



## Academy Spotlight on Ashley Taplin

By: Pranita Sannidhi, Rutgers University Undergraduate Student

*Today's feature is Ashley Taplin, a math specialist at a public school in Texas. She is currently involved in incorporating SEL into the district math curriculum. She also works with an SEL specialist to add professional development and training sessions for the district. Specific SEL interventions used include CASEL's 3 signature practices: welcoming, engaging, and closing. Taplin uses these practices to come up with specific ideas and activities that encourage students to think creatively, employing SEL skills.*

*Incorporating SEL into the curriculum was apparently most effective during the transition to virtual school during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. Taplin says, "We felt like we needed strategies and ways to really connect with students, so that was a huge jumping point, transferring back to in person schooling."*

*Taplin also mentions creating a virtual bank of SEL activities that could be easily incorporated into lessons. This would allow teachers to come up with new ideas and share them with each other, effectively creating a community around SEL and classwork, as well as encouraging more teachers to employ SEL-related activities into their lessons. Seeing these ideas in practice has encouraged more teachers to come up with new ways to incorporate SEL into the school curriculum.*

### CASEL's 3 Practices

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### **Students Can Solve Many of Their Own Problems**

Teachers can help students develop independence by encouraging them to work together and to recognize the value of mistakes. Read the article by Sarah Wyocki to learn how building problem solving skills and reframing right and wrong can help students build confidence and prepare them for the future.

[Access the article here »](#)



### **A Teaching the Whole Child: How SEL is Essential in High School**

How does SEL teach the whole child? This article breaks down how top skills like communication, leadership, teamwork, adaptability and resiliency, critical thinking and problem-solving skills are addressed and promoted in an SEL curriculum.

[Access the article here »](#)

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## **Upcoming Webinars & Events**

### ***2023 National Social and Emotional Learning Conference***

**Date:** May 15, 2023 - May 17, 2023

**Time:** All-Day Event

**Location:** Lancaster County Convention Center and Lancaster Marriott at Penn Square, Lancaster, Pennsylvania

Finding Common Ground is our theme for the 2023 NSEL Conference, with the goal of bringing together diverse perspectives to work collaboratively to foster safe and supportive environments that support academic success and meaningful engagement for all students.

[Register for the event here »](#)

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### ***School Safety and Response to Trauma In the Classroom and in the Community***

**Date:** May 17, 2023

**Time:** 4:00pm-5:30pm

**Location:** Online

This presentation will address true potential threats and real-life situations. Join a panel of

experts: Dr. Terri M. Pieretti, Dr. Saul Lankster, Dr. Clara Amador-Lankster, Amara Watson-Lankster, Hayato Yuuki and will include Ryan E. Demmon, a representative from the FBI. The panel will examine proactive safe-school strategies and dig into the complexity of active school shootings and mass shootings and discuss impact that these have on schools and society. The panelists will also weigh in on the roles that school culture and relationships play in school safety. Discussion on the effects of the dark web and school safety will include data addressing the root causes of crimes against children.

[Register for the event here »](#)

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### ***SEL4US SEL Resource Showcase***

**Date: May, 24, 2023**

**Time: 11:30am**

**Location: Online**

Whether you have a strong SEL program to build on or are looking for a new SEL approach, this event will provide you with valuable insights and options. On the virtual conference platform, experience interactive plenary presentations, attend live breakout sessions, explore exhibit booths, and network with other SEL champions.

Highlights include:

- Leading SEL provider organizations on innovative online SEL strategies, using SEL assessments to inform instructional practice and data-driven decision-making, and more.
- Educators and youth development professionals from across the country on successful models of SEL in their communities

[Register for the showcase here »](#)

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### ***Building an SEL Nation – The Urban Assembly SEL Symposium 2023***

**Date: June 2, 2023**

**Time: 9:00am-5:00pm**

**Location: 225 Liberty Street New York, NY 10281**

The 2023 SEL Symposium will be a day filled with experts from across the country engaging in fireside chats, offering workshops, and participating in panels. You'll hear from New York City students and educators about their experience with Social Emotional Learning, and

you'll get to connect with educators, administrators, and education organizations who put student-centered SEL at the forefront of their work!

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