



STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: October 17, 2019
To: Chief School Administrators, Charter School and Renaissance School Project Leads, Administrators of Approved Private Schools for Students with Disabilities, Directors of Nonpublic Schools
Route To: Teachers, School Administrators, School Counselors, Social Workers, Student Assistance Coordinators and School Psychologists
From: AbdulSaleem Hasan, Ed.S., Assistant Commissioner
Division of Field Services

Release of the Introduction to Social and Emotional Learning Module

The New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) is excited to share the release of the first of six modules on Social and Emotional Learning (SEL). Through implementation of these modules, schools can expect to:

- Increase their content knowledge and recognize best practices for implementing SEL
- Become safer and more engaging spaces
- See a decrease in at-risk student behaviors such as bullying, chronic absenteeism, and substance use
- Note improved academic performance from students
- Observe increases in students' preparedness for work, college and life

These modules are a valuable resource and are designed as a turnkey program where educators can take their professional learning about SEL to then support the SEL growth of their students. In addition to the module itself, a professional learner tip sheet and a facilitation guide are included to ensure you and/or your district are able to get the most out of these learning modules. In particular, the guide includes tools to further support the training process such as scripts, facilitation notes, and activities.

Schools can use the modules in whichever way best fits the needs of their students and staff. The modules have been designed for school or district training, within professional learning communities (PLCs), or individually. The NJDOE acknowledges that there are a multitude of factors influencing how educators engage in professional development and is offering a variety of approaches to utilizing the modules, which include:

- Viewing the narrated video,
- Use of the slide deck, and
- Use of the handouts to complete the activities within the facilitation guide.

Recognizing that time is a top reported concern of educators, this module and facilitation guide have built-in flexibility where the facilitator can adapt the module to fit the schedule of the school staff engaged in the learning experience. Moreover, the module can be completed in one large session, or it can be broken up into shorter multiple sessions to be completed as time allows.

To access the first module or learn more, please visit the NJDOE [SEL webpage](#). For questions regarding the module, please contact the Office of Student Support Services at schoolclimate@doe.nj.gov.

c: Members, State Board of Education
Dr. Lamont O. Repollet, Ed. D., Commissioner
NJDOE Staff

Statewide Parent Advocacy Network
Garden State Coalition of Schools
NJ LEE Group