

Approaches to Developing School-wide Behavioral Expectations

This document outlines three approaches to developing school-wide behavioral expectations. School Leadership Teams (SLTs) can review these approaches and identify the potential benefits and risks of each approach. The goal is to develop behavioral expectations by seeking meaningful input from stakeholders with diverse perspectives. This chart will assist the SLTs in determining their approach to developing their schools’ behavioral expectations.

Table 1. Approaches to Developing School-wide Behavioral Expectations. Add potential benefits and risks to each of the three approaches.

Approach	Benefits	Risks
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lists of values and pro-social behaviors with weighted voting • Provide staff with a list of valued behaviors and attitudes and ask each staff member to circle ten that resonate with them personally – staff may add additional values that come to mind • Ask staff to re-read the list placing a check mark next to ten behaviors that are essential for the success of their students – these may be different from their personal values • Have staff share individual lists with their grade level team – noting similarities and differences • Individual staff will narrow their list down to the top five preferred expectations in rank order • The lists are combined and a weighted vote will take place with staff and students allowing the SLT to analyze the staff and student preferences with priority in mind 		

Approach	Benefits	Risks
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A volunteer workgroup will be asked to prepare a draft set of school-wide expectations and any related slogan or logo • Draft is brought back to the full staff for discussion, revisions and finally consensus 		
<p>Staff/parent/student surveys</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete a survey with staff, students, and parents to determine which valued behaviors and attitudes are important to each group • Cross reference the results of the survey to identify common themes/values/beliefs • Generate a draft set of school-wide expectations and any related slogan or logo • Draft is brought back to the full staff for discussion, revisions and finally consensus 		
<p>Build on an existing character education program in your school</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review your existing character education program – determine if there are already 3-5 overarching values/themes/beliefs that could be the start of your school-wide expectations • Take these overarching values/themes/beliefs to your staff and students and have them weighted vote will take place allowing the SLT to analyze the staff preferences with priority in mind • A volunteer workgroup will be asked to prepare a draft set of school-wide expectations and any related slogan or logo • Draft is brought back to the full staff for discussion, revisions and finally consensus 		

Michigan’s MTSS Technical Assistance Center is funded by the Michigan Department of Education and the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs.