Prioritizing Wraparound Supports to Advance Student Equity

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The Education Trust
Welcome! In the chat please share where you are joining from and one word that comes to mind when you hear “wraparound supports.”
Session Agenda

- About resource equity
- What are wraparound services?
- What are the critical components of an equitable MTSS system?
  - Learning from the field: A Conversation with Carmen Williams
- Deep dive: What do equitable wraparound supports look like?
- Closing
Definition of Education Resource Equity

When schools, systems, and communities work together to mobilize the right combination of resources that create high-quality learning experiences for all students, that is what we call education resource equity.

Education resource equity is what we need to make sure that school unlocks every child’s power to live a life of their choosing — and that race and family income no longer predict a student’s life trajectory.
Our framework includes 10 dimensions that equip you with a foundation for unlocking better, more equitable school experiences for children in your community.
Equitable Student Experiences: 10 Dimensions
Goals of today’s session

• Learn about why wraparound services are critical to COVID recovery.
• Examine the fundamental components of wraparound services.
• Hear from an expert about implementing Multi-Tiered Systems of Supports (MTSS) in a district serving students of color and students from low-income backgrounds.
SEAD: Social, Emotional, and Academic Development
The pandemic has taken a toll on student mental health

New Research Shows How Bad the Pandemic Has Been for Student Mental Health

Kids Aren't Alright: How students are adjusting after two years in a pandemic

Two years into the pandemic, students still struggle with mental health

Source: New Research Shows How Bad the Pandemic Has Been for Student Mental Heath (EdWeek, 2022); Two Years into the Pandemic, Students Still Struggle with Mental Health (PBS, 2022); Kids Aren’t Alright: How Students are Adjusting after Two Years in a Pandemic (WBOI, 2022)
What are Wraparound Services?

A way to support children and connect them to the community to meet their needs.

Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) are the most common frameworks that districts and schools use to provide wraparound services.
What are critical components of wraparound services?

- Equitable MTSS system
- Health, housing, and medical supports
- Equitable & inclusive learning environments
- A state council or commission for children
- Nutritional equity
- Adequate school counselors
What does an equitable MTSS system look like?

Source: Center on Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (AIR, 2021)
Learning from the field: Welcome, Carmen Williams!

Carmen Williams
Superintendent in Residence
Medford Public Schools
What are critical components of wraparound services?

- Equitable MTSS system
- A state council or commission for children
- Health, housing, and medical supports
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- Equitable & inclusive learning environments
- Adequate school counselors
Poll: To the best of your knowledge, does your school district provide any health services beyond the school nurse?
Health, Housing, and Medical Supports

Use of Medicaid for health services delivered to any Medicaid-enrolled students

Guidance/resources for providing oral health supports to students

Provide information for students experiencing homelessness

Did you know? The percentage of students with untreated cavities is twice as high for children from low-income households (25%) than children from higher-income households (12%)

Source: The Center for Disease Control Healthy Schools: Oral Health, 2022; The Illinois State Dental Society, 2022
Equitable & Inclusive Learning Environments

• Comprehensive anti-bullying policies that underscore vulnerable student groups

• Policies that support transgender K-12 students in participating in athletics and using facilities

Did you know? 56% of LGBTQ+ students experience discrimination at school

Source: GLSEN LGBTQ Students Face Unfair School Discipline, Pushing Many Out of School, 2016
Poll: How many states across the country have a policy that protect students against school lunch shaming?

Answer: 11 states prohibit school lunch shaming in any form.
• Students can access nutrition services in their schools without stigmatization
• State has legislation that prevents districts and schools from punishing or shaming students from unpaid meal debt
• Requiring licensed early childcare providers to provide meals or snacks that meet nutrition guidelines.

**Spotlight: Rhode Island**

Rhode Island requires schools to participate in the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program. All public schools are prohibited from stigmatizing children who are unable to pay for meals.
Advocacy Tools:
5 Things For Advocates to Know about Equitable School Nutrition

1. Families Can Access Many Forms of Food Assistance
2. Summer Meals Can Reach More Kids
3. Breakfast After The Bell Increases Student Access to Breakfast
4. Local School Wellness Plans Can Engage Communities in Supporting Healthy Students
5. Schools Can Create Food Inclusive Environments
States, districts, and schools can use ESSER funds to support equitable nutrition in schools

**North Carolina**

- The North Carolina State Board of Education approved $10 million to help schools recruit and retain food service workers.

**Maryland**

- Charles County Public Schools gave a one-time $1,000 installments to food service workers.
- Hartford County gave a 8% raise for nutrition workers.

**Utah**

- The State Board of Education Child Nutrition Program is connecting with community partners to meet the needs of families that are food insecure and at risk.

Adequate school counselors

Source: Ed Trust: School Counselors Matter, 2019
A state or local council or commission for children

- Children's Cabinet
- Department of Health & Human Services
- Department of Park & Recreation
- Department of Community & Economic Development
- Healthcare groups
- Nonprofits
How well is your state prioritizing wraparound services?

New Tool from Ed Trust!
https://edtrust.org/is-your-state-prioritizing-sead/
Questions?
How is your state prioritizing student nutrition?

Directions:
1. Go to https://edtrust.org/is-your-state-prioritizing-sead/
2. Click on “wraparound services”
3. Click on your state

In the chat:
1. What is one thing your state is doing well?
2. What is one area for improvement?