



Montana School for the Deaf and the Blind

SEL Professional Learning Proposal

2022-23 School Year

Date: April 27, 2022

Professional Learning Cost Proposal

\$1300/full day x 1 = \$1300

\$750/half day x 8 = \$6000 *12:15 - 3:00*

Total = \$7300, plus reasonable travel, as required - mileage, lodging, per diem meal expense (state rate)

Professional Learning Draft Plan Proposal

Title	Description/Topics	Date/Time
1. Strengthening Foundations for Social Emotional Learning: <i>Creating a Vision</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Set norms for Professional Learning• Revisit the SEL Framework (CASEL and Montana's Competencies)• Experience social and emotional skills in relation to the following topics and set intentions:<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Self-care◦ Emotional literacy◦ Building positive interactions and focusing on relationships• Create a vision for SEL at the MSDB! Set the stage for building your own SEL framework that accounts for the needs of your schoolwide community (self, staff, students, families, community)• Set individual and group learning goals• Review SEL Approaches & Strategies (high level, then we'll dig in in subsequent sessions)	Full Day <i>Aug 16</i>



2. Best Practices for Integrating SEL with Academics: <i>Setting Shared Agreements</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connect & Reflect: What skills did you try out from last time? What will you try next? • Review examples and process for building shared classroom agreements/norms with students (how we want to treat each other) • Practice facilitating setting shared agreements • Make a plan together of who will try it out and how to collaborate across classes 	2 ½ hours (early out day) 9-16 ✓
3. Best Practices for Integrating SEL with Academics: <i>Facilitation Techniques</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connect & Reflect: shared agreements trial • Learn and Practice Facilitative Techniques Supportive of SEL and Academic Learning • Make a plan to try out a facilitation skill you'd like to refine and use with intention before our next session. 	2 ½ hours (early out day) 10-19 ✓
4. Best Practices for Integrating SEL with Academics: <i>Using a Variety of Cooperative Structures</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connect & Reflect: Facilitative Techniques • Learn how Cooperative Structures support SEL and Academic Learning • Review Cooperative Structure resources (experience one, view other examples, review resources and make a list of those new to you that you'd like to incorporate this year) • Make a plan to try out incorporating 1-2 new cooperative structures you'd like to try before our next session. 	2 ½ hours (early out day) ✓ 11-22
5. Best Practices for Integrating SEL with Academics: <i>Embedding SEL Goals/ Competencies into Lessons or Units</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connect & Reflect: Cooperative Structures • Review sample lessons with SEL objectives integrated • Learn the steps for updating lessons to integrate SEL • Review and adapt one of your own lessons to adapt for SEL integration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Brainstorm SEL focus areas that align with academic lesson objectives/standards - identify specific skills/concepts that connect ◦ Make adjustments to include use of cooperative structures, reflection questions and to carry through the SEL objective within the lesson 	2 ½ hours (early out day) ✓ 1-13-23



6. Best Practices for Integrating SEL with Academics: <i>Setting Relevant Contexts for Learning</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connect & Reflect: Lesson Integration • Learn ways to enhance and plan for instruction that links to students' lived experiences and frames of reference (real world contexts for lessons) • Brainstorm learning situations that allow students to explore issues that are important to them and co-create solutions to improve the classroom, school, or community, as relevant to the standards of focus and SEL objectives 	2 ½ hours (early out day) ✓ 2-17
7. Explicit SEL Instruction: <i>Overview of methods and resources</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connect & Reflect: Relevant Contexts for Units/Lessons • Explore a variety of ways to explicitly teach SEL <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Review sample lessons and resources ◦ Experience a mini lesson ◦ Select a lesson try with students and identify how you will adapt for individual needs, and relevance to students 	2 ½ hours (early out day) ✓ 3-9
8. 7. Explicit SEL Instruction: <i>Using Restorative Practices/Class Meetings/Circles</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connect & Reflect: Explicit SEL Lesson • Experience and practice using circles for a variety of purposes • Make a plan for how you will try it out, considering SEL goal, academic purpose, building it to your schedule/plan/lesson, creating reflection questions you will use 	2 ½ hours (early out day) ✓ 3-31
9. Planning for SEL Implementation for 2023-24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connect & Reflect: Explicit SEL lesson experiences • Revisit vision and goals • Revise/update vision/goals for SEL Implementation 2023-24 • Outline objectives and next steps 	2 ½ hours (early out day) ✓ 5-5



Melissa Tovaas Bio

Melissa Tovaas is the Director of Education Services for School Services of Montana (SSoM). Melissa began her 20+ years in education as an elementary/special education teacher and has continued her work with schools across Montana by providing professional learning and curriculum leadership and support. She currently serves on the Board for the Montana ASCD and provides professional learning on behalf of SSoM and the Center for the Collaborative Classroom, a non-profit organization dedicated to educating hearts and minds. Melissa has recently collaborated with educators and organizations across Montana to launch SEL4MT, a grassroots alliance for promoting and advocating for SEL in Montana schools. Melissa works with schools to support implementation of best practices in curriculum design, literacy, social and emotional learning, STEM, and beyond.