

February 2021  
Volume 3, Issue 1



West Virginia  
Behavior/Mental Health  
Technical Assistance Center

# Happenings

## ADVANCING WELLNESS & RESILIENCE IN EDUCATION

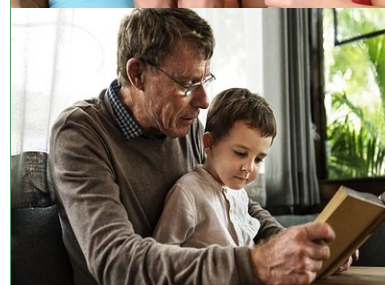
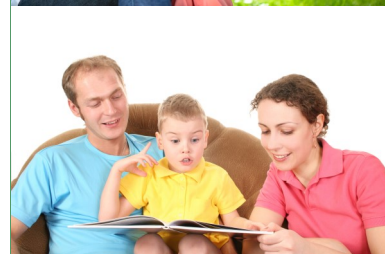
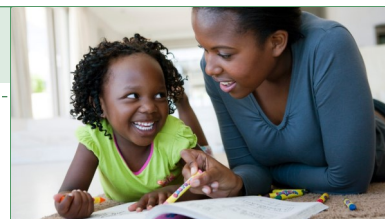
For the second time since 2015, the West Virginia Department of Education has awarded the Project AWARE grant. AWARE will once again support the building of safe and supportive schools that promote the mental health of students in Cabell, Clay, and Harrison Counties. The WV Behavior/Mental Health Technical Assistance Center is proud to have been chosen as the primary provider for training and ongoing support of School-wide Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports. The center has long established relationships with school leadership teams and county officials within the three selected counties. We look forward to strengthening those relationships and the continued collaboration with several local and state agencies over the next five years.



## FAMILY ENGAGEMENT FOR STUDENT SUCCESS

By definition, family engagement is the process used to build genuine relationships with families. Decades of research outline a clear need for family involvement in a child's educational experience.

(Cont'd on pg. 2)



### FAMILY ENGAGEMENT WEBINAR

Are you struggling to find ways to meaningfully engage parents and caregivers in your classroom or school? Join us for a live webinar on February 10th from 3:30–4:30 p.m.

We will share information, resources, and strategies to help you strengthen family engagement.

To register for the webinar, [click here](#).



## FAMILY ENGAGEMENT FOR STUDENT SUCCESS (CONT'D)

According to the National Center on Safe Supportive Learning Environments, when families are engaged in meaningful and culturally appropriate ways, there is a positive impact on students' grades, attendance, persistence, and motivation, regardless of students' age, background, race, or ethnicity.

Partnering with families and sharing the responsibility for student success can lead to positive outcomes—now and in the future. To support educators across the state, the Behavior/Mental Health Technical Assistance Center will host a live webinar on supporting and promoting family engagement on February 10th from 3:30–4:30 p.m.

[Click here](#) to register for the webinar.

*Partnering with families and sharing the responsibility for student success can lead to positive outcomes—now and in the future.*

### READINESS SERIES FOR EARLY CHILD- HOOD PBIS

Are you interested in attending the Early Childhood Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (EC PBIS) Academy? Want to get a head start on what will be covered in the Academy?

We are now offering the EC PBIS Readiness Series. This series of trainings, consisting of three separate 1-hour sessions, will prepare classroom teams to attend the Fall Academy.

[Click here](#) to request the Readiness Series for your team or school.

## Supporting Children During Transitions Webinar

Many changes occur throughout the day in an early childhood classroom. These changes or transitions are often times when challenging behaviors are more likely to occur. In this **FREE** webinar teachers will learn how to plan and support children during transitions including:



Effective Practices



Managing Meltdowns



Partnering with Families

**FEBRUARY 19, 2021  
1:00 - 2:00 PM**

**Register for Free at:**

**<https://tinyurl.com/y2p6jm4m>**

Questions? Email Sara Smouse

**[strother3@marshall.edu](mailto:strother3@marshall.edu)**





## WHO CAN BE A DATA ANALYST?

Instead of thinking of data as solely numbers and graphs, it can also be considered a vehicle for reflection.

When you look at attendance, office disciplinary data, or grades, you might wonder, “What could we do to be better?” Through that simple question, one can begin to make changes to their practice.

It is important to remember that these changes can be minor. You do not need to reinvent the wheel.

Base the data-based changes on what you can control in that moment. Using data to make informed decisions is like the scientific process: observation, questioning, hypothesis, experimentation, analysis, and conclusion.

Know that if you have ever looked for patterns in numbers, behaviors, etc. in your classroom or school and wondered, “Why?” you are a data analyst.

### RESOURCES FOR THINKING LIKE A DATA ANALYST

1. Khurram Virani has an excellent TED Talk that discusses viewing data-informed teaching as something beyond test scores.

[Click here](#) to view his TED Talk.

2. The Harvard Graduate School of Education developed Data Wise, a collaborative data inquiry process to inform teaching and learning.

[Click here](#) to listen to teachers at one elementary school talk about using data to make improvements in the classroom.

3. Edutopia published an article that explores three ways student data can inform instruction. This article considers both academic and behavioral data.

[Click here](#) to read the article.



# find your why

## WVBMH TAC

The goal of the WVBMH TAC is to assist teachers, students, families, and communities that are faced with challenging behaviors and mental health issues through training, resources, and promotion of evidence-based strategies and interventions.



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EDUCATION

