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| **Engage community organizations and supports** | * Ensure leads from both school and OST providers develop two-way communication structures to help the two learn from one another. * Identify existing resources and relationships the school and OST partner each already have developed. Use an asset mapping process to develop a starting point for continuing more aligned community engagement. * Identify and reach out to organizations, advocacy groups, and other OST groups that specialize in services and supports aligned with SEL, positive youth development, and/or students’ academic achievement and school success. * Collaborate with community organizations that are able to provide specialized skills that may not be available in the school. * Ask community groups to help school and school-based OST staff learn about the local community and potential partners for an SEL initiative. * Engage community partners to support the school and OST staff’s understanding and delivery of tier 2 and 3 supports for students. |
| **Link families with community resources and supports** | * Identify community organizations, programs, or activities that support health, recreation, social support, and cultural sensitivity.   + Many of these community resources and supports are likely already partners of the school, OST program, or both.   + These may include organizations that focus on youth development, college preparation, mentoring, tutoring, mental health and counseling, food banks, and clothing providers.   + Keep one inventory of assistance agencies available in the community and help families access them when needed. Provide informational access to these resources in both the school and OST administration offices for student/youth family members. * Utilize support from the school district and OST intermediary related to family involvement in the context of community organizations and services. These offices may also be able to facilitate professional learning for school and OST staff focused on linking families with community resources. |
| **Create community-based experiences for students and youth** | * Identify and document existing, on-going community-based experiences offered through the school and OST partner. * Connect with local organizations to identify service-learning activities for young people, either during the school-day or during OST programming, so they have deep SEL learning opportunities that are mutually beneficial for the community and students/youth. * Reach out to organizations or businesses to schedule opportunities for apprenticeships, jobs, and summer internships. * Partner with local organizations or businesses to identify opportunities for young people to learn about how they operate, what it takes to be a leader in such an environment, and what the business or organization does to help support their community. * Organize ways to demonstrate the school’s and OST’s group commitment to its surrounding community. For example, organize a clean-up event for the school grounds and surrounding area through an “adopt a block” program or participate in hands-on efforts like Habitat for Humanity (Jeynes, 2011). |