



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 8, 2024

It is an honor to join everyone in commemorating National Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) Week.

A quality education has the power to open doors and bring dreams within reach. And when that education is grounded in SEL, fostering positive learning environments where students feel a sense of belonging, we can empower young people to learn, grow, make good decisions, and achieve their goals. We also know that SEL supports and improves academic achievement and other outcomes. That's why my Administration is working tirelessly to support the social, emotional, and overall well-being and mental health of all students throughout our country.

Through the American Rescue Plan, we invested \$122 billion into schools across America to meet the urgent social, emotional, and mental health needs of students and staff and to expand access to mental health and other services. School districts across the country have used these funds to invest in proven strategies to help students succeed academically, including through high-intensity tutoring and summer learning programs that have been shown to boost academic performance. With funding from the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act, we are transforming school-based mental health and creating safer and more positive school climates where all students feel safe, valued, and respected. And we will keep working with partners at all levels to ensure we are supporting the best practices of SEL—including federal grant programs that support educator preparation and development—as we promote opportunities for America's young people.

I have never been more optimistic about the future of our great Nation because I know the new generation—the most gifted, talented, and tolerant generation in American history—will help us answer the questions that will define our future. As we celebrate National Social and Emotional Learning Week, may we come together to ensure that all students have the resources and support they need to pursue their loftiest ambitions.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joe Biden". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "J".