

Southern Local Schools

Student Wellness and Success Plan

Vision:

Developing graduates who are healthy, productive and successful members of our community.

Mission:

To provide flexible learning opportunities in a safe, respectful environment. In partnership with our community, our educational process will allow students to take steps towards their future.

Annual Objective:

Our staff will promote wellness with all students through multiple pathways including partnerships of educational services with Columbiana County and Jefferson County Educational Service Centers and mental and behavioral health services through Redzone, Family Recovery Center, Lisbon Counseling Center, and The Community Action Council of Lisbon.

Students will engage in the expansion of educational programming offered through the FFA program to promote overall wellness with the addition of a Food Science Lab, and participating in mental and behavioral school based health services offered through our community partners when needed. Two dedicated school nurses will continue to be employed at Southern Local to ensure all students have access to care during the school day. A dedicated full time school based psychologist will continue to be employed as well as related service providers through Jefferson County Educational Service Center.

Goals:

Goal #1: Help students grow as contributors in our community, by increasing life skills through community outreach and participation in the Food Science Lab.

Goal #2: Students will learn skills related to multiple job skill pathways through the expansion of the FFA programming at Southern Local. To prepare students to be work ready upon graduation.

Goal #3: Students will have access to mental, behavioral, and physical health services through partnerships with local agencies.

As a rural and lower socioeconomic area in the southern part of Columbiana County, we have students who have attendance issues, lack in academic performance, and have been faced with life challenges and need an opportunity for pathways outside of the traditional learning environment that will lead to viable job opportunities in our area. Our rural area also is very limited with mental, physical, and behavioral health support within our district. Students and families have to travel a minimum of 20

minutes to receive services. Our partnerships will bring opportunities for these services closer for families.

Planning and Preparation

Our Southern Local Wellness team meets at a minimum twice annually (October/February) to review student and community data sources related to wellness. The administration representatives work closely with the Educational Service Centers and County Business Advisory Council to determine educational connections, health and wellness needs, and job and work related skills needed for our graduates.

Identifying Critical Needs

Upon review of our student data sources, and results from our students' responses on the Asset Survey conducted by our Guidance Department in conjunction with the Family Recovery Center, our population of students don't feel good about themselves, and feel disconnected from the community. Students also are experiencing substances at earlier ages with an increase in vaping. Students feel that their peers are their source of information. The district conducts universal screening for all core subject areas and many of our students fall short in academic growth. Instructional planning will focus on standards based instruction with hands on opportunities to further students' understanding. Our district geographical area has access to Carry Outs or Dollar General Stores that lack a variety of healthy foods, and lacks any type of health care within 10 miles of our school . There is a clear need for hands-on real life authentic learning experiences focused on all facets of student wellness.

Focused Plan

Students need to feel confident about themselves and their abilities to be successful in career possibilities. They need to know that the connections they seek during their school years can develop and be sustainable through school years and beyond. In partnership with our wellness affiliates, Southern Local plans to continue to connect students with community resources, career pathways, and flexible learning opportunities related to positive wellness outcomes. The development of additional FFA pathways and continued connections to school based physical, mental, and behavioral health services will ensure well rounded and healthy students who will be contributing members to our community.

Implementation and Monitoring of Plan

<u>Action Steps</u>	<u>Possible barriers/ Capacity considerations</u>	<u>Who will be responsible for this step?</u>	<u>Monitoring procedures (with frequency)</u>	<u>By when?</u>
Provide multiple pathways for confident graduates that are healthy productive members to the community and society as a whole.	Lack of student motivation to complete academic courses within the 4 years of HS.	Jr/Sr High Admin, Guidance, and Teacher Based Teams.	Universal Screening and Credit Checkpoints to ensure the students are growing academically (on the road to graduation)	December 2024 and ongoing annually.
Implementation of Checkpoints with our school guidance department and community behavioral health in our program, helping students make future schooling decisions based on their interests and academic abilities from a combination of assessments - this is providing every student with necessary info to make realistic and attainable goals in their future life path.	Willingness for students/families to participate in the opportunities offered	Jr/Sr High Guidance, Admin, Families and students. Community partners based on referral for services.	Checkpoint results	March 2025

Enroll students in pathways offered annually following a program open house	Lack of participation in open house	Program instructors holding open house Guidance enrolling students interested	Number of students enrolled	March 2025
Students taking and passing the credential tests for each program	Possibility of students not taking tests or not passing tests	Program instructors prepare students for test	Completion of credential tests	Annually in the spring
Host Family/Community Education Nights/Events	Low participation in events	Program instructors/students	Dates of events and attendance at events	Minimum of 2 per year beginning 2025

Employment of a full time school Psychologist	Inability to meet the needs of all students.	Superintendent Treasurer	Contracts or agreements with ESC	Annually
Employment of related services personnel through Educational Service Centers (OT,PT, Speech, etc.)	Limited number of credentialed candidates to hire.	Superintendent Treasurer	Contracts or agreements with ESC	Annually
Ready Room	Availability of needed supplies	School Nurse Federal Programs Coordinator	PO's for purchased items Use of materials and space	Annually

Funding:

Student Success and Wellness funds will be used to develop the Food Science pathway as an addition to the current FFA program opportunities. This will include a Greenhouse, Hydroponics Kits, vegetable plants to start, refrigerator, and kitchen supplies. All items will be ordered summer and fall of 2024 to begin offerings during the school year 2024-2025 and 2025-2026. The district will continue to employ staff from the ESC's in our area to provide a dedicated school psychologist, related service personnel including speech, occupational therapy, physical therapy, and behavioral support. The district will also continue to employ two school nurses who will be present daily in both the Elementary and the Jr/Sr High Buildings to assist students with physical health needs. DPIA funding will also continue to support the Ready Room that was an initiative previously funded with a Homeless Grant through the Ohio Department of Education. The Ready Room provides a place for students and families to take care of personnel hygiene needs (showers and laundry), as well as obtain educational materials and supplies students may need for their educational process.

Impact:

The availability of the staffing and other resources, materials, and opportunities provided by the DPIA and Student Wellness Funds will allow students to be successful in their educational setting and daily processes while at Southern Local. The community partnerships will also lead students and families to additional resources in the county that may be needed outside of the day to day educational processes while at the school.