

Schools Reopening, Covid-19, and Student Success

Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Series, part 3

Remote learning during the pandemic became a way of life for families and schools across the country. As with any significant change, perspective and action plans are impacted. Watch [Parents 2020: Covid Closures – A Refining Moment of Students, Parents, and School](#) video to gain insight from parents.

As parents we are always looking for ways to help our children to succeed. Listening, being creative, taking care of yourself can help foster social-emotional learning in children. Edsurge, elaborates on these ideas and more: [10 Practical Ways Parents Can Bring Social Emotional Learning Home](#).

As at home, SEL at school is essential for preparing our children to learn and grow. Parents, educators and communities can work together to provide social-emotional learning as part of the SEL Team in your school. Here are some ideas to [Create a Representative SEL Team to Lead Implementation](#).

Learning Heroes research has shown that parent understanding will be a factor in the spread and scale of evidence-based practice supporting social, emotional, cognitive, and academic development. When your school SEL team is reaching out to families, consideration should be given to key insights in communications provided by research

1. **SKILLS BEGIN AT HOME; REINFORCED AT SCHOOL.** Parents believe that home and school both have a role in children's social, emotional, cognitive, and academic development, but not an equal one.
2. **REAL WORLD EXAMPLES BRING STRATEGIES TO LIFE.** Video clips showing students engaged in social, emotional, cognitive, and academic development can be a powerful way to make these concepts concrete.
3. **EDUCATION JARGON DOESN'T TRANSLATE.** The language educators typically use to talk about social, emotional, cognitive, and academic learning and what parents understand it to mean are often quite different.
4. **MEASUREMENT MISGIVINGS.** Parents object to having their child graded, rated, or formally assessed on social, emotional, and cognitive skills.

Learning Heroes full research finding on communicating with parents is available [here](#).

Other tools to assist in creating a successful SEL school environment are:

- CASEL Guide to Schoolwide SEL: [Equity and SEL](#) which provides perspective on what SEL should look like in schools to address equity as well as additional resources and webinars to move the discussions and implementation forward.

- American Institute for Research (AIR) [Creating Healthy Schools: Ten Key Ideas for the SEL and School Climate Community](#)

Planning for the 2020 -2021 school year is in full swing – consideration and implementation with extra emphasis on the logistics of keeping everyone in the school environment safe and healthy. Social –Emotional Skills have a positive impact on academic achievement. These skills will help a child as they grow and in their daily life as adult.

Coming in September: Take Action Tuesday – Social Emotional Learning Webinar

Previous articles in the series:

[A Win-Win for Everyone](#): Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Series, part 1

[Adding Families to the Mix](#): Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Series, part 2