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