



# **Social Emotional Supports for HPS**

**September 8, 2022**

**School Committee**



# Special Education Support Programs

- **Harbor**
- **Therapeutic Learning Center (TLC)**
  - *formerly known as Student Support Center (SSC)*



# Harbor

- **Program Grade Level Supports**

- 5-12

- **Purpose**

- To provide a small classroom environment with therapeutic activities and supports throughout the school day for students with emotional disabilities
- Inclusion opportunities are individualized per the student's IEP
- Additional supports are put in place on an individualized basis for each student
- Support students with internalizing behavior and who require a quiet, calm, therapeutic environment in order to make progress

- **Staffing and Supports**

- Special Education Teacher
- Student Adjustment Counselors
- Additional therapists per student's IEP
- Consultation to Harbor team provided by McLean Hospital and the Triumph Center



# Therapeutic Learning Center (TLC)

- **Program Grade Level Supports**

- K-12

- **Purpose**

- To provide a small classroom environment with therapeutic activities and supports throughout the school day for students with emotional disabilities
- Inclusion opportunities are individualized per the student's IEP
- Additional supports are put in place on an individualized basis for each student
- Support students who externalize, or exhibit outwardly aggressive and disruptive behavior

- **Staffing and Supports**

- Special Education Teacher
- Student Adjustment Counselors
- Additional therapists per student's IEP
- Consultation to TLC team provided by McLean Hospital and the Triumph Center



# Support Staff District-Wide

- **3 Harbor Classrooms**
  - 3 Harbor Teachers - Middle and High School
- **7 TLC Classrooms**
  - 7 TLC Teachers District-Wide Elementary, Middle and High School
- **40 School Adjustment Counselors District-Wide**
- **22 School Guidance Counselors District-Wide**
- **Positive Alternatives to Student Suspension (PASS) Program**
  - Starting as a partnership with the YMCA
- **6 Student Support Coordinators**



# Support Staff District-Wide *(continued)*

- **Safe and Supportive Schools Liaison**
- **Conflict Resolution Specialist**
- **9 School Psychologists District-Wide**
- **6 BCBA Staff (*Board Certified Behavior Analysts*)**
- **9 RBT Staff (*Registered Behavior Technician*)**
- **10 IST's (*Intervention Support Technician*)**
- **2 Tutoring Centers**



# Positive Academic Learning (P.A.L.) Program

## What is P.A.L. ?

- Proactive, tier II social emotional intervention for all students
- Team approach
- Referral-based and proposed through Student Support Team (SST) meetings
- Provides a predictable, scheduled break for students to prevent behaviors before they escalate
- Reinforcement of coping skills and/or replacement skills to decrease time out of classroom and behaviors targeted for reduction
- Data driven to track student progress as well as phase out/adjust services accordingly



# P.A.L. Features

- Designated P.A.L. Support Space
- Identified staff to supervise and facilitate check-in's or breaks
- Easy check-in / check-out forms for student and staff
- Variety of accommodations to meet student needs
  - Flexible seating, cognitive break activities, fidgets / manipulatives, etc.)
- Variety of reinforcements
  - Point sheets, goal setting, prize boxes, choice of preferred activities
- Feedback forms for staff on program effectiveness





# Social Emotional Outcomes

- Structure and predictability for students which leads to increased:
  - Emotional regulation
  - Self-awareness
  - Time spent in the classroom
- Development or strengthening of coping skills
- Positive connection with a trusted adult
- Increase in appropriate social interactions
- Decrease in need for tier III support services