Business Leaders Agree: SEL Is Key

Of 301 business leaders surveyed by Zogby Analytics:

88% agree that there will be an increasing need for social-emotional skills among employees/job applicants in the future.

55% of businesses are spending more resources to recruit applicants with such skills than in the past.

92% of respondents agree that children’s physical, educational, and emotional experiences in the first five years of life affect the development of their social-emotional skills later in life.

Which of the following terms most clearly and compellingly describes the set of skills reflecting employee behaviors and attributes needed to work well with others, manage emotions, communicate clearly, problem-solve, etc.? (Please pick the top 3)

- Character skills: 66%
- Social-emotional skills: 64%
- Emotional intelligence skills: 65%
- Employability skills: 38%
- Executive functioning skills: 25%
- Other: 3%
- Not sure: 1%

“The pipeline to a successful workforce depends on children of all backgrounds having academic and social-emotional skills that are vital to the economy.”

— Jack Brennan, Chairman Emeritus, Former CEO and Senior Advisor, Vanguard