Indian River County is designated as one of four districts in the nation participating in a collaborative with Scholastic, the UCLA Center for Mental Health in the Schools, and the American Association of School Administrators (AASA). The initiative offers a framework for comprehensive systems of learning supports that students need to be successful in school and in life.
**What are Learning Supports?**

Learning supports are the resources, strategies, and practices that address student barriers and re-engage disconnected students. It is a system that emphasizes both school-wide and classroom supports, with a focus on community outreach and family involvement.

**What are barriers to learning?**

There are many barriers that can interfere with ensuring students have an equal opportunity to succeed at school. These can include both environmental and personal factors including:

* Chronic poverty
* Substance Abuse
* High Levels of Mobility
* Student Learning and/or adjustment problems

**How will learning supports address barriers to learning?**

* Classroom-Based Approaches
* Crisis Assistance and Prevention
* Support for Transitions
* Home Involvement in Schooling
* Community Outreach/Collaboration
* Student and Family Assistance

(six content arenas)

**What are the expected outcomes?**

* Re-engaged students
* Improved school climate
* Increased resources to students and families
* Reduced student dropout rates
* Increased community involvement in public education
* Improved attendance
* Narrowing of the achievement gap
* Increased graduation rates

**SDIRC’s Strategic Plan**

The district will develop a comprehensive system of learning supports to address barriers to learning and promote student engagement.

* **Phase 1** includes four schools comprising a feeder pattern:
  * Fellsmere Elementary School
  * Sebastian Elementary School
  * Sebastian River Middle School
  * Sebastian River High School

* This “family of schools” will collaboratively plan to ensure student success in the six content arenas.

* Each school team will examine their current systems for student support and engage in improved practices through collaboration with UCLA, AASA, and Scholastic.

* Teams will also identify opportunities and implement interventions to enhance intrinsic motivation to improve learning outcomes.