Readiness for Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) and School Mental Health (SMH) Interconnection:

Development of a Stakeholder Survey

Abstract

Positive behavior interventions and supports (PBIS) and school mental health (SMH) are prominent initiatives in the United States to improve student behavior and promote their mental health and wellness, led by education and mental health systems, respectively. However, in general PBIS and SMH are separate initiatives in districts and schools and there are many missed opportunities from this failed interconnection. The current paper details the process of developing a measure of assessing readiness to interconnect PBIS and SMH. Relevant literature, pilot data, and methodology are discussed, in addition to psychometric properties of the survey and future implications of this instrument for research, practice and policy.

Keywords: positive behavior interventions and supports, school mental health, readiness, student learning, child and adolescent mental health