

## A New Vision for Social and Emotional Learning (SEL)

By Peter Light, Assistant Superintendent

"The Franklin Public Schools is an inclusive and respectful community committed to developing individuals who are kind, healthy, empathetic, and resilient." - Draft Vision for SEL (April 2018)

The Franklin schools have long had programs that support Social and Emotional Learning, but a primary goal of the <u>District's Improvement Plan</u> this year is to align the work of schools and more deeply impact practices in all classrooms across the District. To this end, the District started a Social and Emotional Learning Leadership Team that includes classroom teachers, specialists and administrators from each of the Franklin schools PreK-12. This team of approximately 30 educators has taken on a primary task of developing a new *Vision for Social and Emotional Learning* for the Franklin Public Schools. Once completed, this vision will guide the work of the educators across the District in continuing to implement SEL practices at the school and classroom levels.

## The Process of Developing a Vision:

The process of developing our draft vision statement began in January with a subcommittee that reviewed sample vision statements from a variety of districts across the country. The subcommittee then discussed the values of the Franklin community and considered how these might fit into the context of a vision for SEL. This subcommittee developed a draft vision statement which was reviewed by the full SEL Leadership Team.



Prior to reviewing the draft vision statement developed by the subcommittee, the SEL Leadership Team engaged in an activity in which members answered two basic questions: "What do we want the culture of our schools to be?" and "What do we want our students (and educators) to be?" The team then identified themes within the ideas presented and collaboratively selected those ideas believed to be the most critical to an effective vision. Finally, the team compared the identified key themes with the draft vision statement and revised the work of the subcommittee.

The SEL Leadership Team would now like to solicit your feedback via the feedback survey about the the draft Vision for Social and Emotional Learning. The team has developed a survey to collect responses from various stakeholders and will review this feedback to inform the final Vision



for SEL within the Franklin Schools. This Vision will then serve to guide the work across all of our schools by communicating the purpose and key outcomes for students.

## The Vision

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