

Students need social/emotional learning (SEL) to be an integrated part of their education.

Many of our students are in a state of crisis. Bellevue School District data indicates that only 55–65% of our middle school students feel a sense of belonging to their school. More alarming, over the past two years there has been an average of 30 reported attempted suicides in our middle schools and the actual number may be higher.

There is a significant need in every middle school to implement SEL. In addition, research shows that SEL learning boosts students' academic success and improves their health (for example, Ivcevic & Brackett, 2014).



Social/emotional learning not only helps kids develop interpersonal skills and impulse control, it boosts students' academic success and improves their health.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

This year, the new SEL curriculum, MindUp, will be brought to middle school classrooms and restorative practices will be provided to middle and high school students to build community and proactively address bullying and discipline issues in schools.

The SEL curriculum is evidence-based and addresses the five Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL) competencies:

- Self-awareness;
- Self-management;
- Relationship skills;
- Social awareness; and
- Responsible decision-making.

Restorative practices is a new initiative in schools that has the potential to positively influence youth behavior, build healthy school communities, repair harm and restore relationships.

Budget: \$60,000

Timeline: September 2017—August 2018

MEASURABLE OUTCOMES

SEL implementation seeks to shift the culture and climate of our schools and increase students' sense of belonging, safety, and engagement. Four key metrics will be used to measure outcomes of the middle school SEL program: Panorama Student Climate survey; school discipline referral data; Healthy Youth Survey data; and school belief survey.