



New Ohio partnership piloting approach for high schools to reduce inequitable discipline

Students are more likely to succeed academically when they feel physically and emotionally safe, connected to school, and respected by adults. However, students of color and students who receive special education services often receive discipline at inequitable rates, which can cause these students to feel unsafe and unsupported. To address this issue in Ohio, REL Midwest and Akron Public Schools have launched the Making Equitable Schools Audit partnership. This initiative will develop, pilot, and test a data-informed approach for high schools to reduce inequities in discipline and foster students' sense of belonging.

[Read More](#)

Our work: Improving achievement in middle school math



Five recommendations for teaching fractions at the start of middle school

For many students, grade 6 marks the last time they will receive focused instruction on fractions before facing more advanced math. Our partnership in Illinois shares five evidence-based recommendations for effective instruction on fractions, drawn from a What Works Clearinghouse practice guide.

[Read More](#)



Applying computational thinking to boost student engagement in middle school math

Some students can begin to lose confidence and interest in math during middle school as concepts become more complex. Our partnership with Milwaukee Public Schools is piloting teacher resources on using computational thinking and student-focused practices to boost engagement in math. Learn more about the practices and how we are helping math teachers and coaches integrate them into instruction.

[Read More](#)

REL resource roundup



Fostering success for Indigenous students

We rounded up resources from across the REL program in honor of Indigenous Peoples' Day on October 10.

- REL Southwest has a portfolio of [research and strategies for supporting Native American English learner students](#).
- This REL Northwest infographic describes how reservation and rural schools can use [grow-your-own programs to address teacher shortages and better serve Native students](#).
- A REL Pacific blog series explores themes related to [Indigenous education and cultural heritage transmission in Pacific island communities](#).
- A REL West infographic offers [state-level guidance for building respectful partnerships with Indigenous communities](#) and using data and evidence to support Native students' success.

Upcoming events

October 20: Supporting Rural Teacher Preparation, Recruitment, and Retention

REL Midwest conference session, National Forum to Advance Rural Education | 2:15 p.m. CT
[Register](#)

October 25: Reducing Stigma and Improving Access to Mental Health Services

U.S. Department of Education Mental Health Learning Webinar Series | 3:00–4:15 p.m. CT
[Register](#)

October 27: Informing Policy Development About Equitable Funding Levels for Texas Community Colleges

REL Southwest webinar | 3:00 p.m. CT
[Register](#)

Contact us

Please contact us for more information about the content in this newsletter or to speak to a member of our staff. We look forward to hearing from you.

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