



Second Step® Middle School Leadership Team Resources

Middle school is a time of change—and also an opportunity for students to further develop social-emotional skills such as handling strong emotions and setting and meeting goals. Research-based Second Step® Middle School helps teach these skills while building the safe, supported learning environment middle schoolers need to succeed.

Principal Leadership

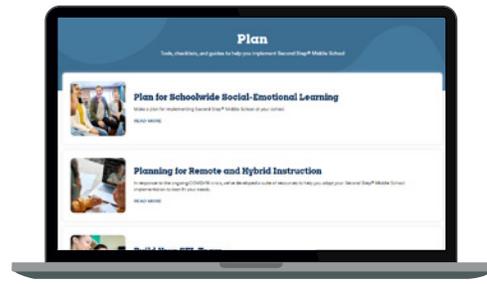
Research shows that implementing a social-emotional learning (SEL) program with fidelity has a considerable effect on program outcomes.¹ Although a number of elements can influence the quality of teachers' implementations, research consistently shows that the most important element is principal leadership and support.² When teachers see principals devoting time and resources to program implementation, being vocal about a program's importance, and holding the community accountable, they're more likely to sustain effective implementation over time.³ Working together, principals and teachers are powerful partners for program success.



Principal Toolkit: Schoolwide Implementation Resources

The Principal Toolkit provides tools and resources to help principals support the success of Second Step Middle School in their schools. It contains:

- A program overview, including the research behind the program
- Guidance for planning an advisory program, including sample schedules
- Planning tools, including a Pacing Guide, Implementation Snapshot, and SEL Leadership Team Checklist
- Program-monitoring tools, including a Lesson Observation Rubric

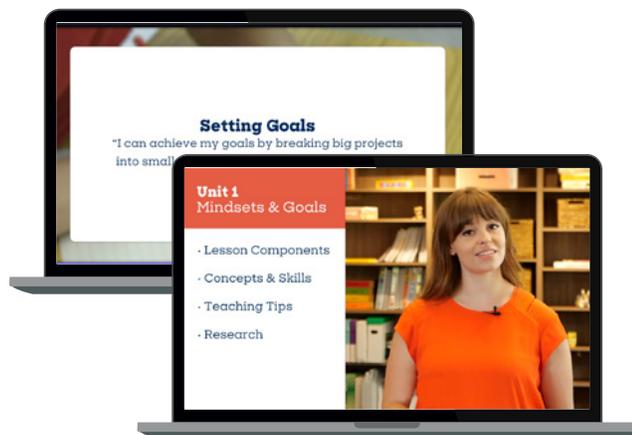


Program Training

Principal-Led Presentations

Principal and teacher support is the driving factor in ensuring that social-emotional skills are used, discussed, and practiced throughout a school. We've created four customizable presentations intended to help set expectations, discuss progress, and maintain community buy-in throughout the year.

1. **Staff Overview:** Back-to-school kickoff with all staff to review Second Step® Middle School.
2. **Responding to Bullying and Harassment:** Reiterate importance of bullying prevention prior to staff teaching the Second Step unit on bullying and harassment; convey district-specific policies and procedures.
3. **Mid-Year Check-in:** Reengage staff, reflect on implementation thus far, and identify areas for improvement.
4. **End-of-Year Check-in:** Share data, reflect, and solicit feedback on implementation.



Unit Quick Start Guides

Unit Quick Start Guides are brief training videos for teaching the lessons themselves. The videos are unique to each unit and grade to help teachers implement Second Step Middle School successfully. Each five-minute video provides an overview of the concepts covered in the upcoming unit—plus helpful tips and tricks—to better prepare teachers before they dive into lesson prep.

References

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