The Colorado Education Initiative (CEI) envisions a school system with embedded social and emotional development practices that ensure educators and their students have learning environments that are safe, trusting, and healthy. We do that by offering the following services:

- School and district strategic planning to build and implement a vision for social and emotional development;
- Personalized coaching for leaders that are designing and implementing social and emotional development initiatives;
- High-quality, researched-based professional development workshops.

**TAKE ACTION**

To schedule professional learning with CEI or learn more about our pricing and services, please contact Emily Love at elove@coloradoedinitiative.org or **720-502-4754**.
Setting the Vision

CEI provides customized strategic planning supports for schools, districts, and state entities that are working to develop a social and emotional development (SED) vision for their local context. Through an engagement with CEI, teams have the opportunity to create a road map that guides SED efforts across their system and receive support to lead and execute on their vision for the social and emotional development of their students.

Strategic planning supports typically involve a series of facilitated meetings, data inquiry activities, and stakeholder engagement, resulting in the development of a clear SED plan ready for implementation.

Social and Emotional Development Leadership Coaching

Building Capacity to Lead Social and Emotional Learning in Your School or District Context

CEI has learned that if teachers and leaders are not supported to design, lead, and manage differently, their social and emotional development efforts will not scale or sustain. For this reason, CEI offers personalized social and emotional leadership coaching through two distinct formats:

- Individual coaching sessions over the course of six months.
- A 4-month, SED leadership cohort.

Participants in SED leadership coaching engage in mindset work, knowledge building, emotional intelligence assessment, identification of priorities, troubleshooting challenges, and personalized sessions. Cohort members have the added benefit of engaging with a community of learners to deepen their SED understanding and practice.
How Learning Happens: Developing Students Socially, Emotionally and Academically

This workshop provides an overview of social and emotional development and covers four fundamental elements:

- Building critical mindsets, including social emotional skills and executive function, specifically the using the Building Blocks for Learning Framework as a roadmap;
- The importance of trust, perception of care, belongingness, and motivation, and where those beliefs come from;
- Creating learning environments that are physically and psychologically safe, filled with trust, and relationship-rich, buffering stress and intentionally building skills; and
- Establishing a system of social, emotional, and mental health supports for both adults and students.

Additional content may include a section on disciplinary practice, a deeper focus on executive function, and/or more focused work on students who have experienced adversity and trauma.

The Science of Adversity: Adverse Childhood Experience and School Success

This workshop provides an overview and analysis of the Adverse Childhood Experience Study and the implications of key findings for schools and educators. The workshop explores how different factors such as stress, trauma, and sleep deprivation impact school communities and the populations that are disproportionately affected.

Participants will consider the interventions that can mitigate adverse childhood experiences. For example, we will discuss the importance of building a student support system and examine resources such as the Colorado School Behavioral Health Framework.

Additional content may include looking at the Warm Demander instructional style, which is the most effective teaching style for all learners, but particularly for students who come from adverse backgrounds.
Relationships, Trust and Perception of Care

This workshop covers what we know about the importance of trust between teachers and students, as well as between teachers and environments filled with trust. The content reflects research on perception of care, specifically what students say about the things teachers do to demonstrate care and authentic connection.

We will discuss the components of a developmental relationship and how we know that a relationship is “meaningful” or an effective driver of success. Participants will engage in trust building activities and practice telling their own stories. All of the exercises used in the workshop can be used with students and colleagues in the school context.

Additional content may include looking at the Warm Demander instructional style, which is the most effect teaching style for all learners, but particularly for students who come from adverse backgrounds.

Understanding Adolescent Brain Development and School Success

Through this workshop we explore the brain and critical processes such as wiring and firing, mylenation, and hormone testing, as well as how these processes show up in adolescent behavior and lead to adverse disciplinary action. The workshop also covers adolescents’ varying levels of stress, the effects of stress, and effects on sleep and sleep deprivation.

Participants have the opportunity to examine the link between social emotional health and executive function. We discuss the implications of traditional approaches to discipline and how they counteract self-management and self-awareness skills among adolescents while reinforcing negative emotions that drive further anti-social behavior.

Making Equity Actionable in the Classroom

This workshop focuses on building relationships across difference. Participants engage in deep work on identity and consider how identity impacts access and opportunity in a school context. Through workshop activities, participants will learn about the Warm Demander instructional style, which is the most effect teaching style for all learners, but particularly for students who come from adverse backgrounds.

Workshop materials include tools and resources developed by the National Equity Project, Zaretta Hammond, and others. The CEI team will support educators in considering how they can make equity actionable in their own classroom context.

ABOUT CEI

The Colorado Education Initiative is a non-profit organization that cultivates systems improvement and equity in K-12 education. For more than a decade, we have been at the forefront of improvement, innovation, and change in Colorado’s public education system. Learn more: www.coloradoedinitiative.org.