MEMORANDUM

To: Superintendents and Principals

From: Robin LeClaire, Director of School Improvement
Stephen Balko, Director of School Safety
Christy Berger, Assistant Director of Social, Emotional, and Behavioral Wellness

Date: June 28, 2019

Re: Senate Enrolled Act 325 - Student Mental Health

Background:

Senate Enrolled Act (SEA) 325 establishes the Student and Parent Support Services Grant program authorizing the Indiana Department of Homeland Security’s Secured Schools Board to provide grants toward the implementation of a student and parent support services plan (Service Plan).

SEA 325 urges the Legislative Council to assign an appropriate interim study committee the task of studying school districts, within and outside of Indiana, that have: (1) implemented trauma informed approaches in the school districts; and (2) worked with community partners to provide systems of care for students.

Guidance:

The bill establishes the Student and Parent Support Services Grant program to provide grants to school corporations (including charter schools and accredited non-public schools) for the implementation of Service Plans to support parents caring for at-risk students.

To be eligible for a grant, Service Plans must include:

1. Process for teachers to notify school officials to contact the parent if a student demonstrates repeated pattern of aberrant behavior;
2. Conference with parent to include school-based treatment services or outside services;
3. Procedure for receiving written parental consent for services; and
4. Certain confidentiality requirements.

Grants will be available after June 30, 2019. To the extent funding is available, the program will be funded by grants from the Indiana Secured School Fund. The bill does not apply to virtual charter schools or virtual accredited non-public schools.

If you have questions, please contact Stephen Balko at 317-232-4914 or e-mail at SBalko@doe.in.gov or Christy Berger at 317-234-1242 or email at CBerger@doe.in.gov.

This bill was authored by Senator Michael Crider and the full bill text can be found here. Information regarding how to contact your legislators can be found here.