

Curriculum Committee Meeting

Tuesday, February 14, 2023 3:00 PM

Central Office Conference Room, 24 School Road, Weston, CT 06883

I. Call to Order

II. Approval of January 2023 meeting minutes

III. Curriculum & Instruction Updates:

- Literacy
 - January Goal
- Social Studies
 - June 2023: K-12 social studies standards will be released (pending CSDE approval)
 - New Statutory requirements (6-12):
 - July 1, 2023: Native American Studies with emphasis on five Eastern Woodland tribes
 - July 1, 2025: Asian American and Pacific Islander studies
- Special Education
 - Parent meeting update
 - Weston highlights to support K-12 Social and Emotional Learning (presentation)
- Summer AI Camp Opportunity: (Due March 16)
 - AI summer course offerings for high school students: <https://www.ai-camp.org/program-overview>
 - Scholarship information: <https://futureready.org/future-ready-frameworks/>

IV. Next meeting agenda topics:

- Innovation: Future Ready Schools Framework
<https://futureready.org/ourwork/future-ready-frameworks/>

V. Adjournment

Curriculum Committee Meeting

December 13, 2022, 3:00 p.m.

Via Google Meet

Present Committee Members:

Bernadette Kingsley (Chairperson), Chad Hoepfner

Present Administration:

Tina Henckel, Ed.D, Assistant Superintendent; Meghan Ward, WHS Principal; Dan Doak, WMS Principal; Renate Roehl, WHS Teacher

1. Call to Order

The meeting called to order at 3:03 p.m.

Discussion:

Dr. Henckel reviewed the general purpose of the Curriculum Committee meetings and reviewed the virtual meeting norms.

2. Approval of December 2022 minutes

Motion Passed: Move that the Curriculum Committee approve the December 2022 meeting minutes. This motion made by Chad Hoepfner and seconded by Bernie Kingsley.

2 Yeas – 0 Nays

3. Review of Overnight Field Trips - BOE Approval

Discussion:

Model UN Conference, Boston MA – February 10-12, 2023:

- Ms. Roehl gave an overview of the Model UN Conference overnight trip and the alignment to WHS curriculum.
- The trip stay is two nights and transportation will be via Amtrak to Boston. All events will take place in the hotel.

4. New CIL Structure Request in FY24 Budget

Discussion:

- Dr. Henckel spoke on the proposed new CIL structure that increases the curriculum instructional leader roles in math and literacy to full-time coaching positions instead of part-time teaching/intervention and part-time coaching.

5. Program of Studies Update

Discussion:

- Principal Ward reviewed the changes to the WHS Program of Studies document that include

updates on academic requirements, an added graduation planner page, an added academic support section, and a clearly outlined course selection guide for graduation requirements.

- The updated WHS Program of Studies also communicates course pre-requisites more clearly.
- She reviewed the personalized learning category and outlined some of the programs available outside of Weston High School, such as Norwalk Community College and Regional Center for the Arts.
- Committee members discussed ways to communicate to parents and the general community the program that are available.

6. Curriculum and Instruction Update

Discussion:

- Literacy
 - Dr. Henckel highlighted the new reading program for K-2 that was recommended by the District Literacy Committee.
 - She reviewed the requested extension for implementation of the CT State required K-3 core reading program.
 - The District Literacy Committee will be conducting a district-wide resource audit in the coming months.
 - Dr. Henckel spoke on the Senator Murphy Martin Luther King, Jr. Essay Contest.
- Math
 - The grade 6-12 math CIL, Ms. Russo, has been exploring middle school math resources. The WMS math teachers have been piloting the Illustrative Math Desmos system this year. All stakeholders would like to move forward with this program.
- Assessment
 - The CT State Next Generation Accountability update is now live on the EdSight website. Both Weston High School and Weston Intermediate School received awards as schools of distinction. More highlights will follow for discussion at the February full Board meeting.
- Special Education
 - Dr. Henckel reported on the progress on policy updates and program guide updates to the talented and gifted program in Weston called Project Challenge, particularly on the identification process.
- Innovation: Future Ready School Framework
 - Discussion on this item has moved to the February Curriculum Committee meeting.

7. Next Meeting Topics

No topics were put forth for discussion.

8. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 4:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

June Curiano

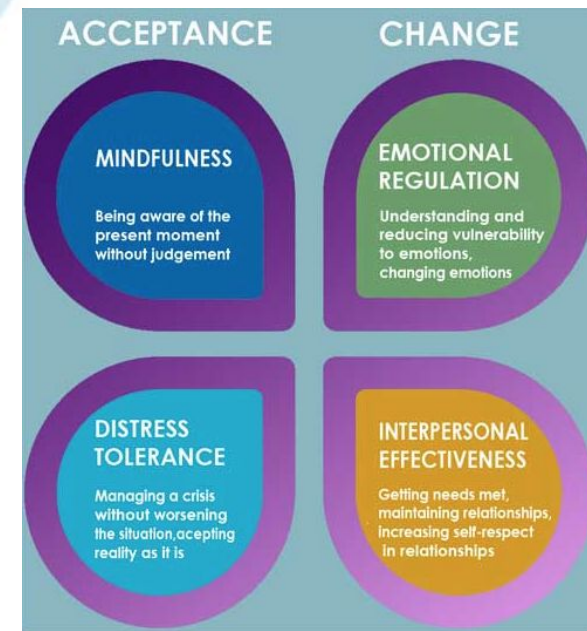


Exploring Weston's Social and Emotional Learning Curriculum (SEL)

BOE Curriculum Committee

February 14, 2023

Our K-12 Framework

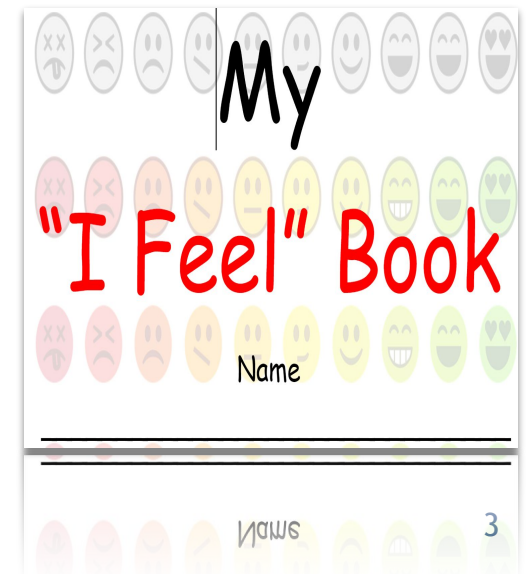
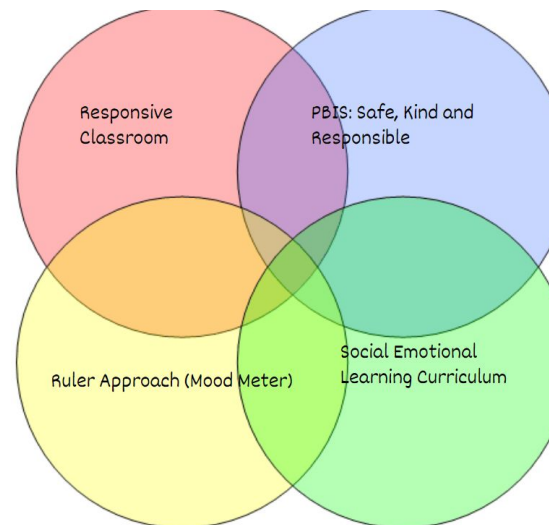
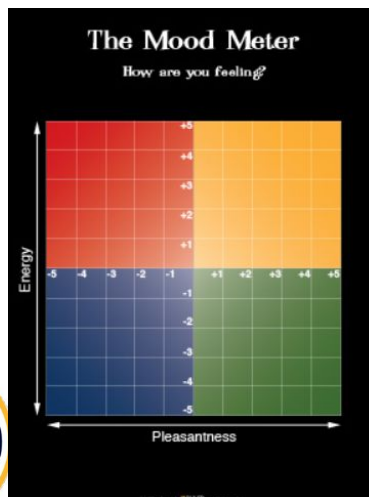


SEL at HES



Be Safe, Kind and Responsible

- RULER curriculum in cooperation with Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence for all students
- Social-emotional lessons to all classes with our social worker
- Feelings Unit of study for all classes in our health curriculum
- All classrooms use Responsive classroom philosophy to teaching
- PBIS program school-wide to support a positive school climate
- Targeted interventions for students based on student need



SEL at WIS

- Implementing school SEL goals and content into lessons
- Scaffolding through grades 3-5
- Opportunities for students to apply and demonstrate their understanding
 - Using the Mood Meter to assist with guiding emotional regulation
 - Applying “I statements” to express feelings and concerns in difficult situations such as peer conflicts
 - Building positive affirmation statements to increase confidence
 - Compiling communication resources to develop empathy and consider how our words impact other people's feelings and confidence
 - Making connections to other units and their impact on our mental health such as the bullying, teasing, and friendship unit and alcohol, nicotine, and other drugs unit
 - Adjusting unit content verbage to be mindful of sensitive topic areas such as nutrition, body image, and physical fitness
 - Using The Power of Yet and Growth Zone resources to work through challenges

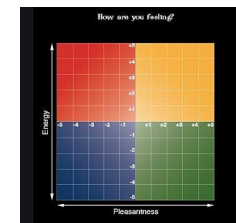
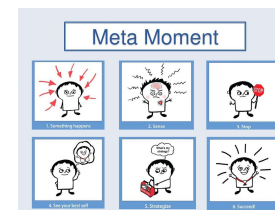


SEL at WIS

- Balanced approach to SEL using best practices and appropriate components from Responsive Classroom, PBIS and Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence~ RULER approach
 - Morning Meetings, School-Wide Meetings & Celebrations, PRIDE Paws
- Purposeful and authentic integration of SEL into academic and special area curriculums demonstrated through focused lessons on mindset, emotion regulation and mindfulness
- Throughout the WIS health units students work on developing communication skills such as positive affirmations to boost self esteem and “I statements” to express feelings
- Intentional instruction and use of the RULER tools and strategies to manage emotions and to facilitate conflict resolution
 - Mood Meter, Meta Moment, Classroom & Faculty Charters
- Focus on the importance and impactfulness of deliberate and validating language to encourage and cultivate a community of confident and capable learners.

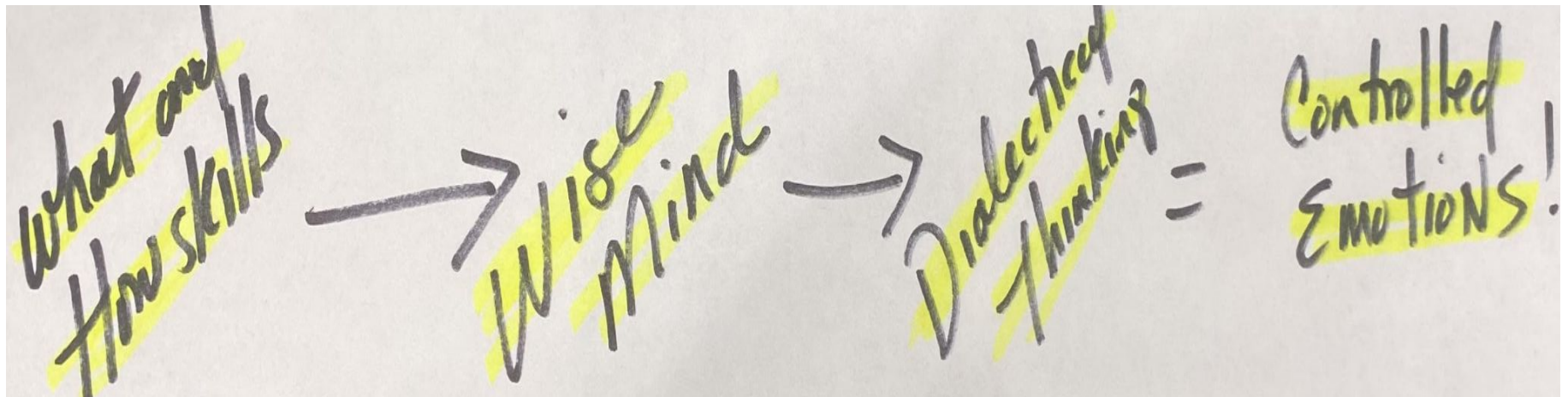


Reinforcing, reminding and redirecting



SEL at WMS

- Increased Dialectical Behavioral Therapy (DBT) delivery to grades 6, 7, and 8
 - Dialectical Thinking, Three States of Mind, What and How skills
- Incorporated pre-assessments, post-assessments, collecting data
- All assessments are skill-based and allow students to demonstrate health-enhancing skills
- Other units and content are connected to DBT skills
 - Substance Abuse, Self-esteem/ Self-image, Stress Management, Puberty, Relationships, Sexuality, Bullying/Harassment



SEL at WHS

- Consistent Advisory Program weekly to foster connection between staff and students
- Small group interventions through our PPS/Counseling Department
- Link Crew - 9th Grade Orientation and Transition Program
- Grades 9 Health Classes: Core Principles of DBT as well as mindfulness & distress tolerance skill building
- Grade 10 Health Classes: Continue with mindfulness & distress tolerance skill building with additional focus on emotional regulation and interpersonal effectiveness
- Grade 12 Health Classes: Focus on stress and its impact, resilience skills and development of a personalized “toolbox” for “Life After Weston”



School to Home SEL Resources

Internal Resources:

- Refer to the school-based communication protocol documents
 - <https://westonps.org/communication-protocols/>

External Resources:

- CASEL YouTube Channel:
 - <https://www.youtube.com/@SELonTV>
- Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence YouTube Channel:
 - <https://www.youtube.com/@TheRULERGROUP/videos>
- DBT in Schools YouTube Channel:
 - <https://www.youtube.com/@DBTinSchools>

