

STUDENT SUCCESS SYSTEMS: A BETTER WAY TO MEET STUDENT NEEDS IN A POST-PANDEMIC WORLD

All students deserve the opportunity to succeed in school and graduate from high school prepared for the future. But when student needs are so great, it can be difficult to know where to begin. Student success systems take the guesswork out of student support.



Student Success

Enabling all students
to thrive.

What are Student Success Systems?

Student success systems help schools identify patterns in wellbeing and learning needs, and then determine the supports and strategies that will have the greatest impact.

SIX ACTIONS PRINCIPALS CAN TAKE TO IMPLEMENT STUDENT SUCCESS SYSTEMS

1. FOCUS FIRST ON RELATIONSHIPS AND SCHOOL CONNECTEDNESS

- Students who are connected to their school attend more often, get in less trouble, have better grades, and experience stronger wellbeing.
- School connectedness means students have a school adult who knows and cares about them, are part of a supportive peer group, engage in activities that help others, and feel welcome in school for who they are.
- Use surveys and staff knowledge to establish school connectedness baselines and identify which students need more supportive adult and peer relationships. Then work to create them.

2. BE PROACTIVE: USE PREDICTIVE INDICATORS OF STUDENT SUCCESS

- Continually monitor all students' progress with research-based, predictive success indicators such as attendance and course performance. Identify thresholds for when more information should be sought and action taken. Make sure this is proactive—before students fail a course or become chronically absent.
- Use data tools that enable teams of adults to examine the predictive indicator data together and identify patterns and trends at the classroom, grade, and school level.

3. BUILD A STUDENT SUCCESS TEAM

- Student success teams are groups of adults who work together on a regular basis to implement and continually improve a student success system.
- Typically, student success teams will include teachers, counselors, school leadership, and others in student support roles and have an organized structure for soliciting insights and participation from students, parents/caregivers, and the community.

- Start with your strongest current student support team—whether it be an MTSS, Early Warning/On-Track, PBIS, Attendance, or other student support team—and increase its focus, membership, and/or capacity to become a student success team.
- Make sure the team has strong administrative support, dedicated time to regularly work together throughout the school year, and includes classroom teachers as well as student support staff.

4. UNDERSTAND THE “WHY”

- Bring educators, staff, families, students, and the community to the table to better understand what supports students need and how to best meet those needs.
- Download the [Student Success Team Reflection and Action Planning tool](#) to guide the student success team's efforts.

5. BE STRATEGIC AND CONTINUALLY IMPROVE

- Focus on actions and policies that help many students; then plan for individualized supports, as needed.
- Keep track of which actions and interventions are provided to which students, and on a quarterly basis, analyze which ones worked, under what circumstances, and for which students.

6. GET INVOLVED AND LEARN FROM THE GRAD PARTNERSHIP NETWORK

- Email info@gradpartnership.org to set up a free 45-minute consultation with one of our technical assistance providers.
- Join our Community of Practice and attend monthly webinars to connect with other school and district leaders implementing student success systems.