



**WESTWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
*Honoring Tradition, Inspiring Excellence, Shaping the Future*

**Equity, Integration & Community Partnerships**

Lateefah Franck, M.Ed., C.A.G.S.  
Director

January 3, 2024

Dear Westwood Public School Families,

As we continue to prioritize the holistic development of our students, we would like to invite you to our next School Engagement Committee Session Conversations with Caregivers: Focused on Social and Emotional Learning (SEL). We believe that fostering SEL skills is crucial for the well-rounded education and future success of our students. Social and Emotional Learning is an integral part of education that encompasses skills such as self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills, and responsible decision-making. We are excited to share that SEL skills are now intricately tied into the guiding principles for content within the state standards. We will start the session with a brief interactive activity that models SEL classroom practices.

[Flyer: Conversations with Caregivers, January 16, 2024 - 6:30 pm:](#)

- Introduction and Overview of SEL: By our Director of of Equity, Integrations, and Community Partnership and Director of SEL
- Preschool/K: A representative will discuss how SEL is integrated into the curriculum at the preschool and kindergarten levels, with a special focus on age-appropriate activities.
- Elementary School: A representative, will share insights into teaching explicit SEL skills at the elementary level, providing you with a glimpse into the strategies used to nurture emotional intelligence.
- Middle School: Our Middle School Dean, will shed light on how SEL is incorporated into advisory programs and clubs, emphasizing the importance of building relationships and fostering a sense of belonging.
- High School: Our Director of Guidance will focus on high school initiatives that support students, highlighting how these programs contribute to creating a supportive environment. She will also touch upon various clubs, activities, and other resources that enhance the sense of belonging for high school students.

We look forward to your participation in this enlightening session and encourage you to bring any questions or thoughts you may have about SEL in our schools. Your insights and engagement are vital as we work together to provide the best possible education for our students.

Sincerely,

Lateefah Franck, Director of Equity, Integration, and Community Partnerships  
Donna Tobin, Director of Social-Emotional Learning