

## **Liberty-Benton Local School District Student Wellness and Success Plan FY 2024**

Liberty-Benton Local School District is in compliance with Ohio's strategic plan for education. According to HB 166, we have created and documented critical components of the Liberty-Benton Local Schools Student Wellness and Success Plan. We have identified areas of need through a district strategic plan, district data, district report card, and school surveys.

### **District Goal**

To better serve student physical, social, emotional, and mental health needs to promote a safe, supportive learning environment.

### **Identified Gaps in Services and Resources**

Liberty-Benton Local Schools is a growing school district. Because of this growth, we identified a need for a full-time school nurse, a licensed clinical counselor, and a school therapy dog to better support our student's physical, social, emotional, and mental health needs.

**Outcome Data:** Student discipline data (improved, stayed consistent, decline). Positive Behavioral Interventions & Supports Data (improved, stayed consistent, decline). School climate survey data (staff/students) (improved, stayed consistent, decline).

### **Funding Sources:**

- a. DPIA
- b. Base cost student wellness and success
- c. Remaining student wellness and success funds

### **Description of Initiatives**

**Initiative 1: School Nurse:** Liberty-Benton has a licensed, full-time nurse, that provides a multitude of student supports. Our nurse conducts all required screenings such as vision, hearing, and scoliosis screenings, monitors required vaccination records, advises our administrative team on health-related best practices, provides daily medical care for students, educates students on a variety of health-related topics, and also serves on our building threat assessment team.

**Anticipated Impact:** 1528 students

**Initiative 2: Licensed Clinical Counselor:** Counselors provide multiple resources throughout the school year to support both students' academic and social-emotional growth. Counselors remain an integral part of services that benefit students and their families. Students benefit from individual attention, emotional supports, and life coaching. Our licensed clinical counselor provides supports to Liberty-Benton students in all three buildings and works in conjunction with our school guidance counselors, and also serves on our building threat assessment teams.

**Anticipated Impact:** Available to 1528 students, on as needed basis.

**Initiative 3: School Facility Dog:** In 2022-2023, we obtained OTIS from the Ability Center in Toledo, Ohio. A team of educators were trained as handlers and Otis joined our staff. Otis makes classroom visits, participates in school activities, and also assists our elementary guidance counselor during counseling sessions. The positive impact he has had on our students is immense. Through our Leader in Me initiative, a middle school LIM action team conducted the research, including student and staff surveys, to support the expansion of this initiative to the middle school. We are planning on adding another school facility dog in FY 2024 in the middle school.

**Anticipated Impact:** 610 elementary students and 431 middle school students.