



## Indiana Department of Education 2019 Legislative Priority

### **Increase appropriations for drug-free schools to support the social emotional well-being of all Indiana students**

Creating a drug-free climate is a commitment to a safe school environment. Accomplishing such a goal requires families, schools, and community leaders to focus on the social and emotional well-being of our students to attack our state's drug epidemic.

Addressing the drug epidemic is a major component to student success as student and family risk-related behaviors have a negative impact on student learning. Providing additional appropriations for drug-free schools will increase the resources necessary for children to develop positive decision-making skills.

#### Quick Facts

- ❑ In Indiana alone, deaths caused by opioids have increased 271% from 2010 to 2016.
- ❑ In the past month, 16.7% of Indiana high school students used a drug other than alcohol or tobacco, and 6.3% used a drug other than alcohol, tobacco, or marijuana.
- ❑ 13.3% of Indiana teens ages 14 and older say they use alcohol or drugs to relax, feel better about themselves, or fit in.
- ❑ On average, Indiana high school seniors who use heroin first started at age 14.
- ❑ For every \$1 invested in social emotional learning prevention strategies, communities see a return of \$11.
- ❑ According to the Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning, schools see an 11 to 17 percentile point gain in academic achievement for students who participated in a well-implemented social emotional learning program versus students who did not.
- ❑ Through Indiana's Next-Level Recovery Program, Indiana has provided financial support to scale prevention programs offering intervention and prevention programming for at-risk students.