



K-12 Prevention Education Initiative Update

Mike DeWine, Governor
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The Governor's K-12 Prevention Education Initiative funding was issued with the goal of providing prevention services to every child in Ohio. With the impact of COVID-19, evidence-based, effective prevention programming is needed more than ever. School districts may need more flexibility and time to figure out what their needs will look like in the Fall. In response, OhioMHAS developed the following guidance and a list of evidence-informed prevention examples that help to increase resiliency and promote social-emotional learning, safe school climates and decreased risk factors in times of trauma and stress. [Read the practices here.](#)

Implementation Guidance and Support

1. The following options are available to ADAMH Boards for school districts that have not yet completed the self-assessment and planning process:
 - ADAMH Boards may extend deadlines for completing self-assessments based on local circumstances as long as implementation can occur during the next school year
 - Schools may opt out of the K-12 Prevention Education process by notifying their Board
 - Boards may waive the requirement for the self-assessment and formalized plan if the district requests a waiver based on completing a similar assessment
 - Boards may redistribute the funds for a district if they have not been able to make contact with the district by 5/22/20 and document attempts in the [Status Tracking form](#) notes.
2. ODE will send out additional communications and reminders asking districts to contact their local ADAMH Boards regarding the K-12 Prevention Education Initiative. Boards can request assistance with reaching individual districts by emailing molly.stone@mha.ohio.gov.
3. Boards may redistribute dollars from districts not completing the self-assessment and planning process to other schools or develop collaborative strategies to provide schools in the board area with prevention-related opportunities.
4. Boards may consider working with providers to offer evidence-informed prevention strategies in response to COVID-19 for schools not participating in the process.
5. An implementation report will be added to the portal for Boards to report prevention education strategies that they have implemented.
6. Target dates for completion of school district and Board implementation reports will be in December of 2020 and June of 2021.
7. OhioMHAS will respond to individual questions in the [FAQ document](#) posted on the website.
8. OhioMHAS will continue to be available during bi-weekly Skype calls, by email and phone to answer questions, provide technical assistance and offer resources related to this project.