



Commissioner's Back-to-School Meeting

Connecticut State Department of Education | August 15, 2018

Important Opportunities from the CSDE Turnaround Office

Professional Learning – School Climate and Restorative Practices

In the 2018–19 school year, the Turnaround Office will once again offer an array of professional learning in school climate and restorative practices to schools and districts in Connecticut. There are two opportunities available for School Climate. In addition to *School Climate Basic Training*, there is an extension of the learning through *Advanced Training* in which participants will dig deeper into school climate and learn to facilitate content. A professional learning opportunity focused on *Restorative Practices* will also be offered. Restorative Practices focus not on the rules broken and punitive consequences, but rather on the harms done and appropriate restorative consequences necessary to repair and support strong relationships. Throughout these highly interactive sessions, participants will learn strategies to foster and improve school climate.

Priority is given to Alliance Districts, but all schools are eligible if space is available. Offerings include, but are not limited to:

- School Climate Basic Training – Two day session
- School Climate Advanced Training – Three day session
- Restorative Practices Basic Training – Two day session

A memorandum with more information will be sent to all Superintendents in early fall. For more information, please contact Jo Ann Freiberg, Education Consultant, Turnaround Office at joann.freiberg@ct.gov or by phone at 860-713-6805.



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CSDE Evidence-Based Practice Guides

Since the summer of 2017, the CSDE has collaborated on its “first, best effort” to identify the leading practices that research suggests will increase the likelihood of improved student outcomes. The practices found in the CSDE Evidence-Based Practice Guides are aligned to local, state, and federal long-term education goals.

The CSDE Evidence-Based Practice Guides are intended to inform school and district decision-making regarding instructional and student support programming and to optimize the use of local, state, and federal school improvement funds.

Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) emphasizes the use of evidence-based activities, strategies and interventions (collectively referred to as “interventions”) and defines evidence-based interventions as being supported by one of the following “tiers” of evidence: strong evidence, moderate evidence, promising evidence and evidence that demonstrates a rationale.

The CSDE is committed to expanding the collection to include other topics and updating the guides as local and state stakeholders require and as the field of research grows.

The following resources are available on the CSDE website:

- Climate and Culture
- Early Learning
- English Language Proficiency
- Mathematics
- Reading
- On-Track Graduation
- Student/Family/Community Engagement

To learn more and to download the practice guides, please visit <http://portal.ct.gov/SDE-EvidenceBasedPracticeGuides>