# The West Virginia Expanded School Mental Health Initiative

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

## Tier 1 - Universal Prevention: a SCHOOL- WIDE Foundation

1. An infrastructure of policies, staff, and management that articulates, supports and sustains a comprehensive school mental health model
2. A systemic approach to early identification of students at risk
3. An effective classroom - based developmental guidance curriculum that is consistent and reinforced within and outside of the classroom
4. A school - wide positive behavior program based upon evidence and promising practices
5. Annual training and technical assistance for all staff that enhances their skills in addressing social-emotional needs of students and promoting wellness of staff
6. Formal policies and practices to assess and strengthen student connectedness
7. Formal policies and practices to assess and strengthen parent and family involvement
8. A program to assess and address school climate based upon evidence and promising practices
9. School safety plans that incorporate both crisis prevention and response
10. Specific activities and programs that support families and students as they negotiate transitions such as grade and school changes.