SCHOOL ASSESSMENT PROCESS

In collaboration with school leadership, the Seneca team will help plan and administer a variety of measures to assess the school’s student support system as well as their overall culture and climate. The assessment process includes:

DIRECT INPUT FROM SCHOOL STAFF

As part of the initial partnership process, the Seneca team will interview all staff regarding their role at the school, their perceptions on the effectiveness of current intervention practices, and their opinions on school culture and discipline. For ongoing partnerships, staff members will complete Seneca’s End of Year Staff Survey that gathers feedback on the responsiveness, coordination, and effectiveness of the overall systems of supports at the school.

SCHOOL CLIMATE ASSESSMENT INSTRUMENT

The Seneca team will distribute and analyze results from The Alliance for the Study of School Climate School Climate Assessment Instrument (ASSC SCAI), which utilizes ratings of school staff, parents, and students to consider the strength of school climate across eight dimensions—Physical Environment, Faculty Relationships, Student Interactions, Leadership and Decisions, Management and Discipline, Learning and Assessment, Attitude and Culture, and Community Relations. Ratings across all of these dimensions will be averaged to obtain an overall score, which has a strong correlation to student achievement (API). Further enhancement of practices related to school climate will likely correlate with additional achievement gains.

POSITIVE BEHAVIORAL INTERVENTIONS AND SUPPORTS (PBIS)

TIERED FIDELITY INDEX

The Seneca team will work with a representative group of school stakeholders to complete the PBIS tiered fidelity index in order to gauge the extent to which school personnel are applying the core features of school-wide positive behavioral interventions and supports. Results from the index will be used to identify next steps in transforming the school-wide discipline system at the school to be even more clear, consistent, and effective for all students and staff.

TRAUMA-INFORMED MATRIX

The Seneca team will work with a representative group of school stakeholders to complete the Trauma-Informed Matrix, a tool that outlines the key practices that constitute a trauma-informed community. Areas of practice fall within five categories—Staff Development, School Environment, Policies, Engagement, and Service Provision. By using this tool, schools will identify which practices are already in place, and what next steps should be taken to prepare their school community to approach the education and development of their students with a trauma-informed lens.

ANNUAL IMPLEMENTATION PLAN AND PROGRESS MONITORING

The Seneca team will work with school stakeholders to analyze the results from these four assessments, identifying key strengths and areas for growth as they relate to positive behavioral supports, trauma-informed practice, parent engagement, student voice, coordination of services, leadership and decision-making, and other identified aspects of culture and climate. This information will inform the development of the Annual Implementation Plan (AIP) which will identify 3-5 priorities for the coming school year. Priorities will be translated into goals with measurable objectives that will allow Seneca to monitor the progress of implementation throughout the year.