Administrator Support and Commitment for WSCC Approach – Closed Captioning

00:00:00.506 --> 00:00:15.616
[ Music ]

00:00:16.116 --> 00:00:18.696
>> Health and wellness are an integral part of what we do

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because we see what we do as being key

00:00:22.726 --> 00:00:25.136
to kids being academically successful.

00:00:25.286 --> 00:00:28.486
We have to address the needs of the whole child.

00:00:28.516 --> 00:00:31.766
>> We want them to leave their problems at the door

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so many times so that they can come in and they can learn,

00:00:34.946 --> 00:00:37.136
but the truth of the matter is, they can't leave all

00:00:37.136 --> 00:00:38.356
of their problems at the door.

00:00:38.356 --> 00:00:39.706
They bring them to the school.

00:00:39.986 --> 00:00:42.826
And I think the schools are now responsible for trying
to make sure that they deal with those issues.

By looking up what the research says, it's easy to see that in order to get kids where we want them to be, we have to make sure their basic needs are met.

And the WSCC approach helps us to be able to do that.

I have learned through my time as curriculum director, it's near impossible for us to separate out school from home from community. And so what I love about this model is that it doesn't separate those things, it marries all of those.

But I think you certainly need
at least one consistent administrator who's there

and who's not just there to sign off on it,

but who really believes in it.

>> The WSCC model helps kids to be more academically prepared,

but it also helps them to be happier

and healthier within the school.

For example, when I talk about breakfast in the classroom,

how many more kids come to school on time?

How many more kids are here ready for learning?

How does that impact their day?

That doesn't necessarily correlate

into a test score today, but over a long period

of time it helps kids to
be more successful.

As a superintendent it really is my responsibility to make sure that the system is functioning in a way that supports students.

That there are protocols, that there are fiscal allocations, that there's policy in place, and so it really has become a calling of mine to make sure that for my community health and wellness is at the top of everybody's list.

Big ships turn slowly, and it takes time for that philosophy and that culture to build.

We have been able to meet the needs of students on a health and wellness level, emotional level, physical level,
nutrition level, and we haven't gone backwards.

Our kids get 45 minutes of physical activity every day,
it hasn't impacted their academics negatively.

>> The administrative support is so important

because if there's any physical changes that need to take
in the building, or if you're changing a policy,
or even changing the lunch time that kids can go outside,
administration has to be involved.

I feel very fortunate that we've had strong administrative
support, definitely supporting the decisions made.

>> What is it that we can provide in terms
of background knowledge for the teachers

or professional development

so that they understand the importance of what we're doing?

But the why is a big part of ensuring that you have teacher support.

>> I'm very proud of the fact that from top down administration they're very supportive of the whole child.

And they really want to see each of the children here supported, however that looks.

So I've really had -- have had the opportunity to look at various resources,

go to different trainings, and whatnot.
Giving the teachers that freedom to navigate and research and find outlets, and I think that it's a mindset.

If a teacher is in this mindset of restriction, and I have to follow this mold or this protocol, you're not going to get that creativity, you're not going to get that teacher that's going to take that initiation to go out and find programs.

We have teachers who are really into health and wellness, whether it's bringing in a farm to school program at our middle school, or planting fruits and vegetables in a vegetable garden right on school grounds.
And so I think you'll find that you have a lot of staff

who are already inspired around this work.

Just opening up the world of an educator to see

that it's more than just data on a sheet of paper,

how much kids are learning, and it's as important
to open their eyes to a different way to live

that could help them

to be healthier throughout their lives.

>> What I like about the WSCC model is that it helps me
to empower people, see a change in people's lives

that happens right in front

of me that's bigger than just academics.
And we're the ones who have to make the decisions

and the choices and take the action that's going
to improve the lives of kids.

Because they're 100% of our future, and we owe it to them
to give them the best of our abilities
to help them reach their greatest potential.

[ Music ]