Safe & Supportive Schools

Prevent misbehavior

Sense of community through small school and class size, caring and support staff, mentoring, retreats, town hall meetings, celebratory events, and parent engagement
Clear, high expectations
Academic rigor
Engaging, relevant instruction
Staff training in cultural competency, implicit bias, and classroom management
Use of School-wide Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports with fidelity
Social and emotional learning

Use proven and productive behavioral interventions

Student support teams
Functional Behavioral Assessments (FBAs)
Behavioral Intervention Plans (BIPs)
Ample student services staff, including counselors, social workers, and psychologists
Extra supports for students struggling academically
Effective consequences for misbehavior, such as restorative justice, counseling, community service, substance abuse treatment, and Saturday school
High-quality alternative schools and programs

Have fair and developmentally appropriate codes of student conduct

Include a section on students' rights
Require consideration of mitigating factors
Require interventions for students who repeatedly misbehave
Tiered by grade level
Prohibit out-of-school suspension for minor misbehavior and in elementary schools (except for the most serious misbehavior)
Limit the length of long-term suspensions
Provide robust due process for students facing out-of-school suspension or expulsion
Understandable for students and parents

Hold themselves accountable

Publicly available, annual, disaggregated data on in-school suspensions, short- and long-term suspensions, expulsions, placements in alternative schools and programs, referrals to law enforcement, and arrests
Corrective action plans for schools with high rates of suspension and referrals to law enforcement, or significant disparities
School climate advisory board made up of students, parents, staff, and community members
Student, parent, and staff surveys