# POSITIVE ALTERNATIVES TO SUSPENSION

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### WELCOME

- **≻**Introductions
- ➤ Mike Meeks
- ➤ Cathy DeSalvo
- ➤Who are you?

### **OBJECTIVES**

- >To review the research behind suspensions
- >To review strategies teachers, administrators and the ISS supervisor can use
- ➤ To provide resources and examples

### TRADITIONAL SUSPENSION DATA

Nationwide 2.8 million students received I or more OSS

- > African American students are 4X more likely to receive a repeat suspension
- > African American students are 2X more likely to be expelled without education services
- > Students with disabilities are 2X more likely to receive a repeat OSS
- > Students who are subject to repeat suspensions are 2 to 5 years behind academic standards
- >Students who earn repeat suspensions are 2 X more likely to be incarcerated

### **TIERED INTERVENTIONS: TIER 1**

#### Tier I should be focused on prevention

- > Build relationships with students and families
- > Develop consistent expectations
- ➤ Reinforce expected behaviors
- > Approach behavior with a teaching focus:
- > Provide in class consequences

### **TIERED INTERVENTIONS: TIER 2**

#### Tier 2 focuses on reducing instances of behavior

- >Adapt learning environment
- ightharpoonup Reteach skills with more intensity
- ightharpoonupReinforce at a higher rate
- $\succ$  Intensify attempts to improve relationships with students and families
- Enlist the assistance of others in the school to build supports for students
- >Assist in monitoring behavior and contracting
- ► Group based social skills instruction

### TIERED INTERVENTIONS: TIER 3

#### Tier 3 focuses on long term individual interventions

- ≻Individualized behavior support
- ➤ Motivation system
- ►Individualized social skills instruction
- >Individualized academic support
- ➤Student Assistant Team

### POSITIVE ALTERNATIVES TO SUSPENSION

Chat with your shoulder partner and discuss what the term alternative to suspension means to you.



### BENEFITS OF POSITIVE ALTERNATIVES TO SUSPENSION

- ➤ Problem solve on-going behavior
- ➤ Teach students pro social behavior
- ≻Keep up with academics
- ➤Can serve as a deterrent



### STRATEGIES FOR A SUCCESSFUL ALTERNATIVE TO SUSPENSION

- ►Intake and orientation
- ➤ Referral behavior
- ➤ Academic Assignments
- >Problem solving alternative behaviors
- ➤ Re-Entry



### **INTAKE AND ORIENTATION**

Relationships are important

- **≻**Communicate expectations
- ➤ Have a schedule
- ➤ Completion criteria



### **REVIEW REFERRAL BEHAVIOR**

Information is key

- Establish a procedure for gathering referral information
- ► Needs to be behaviorally specific
- >A self report is helpful for comparison



### **REVIEW ACADEMIC WORK**

Students will continue to fall behind without academic work Establish a procedure for gathering assignments

- ➤ Review with student
- ➤ Provide support when necessary



### PROBLEM SOLVING ALTERNATIVE BEHAVIORS

Behavioral learning is as important as academic learning

- Choose skills based on information gathered and observed deficits
- ➤ Teach skills vs. lecture
- >Meaningless work is meaningless



### PROBLEM SOLVING VIDEO

### **RE-ENTRY**

Turn to your partner and discuss what does a successful re-entry mean to you?



### **RE-ENTRY**

Both students and staff need to be prepared

- ➤ Review problem solving
- ➤ Behavior plans are helpful
- ➤ Apology



### QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

## LET US KNOW IF YOU HAVE ANY OTHER QUESTIONS

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