
Superintendent’s Interpretation - Fundamental 3

“Social and emotional learning (SEL) is the process through which children and adults acquire and effectively apply the knowledge, attitudes, and skills necessary to understand and manage emotions, set and achieve positive goals, feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain positive relationships, and make responsible decisions.”

*Collaborative for Social and Emotional Learning (CASEL) 2018

The Social Emotional Learning Benchmarks Workgroup (SELB) convened by OSPI released a report that contains background information, research and recommendations regarding social emotional learning (SEL). This report states, “social emotional learning is broadly defined as a process through which people build awareness and skills in managing emotions, setting goals, establishing relationships and making responsible decisions, leading to success in school and life.” As an aspect of character development, citizenship encompasses a sense of fulfilling civic duties, contributing to the community, respecting authority and pursuing civic values. Social emotional skills are critical to being good students, citizens and workers.

SEL recognizes students are complex human beings whose learning and behavior are just as impacted by their emotions – and their control over those emotions – as they are by the quality of instruction and discipline.

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