



River Forest  
Public Schools

**Administration Building**

7776 Lake Street

River Forest, IL 60305

708-771-8282

## **MEMO**

Date: 1/23/23

To: Dr. Ed Condon

From: Dr. Alison Hawley

RE: Responsive Classroom Training for Social Emotional Learning

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During the 2021-22 school year, social emotional learning was highlighted as a District 90 Essential Objective. The goal was to conduct an inventory of current curriculum resources, identify supplemental resources allowing for more targeted supports for students, and identify training opportunities that would enhance classroom community building and student sense of belonging. All K-4 classroom teachers were given a survey to gather the following relevant information:

- Current curriculum resources utilized for social emotional learning instruction
- Resource supplementation needs
- Time allocated for SEL within the classroom schedule
- Interest in summer opt-in training

This information was reviewed and incorporated into the work of the District 90 Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Committee that has continued to focus on student sense of belonging and building more inclusive classroom communities. As a result, Responsive Classroom, “a student-centered, social and emotional learning approach to teaching and classroom management,” has gained traction as a primary social emotional learning resource not only for members of the DEI Committee, but also for grade level teams at both Lincoln and Willard Elementary Schools.

This summer, District 90 has the opportunity to host an optional four-day on-site Responsive Classroom training August 14<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> for classroom teachers in grades 1-4 to support the implementation of Responsive Classroom.

The Key Domains of Responsive Classroom:

- Positive Community: A safe, predictable, joyful and inclusive environment where all students have a sense of belonging and significance.

***Excellence in Education: A Continuing Tradition***



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- Effective Management: A calm and orderly learning environment that promotes autonomy, responsibility, and high engagement in learning.
- Developmentally Responsive Teaching: Basing all decisions for teaching and discipline upon research and knowledge of students' social, emotional, physical, and cognitive development.

Please see the attached agreement provided by Responsive Classroom for the four day training August 14-17, 2023.