RESOURCES FROM THE NATIONAL COMMISSION ON SOCIAL, EMOTIONAL, AND ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENT

On January 15, 2019, the National Commission on Social, Emotional, and Academic Development released its final report, “From a Nation at Risk to a Nation at Hope,” and accompanying recommendation briefs for research, practice, and policy. Drawing on input from more than 200 scientists, youth and parent groups, educators, and policymakers, the Commission’s final report seeks to accelerate and strengthen efforts to support the whole learner in local communities.

During its tenure, the Commission developed the following additional resources:

Consensus Statements

The Evidence Base for How We Learn
A set of consensus statements—developed and unanimously signed onto by the Commission’s Council of Distinguished Scientists—that affirm the interconnectedness of social, emotional, and academic development as central to the learning process.

The Practice Base for How We Learn
A set of consensus statements—developed and unanimously signed onto by the Commission’s Council of Distinguished Educators—outlines promising practices for integrating social, emotional, and academic learning in preK-12 education.

Calls to Action

In Support of How Children Learn: A Family Call to Action articulates the urgent need for schools and communities to support students’ comprehensive development and represents the views of the Commission’s Parent Advisory Panel.

In Support of How We Learn: A Youth Call to Action represents the views and experiences of the Youth Commission advising the Commission and endorses social, emotional, and academic development as a path that will prepare students to be actively engaged in the world.

Briefs

The Brain Basis for Integrated Social, Emotional, and Academic Development
This research brief explores how emotions and relationships drive learning and are a fundamental part of how our brains develop.

Building Partnerships in Support of When, Where, & How Learning Happens
This brief focuses on the critical role youth development organizations play in young people’s growth and development.

Calls for Coaches
This brief shares actionable calls for coaches to implement in after-school and community-based sports leagues.
Case Studies

A four-part series of case studies explores the following topics:

- **Putting It All Together**
  Curriculum that addresses the social and emotional dimensions of learning help students thrive academically and prepare for challenges beyond school.

- **Supporting the Whole Teacher**
  Developing educators’ social and emotional skills lays the foundation for success with students.

- **School-Community Partnerships**
  How schools can work with the broader community to support the learning and development of all students.

- **Caring Communities**
  Promoting a positive school climate and culture fosters student engagement and improves learning.

Videos of Social, Emotional, and Academic Development in Action

In collaboration with Edutopia, the Commission developed three series of short videos that show how schools and classrooms across the country are supporting students’ social, emotional, and academic growth. These videos explore what we know from research about how learning happens and how that knowledge can be translated into practices and strategies for students at all ages and stages.

- **How Learning Happens**
  In this video series, we explore how educators can guide all students, regardless of their developmental starting points, to become productive and engaged learners.

- **Learning and the Social Brain**
  These videos feature Dr. Patricia Kuhl, Co-Director of the University of Washington’s Institute for Learning and Brain Sciences, as she describes how social context and connection affect learning and what that means in the classroom and beyond.

- **Integrating Social, Emotional, and Academic Development in Nashville**
  This series profiles the Metro Nashville Public Schools’ multi-year approach and follows the stories of three district schools as they seek to support their students’ comprehensive learning and development.

Communications Tools

In collaboration with Learning Heroes, the Commission developed a suite of communications resources to help organizations effectively engage with multiple audiences—but especially with families, educators, and youth-serving leaders—about the development of social, emotional, and cognitive skills in children. These tools include:

- **Creative Assets**
  Tools that convey what we know from research about how learning happens in intuitive and emotionally resonant ways.

- **Translated Research**
  Tools to help educators, youth-development leaders, and community partners communicate with families and parents about supporting the whole learner.

The Commission concluded its tenure on March 15, 2019. For Commission-related inquiries, please email howlearninghappens@americaspromise.org