School Mental Health and More

As the School Year Gets Underway,

What's Being Done to Improve Efforts to Address Learning, Behavior, and Emotional Problems?

Here's some next steps for improving a school's student/learning supports.

(1) Establish a Learning Supports Leadership Team (See What is a learning supports leadership team?

http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu/pdfdocs/Report/resource_oriented_teams.pdf)

(2) Have the team

(a) map existing resources for addressing barriers to learning and teaching and reengaging disconnected students

(see Mapping & Analyzing Learning Supports http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu/summit2002/tool%20mapping%20current%20status.pdf and An Aid for Initial Listing of Current Resources Used at a School for Addressing Barriers Learning and Teaching http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu/pdfdocs/listingresources.pdf)

- (b) analyze what's working and what needs strengthening and identify critical gaps
- (c) develop a set of prioritized recommendations for moving toward a unified, comprehensive, and equitable system of student/learning supports
- (d) present the recommendations for approval.

(3) As soon as a set of proposed improvements are approved, establish a workgroup to develop a strategic action plan that details the who, what, and when of the steps for moving forward.

(4) Assign the Learning Supports Leadership Team to guide implementation of the strategic plan.

Some related resources from the Center:

>Embedding Mental Health as Schools Change
>Addressing Barriers to Learning: In the Classroom and Schoolwide
>Improving School Improvement
All three can be accessed from our Center's website. Go to:
http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu/improving school improvement.html

>2021-22: Addressing Learning, Behavior, and Emotional Problems Through Better Use of Student and Learning Support Staff <u>http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu/pdfdocs/supports.pdf</u>

>Evolving Community Schools and Transforming Student/Learning Supports http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu/pdfdocs/evolvecomm.pdf

A host of other free resources are available from the Center's website http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu/

We don't have email addresses for all who we hope will read this, so please share this with your colleagues.

And as always, we ask that you share with us whatever you think others might find relevant. Send to Ltaylor@ucla.edu

Finally, for those moving forward to develop a unified, comprehensive, and equitable system of learning supports, we offer free distance coaching and technical assistance http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu/pdfdocs/coach.pdf

Best wishes and be well, Howard & Linda

Howard Adelman, Ph.D. Professor of Psychology & Center Co director

Linda Taylor, Ph.D. Center Co director