

HEALTH EDUCATION

UNDERSTANDING THE WSCC MENUS OF EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICES

To make evidence-based practices (EBPs) more easily understood and accessible to schools, university partners of Healthy School Successful Students have developed Menus of Evidence-based Practices for each component of the WSCC model.

EBPs are shown to increase academic success, graduation rates, and student safety, while decreasing bullying and fostering a positive school climate. When school administrators and staff use EBPs, they are better able to produce successful outcomes for students and school communities.

With the variety of evidencebased strategies that the Menus provide allows schools and districts will be able to find a practice that fits their time and funding availability.

Information for this document was gathered from the CDC's WSCC model and WSCC Menus of Evidence-based Practices.

WHAT IS IT?

 Health education refers to the planned experiences in which students gain knowledge to make healthy choices. These experiences include a wide range of topics such as substance use, physical safety, and emotional, sexual, and physical health.

BENEFITS OF FOCUSING ON HEALTH EDUCATION

- Evidence-based health education programs have been found to reduce tobacco and alcohol use, body dissatisfaction, reduce depressive symptoms, suicidal ideation, and violent aggression.
- Students who are most at-risk typically show the greatest gains from health education programming.

EVIDENCE-BASED STRATEGIES

- Substance abuse programs that use peers as leaders and group discussion resulted in higher rates of attitude change towards substance use.
- Prevention programs that target body image problems were most successful when they were interactive, involved parents, and focused on self-esteem.
- A curriculum for middle school students that incorporated culturally relevant issues and themes was found to be more effective than those that did not.

DISCOVER YOUR STRATEGY

 Check out the Health Education Menu of Evidence-based Practices to find what works for your school community!

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