

Together We Can: Collaborating to Drive Holistic Student Success

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PERSONAL MISSION:

Connection before content to equip each and every student to participate in their communities to the fullest extent possible.

- Over 13 years of experience in the fields of child/youth mental health, education, special education, crisis management and trauma-informed practices.
- Roles held: School Social Worker (elem., MS & HS), Therapist, Behavior & Instructional Coach, Social-Emotional Learning Coordinator, Assistant Principal, Director of Instructional Interventions & Crisis Team Lead.



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Right At School

Strategic Goal: A More Holistic Approach to Student-Centered Leadership



THE 4B'S OF STUDENT-CENTERED LEADERSHIP

BELONGING

Resources that focus on creating a sense of belonging.



Resources coming soon.

BELIEF

Resources related to the belief in the limitless potential in every student.



Learning Acceleration, Not Remediation (article)

BARRIERS

Resources that highlight how to remove barriers so every student can achieve.



Resources coming soon.

BROADCASTING

Resources that explore how to broadcast and respond to student voice.



Elevate Student Voice (article)

3 Components of a Holistic Strategy



**Relationship and
Skill-Building
Opportunities**

**Capacity
Building
Partnerships**

**Family
Engagement**



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What has been the most
impactful relationship in your
personal education journey?

Why Students' Sense of Belonging is So Important

Sense of Belonging: The extent to which students feel that they are valued members of their school's community.

Benefits:

- Improved mental health, self-esteem, and emotional well-being
- Increased self-belief in abilities to succeed
- Increased academic motivation
- Greater school achievement and reduced school bullying
- Reduced likelihood of absenteeism

Respect

Connectedness

Membership

Understanding



Sources:

Panorama Education. *Why Students Need to Feel a Sense of Belonging and How To Create It: A Comprehensive Guide*
Psychology Today. *A Deep Dive Into the Benefits of School Belonging.*



**Learning
Acceleration**



**Student
Support
System**



Relationships Are the Key



Skill-Building

**Sense of
Belonging**



The Impact of Strong Relationships for Students

Students with strong developmental relationships in their school and out of school time (OST) program settings reported higher levels of **self-awareness, self-management, responsible decision-making, social awareness, and relationship skills.**



Higher Ratings on Social Emotional Competencies

Search Institute (2020). The Intersection of Developmental Relationships, Equitable Environments, and SEL [Insights & Evidence Series]. Minneapolis, MN: Author.

The Social and Emotional Benefits of High-Quality Enrichment

A multi-year study showed impressive growth in SEL skills among our Right Club students across the school year in:

- + **Positive values (+64%)**
- + **Feeling empowered (+35%)**
- + **Social skills (+20%)**
- + **Commitment to learning (+20%)**
- + **Understanding boundaries and expectations (+19%)**
- + **Positive identity (+ 14%)**

Source: 2015-16 school year, Germantown and Dunlap districts, IL, Developmental Assets Profile from SearchInstitute.org





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**What one skill or attribute would
you like to see all students have
before entering high school?
Why?**

Developing & Exploring Interests

High-quality before and after school enrichment programs can provide students with daily opportunities to explore and develop their interests, as well as build leadership, problem solving skills that support their future success.



Expanding Skill-Building Opportunities

Provide ways for students to:

- Engage in a diverse array of activities
- Apply their skills in ways they don't get to within the structure of the traditional school day
- Make choices about what they are doing
- Share and celebrate accomplishments

Leadership

Empathy



Critical Thinking



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**On a scale of 1 to 10, how would
you rate the **level of family**
engagement at your school?
What is your biggest challenge?**

Family Engagement

“a shared responsibility in which schools and other community agencies and organizations are committed to reaching out to engage families in meaningful ways and in which families are committed to actively supporting their children's learning and development.”

Impact of Family Engagement

- Increased student academic outcomes
- Improved students' self-esteem and self-discipline, improves behavior in school, and reduces suspensions for disciplinary reasons
- Improved parent-teacher and student-teacher relationships
- Increases likelihood of teachers and principals experiencing higher morale and job satisfaction



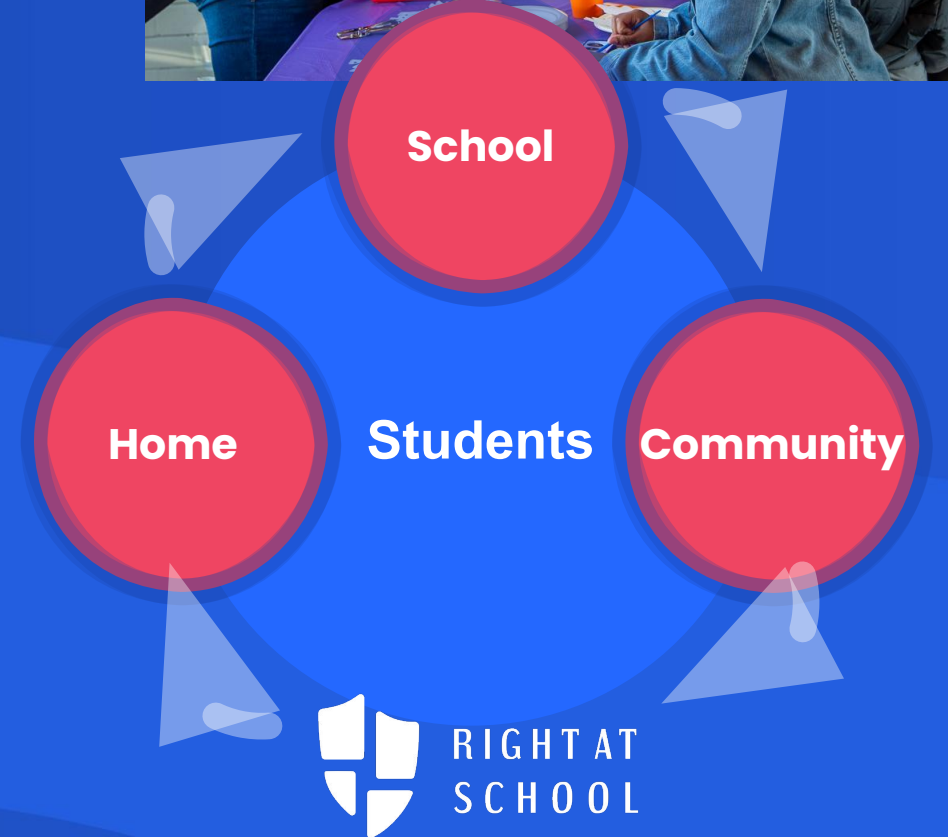
Making Family Engagement Part of the Curriculum

- Throughout the course of the year, our **Right Club curriculum** builds in opportunities for family and community engagement, in ways that allow students to demonstrate the skills they are building.
- Our **Right Club Gives Back** program, students work together on service projects that support their neighbors and community. Together they identify potential projects based on local issues and needs, then plan and implement the project.
- We have an entire module of our curriculum dedicated to **variety shows**, and every year programs across the country show off their amazing creativity and talents for their families.



Connect School, Home, and Community

- Engage with families through daily interaction
- Connect what happens at school with what happens at home
- Leverage community relationships for new learning experiences
- Reinforce the school as a community hub





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**What is one way you would
support students if you had
more time each day?**

Capacity-Building Partnerships Make All the Difference



Schools need partners who can help **extend academic and developmental support** for students beyond the traditional hours of the school day, providing students more opportunities to:

- Build healthy relationships with peers and adults
- Strengthen their sense of belonging in school and community
- Engage in hands-on, collaborative learning experiences
- Play and be physically active in a safe, fun environment
- Develop and explore their own interests

Research Shows Students Thrive in Enrichment Programs



- ✓ Up to 42% increase in math and reading performance¹
- ✓ Better grades, test scores, and graduation rates¹
- ✓ Improved overall academic performance¹
- ✓ 65% have improved homework completion and class participation²
- ✓ Better attendance, and decreased truancy and suspensions¹
- ✓ Increased positive attitude toward school and confidence about academic advancement¹
- ✓ Better cognitive performance (concentration, task motivation, frustration tolerance, and cognitive flexibility)¹



Sources:

1. Afterschool Alliance. May, 2014. *Evaluations Backgrounder: A Summary of Formal Evaluations of Afterschool Programs' Impact on Academics, Behavior, Safety and Family Life.*
2. Afterschool Alliance. 2018. *This is Afterschool.*

Partnership Spotlight



Bethel School District Spotlight

- Dynamic district that covers over 200 square miles in southeast Pierce County
- 16th largest district in the state with over 20,000 students
- 17 elementary schools (K-5), 6 middle schools, 3 high schools, 2 alternative secondary schools, virtual academy and K-8 school of choice

Kelley Boynton
Executive Director of Elementary Schools
Bethel School District



Bethel School District (WA)

Bethel was looking for a partner that could **increase access, expand skills, provide onsite programs**, and manage programs to **reduce the burden** on principals.

Right At School:

- **Increased equitable access to programs**
- **Increased overall attendance**
- **Improved student behavior and safety**
- **Provided flexibility for families**

District Partnership

- ❑ 738 students daily
- ❑ 16 elementary schools (K-5)
- ❑ 60 McKinney-Vento Student Scholarships
- ❑ 126 students using state subsidies

After School, Before School, Non-School Days & Summer Camps

"When RAS first came to the district you made us a lot of promises and delivered on every single one. I've been a Principal for 15 years and now a district administrator and we've never had a provide as deeply committed as Right At School."

-Kelley Boynton, Executive Director





**How are you as a District Leader
going to foster more
relationship-building,
skill-building, and engagement
opportunities for
your students and families?**

Building Learning Hubs

Students have a place to:

- Build healthy relationships with peers and adults
- Strengthen their sense of belonging in school and community
- Engage in hands-on, collaborative learning experiences
- Play and be physically active in a safe, fun environment
- Develop and explore their own skills and interests



HOW TO Build a Student Support Ecosystem in YOUR District

Step 1 FIND OUT

✓ What does your district have in place for extended day?

- If you don't have a program is there a community need for one?

Step 2 GO SEE

✓ What's happening during this time?

- Babysitting vs. Enrichment
- Expanding skill building vs. supervision

Step 3 CONSIDER

✓ How can the extended day time align with your district's Strategic Plan?

Step 4 SEEK

✓ How Does an Effective Partner/Program...

- Build Capacity for Your District?
- Expand Opportunities for Students?
- Adapt to Evolving District Needs?
- Consistently Staff Programs?



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