Building Strong Relationships

A Tip Sheet for the DC CoP



Schools revolve around strong relationships between staff and students, staff and staff, and staff and families. A strong grounding of relationships is the foundation for safe and welcoming learning environments. They build structure and bonds. Members of the DC CoP often share suggestions on how clinicians can build effective relationships across the school community.

Caregivers

Introduce yourself to the caregiver(s) for every child in your school so they know who you are and will be more comfortable approaching you when they need assistance. Tell them about the behavioral health supports that the school offers. Learn people's names. Pay particular attention to new families.

Students

Get to know students by stopping by during lunch hour, after school clubs and school events so you are a familiar and comforting face and are more willing to come by and talk.

Teachers

Attend grade level team meetings, staff meetings, and leadership meetings to share information about your role at the school, how teachers and caregivers can reach you, and how to refer students to services. Develop relationships with teachers so they feel supported when they look for help with a student.

For More Ideas, See These Additional Resources:

- <u>Padlet: Working Together for Successful School Strengthening</u>
 <u>Work Plans</u>
- <u>Tips to Engage Families and Caregivers</u>
- Building Relationships
- Padlet: Family Engagement Practice Group

To see all the resources created for the DC CoP, please <u>click here</u>

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