



SPOTLIGHT:

Pasadena ISD

Pasadena Independent School District has been a member of the Center for School Behavioral Health Collaborative since its inception in 2012. Dr. Linda Rodriguez, Pasadena ISD District Coordinator of PBIS Multi-Tiered System of Support, is an active member of the Center's Collaborative, School District Learning Community, and the conference planning committee. Linda is an alumna of the Pasadena School District and has spent much of her career working in the district as a counselor and coordinator of programs at a district level.

Pasadena began their Positive Behavior Interventions & Supports (PBIS) journey about 15 years ago with the Safe and Civil Series by Foundations and CHAMPS. After several years of successful implementation, Pasadena added Social Emotional Learning in 2009 and began training elementary and middle school staff in Conscious Discipline (CD). From 2009-2014, faculty at every Pre-K through Sixth Grade campus was trained, and all schools began implementation according to their campus needs. Since 2014, six behavioral district coaches and two district coordinators have been working to expand efforts and help all schools develop a 3-year Social Emotional Learning implementation plan to promote self-awareness, self-management or regulation, social awareness, healthy relationships, and good decision-making.

Pasadena ISD implements **nineteen** of the twenty-one Center for School Behavioral Health School District Recommendations. Additionally, the district has fostered numerous partnerships to provide services to Pasadena students and families and has improved awareness of resources in the community. Some examples of these

partnerships are: two high schools hold support groups facilitated by Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance, Spanish speaking parents are referred to support groups at National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Greater Houston, and The Harris Center for Mental Health and IDD co-location program in Pasadena houses three Licensed Professional Counselors to better serve Pasadena students. Further, their involvement in the School District Learning Community has informed Pasadena personnel about best practices in schools, Restorative Practices, and action-based learning, among others. These lessons learned led Pasadena ISD to be awarded a School Climate Transformation Grant from the US Department of Education.

This school year, Pasadena ISD will continue toward the ultimate goal of all schools implementing PBIS using a multi-tiered system of support. To that end, they plan to expand the number of trauma-informed schools from 10 to 50 by the end of the year and continue their rigorous schedule of training to help schools implement PBIS with fidelity.

When asked if she believed the Center for School Behavioral Health was beneficial, Linda Rodriguez had this to say:

“For years, Pasadena ISD has been working to develop a comprehensive approach to school behavioral health yet we always seem to be chasing a runaway train that keeps adding physical, behavioral, social, emotional and mental health cargo that needs to be addressed. The needs of our students grow each year and the more reactive we were, the more exhausted we all became. The Center has provided networking opportunities, awareness and knowledge of grant opportunities, a hub for sharing what works as well as what is not working and ideas to address those problems; highly engaging and relevant professional development through monthly meetings, newsletters, and the annual Conference and grant opportunities to pilot action research in the areas of mental health and trauma. The efforts of [the] collaborative has become the glitter and glue of school behavioral health. The Center is the glue that hold us all together while the amazing efforts and work of our schools and agencies is truly the glitter that reflects the amazing successes we are all seeing as we work with children, parents, community and each other.”

The Center for School Behavioral Health is proud to have Pasadena as a member of the Collaborative and thanks Linda and all Pasadena ISD staff for the work they do for their students, families, and community.

For more information about Pasadena ISD, please click [here](#).