SEL in action

Social and Emotional
Learning and School Safety
WestEd

Social and emotional learning is the process through which children and adults develop the skills, attitudes, and values necessary to understand and manage life tasks. (Elias et al., 1997).

THE KEY LEVER
FOR SOCIAL
AND EMOTIONAL
DEVELOPMENT IS
THE QUALITY OF
INTERACTIONS AND
RELATIONSHIPS.

-David Adams, The Urban Assembly

SEL Works

Research shows that students who receive explicit SEL instruction through evidence-based programs improve academically, with greater motivation to learn, improved relationships with peers, and a deeper connection to their school.(Durlak et al., 2011)

The development of non-cognitive social skills at age 11 is tied to higher levels of education attainment, more consistent employment, and better wages. (Carneiro, Crawford, & Goodman, 2007)



Why SEL?

Students Need It.

Research has found that up to 2/3 of all school-aged children experience trauma as they are exposed to one or more adverse childhood experiences. (Felitti et al., 1998; Copeland et al., 2007)



Teachers Demand It.



93%

▶ 93% of teachers believe SEL is important for the in-school student experience.





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More than three-quarters of teachers believe SEL benefits students not only to succeed academically (75%), attend and graduate (80%), and prepare for college (78%), but also in readiness for the workforce (87%) and life (87%). (CASEL, 2016)

Two Ways Schools Can Support SEL



Trauma-informed practices...

realize the widespread impact of trauma, recognizes the signs and symptoms of trauma in others, and respond by integrating that knowledge into policies, procedures, and practices. (SAMHSA, 2014)



Restorative practices...

address wrongdoing not through punishment but rather by bringing victims, offenders and their supporters together to reflect on and take responsibility for their actions and come up with plans to repair harm. (IIRP, 2007)