

The Practice Base for How We Learn

In March 2018, the Council of Distinguished Educators of the National Commission on Social, Emotional, and Academic Development released a consensus statement that outlines promising practices that show how students, teachers, parents, and administrators can integrate social, emotional, and academic learning in PreK-12 education. The report examines how teachers and the school environment need to support the social, emotional, and academic dimensions of learning to maximize outcomes of all students.

Social, emotional, and academic development (SEAD) is for ALL students

- The integration of SEAD shifts the emphasis to learning environments.
- The integration of SEAD promotes equity.



SEAD starts with adults

- Professional and collegial support for integrating the three dimensions of learning enhances educators' effectiveness in the classroom.
- Adults model social and emotional skills in their interactions with students and other adults.
- SEAD flourishes when everyone in the school is involved.



Strong leadership is central

- A clear vision, mission, and strategic plan provide the foundation for integrating SEAD throughout PreK-12 education.
- Leadership positions dedicated to the integration of SEAD strengthen and speed its implementation.
- Monitoring progress promotes continuous improvement in the integration of SEAD.



Explicit and embedded instruction and a caring classroom and school climate develop SEAD competencies

- Explicit instruction in social and emotional competencies provides students with a foundation for further development.
- Academic instruction is most effective when teachers deliberately embed the social and emotional dimensions of learning.
- Creating an inclusive and caring classroom and school culture deepens and enriches students' social and emotional competencies.



Home-school-community partnerships matter

- Parents, families, and caregivers are partners in extending SEAD.
- Community service and service-learning enable young people to exhibit and strengthen their SEAD competencies.
- Community partnerships provide support for SEAD during the school day and beyond the schoolhouse doors.

