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LEADING SEL PROGRAM FOR K12 SCHOOLS RESPONDS TO UPTICK IN SCHOOL VIOLENCE, SUICIDES WITH FREE TOOLS FOR TEACHERS

LEAPS shares 10 Free Lesson Plans on Mental Health Topics at SELforSchools.com

Austin, TX, June 28, 2018– Leaps, a leading Social and Emotional Learning program for K12 schools based in Austin, Texas today announced that the company will provide ten free lesson plans specifically designed to help teachers address important mental health and development issues. Teachers, parents and school administrators interested in accessing this free resource can go to <http://SELforSchools.com/mentalhealth> and download them in PDF format, ready for printing or sharing easily. There is no required registration or sign-up on the site and there is no cost to use the lesson plans at home or in classrooms.

“We’re doing this in response to the increase in school shootings, violence and suicides in K12 districts across the country,” says Leaps CEO, Dennis Henegar. “We just feel that something has to be done,” Leaps is provided to school districts across the country, with a comprehensive program of more than 100 lesson plans available by grade and maturity level and created by mental health and education professionals. With the recent increase in public interest around mental health in schools, many districts, administrators and local leaders are reaching out, seeking solutions for their students.

“One of the things everyone seems to agree on these days is that mental health is one of the ways we can and should be addressing these issues in our schools,” says Henegar. Leaps is the only comprehensive SEL program that was created with a clinical foundation in mental health and development. The lesson plans made available with this offer include:

1. Recognizing and Avoiding Problems
2. When Someone Else is Wrong
3. Applying Emotional Management Skills
4. Being Aware of Other People
5. Reading Body Language
6. Understanding Your Community
7. Contact with an Angry Person
8. Living with Diversity - School and Community
9. Recognizing Inappropriate Behaviors
10. The Process of Group Communication

About Leaps Lesson Plans

Each lesson plan provided includes a clear definition of the skill or topic, the goals of the lesson, and

objectives of each activity along with a clear step-by-step process that is easy for educators to follow. In addition, a summary parent take-home page explains the skill taught and describes the benefits of using the skill and the consequences of not using the new skill and provides rich opportunities for parent engagement. Research has demonstrated that as a student's social and emotional development is enhanced and expanded, the learning capacity of the student is greatly expanded, which translates into improved academic performance and improved behavior.

Access the free lesson plans at <http://SELforSchools.com/mentalhealth>

About Leaps

Leaps is a powerful and flexible system of online resources that enable teachers, schools, and districts to teach their students skills they need to succeed in school and the real world. Originating in mental health research, Leaps is an evidence-based solution. Its predecessor in mental health was the first psycho-social skills program to be accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Rehab Facilities (CARF). Leaps is the first Social and Emotional learning (SEL) program in education with a foundation in mental health research and real-world application. Its technology platform allows its end users (teachers, counselors, etc.) to access its resources from anywhere.

The research behind Leaps identified 109 specific skills that adolescents must have to function successfully in school, at home, with friends, and at work. These skills are divided into 10 categories. Together Leaps enables educators to address the broad concepts that used to define SEL. But it also addresses the specific requirements of positive behavior interventions and support (PBIS), response to intervention (RTI), and multi-tiered system of support (MTSS), across all three tiers of support. This makes Leaps helpful for multiple initiatives across the district and provides funding flexibility for the school district.

The most common school district research has shown Leaps to make significant differences in decreasing behavior incidents, increasing attendance, and improving classroom performance. *Research reports on the efficacy of Leaps are available upon request.*

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