



## Kansas Learning First Alliance Brings Membership Together for a Day of Professional Learning

The Kansas Learning First Alliance (KLFA) held the second meeting of the academic year on October 15, 2020 virtually, due to restrictions on gatherings in Topeka. Laurie Curtis, KLFA Chair, welcomed representatives of over 25 educational organizations in support of strong public education in our state.

A panel of educators provided KLFA members with guidance and resources they find helpful to address Social-Emotional Learning during this challenging time of educating our students during COVID-19. Members of the panel included: Casi Wetzell, Counselor, Olathe USD 233; Kristin Wright, Counselor, Clay Center USD 379; Mallory Jacobs, Counselor, Topeka USD 501; Darcy Keeffe, Counselor, Osage City USD 420; Jo McFadden, Principal, Inman USD 448; Marcia Weseman, KASB. Several questions were posed to each panelist. **We are most grateful for the insight and expertise shared by our panelists!** You can find a link to the October 15<sup>th</sup> meeting [here](#). Please feel free to share it with others in your organization!

### What resources have been found helpful in meeting SEL goals?

- Sanford Harmony: Lesson plans with activities for in the classroom (free to educators)
- Zones of Regulation: (elementary) Provides common language among the whole school (both face-to-face and remote)
- SEL Roadmap for Reopening Schools
- Caught Doing Good – Encouraging notes for students
- Staff of the Week – Highlight exemplary staff work
- Utilize Professional Organizations: Kansas School Counseling Association, Kansas Counseling Association, K-State Counseling Camp
- [“The BIG Umbrella”](#) by Amy June Bates (illustrated picture book)
- Virtual Calm-Down Room for online students and adults (see resources from Mallory Jacobs)
- [Seven Habits of Happy Kids](#)
- Character Strong – 18 weeks units (works both face to face and remotely)
- Connecting Family and Schools using the IRIS system
- Theme for school “We’ll Be There For You”
- Second Step
- Educator Self-Care Plan & Accountability Buddy
- Support students, staff **and** families
- 3 G’s - Generosity, Gratitude, Giving Back
- BackSnackers program-Making sure they have adequate food at home so that they can be good learners at school
- Staff Social-Emotional Check-in- anonymous, end of quarter, Google form/spreadsheet

### How are districts addressing social emotional learning through all three models of teaching - hybrid, remote and/ or face-to-face?

- Counselors recorded lessons for the students and made them fun
- School staff brainstormed things they **could do and modify** to meet the needs of students
- Care Teams – establish trauma informed teams to focus on issues and consider school-wide initiatives
- Learning Management System – Students can complete a Google Form and contact counselor at any time. Counseling lessons and parent resources are housed on school counselor page.
- [Mental Health America](#) – significant number of resources
- Mindfulness Activities

- School developed webpages where educators embedded video activities in the event that school must go remote.
- [SeeSaw](#) used to connect with students
- Livestream counselor lessons to remote students
- Weekly SEL lessons provided by counselor- or counselor gives the lesson to teachers who do the lesson with their class.
- Middle school students SEL check-in every Monday morning using Google Form.
- Showing emotions with your masks; teaching students to practice emotions even while wearing masks.
- Partner with community, go on field trips or virtual field trips/ bringing in experts via Zoom

**How are data being kept to ensure all students and teachers are getting their affective needs met?**

- Google Forms
- Panorama Education Survey
- Collective Efficacy Survey with staff
- Relationships Diagram – gives to all staff and they mark which students they have a connection with. Any student without a connection is adopted by a staff member who intentionally builds a connection with him/her
- ASQ data from families who complete the survey
- Attendance and behavior referrals
- KESA goals – choose two surveys/tools that link to those goals
- Counselor created a staff survey on social, emotional, and feeling supported
- Include students in decision making (focus groups)
- [KS Communities that Cares](#) Survey
- [Virtual Calming Room](#) (by Mallory Jacobs)
- [Presentation](#) (by Casi Wetzel)
- [Sanford Harmony](#) Jo McFadden
- [Conscious Discipline](#) by Becky Bailey
- Collective Efficacy [Book](#) and [Article](#) by Jenni Donahoo

**What has been most successful...the good news during this time?**

- Students are extremely happy to be at school
- Rejuvenated interest webinars by students and parents; participation rate is significantly up
- [Schoology](#)
- Food – modifying delivery of free breakfast and free lunch for all students
- Local board of educations have much more community involvement. Boards of educations are making decisions at their policy level with no precedence
- Families brought together
- Recognition that there is a need to move away from time-based learning

**Kent Reed, KSDE**

- Kansas Leads the World in Social-Emotional Learning
- [Navigating the Change](#) – Includes SEL lesson plans for each grade level, measuring SEL, and implementation guide with resources.

# Additional Resources for Social Emotional Learning

Provided by Jo McFadden:

## Enabling Conditions for Collective Teacher Efficacy Questionnaire

Directions: Please indicate your level of agreement with each of the following statements about your school from **strongly disagree** to **strongly agree**. Your answers are confidential.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Somewhat disagree	Somewhat agree	Agree	Strongly agree
1. Teachers are entrusted to make important decisions on school-wide issues.	1	2	3	4	5	6
2. Improvement goals are established and understood by all faculty.	1	2	3	4	5	6
3. Administrators help us carry out our duties effectively.	1	2	3	4	5	6
4. The staff holds shared beliefs about effective instructional approaches.	1	2	3	4	5	6
5. Teachers are provided authentic leadership opportunities.	1	2	3	4	5	6
6. I know about the classroom management strategies my colleagues use in their classrooms.	1	2	3	4	5	6
7. There is consensus on school goals amongst staff.	1	2	3	4	5	6
8. The staff agrees about what constitutes effective classroom instruction.	1	2	3	4	5	6
9. The leaders show concern for the staff.	1	2	3	4	5	6
10. There is a system in place to ensure high levels of success for all students.	1	2	3	4	5	6
11. The staff agrees about assessment strategies that are the most effective.	1	2	3	4	5	6
12. There are systems in place for tracking and monitoring at-risk students.	1	2	3	4	5	6
13. I know about the feedback my colleagues provide to students.	1	2	3	4	5	6
14. The leaders protect the staff from issues that detract us from focusing on learning and teaching.	1	2	3	4	5	6
15. Teachers have a voice in matters related to school improvement.	1	2	3	4	5	6
16. Students meet with success because of interventions that are in place.	1	2	3	4	5	6
17. I am aware of the teaching practices used by others on staff.	1	2	3	4	5	6
18. Teachers actively participate in setting school-wide improvement goals.	1	2	3	4	5	6

**Overall Score – sum of the scores for all 18 items divided by 18.**

Advanced Teacher Influence: Sum of items 1, 5 and 15 \_\_\_\_ /3

Goal Consensus: Sum of items 2, 7 and 18 \_\_\_\_ /3

Teachers' Knowledge/Work: Sum of items 6, 13 and 17 \_\_\_\_ /3

Cohesive Staff: Sum of items 4, 8 and 11 \_\_\_\_ /3

Responsiveness of Leadership: Sum of items 3, 9 and 14 \_\_\_\_ /3

Effective Systems of Intervention: Sum of items 10, 12 and 16 \_\_\_\_ /3

**Relationships Diagram-** (Make a Copy) [https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1kyCMIbHadE63-U2\\_UlxWqmqB-TnTwc5I2lxTz9sJIMo/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1kyCMIbHadE63-U2_UlxWqmqB-TnTwc5I2lxTz9sJIMo/edit?usp=sharing)

**Student Risk Screening Scale-**<http://www.ci3t.org/screening>

**Loom-** <https://www.loom.com/>

**Oh My Gourd-** <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1wq0059AJXd3PJj5ONJzAcBFBcvKV-Bh5/view?usp=sharing>

**It's Friday and we are Pooped!** Donut forget how much I appreciate and value all of you!



**Provided by Marcia Weseman**

Attachment, Regulation, and Competency:

<https://arcframework.org/what-is-arc/>

Psychology Today, Tips for parents from Dr. Bruce Perry:

<https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/pulling-through/202004/the-pandemic-toolkit-parents-need?em>

“PLAYING FOR KEEPS - Teaser” from KPJR FILMS LLC on Vimeo:

<https://vimeo.com/445392903>

Mental Health America Outreach Toolkit:

<https://mhanational.org/mental-health-month-2020-toolkit-download>

Dr. Kenneth Ginsburg’s book, *Building Resilience in Children and Teens: Giving Kids Roots and Wings, 4<sup>th</sup> edition.*, Bonus Chapter:

[https://downloads.aap.org/DOPA/Building\\_Resilience\\_in\\_Children\\_and\\_Teens\\_4th\\_edition\\_Bonus\\_Chapter\\_HealthyChildren.org.pdf](https://downloads.aap.org/DOPA/Building_Resilience_in_Children_and_Teens_4th_edition_Bonus_Chapter_HealthyChildren.org.pdf)

---

A legislative update was provided by **Mark Desetti, KNEA** with others providing input. It was noted that there were multiple pro-public education Republicans that were defeated in the primary, but there are many other pro-public education candidates running. Due to these losses the 2021 legislative session will be challenging. Getting out the vote is extremely important for the November election.

**The Kansas Learning First Alliance** is a coalition of over 35 educational organizations in Kansas representing school boards, administrators, teachers, teacher educator programs, parents, the Kansas State Board of Education, and the Kansas State Department Education. The mission of KLFA is “to unite the education community to improve our outstanding public education system, pre-K through higher education, while empowering each Kansan to succeed in the diverse, interdependent world of the 21<sup>st</sup> century”. For more information about KLFA, visit the KLFA [Website](#) and/or look for “Kansas Learning First Alliance” on Facebook. Please contact Laurie Curtis, KLFA Chair, for more information on how you can be a part of KLFA. ([ljcurtis@ksu.edu](mailto:ljcurtis@ksu.edu))

**Future KLFA meetings scheduled for the 2020-2021 academic year are:**

Tuesday, January 21, 2021 9:30 am

Thursday, April 8, 2021, 9:30 am