From the national Center for MH in Schools & Student/Learning Supports at UCLA*

NEW REPORT on Current Mental Health Initiatives

We are pleased to share a new policy and practice brief:

>***Are Initiatives to Improve School-Based Mental Health Services Hindering Efforts to Transform Student/Learning Supports?***
https://smhp.psych.ucla.edu/pdfdocs/mhinitiatives.pdf

To expand school-based mental health and whole-child supports, California has invested billions in three major initiatives -- CYBHI, CA MTSS, and the Community Schools Partnership Program. Other states are taking notice.

This brief is guided by a central question:

Are such initiatives producing the much-needed transformation of student/learning supports – or mainly layering more programs onto an already too-fragmented system?

Drawing on current evidence, the report identifies key challenges related to system coherence, governance, infrastructure, financing, and equity. It emphasizes the need to move beyond "alignment" toward the intentional redesign of student/learning supports. The brief also offers guidance for policymakers, district leaders, and other stakeholders seeking to build a more unified, comprehensive, and equitable system.

We invite you to read and share the report and to join the ongoing conversation about strengthening student/learning supports. As always, we hope our work is useful in your efforts and stimulates further discussion. We look forward to hearing your thoughts.

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