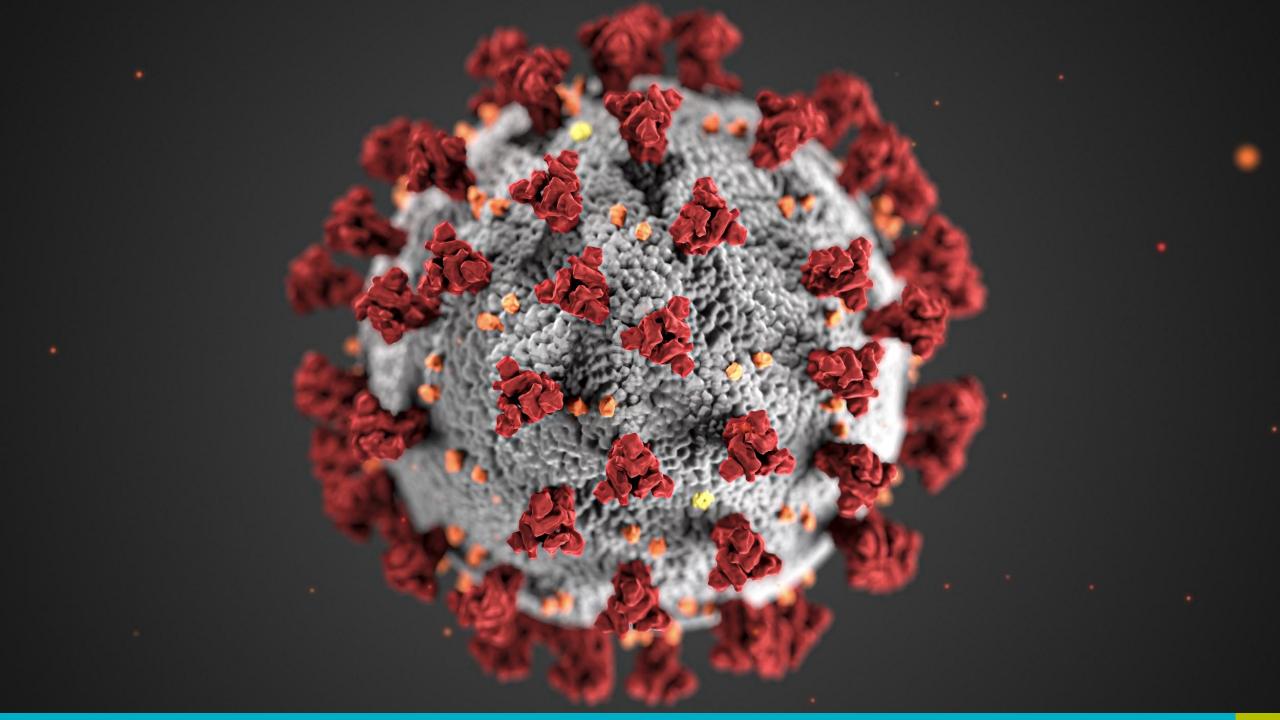


# Student Mental Health and Wellness

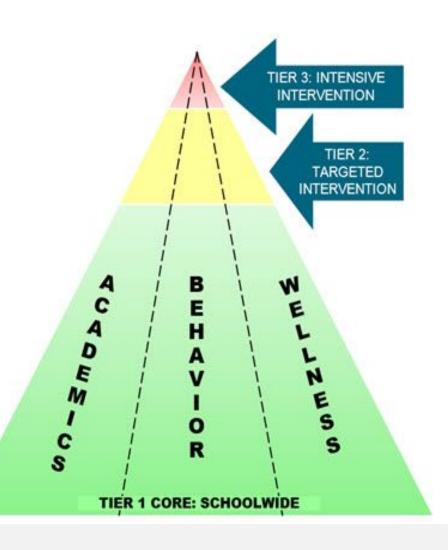
Bethany A. Demers, M.A., C.A.S.

# High, Low, Buffalo





# **Supporting Student Wellness**



#### Tier 1: All students

Evidence-based, high quality core instruction (differentiated instruction and additional support as needed)

#### Tier 2: Some students small group

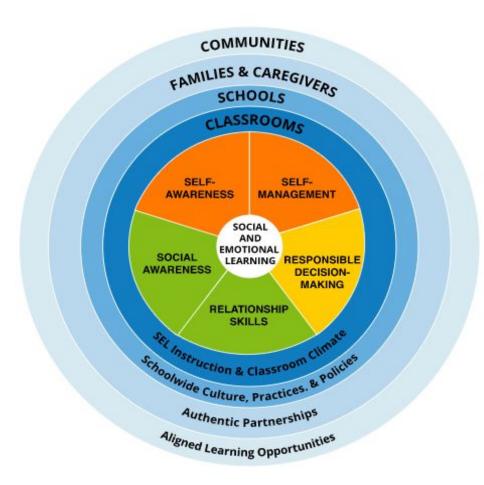
Targeted supports/intervention in addition to high quality core instruction

#### Tier 3: Few students

Intensive intervention in area(s) of need in addition to high quality core instruction

# A Focus on Social and Emotional Learning-Tier 1

"Social and emotional learning (SEL) is an integral part of education and human development. SEL is the process through which all young people and adults acquire and apply the knowledge, skills, and attitudes to develop healthy identities, manage emotions and achieve personal and collective goals, feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain supportive relationships, and make responsible and caring decisions." (CASEL, 2020)



#### **SEL Evidence-Base**

#### Science Links SEL to Student Gains:



- Better social-emotional skills
- Improved attitudes about self, others, and school
- Positive classroom behavior
- 11 percentile-point gain on standardized achievement tests



- Fewer conduct problems
- Less emotional stress
- Lower drug use

#### **Science Links SEL to Adult Gains:**



Teachers who possess social and emotional competencies are more likely to stay in the classroom longer.



Statistically significant associations between measured social-emotional skills in kindergarten and long-term positive outcomes.



# SEL in 2021-2022: Tier 1 Practices

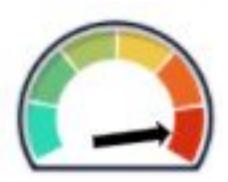
Focus: Positive school climates and cultures, relationship-building Evidence-based Strategies: Responsive Classroom meetings and CASEL 3 Signature Practices (Welcoming Inclusion, Engaging Pedagogy, and Optimistic Closure)

School Level	Evidence-Based Strategies
Elementary	<ul> <li>Morning Meeting, 20 minutes daily</li> <li>Closing Circle, 5 minutes daily</li> <li>CASEL 3 Signature Practices</li> </ul>
Middle & High	<ul> <li>Responsive Advisory Meeting, 20 minutes of each Advisory period</li> <li>CASEL Signature Practices</li> </ul>

# **Refresh and Remind**



**Concern:** Academic, social, emotional or behavioral concern which is not an immediate threat to safety or security but warrants further review to inform intervention.



**Crisis:** A situation that needs to be dealt with immediately due to a potential for harm to self, others, or property.



# Signs of Suicide and Wellness Screening

If you're concerned about yourself or a friend, don't be afraid to ACT.



# Acknowledge

that you're seeing signs of depression and/or suicide in yourself or others

# Care

By letting them know you're worried about them

# Tell

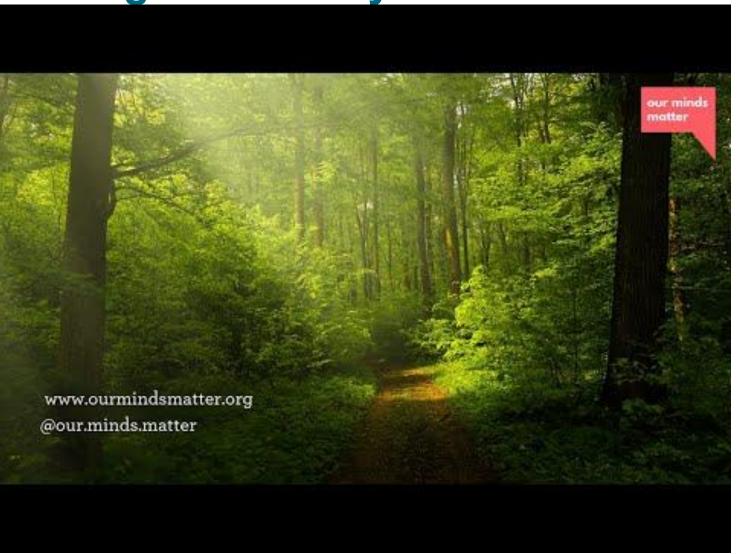
Tell a trusted adult

# **Our Minds Matter**



- In nearly every high school in FCPS
- Expanded pilot program in our middle schools
- teen Mental Health First Aid

Brain Break-Brought to You by OMM



# Tier 2 and 3 Practices

# Tier 2

**Some Students** 



- Small group counseling
- Mentoring
- Restorative Justice
- Work with Substance Abuse Prevention Specialists
- Check and Connect
- Return to Learn

# Tier 3

**Few Students** 



- Individual counseling
- Group counseling
- Community Services Act (CSA) case management
- Functional Behavior
   Assessment/Behavior Intervention Plan
- Return to Learn

# **Clinical Staff**

- Every school has at least 1 counselor, psychologist, and social worker.
- Provide group and individual supports and interventions.
- Consult with staff and families.
- Provide appropriate referrals based on *individual* needs.
  - Referral resources are NOT one-size-fits-all



# **Wellness Resources for Families**



- Healthy Minds Blog
- 8th Annual Mental Health and Wellness Conference
  - September 27th-October 1st
  - Registration
- SOS Video for Parents
- Mental Health Awareness
   Training-coming soon
- Youth Mental Health First Aid

# **Community Partnerships**

- Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board
- Healthy Minds Fairfax

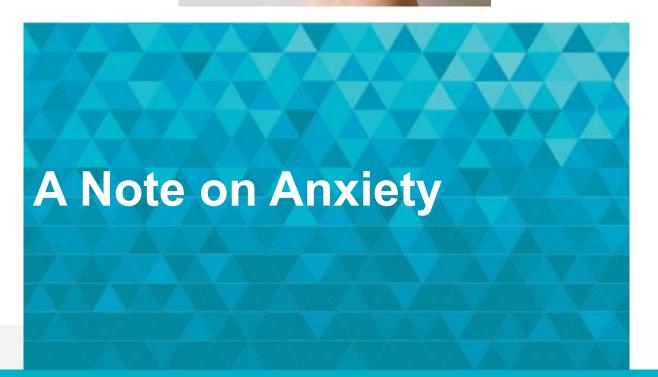
**Short Term Behavioral Health** 

**Direct CSB Referrals** 

o PRS CrisisLink



Internal Alert
Motivation
Warning Sign



### **Students and Emotions**

- Recognize their emotions and the emotions of others
- Understand their emotions
- Label their emotions
- Know how and when to express their emotions
- Build a toolbox of strategies to regulate emotions

