How these standards were developed

Acknowledgements
The National School Climate Standards are the product of the efforts of many individuals and groups.

In July 2008, the National School Climate Council agreed to develop National School Climate Standards. Over the course of the following year a series of drafts were developed, critiqued and revised. The National School Climate Council Development Team, the University of Missouri Team, members of the National School Climate Council and an additional group of reviewers provided essential counsel to develop these standards.

The Development Team, comprised of Jonathan Cohen, Mary Lou Rush and Bonnie Hedrick (with able support from Robert Canning), developed a first draft of the standards. This first draft built on the Ohio School Climate Guidelines as well as a recent and exhaustive review of school climate research. The National School Climate Development Team critiqued and helped to revise this draft. Over the course of several months, many new drafts were completed, critiqued and revised.

In December 2008, the University of Missouri Review Team (noted below) met to conduct a thorough review of work that had been done to that date. This team engaged in the following activities: (1) Generating a list of characteristics that define a positive school climate and/or delineating our vision of an ideal school; (2) Critically and constructively assessing the definition for a positive and sustained school climate developed by the National School Climate Council; and, (3) Using findings that emerged from the two activities noted above to critique a new draft of the standards. As a result of this process, the University of Missouri Review Team recommended that we continue to include the five basic standards with a number of recommended modifications resulting in a 5th draft of the standards. This draft was reviewed by members of the National School Climate Council resulting in a 6th draft.

In the spring of 2009, over forty principals, superintendents, mental health professionals, educational researchers, and state and national leaders (noted below) reviewed the 6th draft. Their feedback and recommendations resulted in the 7th draft of the standards.

On September 17, 2009, the New England Equity Assistance Center and New England College hosted a “thinking meeting” at Brown University to offer feedback on an evolving set of National School Climate Standards. Forty of New England’s most dedicated educational equity advocates and school leaders were in attendance. Attendees included teachers, administrators, professors, consultants and officials from state and city departments of education from New Hampshire, Vermont, Maine, Massachusetts, Connecticut and Rhode Island. The goals of this meeting were: 1) to ensure that the standards help schools effectively and equitably address school climate issues, and 2) to ensure that the standards help schools and communities equitably address the specific, unique needs and common challenges faced in schools by children and families from diverse, minority and underprivileged communities. The group spent the day reviewing the draft School Climate Standards and discussing how each of the five standards might help schools and
communities better understand and address the needs of students from various racial, ethnic, gender, sexual orientation, disability and religious groups.

In late September, the National School Climate Council Standards Development Committee reviewed the recommended changes that the New England Equity Assistance Center and New England College group suggested. Many of the suggestions and recommendations have helped to make these standards even more clear, fair and just.

We are also grateful to Jennifer Morton, Ph.D., Emily Stork and Marcy Borten, who helped in revising these standards.

We want to acknowledge:

The National School Climate Council Development Team:

Howard Adelman, Co-director and Professor, School Mental Health Project, Center for Mental Health in Schools, Department of Psychology, UCLA

Marvin Berkowitz, Sanford N. McDonnell Endowed Professor of Character Education and Co-director, Center for Character & Citizenship, College of Education, University of Missouri-St. Louis

Robert Canning, Director, Ohio Safe School Center, University of Cincinnati, Ohio

Jonathan Cohen, (Co-chair, School Climate Standards Project) President, Center for Social and Emotional Education; Adjunct Professor in Psychology and Education. Teachers College, Columbia University

Lou Ann Evans, Member, State College Area School District, Pennsylvania

Arnold F. Fege, Director, Public Engagement and Advocacy, Public Education Network, Washington, D.C.

Bonnie Hedrick, Director, Ohio Resource Network, University of Cincinnati, Ohio

William H. Hughes, Superintendent, Greendale School District, Greendale, Wisconsin

Nicholas Michelli, Presidential Professor in Urban Education, Doctoral Program in Urban Education, City University of New York

Linda Taylor, Co-director, School Mental Health Project, Center for Mental Health in Schools, Department of Psychology, UCLA

Mary Lou Rush, (Co-chair, School Climate Standards Project) Executive Director, Center for Students, Families and Communities, Ohio State Department of Education.

The University of Missouri - St. Louis Review Team:
Marvin W. Berkowitz, Sanford N. McDonnell Endowed Professor of Character Education at the University of Missouri-St. Louis

Liz Gibbons, Executive Director, Characterplus, Cooperating School Districts of Greater St. Louis

Virginia Navarro, Associate Professor of Education, Division of Teaching and Learning, University of Missouri-St. Louis

David L. Shields, Affiliate Associate Professor of Education, Division of Teaching and Learning, University of Missouri-St. Louis

Bryan Sokol, Assistant Professor in Psychology, St. Louis University

Val Turner, Doctoral Student in Educational Psychology, University of Missouri-St. Louis

Michael Hylen, Principal, Rockwood Independent Learning Center, Rockwood School District

Mark Kasen, Doctoral Student in Educational Psychology, University of Missouri-St. Louis and government and business teacher, Beaumont High School (St. Louis Public Schools).

Scott Jones, Doctoral Student in Educational Psychology, University of Missouri-St. Louis and government and history teacher, Hazelwood West High School

Diane Stirling, School Network Coordinator, Characterplus, Cooperating School Districts of St. Louis

The National School Climate Council

* Howard Adelman, Co-director and Professor, School Mental Health Project, Center for Mental Health in Schools, Department of Psychology, UCLA
* Janice E. Arnold-Jones, Representative, House District 24, Albuquerque, New Mexico
* Victor Battistich, Associate Professor, Center for Character & Citizenship, College of Education, University of Missouri-St. Louis (deceased)
* Marvin Berkowitz, Sanford N. McDonnell Endowed Professor of Character Education and Co-director, Center for Character & Citizenship, College of Education, University of Missouri-St. Louis
* Martin Blank, Director for the Coalition for Community Schools; Director for School, Family and Community Connections at the Institute for Educational Leadership
* Samuel Chaltain, Executive Director, Forum for Democracy in Education, Washington, D.C.
* William Cirone, County Superintendent, Santa Barbara County Education Office, Santa Barbara, California
* Jonathan Cohen, President, Center for Social and Emotional Education; Adjunct Professor in Psychology and Education, Teachers College, Columbia University, Co-chair
* James P. Comer, Maurice Falk Professor of Child Psychiatry and Founder, School Development Program, Yale Child Study Center, Yale University School of Medicine, Connecticut
* Lou Ann Evans, Member, State College Area School District, Pennsylvania
* Arnold F. Fege, Director of Public Engagement and Advocacy, Public Education Network
* Ann Foster, Executive Director, National Network for Educational Renewal
* J. Martez Hill, Deputy State Superintendent, Mississippi Department of Education
Individuals who reviewed the standards:

Marie Bilik, Executive director, New Jersey School Boards Association

Gretchen Brion-Meisels, Doctoral Candidate, School of Education, Harvard University, Editor, Harvard Educational Review

Philip Brown, Director, Center for Social & Character Development, Rutgers University, New Jersey

Paula Campbell, President, California School Boards Association

Kim Carter, Five Freedoms Project, Washington, D.C.

Chase Davenport, Vice President of Charter School Quality, California Charter Schools Association

Daniel Domenech, Executive Director, American Association of School Administrators

Edward Dunkelblau, Director, Institute for Emotionally Intelligent Learning, Chicago, Illinois

Maurice Elias, Professor, Rutgers University, New Jersey

John Everitt, Superintendent, South Burlington School District, Vermont

Stuart Green, Associate Director, Overlook Family Medicine, Behavioral Scientist, Atlantic Health, Summit, New Jersey

Michael Greene, Nicholson Foundation, Newark, New Jersey

Cat Greenstreet, Director of Teacher Education, Sunbridge College, New York
Deborah Hardy, Past president, New York State School Counselor Association, Liaison to the New York State Education Department Pupil Personnel Service Task Force

Charles Haynes, Senior Scholar, First Amendment Center, Washington, D.C.

David Hutchinson, State College Area School Board Director, Pennsylvania

Millicent H. Kellner, Director, Project Development, CPC Behavioral Healthcare High Point Schools, New Jersey

Kimberly M. Klepecyk Principal, Quest High School, Humble, Texas

Hal A. Lawson, Professor, Department of Educational Administration & Policy Studies School of Education, University at Albany, SUNY

Carole Levine, Deputy Executive Director, National PTA, Chicago, Illinois

Peter Levine, Director, Tufts University, Massachusetts

Judy Mayer, President, Ohio School Counselor Association

Libby McCabe, Senior Program Development Associate, Phipps Community Development Corporation, NYC

Linda McKay, former Senior Advisor, Office of Safe and Drug Free Schools, U.S. Department of Education

Kim McLaughlin, Executive Director, NYS Student Support Services Center, Genesee Valley BOCES, LeRoy, New York

Jennifer Miller, Educational consultant, Columbus, Ohio

William Modzeleski, Acting Assistant Deputy Secretary, Office of Safe and Drug Free Schools, U.S. Department of Education

Virginia Navarro, Associate Professor of Education, Division of Teaching and Learning, University of Missouri-St. Louis

Jill Jackson, Ohio Department of Education, Columbus, Ohio

Peter S. Jensen, President & CEO, The REACH Institute, NY, New York; and, Co-Director, Division of Child Psychiatry & Psychology, The Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota

Elizabeth Partoyan, Director, Research, Training, and Member Services, National School Boards Association

John Pennyaufl, President elect, Ohio School Board Association

Derek Peterson, National School Board Association

William Preble, Professor of Education, New England College, Henniker, New Hampshire
Frank Pugh, President Elect, California School Boards Association

Jayne Ropella, Principal, Eastern Heights Elementary, St. Paul, Minnesota

Ken Seeley, President, National Center for School Engagement, Denver, Colorado

Z. George Slupski, District Administrator, Raymond School District #14, Franksville, Wisconsin

Eric Schaps, President, Developmental Studies Center, Oakland, California

Eva Szabo, Grant Administrator, Ohio Department of Education

Sharon Tubick, Arizona State Department of Education

Kathleen Usaj, Legislative Director, Ohio School Social Workers Association

Caroline L. Watts, Senior Lecturer, Graduate School of Education, University of Pennsylvania

Roger Weissberg, LAS Distinguished Professor of Psychology and Education and President, Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL)

Department of Psychology, University of Illinois at Chicago

B. Glenn Wilkerson, Founder and President of the ARKGroup, Inc.

Robert Williams, Principal, Kirschen Elementary School, California

Patricia Wright, Superintendent/Principal, Spring Lake School District, Spring Lake, New Jersey

The New England Equity Assistance Center, Brown University and New England College Review Group:

Elizabeth A’Vant, School Psychologist, Providence Public Schools, Rhode Island

Guy Alba, District Supervisor of Guidance and Counseling, Providence, Rhode Island

Portia S. Bonner, Superintendent of Schools, New Bedford Public Schools, Massachusetts

Elizabeth Brach, Evaluator, New England Equity Assistance Center, The Education Alliance at Brown University

Soledad Catanzaro, Elementary ELL Specialist, Providence Public Schools, Rhode Island

Richard Cole, Attorney, Civil Rights and Safe Schools Consultant, Boston, Massachusetts

Mary Dilworth, Vice President, Higher Education Initiatives and Research, Washington, D.C.
Darcy Fernandes, Principal, Roosevelt Middle School, New Bedford Public Schools, Massachusetts

Philip Fogelman, Director of the Anti Defamation League, New England Region's A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE

Jo Ann Freiberg, Education Consultant, Bureau of Accountability and Improvement, Connecticut State Department of Education

Anne Gilligan, Safe and Drug-Free Coordinator, Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

Rick Gordon, Founding Director, Compass School and Education Consultant, Westminster Station, Vermont

Molly Gosline, Project Director, Office of Safe & Drug-Free Schools, New Hampshire Department of Education

Phyllis Hardy, Equity & Diversity Specialist, New England Equity Assistance Center, The Education Alliance at Brown University

Katie Knowles, Vice President, Main Street Academix, Henniker, New Hampshire

Nicole Manganelli, Assistant Director, Center for the Prevention of Hate Violence, Portland, Maine

Kabris McLaughlin, Affirmative Action Office, Cambridge Public Schools, Massachusetts

Father Nick Milas, Teacher Mentoring Coordinator, Fortes Elementary, Providence Teachers Union, Rhode Island

Maria Pacheco, Co-Director, New England Equity Assistance Center, The Education Alliance at Brown University, Rhode Island

Jeff Perrotti, Consultant, Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

Bill Preble, Professor of Education, New England College; President, Main Street Academix, Henniker, New Hampshire

Susan Redditt, Assistant Professor, New England College, Henniker, New Hampshire

Randy Ross, Equity & Diversity Specialist, New England Equity Assistance Center, The Education Alliance at Brown University, Rhode Island

Colleen Rost-Bantik, Service Learning Coordinator, Providence College, Rhode Island


Donalda Silva, Equity & Diversity Specialist, New England Equity Assistance Center, The Education Alliance at Brown University, Rhode Island

Sara Smith, Co-Director, New England Equity Assistance Center, The Education Alliance at Brown University, Rhode Island

545 8th Avenue, #930, New York, NY 10018
www.schoolclimate.org
Kim Stowell, Managing Director, Options Newsmagazine, Providence, Rhode Island

Betsy Sweet, President, Moose Ridge Associates, Augusta, Maine

Maria Luisa Wilson-Portuondo, Education Consultant, New England Equity Assistance Center, The Education Alliance at Brown University, Rhode Island