

**Social and Emotional Learning in Washington State**

**"The goal of Washington’s public education system is to prepare every student who walks through our school doors for post-secondary aspirations, careers, and life. To do so, we must embrace an approach to education that encompasses the whole child…,”**

*Washington State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Chris Reykdal*

**Overview of Washington State SEL efforts to date:**

* In 2015 the Washington State Legislature ([ESSB 6052, Sec 501 (34)](http://lawfilesext.leg.wa.gov/biennium/2015-16/Pdf/Bills/Senate%20Passed%20Legislature/6052-S.PL.pdf) – 2015) directed OSPI to convene a Social Emotional Learning Benchmarks (SEL) workgroup to recommend comprehensive SEL standards and benchmarks. The full report, along with notes from previous meetings are available at: <http://www.k12.wa.us/Workgroups/SELB-Meetings/BenchmarksWorkgroup.aspx>
* In 2016 the Washington State Legislature (ESSB 6620, Section 4 - 2016)directed OSPI to create an SEL Learning Module. To learn more about the online SEL training module visit: <http://www.k12.wa.us/StudentSupport/SEL/OnlineModule.aspx>

In 2017 the Washington State Legislature ESSB 5883, Section 501 (31) – 2017 <http://lawfilesext.leg.wa.gov/biennium/2017-18/Pdf/Bills/Session%20Laws/Senate/5883-S.SL.pdf> further directs OSPI to continue the initial work of the Social Emotional Learning Benchmarks Workgroup and to develop detailed, culturally relevant, grade level SEL indicators for the existing benchmarks.

The workgroup is directed to:

* + Identify and articulate developmental indicators for each grade level for each of the social emotional learning benchmarks
  + solicit feedback from stakeholders,
* Develop a model of best practices or guidance for schools on implementing the benchmarks and indicators. and;
* Submit recommendations to the education committees of the legislature, and the office of the governor.

**Current and future efforts:**

* Develop draft indicators that are grounded in research, developmentally appropriate, culturally responsive, and trauma informed.
* Engage students, families, and other stakeholders through a variety of public outreach events and efforts through February, 2019.
* Provide in-person and on-line opportunities for public stakeholders to review and comment on the ongoing development of the indicators.
* Refine the indicators based on feedback and develop a model of Best Practices and Guidelines for implementation.
* Complete the project with a report to the legislature and the Governor by June 30, 2019.

For additional information on the SEL Indicators Workgroup please visit <http://www.k12.wa.us/WorkGroups/SELB.aspx>