

New Directions for Student Support ... an Initiative for New Jersey*



*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 Challenges 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 they use to meet the challenge of ensuring all students have an equal opportunity to succeed at school.

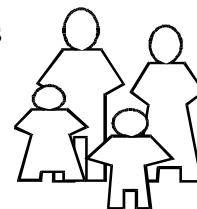
Besides traditional support staff, learning support is provided by compensatory education personnel (e.g., Title I staff), resource teachers who focus on pre-referral interventions, and personnel who provide a variety of school-wide programs (e.g., after school, safe and drug free school programs). New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

***New Jersey is one of an increasing number of states that has had a statewide Summit as part of the national initiative for *New Directions for Student Support*. At the national level, over 30 organizations have signed on so far as co-sponsors of the initiative (see the other side of this announcement). Organizations around the state currently are being encouraged to sign on.**

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 the green button "Summits for New Directions."
- >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

The Summit in New Jersey has expanded the Initiative's network of core advisors by adding individuals from throughout the state. Core Advisors focus on exploring next steps for work across the country and in a state, with a special emphasis on creating readiness for new directions for student support.



- To see, the initial list of Core Network Advisors in New Jersey, as well as the list of attendees at the statewide Summit, and other colleagues who are interested in New Directions for Student Support in New Jersey, see <http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu/summit2002/initiativecosponsors.htm#network>
- You can also see who else already is part of the network around the country.
- And you can join the growing network supporting the initiative by signing on at – <http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu/summit2002/initiativesign-up.html>

The initiative is sponsored by the national *Center for Mental Health in Schools at UCLA*.* So far, the growing number of co-sponsors includes:

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| • American School Counselors Association | • MN. Department of Education |
| • American School Health Association | • National Alliance of Pupil Service Organizations |
| • Association for Super. and Curric. Development | • National Assoc. of Pupil Services Administrators |
| • CA. Association of School Psychologists | • National Association of School Nurses |
| • CA. Center for Community School Partnerships | • National Association of School Psychologists |
| • CA. Department of Education | • National Assoc. of Secondary School Principals |
| • Center for Cooperative Research and Extension Services for Schools | • National Association of Social Workers |
| • Center for Prev. of Youth Viol., Johns Hopkins Univ. | • National Assoc. of State Boards of Education |
| • Center for School Mental Health Analysis and Action | • National Center for Community Education |
| • Center for Social and Emotional Education | • National Middle School Association |
| • Coalition for Cohesive Policy in Addressing Barriers to Development and Learning | • Pennsylvania Department of Education |
| • Coalition for Community Schools | • Policy Leadership Coalition of MH in Schools |
| • Collaborative for Acad., Social, & Emot. Learning | • Region VII Comprehensive Center |
| • Education Development Center | • School Social Work Association of America |
| • IN. Department of Education | • TX. Assoc. of Student Assistance Professionals |
| • Johns Hopkins Univ. Graduate Division of Educ. | • Urban Special Educ. Leadership Collaborative |
| • Inst. for the Study of Students at Risk, Univ. of Maine | • 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 #U45 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.