School Climate Checklist - Discipline

Climate and Prevention

QUESTION	ALREADY DOING THIS	COULD DO THIS EASILY	THIS WILL TAKE TIME	THIS WILL BE HARD
1. Engage in deliberate efforts to create positive school climates.				
2. Prioritize the use of evidence-based prevention strategies, such as tiered supports				
3. Promote social and emotional learning.				
4. Provide regular training and supports to all school personnel.				
5. Collaborate with local agencies and other stakeholders.				
6. Ensure that any school-based law enforcement officers' roles focus on improving school safety and reducing inappropriate referrals to law enforcement.				
7. Set high expectations for behavior and adopt an instructional approach to discipline.				
8. The school reports to parents about student progress and how teachers, parents, and community member can work together to make improvements.				

Clear, Appropriate, and Consistent Expectations and Consequences

QUESTION	ALREADY DOING THIS	COULD DO THIS EASILY	THIS WILL TAKE TIME	THIS WILL BE HARD
1. Set high expectations for behavior and adopt an instructional approach to discipline.				
2. Involve families, students, and school personnel, and communicate regularly and clearly.				
3. Ensure that clear, developmentally appropriate, and proportional consequences apply for misbehavior.				

	ALREADY DOING THIS	COULD DO THIS EASILY	THIS WILL TAKE TIME	THIS WILL BE HARD
4. Create policies that include appropriate procedures for students with disabilities and due process for all students.				
5. Remove students from the classroom only as a last resort, ensure that alternative settings provide academic instruction, and return students to class as soon as possible.				

Equity and Continuous Improvement

QUESTION	ALREADY DOING THIS	COULD DO THIS EASILY	THIS WILL TAKE TIME	THIS WILL BE HARD
1. Train all school staff to apply school discipline policies and practices in a fair and equitable manner.				
2. Use proactive, data-driven, and continuous efforts, including gathering feedback from *families* to prevent, identify, reduce, and eliminate discriminatory discipline and unintended consequences.				
3. Use proactive, data-driven, and continuous efforts, including gathering feedback from *students* to prevent, identify, reduce, and eliminate discriminatory discipline and unintended consequences.				
4. Use proactive, data-driven, and continuous efforts, including gathering feedback from *teachers* to prevent, identify, reduce, and eliminate discriminatory discipline and unintended consequences.				
5. Use proactive, data-driven, and continuous efforts, including gathering feedback from *school personnel* to prevent, identify, reduce, and eliminate discriminatory discipline and unintended consequences.				

The checklist derives from *Guiding Principles a Resource Guide for Improving School Climate and Discipline* issued by the US Department of Education and the action steps from each principle (www2.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/school-discipline/guiding-principles.pdf).

Disclaimer

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