



The Center for Behavioral Education and Research at the University of Connecticut is thrilled to report that for the first time, Southbridge Public Schools has reached Tier I fidelity (70% or higher) all district schools. This represents an incredible amount of work by school teams and district leaders across the last few years and lays the foundations for next steps that will focus on establishing more intensive social emotional behavioral support for students who need more.

Reaching this level of implementation fidelity often takes between 3-5 years. The fact that Southbridge teams not only exceeded this timeline but did so district-wide while also adapting to teaching under pandemic conditions is exceptional. We are thrilled to continue this partnership with district and school teams to strengthen schoolwide systems and develop more intensive supports that fit the specific needs in each school. Southbridge Public Schools has articulated a deep commitment to meeting needs and ensuring success for each student and these data demonstrate the concrete ways this commitment has been put into action.

About PBIS and Tier I Fidelity in Southbridge

Southbridge Public Schools is partnering with the Center for Behavioral Education and Research at the University of Connecticut and the National Center on PBIS to support the development of district capacity to implement Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS). PBIS is a data-based framework for decision-making focused on promoting a positive

and safe climate and culture in schools to improve student social-emotional behavioral and academic outcomes.

Over the last 2.5 years, Southbridge school leaders and teams have engaged in training and school-based action-planning to develop and implement a system of supports that directly establishes, teaches, and reinforces school-wide and classroom expectations. The implementation of this framework is measured through the Tiered Fidelity Assessment (TFI). A score of 70% or higher on this tool indicates that systems have been implemented with sufficient intensity to benefit students. The TFI was conducted in each school with the school-based team, district coach, and a member of the UConn team.

We congratulate Southbridge Public Schools on this accomplishment, which reflects an incredible amount of work by school teams and district leaders across the last few years. This work lays the foundation for the next steps that will focus on establishing more intensive social-emotional behavioral support for students who need more.



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