

June, 2017

To: School boards and Administrators

For many years, our national Center at UCLA has been involved in generating better ways for schools to address barriers to learning and teaching and re-engaging disconnected students.

As part of our mission, we have developed major resources and made them available at no-cost to aid districts with school improvement. The latest free resource is a book entitled *Addressing Barriers to Learning: In the Classroom and Schoolwide*. This and many other resources to aid school improvement and professional development are easily accessed from the Center's website.

Given shrinking education budgets, we are increasing our outreach to share these resources. School board members have suggested we contact school board associations to ask that they share the information with their board of directors and member districts. We believe that school board leaders will quickly see the usefulness of these resources and will share them with superintendents and administrators directly concerned with improving student and learning supports (especially in low performing schools).

The new (free) book, *Addressing Barriers to Learning: In the Classroom and Schoolwide*, can be downloaded from our Center's homepage – <http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu/> . This is also the gateway to our other no-cost school improvement and professional development resources.

Part of our mission is to help districts see how to move away from what typically is a fragmented, piecemeal approach to providing student and learning supports. The emphasis is on redeployng what already is budgeted for such activity. For more on this, see the brief: *What will it cost? – No New Dollars!*  
<http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu/pdfdocs/what%20will%20it%20cost.pdf> .

Our Center provides free technical assistance and coaching to SEAs and LEAs to help them improve their systems for addressing barriers to learning and teaching.

An in-depth discussion of the system change process is presented in our recently published book: *Transforming Student and Learning Supports: Developing a Unified, Comprehensive, and Equitable System* –  
<https://titles.cognella.com/transforming-student-and-learning-supports-9781516512782.html>

If you have any questions for us, please feel free to send an email to [adelman@psych.ucla.edu](mailto:adelman@psych.ucla.edu) or [Ltaylor@ucla.edu](mailto:Ltaylor@ucla.edu) .

Best wishes as we all transition to ESSA.

Howard & Linda

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