

Sustaining Your Success

LSSSI School Climate Improvement

Webinar

September 29, 2014

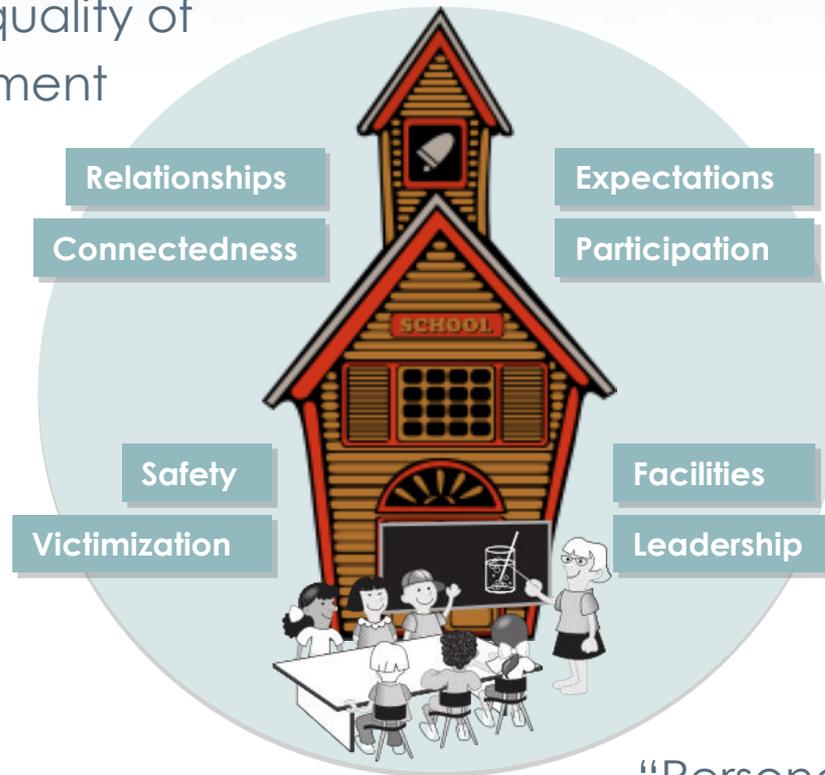


Today's Webinar

- Brief overview of school climate
- Why do we care about school climate?
- Planning for sustainability
- Key strategies
- Opportunity for sharing
- Questions

What Is School Climate?

The conditions and quality of the learning environment that affect the attitudes, behaviors, and performance of students, staff, and parents.



“Personality is to the individual what climate is to the school.”

What is School Climate?

The quality and character of school life ...
based on patterns of people's experiences of
school life ... reflects NORMS, GOALS, VALUES,
interpersonal relationships, teaching, learning,
and leadership practices, and organizational structures.

Source: Cohen, McCabe, Michelli, & Pickeral (2009)

School Climate: COMPONENTS

- » School safety
- » Teaching practices
- » Administrative practices
- » Support for relationships
- » School facility upkeep and management
- » Supports for student behavior and student development

Source: Cohen (2007); Waters, Cross, & Runions (2009);
Zulling, Koopman, & Huebner (2009)

School Climate: Norms, Goals, and Values



Why Do We Care About School Climate?



What is sustainability?

“sustainability,” the ability to be sustained, supported, upheld, or confirmed.

In the case of LSSSI sustainability is the ability to develop and execute a strategic plan for securing the support needed to continue the realization of project goals and objectives

It's *NOT* all about funding

Sustainability is also about:

- creating and building momentum to maintain change;
- maximizing community assets and resources;
- institutionalizing policies and practices within communities and organizations; and
- involving a multiplicity of stakeholders who can develop long-term buy-in and support throughout community

Source: NCSSLE

Six Strategies for Sustainability

- Leadership for change
- Partnership and collaboration
- Implementation
- Communication and marketing
- Evaluation
- Financing

Source: SSHS PreventPromote Legacy Wheel – The Challenge

<http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/osdfs/resources.html>.

Six Strategies for Sustainability

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State and Local Planning

LDE

- Communicate your vision for school climate to agency and community leaders
- Share successes and challenges with decision-makers
- Identify partners within the department of education and with other state agencies that have shared goals
- Plan for collaboration

Districts/Schools

- Define and communicate your vision to district/school leaders
- Share your successes and challenges with decision-makers
- Work with established partners to determine what they can continue to support
- Engage students and staff in discussions about what is working
- Plan for collaboration

Questions for discussion

What are you doing now to engage partners in discussions about sustaining your efforts beyond the grant funding cycle?

Do you have a written vision statement or an overarching goal that is actionable?

Have you started working on a plan for sustainability?

How will you decide which programs to keep if you cannot support all of them or do not think they are making positive changes?

How do I start?

Create a team of stakeholders

Create a vision/mission statement

Think strategically about what program components might be sustained

Review data to support your decisions

Develop a plan

Relationships

“Work on relationships. They will be some of the biggest deposits you make into your bank of sustainability.”

—Terri Villa-McDowell,
Program Coordinator,
ABC Unified School District,
Cerritos, Calif.

What Motivates Learning?

“My guess is that when schools focus on what really matters in life, the cognitive ends we now pursue so painfully and artificially will be achieved somewhat more naturally...

“It is obvious that children will work harder and do things — even odd things like adding fractions — for people they love and trust.”

— Nel Noddings 1988

QUESTIONS?
