

LDOE Behavior Support Plan

KNOW THE FACTS

- **Student behavior and discipline approaches are consistently top concerns of educators and parents.**
- **Over 18,000 students were sent to an alternative school or program in 2015-16.**
 - 1 of every 40 students
 - 1 of every 18 students with disabilities.
- **LDOE does not have a proactive, data-driven plan to address behavioral issues.**
- **LDOE only uses special education (IDEA) funding for activities related to behavior of all students.**
 - This state support to schools and parents for behavior has dramatically reduced since 2011.

What Can Legislators Do?

Require the La. Department of Education (LDOE) to:

- Identify school climate and student social-emotional-behavioral health as one of its top five goals;
- Establish and maintain a leadership team focused on effective, research-based behavioral practices;
- Develop a plan with clear, measurable, specific, actionable outcomes and data to measure progress toward those outcomes;
- Describe how decisions regarding resources and activities related to behavior are data-driven;
- Provide a budget plan for behavioral support activities; and
- Identify schools that demonstrate best practices.

Why Do This?

Louisiana needs a state-wide data-based plan of action driven by people with adequate training and resources to ensure schools and parents have access to training and technical assistance in evidence-based, proactive approaches to behavior.

Historically, Louisiana schools identified as implementing Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports (PBIS) well had higher attendance, ELA and Math passage rates, and lower dropout and suspension rates. However, Louisiana no longer identifies which schools are implementing PBIS well.

Good data is critical to support effective behavior in schools, yet, there is a lack of integrity in discipline data. Although the Advisory Council on Student Behavior and Discipline voted for a Committee to review the integrity and quality of discipline data, LDOE has not called this group to meet.