

GOAL 3A

Strategy Statement:

Utilize district-supported multi-tiered systems of support (MTSS) and social-emotional learning (SEL) practices.

Description:

Develop the capacity of school-based staff to identify and support students' social-emotional learning needs through tiered interventions.

Activities:

1. Deliver differentiated staff trainings on SEL and mental health interventions.
2. Review existing SEL-related initiatives and efforts, as well as other evidence-based SEL programs.
3. Develop and implement a comprehensive school counseling program.
4. Implement peer counseling and mediation programs at all schools.

Rationale:

Implementing SEL interventions has improved the school environment which results in better social and academic outcomes for students. Students participating in SEL programs also showed improved classroom behavior, an increased ability to manage stress and depression, and better attitudes about themselves, others and school.

Since implementing SEL, districts improved reading and math scores. Attendance, graduation and GPA increased, as well as teacher effectiveness. Suspensions and expulsions decreased. Students felt safer and more connected to school.