Our Journey to Becoming a Compassionate District

High Impact Instruction • Data Driven Decisions • Collaborative Culture
PASCO COUNTY SCHOOLS
Taking Success To The Next Level
A WORLD-CLASS EDUCATION

Mission
We exist to provide a world class education for all students.

High Impact Instruction

Data Driven Decisions

Collaborative Culture

Vision
All our students achieving success in college, in career, and in life.
Aligning to our Common Vision of Instructional Excellence

- Build strong content knowledge and apply learning to new contexts
- Think critically to understand and solve real world problems
- Take ownership for their learning and reflect on the learning progress
- Collaborate and communicate to learn within and outside of their school community
- Utilize a variety of tools and resources to enhance learning
Pasco County Schools
Providing a world-class education for all students
Kurt S. Browning, Superintendent of Schools

Our Story

High Impact Instruction  Data Driven Decisions  Collaborative Culture
Our Journey...

Responding to New Expectations
- Focused on building capacity at district level to understand standards
- Trained staff and leaders around the standards and instructional shifts
- Adopted and procure aligned materials

Disconnected Strategies
- Different phases and stages of PBIS
- Pilot projects of Harmony Project and Restorative Justice
- Guidance programs focused on Safer, Smarter Kids
- Disjointed work around Trauma Informed Care practices
- Loose attempts to include SEL connections in curriculum

Acknowledging the Data
- Comprehensive Needs Assessment data indicated SEL was barrier for vast majority of schools
- Survey data indicated Social Emotional Learning was a top PD need
- Schools data indicated that student social and work behaviors were on the decline

Taking Action
- Focusing on elevating the importance of Social Emotional Learning throughout the system
- Building Multi-Tiered System of Supports for all areas including academics AND behavior, SEL, mental health
Shaping a Vision for Academic Success

Building Compassionate Schools

Rigorous Instruction

Equitable Instructional Practices

Common Vision of Instructional Excellence:
- Build strong content knowledge and apply learning to new contexts
- Think critically to understand and solve real-world problems
- Take ownership for their learning and reflect on the learning progress
- Collaborate and communicate to learn within and outside of their school community
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Our Dream!

Our World Class Graduate

SEL Standards  Academic Standards
Building the Team

The Right People
• Created district leadership team (D-SEL)
  • Shared work between curriculum and student services

The Right Minds
• Invited school staff to apply to be part of the Pasco Large Project Group
  • Created an incredible coalition of the willing and SEL ambassadors across the system
Process for Standards Development

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phase I and II</th>
<th>10/16-11/16</th>
<th>11/13</th>
<th>11/14</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Confirm district vision.</td>
<td>2. Review existing examples of district and state SEL standards.</td>
<td>3. Identify and articulate overarching SEL competencies.</td>
<td>4. Identify and articulate the level 2 standards.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

11/16-1/25

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>March and April</th>
<th>Ongoing</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5. Identify and articulate the developmental benchmarks and indicators.</td>
<td>8. Obtain feedback from stakeholders and experts, and then revise.</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. Document an introduction to the SEL goals or competencies.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Finalized draft standards</td>
<td>Planning for use of Early Release Days with a focus on SEL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shared final standards with school leaders and began to plan for professional learning</td>
<td>District teams working to weave SEL standards into current curriculum documents</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Based on Yoder & Dusenbury, 2017)
Critical Input

Allowed us to gather feedback, input and reactions from the field.... AND

Respond in a manner that kept the initiative moving forward
That’s not all...

- PBIS
- Mental Health Supports
- SEL
- TIC

Compassionate Schools
Supporting our Students

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Elevating Student Voice and Promoting Leadership

Student Congress: Student leaders from each secondary school

• Learning through the Sandy Hook Promise
  • See Something Say Something
  • Start with Hello

• Leading as advocates at their school sites

• Leading as trainers for elementary students
  • Together We Stand 2019
    • Showcase amazing practices
    • Train elementary student leaders to carry the work forward

• Learning as SEL is integrated into curriculum and instruction (19-20)
Start with Hello....Student Video
Supporting our Staff

High Impact Instruction

Data Driven Decisions

Collaborative Culture
# Supporting Staff to Support Students and Each Other

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Trauma Informed Care</th>
<th>Social Emotional Learning</th>
<th>Positive Behavior Intervention Supports</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| • Reinforcing the importance of Safety, Transparency, Predictability, Voice and Choice | • Curriculum integration  
  • District wide PD  
  • Focus on signature practices | • District plan for training and supporting all schools |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Summer Behavior Institute</th>
<th>Youth Mental Health First Aid</th>
<th>Community Connections</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| • Building capacity of teachers and leaders to respond to challenging behaviors | • Recognize  
  • Reach out  
  • Connect | • Consistent screening procedures for risk  
  • Sharing critical information to support students and families  
  • Increasing access to outside services |
Be transparent... be open ... be there for your students!

Self-Management ⚪ Social Awareness ⚪ Relationship Skills
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Lessons Learned

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Critical Components for this Work

- Alignment in the system
- The people in every phase
- Consistent and ongoing communication
- Explicit connections across initiatives
- Support for the work from inside and outside
- Believers in the work who stay committed!
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On the horizon...

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Evidence-Based Approaches to Social and Emotional Learning (SEL)

- **Explicit Skill Development**: Target specific social and emotional skills during time set aside for SEL.
- **Engaging Instruction**: Provide daily instruction that enhances social connections and personal reflection (e.g., signature social and instructional teaching practices).
- **Embedded Content**: Weave social and emotional skills and topics into existing academic lessons.
- **School Environment**: Ensure that policies, organizational structures, and relationships promote a safe, supportive, culturally responsive, and engaging school environment.
Discussion and Questions

Thank you!