

A Data-Informed Approach to Social-Emotional Learning

The Issue

The demand for advancing social-emotional learning (SEL) in U.S. schools is strong and growing. But while findings signal significant support and enthusiasm for SEL, most school systems have not yet adopted a set of policies that prioritize the development and assessment of social-emotional competencies (SEC), inform districtwide decision making about SEL, and coordinate the implementation of evidence-based SEL practices. Without such policies in place, schools are currently missing an opportunity to serve all of our students more effectively.

Our Approach

At TransformEd, we believe that when educators have data related to SEL, they are better equipped to support the development of competencies that help all students succeed in school and in life. A data-informed approach to SEL is crucial to educating today's students because it informs the system-wide integration of SEL into school culture and practice, and it helps educators invest in practices that work for all students.



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Gather Input on Learning Environments

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Begin Measuring Social-Emotional Competencies

3

Use Data to Build Local Capacity and Inform Practice



For more information on how your state or district can implement these policies, please contact:
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Gather Input on Learning Environments

Engage an Array of Stakeholders

To establish a common understanding of the need for SEL and identify specific competencies to prioritize.

Pilot Culture/Climate Surveys

To obtain important information from students about aspects of a learning environment that support SEL.

Integrate SEL Data Collection into Needs Assessments

To identify strengths and areas for growth for schools and districts in their efforts to support students' social-emotional development.



Begin Measuring Social-Emotional Competencies

Pilot SEC Measures with a Network of Districts

To prioritize a set of competencies, identify common measures, invest in evidence-based practices, and share lessons learned with other districts.

Tailor Other Assessments to Include SEC Measures

To access a range of data related to students' skills and mindsets, as well as their learning environments.



Use Data to Build Local Capacity and Inform Practice

Leverage Funding Opportunities (e.g., Title IV)

To support SEL-related programs, data gathering, and analysis at the local level.

Support Professional Learning on SEL and the Use of SEL-related Data

To help educators interpret data, ensure student privacy, and obtain guidance on next steps.

Provide Actionable Guidance to Districts

To catalyze local approaches to SEL and guide access to quality access tools, grants, and partnerships.

Engage Students in Data Conversations

To complement information received from SEC assessments with direct input and reflections on group-level data.