
Enhanced School Climate Emerges from Whole School Improvements

The growing concern for school climate is a wonderful trend. Everyone seems to agree that schools should ensure a positive school climate.

Less agreement exists, however, about what this means and how to accomplish it. This is especially so when the call is for developing a safe and supportive environment that also is nurturing and caring and that provides *all* students with an equal opportunity to succeed.

Equity concerns are heightened when efforts to enhance school climate are viewed using the lens of how schools interface with students who are struggling academically, acting out, and experiencing conflictual relationships with school staff and peers.

From such a perspective, it's clear that an enhanced school climate only emerges when the focus is on *whole school improvements*. That is, improvements that include, *as a primary focus*, transforming how schools address barriers to learning and teaching and re-engage disconnected students.

See >*Designing School Improvement to Enhance Classroom Climate for All Students*
<http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu/pdfdocs/schoolclimate.pdf>

For more in-depth presentations, see

>*Addressing Barriers to Learning: In the Classroom and Schoolwide* -
http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu/improving_school_improvement.html

>*Improving School Improvement* http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu/improving_school_improvement.html

And please let us know what local schools are doing to transform student/learning supports so we can share the work widely.