

Students Ready to Learn

SAA Evidence-Based Policy Agenda

CESA 9 Board of Control-March 4, 2015

Lynn Verage, Beth Tepper, Karen Wendorf-Heldt

Introduction

- Review Supporting Excellence in Teaching and Learning
 - Educator Preparation
 - Educator Effectiveness
 - Instructional Technology
- Students Ready to Learn
 - Early Childhood (Beth Tepper)
 - Children's Mental Health (Lynn Verage)

Early Childhood

The Evidence Base:

- Improved EC Education with expansion of 4K and Youngstar
- Adults who were in preschool programming:
 - Have higher earnings
 - More likely to hold a job
 - Commit fewer crimes
 - More likely to graduate from high school

Early Childhood

The Evidence Base (cont):

- Children from poor families are at social and academic deficit
- 4K in 93% of Wisconsin school districts
- Youngstar funding frozen for 7 years - increasingly inadequate and unstable

Early Childhood

Policy Recommendations:

- Commit to providing universal access to 4K
- Expand rewards for quality care measures
- Promote coordination of state agencies

Early Childhood

CESA 9 Support:

- Early Childhood Special Education Program Support grant
- Wisconsin Early Childhood Collaborating Partners (WECCP)
- Alignment with K-12 education

Children's Mental Health

Definition of Mental Health:

“A state of successful performance of mental function, resulting in productive activities, fulfilling relationships with other people, and the ability to adapt to change and to cope with adversity.”

U.S. Surgeon General

Children's Mental Health

The Evidence Base:

- Unmet needs=negative consequences
- School-Linked Mental Health Services
- Interventions that:
 - * Increase access to un/underinsured
 - * Improve clinical outcomes
 - * Improve identification

Children's Mental Health

Policy Recommendations:

- Create School-Linked Mental Health Grant Program
- Modeled after MN
- 5 year start-up grants-provide services to children who are uninsured; coordination school, county and mental health providers

Children's Mental Health

CESA 9 Support:

- Advancing Wellness and Resilience in Ed
(Project AWARE)
- 5 years-SAMHSA
- Recognize warning signs
- Connect youth with services

Children's Mental Health

CESA #9 Support:

- School Climate Transformation Grant
- 5 years-US Dept. of Ed
- Provide training & TA to schools regarding school mental health services, integrated with PBIS

Climate and Culture

*SAA Evidence-Based Policy Agenda
CESA 9 Board of Control-March 4, 2015
Lynn Verage, Dave Kunelius, Scott Wallace,
Karen Wendorf-Heldt*

Climate and Culture

The Evidence Base:

- Effective schools=warm, welcoming places for students, parents, staff, community
- Productive school climate/culture=trust, academic press and collaboration
- Leadership fosters productive working conditions
- State role-system, prevention, clearinghouse

Climate and Culture

Policy Recommendations:

- Create Office of Mental Health, School Safety and Violence Prevention within DPI
 - Coordinate system of mental health
 - Clearinghouse for effective practice, policy, training
 - Assist in prevention-based behavior systems
 - Help schools in crisis
 - Coordinate and use data with other agencies

Climate and Culture

CESA #9 Support:

- Positive Behavior Interventions and Support (PBIS)
- Response to Intervention (RtI)-behavioral
- PBIS Network-Dave Kunelius (14)
- Behavior Strategist-Scott Wallace (9)

A look ahead to April

Innovation

- Personalizing Teaching & Learning
- School Calendars that Support Teaching & Learning
- Charter Schools

Standards, Assessment & Accountability

- Academic Standards
- Assessment
- Accountability