

What is School-Wide Positive Behavior Support?

- A proactive systems approach for creating and maintaining safe and effective learning environments in schools, and ensuring that all students have the social/emotional skills needed to ensure their success at school and beyond. It focuses on efficient use of data to guide decisions for improving schools.
- A proactive approach to discipline that promotes appropriate student behavior and increased learning.
- A system based upon a three-tiered model (Universal, Secondary, Tertiary).
- A research-based systems approach for establishing the social culture and behavioral supports needed for schools to be effective learning environments for all students.
- A systems model that guides schools to design, implement, and evaluate effective school-wide, classroom and student-specific instructional plans around behavior, social skills and academics.
- A broad range of systemic and individualized strategies for achieving important social and learning outcomes while preventing problem behavior with all students.

SWPBS is not a specific “model” but a compilation of effective practices, interventions, and systems change strategies that have a long history of empirical support and development, which individually have been demonstrated to be empirically effective and efficient. In addition, SWPBS has relevant applications to educating all students in schools, not just students with disabilities.

What is the role of the Pennsylvania State Leadership Team for School Based Behavioral Health?

Under the direction of the Bureau of Special Education: Pennsylvania Department of Education, the Pennsylvania Training and Technical Assistance Network (PaTTAN) convenes the state leadership team.

The state leadership team is a community of practice dedicated to the promotion and expansion of School-Wide Positive Behavior Support in Pennsylvania. The state leadership team was founded in 2006 and presently includes a membership of 52 individuals representing the following departments, agencies and stakeholder groups.

- Allegheny County Department of Human Services
- Community Care Behavioral Health
- Devereux Center for Effective Schools
- Disability Rights Network of Pennsylvania
- Education Law Center

- Juvenile Court Judge’s Commission
 - Mental Health Association of Pennsylvania
 - Pennsylvania Community Care Providers
 - Pennsylvania Department of Education
 - Bureau of Special Education
 - Division of Student Services and Safe Schools
 - Pennsylvania Department of Health
 - Bureau of Drug and Alcohol Programs
 - Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry
 - Office of Vocational Rehabilitation
 - Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare
 - Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services
 - Pennsylvania Governor’s Commission on Children and Families
 - Pennsylvania Intermediate Unit (PAIU) Special Education Directors
 - Pennsylvania Network for Student Assistance Services
 - Pennsylvania Training and Technical Assistance Network (PaTTAN)
 - Pennsylvania Youth Leadership Network
 - Philadelphia Public Citizens for Children and Youth
 - Youth and Family Training Institute
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What is the Pennsylvania Positive Behavior Support Network?

The Pennsylvania Positive Behavior Support Network (PA PBS Network), under the direction of PaTTAN and the state leadership team, supports schools and their family and community partners to create and sustain comprehensive, school-based behavioral health support systems in order to promote the academic, social and emotional well-being of all Pennsylvania’s students.

It is the goal of the PA PBS Network to ensure that all schools have the necessary technical assistance, collaborative opportunities, and evaluative tools needed to overcome non-academic barriers to learning and achieve competence and confidence in advancing academic, social, and emotional success for all students.

At present, the PA PBS Network has over 70 facilitators and provisional trainers working in over 100 school sites across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Where Do I Go To Learn More about School-Wide Positive Behavior Supports in Pennsylvania’s Schools?

For additional information about SWPBS in Pennsylvania’s schools, please contact your local PaTTAN Office and request to speak with a behavior consultant. In addition to addressing questions you may have about SWPBS, PaTTAN behavior consultants can also refer you to your local intermediate unit or PA PBS Network facilitators working in your area.

Please also refer to the following websites:

- Pennsylvania Training and Technical Assistance Network: www.pattan.net
- Pennsylvania Positive Behavior Support: www.papbs.org
- OSEP Technical Assistance Center on Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support: www.pbis.org