



Expanded School Mental Health in West Virginia

www.schoolmentalhealthwv.org

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Developmental Guidance

Tool Kit #4

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR A SCHOOL-WIDE FOUNDATION OF LEARNING SUPPORTS:

“An effective classroom-based developmental guidance curriculum that is consistent, scheduled regularly and reinforced within and outside of the classroom”

West Virginia Expanded School Mental Health Steering Team, 2011

In 2005, an evaluation of students’ health knowledge was conducted by West Virginia University. The Health Education Assessment Project (HEAP)¹ results concluded that across the 51 participating counties, scores differed significantly by grade, county and content area. But for the most part, standards (80%) were not being met. The percentage of correct responses ranged from 60-70%; high school students failed to meet the standard on any of the six content areas.

The West Virginia Department of Education Content Standards and Objectives specify health and wellness content for each grade level and include requirements for social – emotional learning. Effective classroom based developmental guidance requires leadership and support from school administration and the school counselors.

School counselors and school counseling programs are mandated for all West Virginia schools. However, there is no specific requirement or ratio for the number of counselors. State Board Policy 2315 adopts the National Standards for School Counseling Programs developed by the American School Counselor Association. The ASCA model reflects a major change in the way school counselors define their roles.

REFERENCE:

¹http://wvde.state.wv.us/healthyschools/documents/josh_24.pdf



West Virginia Resources

- **Office of Healthy Schools:** <http://wvde.state.wv.us/healthyschools/esos.html>
- **Role of West Virginia School Counselors:** <http://wvde.state.wv.us/counselors>
- **Guidance Curricula:** <http://wvde.state.wv.us/counselors/guidance-curriculum.html>
- **West Virginia School Counseling Protocols** (click on Counselor Role – School Mental Health): <http://wvde.state.wv.us/counselors/protocols.html>
- **The WV Comprehensive Developmental Guidance and School Counseling Manual:** <http://wvde.state.wv.us/counselors/resource-manual.html>
- **Topical resources:** <http://wvde.state.wv.us/counselors/personal-resources.html>



General Resources

- **Collaborative on Social and Emotional Learning**— review and discussion of state learning standards: <http://casel.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/05/Forum-Brief-on-the-State-Scan-5-10-2011.pdf>

DEFINITION: “Expanded school mental health” refers to programs that build on core services typically provided by schools. It is a framework that:

- ♦ includes the full continuum of prevention, early intervention and treatment
- ♦ serves all students
- ♦ emphasizes shared responsibility between schools, mental health providers and other community partners

The purpose of this series of information briefs is to provide a common framework and recommendations to assist schools and community mental health providers to more effectively develop a comprehensive approach to school mental health that is consistent with current West Virginia Department of Education policies.




These recommendations and resources have been reviewed and approved by West Virginia's Expanded School Mental Health Steering Team. For more information contact info@schoolmentalhealthwv.org

For more information visit
www.schoolmentalhealthwv.org

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Leadership for The West Virginia School Mental Health Initiative is a shared commitment of



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