

REUNITE

RENEW

THRIVE

SEL Roadmap for Returning to School



**SEL is more
important now
than ever...**



Students, their families, and communities are wrestling with the layered challenges of COVID-19, economic crisis and systemic racism.

The SEL Roadmap offers us a moment to pause, think and build Transformative SEL environments and competencies for healing and thriving:

- Relationship-Centered
- Built on strengths and assets
- Equity-focused
- Innovative

Thank you to the 40+ organizations that participated in the development of this roadmap for school leaders and leadership teams.



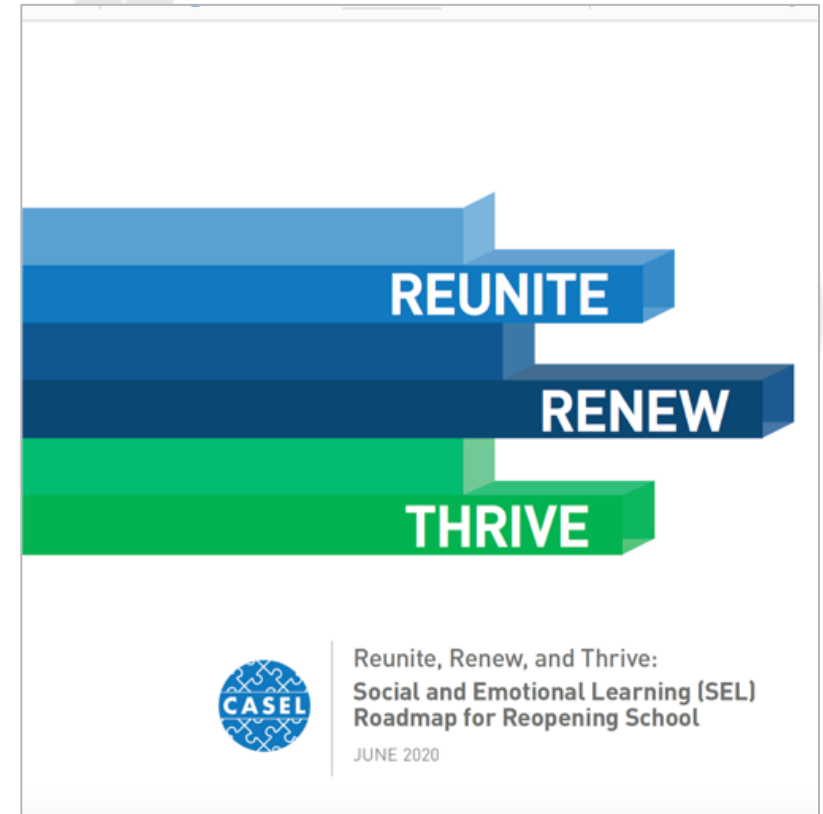
New Resource: SEL Roadmap for Returning to School

Developed for schools at any stage of SEL implementation to build upon existing efforts.

Supports planning for the transition back to schools, in whatever form that takes.

Intended to help you reflect and act upon what you can do that is different to leverage the moment.

Download at: <https://casel.org/reopening-with-sel/>



How to use the SEL Roadmap

It offers four **SEL Critical Practices**, each with 3-5 **activities**.

Within each activity, users are guided through **essential questions**, actions to **prepare & implement**, **tools** to support the actions, and guidance to **sustain** the work.

We recommend **starting with Critical Practice 1**. Once that foundational work is done, you can focus your efforts according to your needs & priorities.





SEL CRITICAL PRACTICE 1

Take time to cultivate and deepen relationships, build partnerships, and plan for SEL.



SEL CRITICAL PRACTICE 2

Design opportunities where adults can connect, heal, and build their capacity to support students.



SEL CRITICAL PRACTICE 3

Create safe, supportive, and equitable learning environments that promote all students' social and emotional development.



SEL CRITICAL PRACTICE 4

Use data as an opportunity to share power, deepen relationships, and continuously improve support for students, families, and staff.



SEL CRITICAL PRACTICE 1

Take time to cultivate and deepen relationships, build partnerships, and plan for SEL.

	Priority Level
<p>1.1 Foster new relationships that elevate student and family voice</p> <p>Prioritize this to focus on connecting with, caring for, and affirming the experiences of members of the wider school community.</p>	
<p>1.2 Use two-way communication strategies</p> <p>Prioritize this to communicate the importance of SEL in navigating upcoming transitions and be responsive to student & family concerns.</p>	
<p>1.3 Examine impact of SEL efforts.</p> <p>Prioritize this to take a data-centered approach to decision-making, in building on strengths and targeting strategies to meet needs.</p>	
<p>1.4 Build a broad coalition and integrate SEL into plans</p> <p>Prioritize this to meaningfully involve community partners, families, and students in developing a vision, goals, and plans for the year.</p>	



SEL CRITICAL PRACTICE 2

Design opportunities where adults can connect, heal, and build their capacity to support students.

	Priority Level
<p>2.1 Allow space for connection & healing among adults</p> <p>Prioritize this for staff to focus on self-care, process experiences, and build trust and community.</p>	
<p>2.2 Ensure access to mental health and trauma support</p> <p>Prioritize this to put staff well-being at the center of school culture and leverage community partners to support the range of needs.</p>	
<p>2.3 Identify opportunities for innovation and antiracist practices</p> <p>Prioritize this to build on what staff have learned to reimagine distance learning, culturally responsive teaching, and approaches to equity.</p>	
<p>2.4 Provide embedded professional learning</p> <p>Prioritize this to plan learning experiences to develop capacity in trauma response, addressing racial bias, and other areas that align with school goals.</p>	

SEL CRITICAL PRACTICE 3



Create safe, supportive, and equitable learning environments that promote all students' social and emotional development.

3.1 Build adult-student and peer relationships

Prioritize this to build structures that maximize supportive connections, either in-person or through distance learning.

3.2 Weave in opportunities for SEL practice and reflection

Prioritize this to integrate SEL into the school day and support students' sense of identity, agency, and belonging.

3.3 Implement a comprehensive system of supports

Prioritize this to strengthen your tiered system of supports to meet new student needs and monitor progress.

3.4 Discuss the impact of the pandemic and racial inequity

Prioritize this to create brave spaces for students to discuss struggles, process emotions, and build their understanding of each others' experiences.

3.5 Collaborate with families and partners

Prioritize this to coordinate with and learn from families and community partners to support students' SEL.

SEL CRITICAL PRACTICE 4

Use data as an opportunity to share power, deepen relationships, and continuously improve support for students, families, and staff.

Priority
Level

4.1 Elevate student voice in reflecting and acting on data

Prioritize this to collaborate with students in examining root causes and barriers to attendance, learning, and engagement and action planning.

4.2 Support educators in reflecting on instruction and environment

Prioritize this to focus on classroom-level data and growth.

4.3 Partner with families and community members to improve

Prioritize this to strengthen partnerships through the process of collecting, reflecting, problem-solving, and taking action from data.



Key Thoughts

- As we seek to reunite and renew our school communities, **the attention to students' social, emotional and academic development in tandem** and not in competition with one another is critical.
- Many students and adults may have experienced extraordinary events (pandemic, economic crisis, anti-black and systemic racism). **The impact of these challenges is not equal.**
- **Students, families and community organizations** have new insights about themselves as learners and school partners. We must listen and collaborate with them.
- School leaders have an opportunity to create **new types of learning experiences and adaptive systems of support** within rich and supportive learning environments.
- The SEL Roadmap supports planning for the **transition back to schools**, in whatever form that takes.
- We invite you to **share your own journey** with this SEL Roadmap. Use hashtag **#SELroadmap**.



**“Nothing can stop the power of a
committed and determined people to
make a difference in our society.”
— Congressman John Lewis**

