



School systems are not responsible for meeting every need of their students. But, when the need directly affects learning, the school must meet the challenge.

Despite decades of discussion about ensuring all students have an equal opportunity to succeed at school, reformers have paid little attention to rethinking the way schools provide student supports.

Until now! A national initiative for *New Directions for Student Support* is underway. The goal is to bring student support into the 21st Century by revolutionizing what schools do to address barriers to learning and teaching.

It's an Imperative for

>>>any school designated as low performing
>>>closing the achievement gap
>>>making schools safe

Meeting the Challenge Requires Rethinking ALL Support Programs, Resources, and Personnel

Most people hear the term *student support* and think mainly about pupil service personnel (e.g., school psychologists, counselors, social workers, nurses) and the special services such staff provide. But, schools need and have many more resources for meeting the challenge of ensuring all students have an equal opportunity to succeed at school.

Besides traditional support staff, learning support is provided by compensatory education personnel (e.g., Title I staff), resource teachers using pre-referral interventions, and personnel who provide a variety of school-wide programs (e.g., after school, safe and drug free school programs). New Directions stem from rethinking how *all* these resources are used.

*lowa is one of an increasing number of states moving in new directions for student support. The State Department of Education, working with the Iowa Collaboration for Youth Development, has produced a comprehensive, systemic design for *Learning Supports*. After the statewide summit in April, an Iowa network was established to promote the state's initiative and to support the National Initiative: New Directions for Student Support.

Interested in exploring any of this further?

- >Go to the homepage of the Center for Mental Health in Schools at UCLA (http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu), click on "New Directions Student Support"
- >Contact current members of the state's core advisors for this national initiative (see list on the other side of this announcement)

>Email smhp@ucla.edu | Ph. Toll free (866) 846-4843 | (310) 825-3634 | Fax: (310) 206-8716

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The initiative is sponsored by the national Center for Mental Health in Schools at UCLA.* So far, the growing number of co-sponsors includes: C American School Counselors Association C Institute for the Study of Students at Risk, University of Maine American School Health Association Association for Super. and Curric. Development C MN. Department of Education C C CA. Association of School Psychologists C CA. Center for Community School Partnerships National Association of School Nurses C CA. Department of Education С Center for Cooperative Research and Extension National Association of School Psychologists

- Services for Schools C Center for Prev. of Youth Viol., Johns Hopkins Univ.
- C Center for School Mental Health Assistance
- C Center for Social and Emotional Education
- Coalition for Cohesive Policy in Addressing Barriers to С Development and Learning
- C Coalition for Community Schools
- Collaborative for Acad., Social, & Emot. Learning C.
- C. Education Development Center
- C IN. Department of Education
- C Johns Hopkins Univ. Graduate Division of Educ.

- C National Alliance of Pupil Service Organizations
- C National Assoc. of Pupil Services Administrators
- National Assoc. of Secondary School Principals
- National Association of Social Workers C
- National Assoc. of State Boards of Education
- National Center for Community Education С
- National Middle School Association С
- Policy Leadership Coalition of MH in Schools
- **Region VII Comprehensive Center** C
- School Social Work Association of America C
- TX. Assoc. of Student Assistance Professionals Urban Special Educ. Leadership Collaborative С
- C WI. Department of Public Instruction

*The Center is co-directed by Howard Adelman and Linda Taylor and operates under the auspices of the School Mental Health Project, Dept. of Psychology, UCLA (contact: smhp@ucla.edu). Support comes in part from the Office of Adolescent Health, Maternal and Child Health Bureau (Title V, Social Security Act), Health Resources and Services Administration (Project #U93 MC 00175), with co-funding from the Center for Mental Health Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. Both are agencies of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

