



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



TO: Superintendents of Schools

FROM: Desi D. Nesmith, Chief Turnaround Officer *DDN*

DATE: July 13, 2018

SUBJECT: Evidence-Based Practice Guides

The Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) has identified leading practices in seven school improvement areas that research suggests will increase the likelihood of improved student outcomes. The leading practices found in the CSDE Evidence-Based Practice Guides are aligned to local, state, and federal long-term education goals.

The Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), emphasizes the use of evidence-based activities, strategies and interventions (collectively referred to as “interventions”), and defines an evidence-based intervention as being supported by one of the following “tiers” of evidence:

1. Strong evidence
2. Moderate evidence
3. Promising evidence
4. Evidence that demonstrates a rationale

The U.S. Department of Education Non-Regulatory Guidance, “Using Evidence to Strengthen Education Investments” outlines the four tiers and provides additional support in the selection of appropriate interventions. This non-regulatory guidance can be found at <https://www.ed.gov>.

The CSDE is pleased to offer the following Evidence-Based Practice Guides:

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

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

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Please click on the links below for access to the Evidence-Based Practice Guides:

- [Climate and Culture](#)
- [Early Learning](#)
- [English Language Proficiency](#)
- [Mathematics](#)
- [On-Track Graduation](#)
- [Reading](#)
- [Student/Family/Community Engagement](#)

If you have any questions, please contact Leslie Carson, Education Consultant, Turnaround Office, at 860-713-6796 or via e-mail: leslie.carson@ct.gov.

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