

Advocating for SEL in Your Community and State

5/21/2019

Wifi: Marriott_CONFERENCE
Password: SEL2019



SEL4US
Social Emotional Learning Alliance
for The United States

Access the Slides/Worksheet

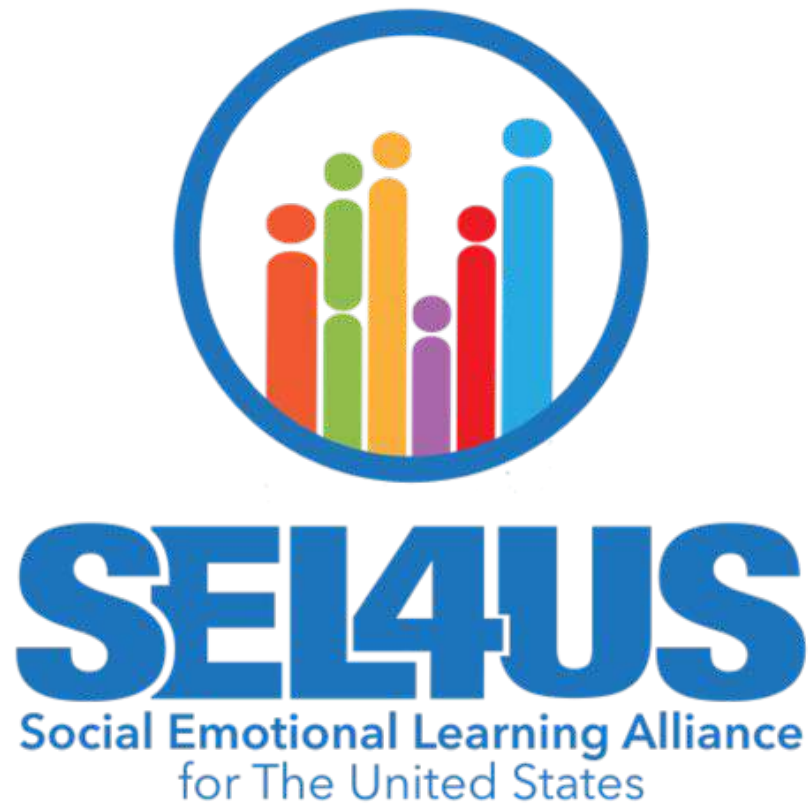
To download the presentation slides and digital worksheets, visit:

www.sel4us.org/SELConf2019

On Twitter or Facebook?
Share key ideas
from the session

#SELCONF2019

Who's here?



SEL4US is the grassroots national network that empowers local organizers to influence their communities to implement high quality SEL.

Through its state member organizations, SEL4US works to maximize the impact of its members in raising public awareness of the benefits of SEL, promoting effective SEL implementation, and advancing policies and funding to sustain and spread the use of high quality SEL.

www.sel4us.org

Key questions for today

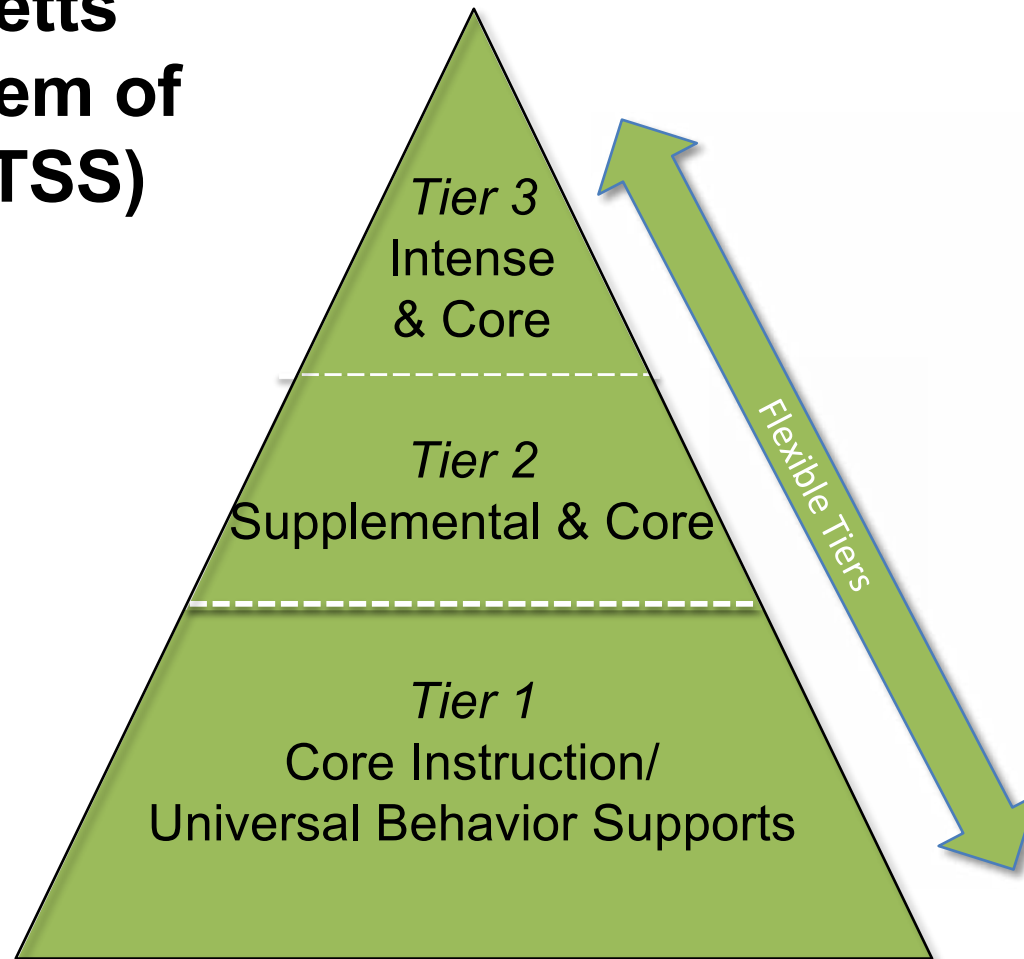
- What are you advocating for around SEL?
- Who do you need to influence?
- What approaches will influence them?

Social and Emotional Learning Core Competencies



Source:
Collaborative for Academic, Social, and
Emotional Learning

Massachusetts Tiered System of Support (MTSS)



What are you
advocating for
around SEL?

SEL Policy Forum Participants

April 29-30, 2019, Seattle, WA

Policymaker Member Organizations

- Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO)
- National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE)
- National Governors Association (NGA)
- National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL)

Funders

- Gates Foundation
- PureEdge*
- Raikes Foundation*

* invited but not able to attend

Other Participants

- Afterschool Alliance
- Aspen Institute
- CASEL
- Center to Improve Social and Emotional Learning and School Safety (SEL Center)
- Committee for Children
- Education First
- Learning Policy Institute (LPI)
- Social Emotional Learning Alliance for the United States (SEL4US)
- Social Emotional Learning Alliance for Washington (SEL4WA)
- Transforming Education*

Future Additions

- America's Promise
- Forum for Youth Investment
- UnidosUS
- Urban League

SEL Policy Landscape

Policy Categories

- Legislative*
- Regulatory*
- Guidance

* includes funding decisions

Policy Roles

- Research
- Knowledge sharing
- Pre-policy program development
 - Proof of concept
 - Seed capacity
- Draft policy
- Advocacy
- Post-policy implementation support
 - Ensure program success

Draft Policy Agenda Examples

Vision and Plan

- ❖ Articulate a well-rounded and equity-focused vision of student and youth success

Student Learning Goals

- ❖ Define SEL learning goals

Implementation

- ❖ Fund and support implementation of evidence-based SEL programs and practices

Assessment

- ❖ Support and fund collection and analysis of SEL assessment data

Adult SEL

- ❖ Support and fund professional development for educator SEL capacity
- ❖ Require teacher preparation programs to include SEL coursework

Share with a partner:

What are one or two changes that you are advocating for around SEL?

Who do you need to
influence?

Consider the Impact for the Effort



Who is the stakeholder?

What are you asking for—
that they can give you?

What approaches will
influence them?

Benefits of SEL

- **Reduced emotional distress**
Fewer reports of student depression, anxiety, stress, and social withdrawal
- **Fewer negative behaviors**
Decreased disruptive class behavior, noncompliance, aggression, delinquent acts, and disciplinary referrals
- **Improved attitudes and behaviors**
Greater motivation to learn, deeper commitment to school, increased time devoted to schoolwork, and better classroom behavior
- **Better academic performance**
Achievement scores an average of 11 percentile points higher

Source: Durlak, J.A., Weissberg, R.P., Dymnicki, A.B., Taylor, R.D., & Schellinger, K. (2011) The impact of enhancing students' social and emotional learning: A meta-analysis of school-based universal interventions. *Child Development*: 82 (1), 405-432.

Perspective Taking

- What do people in this role think about/care about?
- What would motivate someone in the role to make the change?





- For each priority stakeholder, consider what would likely motivate them to support your community's SEL initiative and how best to communicate with them about it.

Stakeholder Engagement Planning

For each priority stakeholder, consider what would likely motivate them to support your community's SEL initiative and how best to communicate with them about it.

Stakeholder:

Desired Action

Key Motivations

Messages

Communication Method

Organizing to Build Influence

One committed individual
can change the world



Working together, we can
achieve meaningful change

Five Leadership Practices

- Story
- Relationships
- Structure
- Strategy
- Action

Source – *Organizing: People, Power, Change*

Organizing Your Team

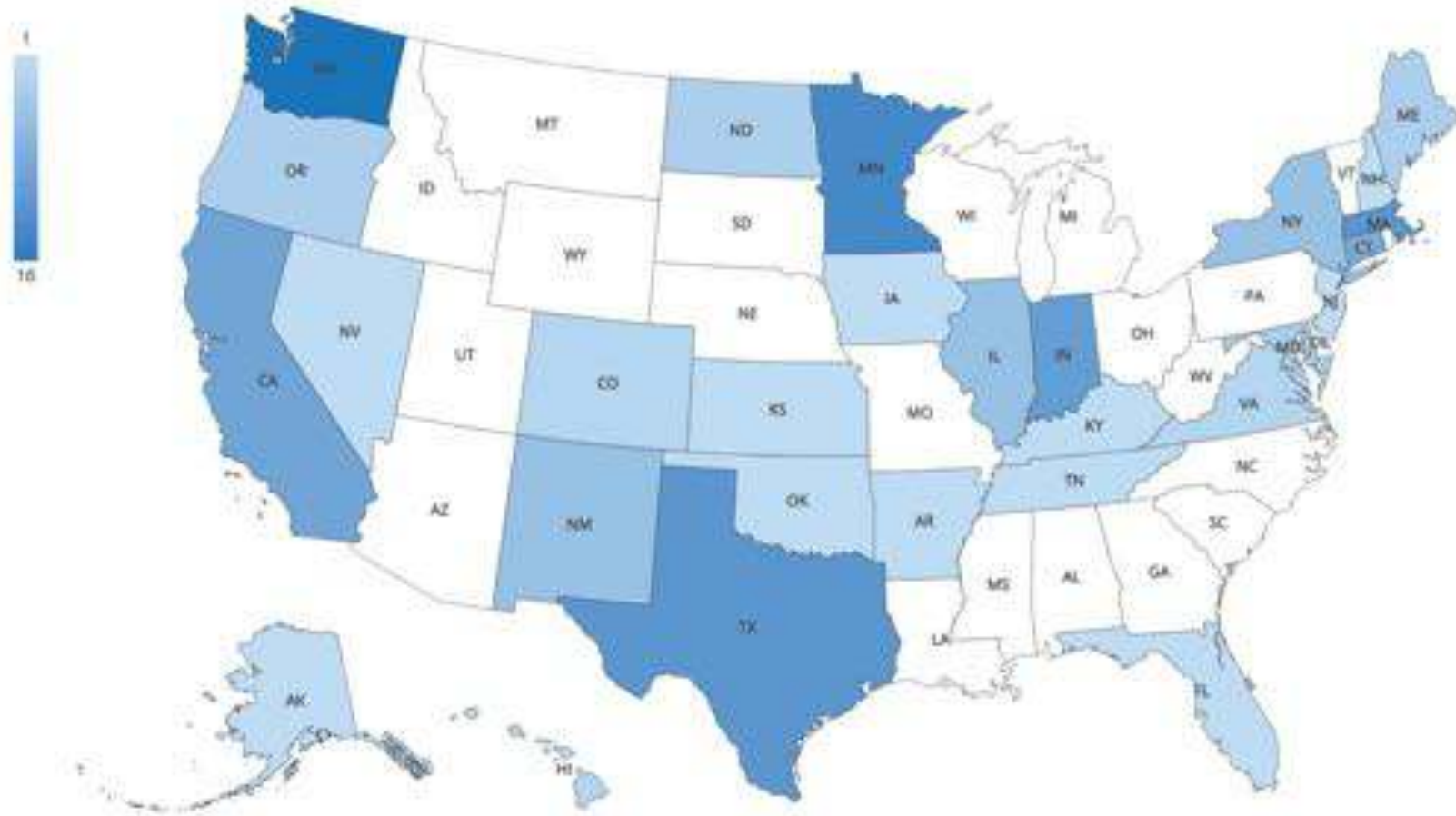
- Develop a leadership team
- Build a contact list
- Conduct a landscape analysis
- Develop initial goals and objective
- Engage volunteers/activists
- Establish a visual and online presence

Tools

Social Emotional Learning Bills

We track all bills that reference social emotional learning (SEL) and related areas. We support legislation that advances high-quality SEL.

<https://sel4us.org/advocacy/bills-we-track/>





**THE ACTION
NETWORK**



Contact your MA State Senator to Give SEL an Ongoing Seat at the Table

Take Action Now!

Take just 2 minutes now to contact your MA state senator and help give social and emotional learning a permanent seat at the table with our state government.

Enter your address to the right and click on the START WRITING button. The system will instantly look up your senator's contact information and provide a sample email, which you can edit, if you wish.

The 2018-2019 legislative session ends July 31, so it's vital to act now!

H 4726, An Act for Prevention and Access to Appropriate Care and Treatment of Addiction, recently passed the state House unanimously and is now under consideration in the state Senate. We are one step closer to the establishment of a permanent Promote-Prevent Commissioner—with the Social-Emotional Learning Alliance for Massachusetts (SEL4MA) explicitly named as having a crucial seat at the table!

In addition to other important provisions, H 4726 will sustain the nationally recognized and groundbreaking work of the Special Legislative Commission on Seniors' Health Promotion and

50 Letters Sent

Only 49 more until we get it done!

ENTER YOUR RETURN ADDRESS

First Name *

Last Name *

Email *

Street *

City *

Zip/Postal Code *

Map to my ZIP

START WRITING

SEL4US provides

- Community of practice
- Technical assistance
- Technology platform
- Shared resources
- National relationships

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