



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: April 9, 2025

To: Local Educational Agency Leads

Route To: Principals, Directors of School Counseling, Directors of Student Services, SEL Coordinators, Supervisors of Health and Physical Education

From: Kathy Ehling, Assistant Commissioner
Division of Educational Services

Deadline: See the table below for registration deadlines.

Early Access for School Leaders and Aspiring School Leaders for a New Course in Social and Emotional Learning (SEL)

The New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE), in collaboration with the Social Emotional and Character Development Lab at Rutgers University, looks forward to the release of an upcoming online course, ***Brick by Brick: A Leader's Guide to Building SEL in Schools***. This asynchronous course includes five modules to support school leaders to implement systemic SEL in schools.

Prior to the course launch, the Social Emotional and Character Development Lab will host three in-person workshops to serve as an "on-ramp" to the online leadership course allowing participants to advance directly to later course modules upon successful completion.

Training Workshop Description

The interactive in-person workshop will introduce school leaders and aspiring school leaders to a structured approach for integrating social and emotional learning (SEL), character development, school culture and climate, and culturally responsive education into their schools. Participants will explore four foundational building blocks that create an inclusive, supportive, and academically thriving environment for students.

Through discussions, activities, and assessments, attendees will:

- Identify the key components of high-quality SEL/SECD at the district, school, and classroom levels and understand its critical role.
- Develop strategies for organizing and leading a cross-role stakeholder team to enhance SEL implementation and school climate.
- Examine the role of equity in SEL leadership and decision-making.

Participants will leave the training with a clear vision of the scope of the course and an understanding of the foundational principles and their own leadership strengths and strategies to transform their schools into engaging student-centered learning environments.

Registration

- Participation is limited to individuals employed in a k-12 public, charter, or Renaissance school in NJ.
- Spaces are limited and available on a first come, first served basis.
- If interested in participating, you must register for **one** of the available options through the registration links provided in the below chart. Please be sure to include your district issued email address in the registration form.

| Date | Location | Registration Link and Deadline |
|------------------------------|--|---|
| Wednesday, May 7 | Saint Elizabeth University 2 Convent Road, Morristown, NJ | Register for May 7 training by April 25, 2025 |
| Tuesday, May 13 | New Jersey Principals & Supervisors Association 12 Centre Dr, Monroe Township, NJ | Register for May 13 training by May 2, 2025 |
| Wednesday, May 28 | Rowan University 201 Mullica Hill Road, Glassboro, NJ | Register for May 28 training by May 16, 2025 |

Each workshop training will run from **10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.** and will include a donated lunch.

Contact Information

Should you have any questions, please email Leighann Garland at lgarland@sel4nj.org.

c: Members, State Board of Education
NJDOE Staff
Statewide Parent Advocacy Network
Garden State Coalition of Schools
NJ LEE Group