

## Supporting School Safety in Response to Social Media Challenges

In [a recent bulletin](#), the Ohio School Safety Center (OSSC) made Ohio schools aware of a social media challenge that impacts schools, staff and students. Some users on the social media platform TikTok are participating in various pranks or challenges known as "devious licks". These challenges range from incidents of school vandalism to harming staff and students.

To support school staff in preventing, identifying, and addressing student behavior associated with challenges from TikTok or other social media platforms, schools may consider implementing best practices listed below to maintain a safe and supportive learning environment:

- **Evaluate current implementation of [Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports \(PBIS\)](#) framework** and revise as needed. Provide reminders of schoolwide expectations and incorporate these expectations into daily practices and in classroom environments.
- A positive school climate helps everyone feel safe, engaged, supported and connected to the school. **Review the resources on the [Creating Caring Communities](#) webpage.** Determine if additional strategies can be utilized to enhance the school climate.
- **Promote [Social Emotional Learning \(SEL\)](#)** to build stronger, more empathic relationships and become more engaged at school, which promotes an overall positive school climate to support returning students to the classroom.
- Harassment, bullying and intimidation can have negative and often long-term consequences for youth. **Implement policies and provide educational programs on [Anti-Harassment, Bullying and Intimidation](#).**
- Strengthen staff and student connections, promote parent and community partnerships and improve school climate and [Become a Trauma-Informed District or School](#). **Prioritize relationships and focus on building connections between students and school staff.**
- **Ensure staff are trained in [Safety and Violence Prevention](#).** Training in prevention of child abuse, violence, and substance use and the promotion of positive youth development is required for K-12 school employees.
- Implement Restorative Practices to address behavior concerns with a **focus on helping students understand behavior missteps and reinforcing proper behaviors.** Schools and students benefit from having policies which include a continuum of discipline practices that avoid exclusionary approaches (such as suspension and expulsion) and keep students in the classroom and in school as much as possible.
- **[Parent and Family Engagement](#)** is critical to helping students achieve success. **Adults should start conversations with students about the potential risks of social media use and appropriate behavior online and in school.**

### Additional Resources:

- [Stopbullying.gov](#)
- [National Center for Safe and Supportive Learning Environments](#)
- [Cleveland State University, Promoting a Positive and Equitable School Climate During a Pandemic](#)
- [Ohio School Safety Center, Building Better Learning Environments](#)
- [Prevention Action Alliance, Know! Tips](#)
- [Mayo Clinic, Healthy Lifestyle: Tween and Teen Health](#)