prevention Data Evaluation -student data (screening)</p>	<p>Panorama SEL Screening Pilot 2021-2022</p> <p>PD Collaboration for MTSS</p>	<p>Student Support Services</p> <p>Student Support Services/Instructional Division</p>	<p><a href="#">NHCS MTSS</a></p>

### System of Interventions for SEL and Mental Health

Content & Time	Action Items/Status	Person(s) responsible & Timeline	Helpful Resources
<p><i>Early Intervention</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Identify students who are at risk of developing SEL and/or mental health issues at school</li> <li>● Identify students experiencing SEL and/or mental health issues at school</li> <li>● Provide intervention for at-risk or struggling students</li> </ul>	<p>Individual School Teams</p> <p>Individual School Teams/FIT Teams</p> <p>Individual School Teams</p>	<p><a href="#">NHCS MTSS</a></p> <p><a href="#">NHCS SEL and Behavior Education Webpage</a></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annually review of crisis intervention policies, practices, and personnel</li> <li>• Annually review of discipline policies, practices, and personnel</li> <li>• Ensure PSU is included in local community emergency preparedness plan</li> </ul>	<p>Student Support Services</p> <p>Student Support Services</p> <p>Student Support Services</p>	
<i>Treatment, Referral, Re-entry</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• improve access to school-based and community-based services for students and their families</li> <li>• improve transitions between and within school and community-based services</li> <li>• Formalize protocol for students re-entering school following acute/residential mental health treatment</li> </ul>	<p>Student Support Services</p> <p>Student Support Services</p> <p>Student Support Services</p>	<p><a href="#">NHCS Continuum of Mental Health Services</a></p> <p><a href="#">NHCS School-Based Therapy</a></p> <p><a href="#">NHCS Transition Plan</a></p>

**Improvement Plan Review**

- Update at each team meeting
- Review quarterly based on evaluation data