Board Policy S-14:
Student Mental Health and Well-Being

REFERENCES

S-14: Administrative Procedures, Student Mental Health and Well-Being

THE POLICY

The Salt Lake City School Board of Education understands that positive mental health is critical to student success. The social and emotional skills, knowledge, and behaviors that students learn at school help them build resilience and set the pattern for how they will manage their mental health throughout their lives. Studies show that there is a direct link between students’ mental health and well-being and their attendance, academic performance, graduation rates, and behavior.

The board realizes that supporting mental health and wellness requires a comprehensive, multifaceted, systemic approach that strengthens students, families, schools, and neighborhoods, and does so in ways that maximize learning, caring, and well-being. The board also recognizes the challenges faced by teachers and school administrators in addressing the mental health needs of students. In an effort to promote student well-being, the board is committed to providing school counselors at each site, and training to school staff, students, and parents on support strategies which enhance social and emotional well-being.

The purpose of this policy is to promote students’ emotional well-being and mental health, and thereby improve their ability to perform to their full academic potential and become positively contributing youth and adults in their communities.

The district has set forth its specific processes for implementing this board policy through the accompanying administrative procedures.