



Commission on Improving the Status of Children in Indiana

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District-level personnel for SEL and Mental Health

FEBRUARY 28, 2019

At its regular meeting on August 15, 2018, the Commission on Improving the Status of Children endorsed a recommendation from its Educational Outcomes Task Force to encourage every school district in Indiana to designate a professional to oversee the district's efforts related to social-emotional learning and mental health services in schools. The Commission requested its Task Force to develop guidance for districts on the potential responsibilities and qualifications for such a role.

At its regular meeting on December 19, 2018, the Commission endorsed the attached suggestions for the consideration of Indiana school corporations.

The Commission on Improving the Status of Children: Education Outcomes Task Force recommends that each school district designate personnel to facilitate and oversee the integration of Social Emotional Learning and Mental Health in schools. Below are suggestions to consider for personnel who would fulfill this recommendation.

Potential Job Titles

- Director of Neuroeducation
- Director of Mental Health and School Counseling
- Coordinator of Social Emotional Learning
- Mental Wellness Coordinator

Suggested areas of influence and/or oversight:

- Diversity/equity
- Multi-Tier Systems of Support
- Neuroscience Application
- Social Emotional Learning
- Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports
- School discipline related to social/emotional learning and mental health
- District's comprehensive school counseling and social work programs
- Collaboration with local community mental health providers, police and fire departments, other community entities.
- Trauma informed and resiliency building practices.
- Counseling and Social work evaluation process
- Emergency response to mental health crisis (i.e. students in danger of hurting themselves or others)
- Safety plans for students in crisis.
- Data collection related to student services and mental health supports.
- Identification and referral process for students in need of social emotional support.
- Support families in need of mental health/behavioral information and resources.
- Social emotional universal screeners
- Integration of district wide social and emotional learning education and professional development aligned with the district's strategic plan.
- Reallocation of financial resources to expand and enhance guidance and SEL services Early Childhood-12
- Integration of Social Emotional Learning with Indiana Academic State Standards and Early Learning Foundations
- State mandated initiatives for students and staff related to child safety and wellbeing.
- Grant awards in relation to social emotional learning and mental health
- Title IV funding if allocated for Social Emotional Learning

Recommended Certificates, Licenses:

- Master's degree in Psychology, Education, Counseling, Social Work, Applied Behavior Analysis, or related field.
- Licensed mental health professional preferred
- IDOE School Services license preferred

Recommended Experiences and Knowledge

- Child and adolescent cognitive, academic, social, emotional, behavioral and physical development, assessment, and mental health
- Multi-Tiered System of Supports
- SEL research
- Collaborative learning teams
- Applied Educational neuroscience
- Professional development
- Intercultural competence
- Successful leadership experience in mental health field and school districts
- Successful experience in working with mental health and insurance systems.
- Ability to maintain program finances within an assigned budget
- National and state trends in the areas of SEL and Mental Health,
- A minimum of 3 years of combined experience working as a social worker, school counselor, or therapist within a school or organization. Experience as a social worker in an educational setting strongly preferred.

Potential Funding Sources

- Title IV funding
- Title I funding
- Special Education funding
- General Fund
- Grants (federal and local)

** Please consider reviewing the applicable sections of the Every Student Succeeds Act ([ESSA](#)) and [Indiana Administrative Code](#) that apply to this recommendation.