

# St. Cloud McKinley Alternative Learning Center

## Findings from School Years 2018-19 2019-20

Every youth should have the opportunity to reach their full academic potential, which requires that school environments be safe and nurturing for all. Disruptive or unsafe student behavior can be addressed in inclusionary, effective ways. Current practices of school-based arrests are inherently exclusionary, and their use – and overuse, among some student demographics, such as students of color and students with disabilities – has typically led to negative educational and social-emotional outcomes for youth.

**Minnesota's School-Based Diversion Model for Students (MN SBDM)** seeks to address disruptive and unsafe student behavior in a way that is effective, and keeps youth in school – and out of the juvenile justice system.

Minnesota's School-Based Diversion Model (MN SBDM) provides a decision-making protocol for student incidents and presents an opportunity for schools and law enforcement to work together as a shared decision-making authority to address students' academic, behavioral health, and criminogenic needs. The model emphasizes a variety of approaches to meet the needs of students. Critical elements of the triage system include: involvement of families at every stage; referral for screening, assessment, and treatment for early identification of youth at risk for juvenile justice involvement; and development and access to preventive and supportive resources within the school environment.

**DHS provided \$19,500 of funding per school year**

In SY2018-19 and 2019-20, the MN School-Based Diversion Model served students at McKinley Alternative Learning Center in St. Cloud. McKinley uses a Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) to provide targeted services for students.

In SY2019-20, McKinley's MN SBDM Team included: Ona Lawrence, Restorative Justice Lead and project coordinator; William Joyce, school coordinator; Haley Watkins, special education, , counselor, Behavioral Resource Specialist and project lead; Linda Kolte, school social worker and SPED teacher; Tony Resnicek, School Resource Officer; Sam Nordby, social worker and counselor; and Kara Lund, counselor. In SY2018-19, Richard Chakolis, school administration; Brent McGee, school intervention and truancy; Jenna Fuchs, school chemical health; Shereen Anderson, school mental health; and Frank Kundrat, Juvenile Justice Representative; also worked on the SBDM team.

### McKinley High School MN SBDM student metrics

School year	Enrolled	Referred into	Declined	Served
2018-19	293	63	4	59
2019-20	306	12	0	12

## MN SBDM responses to behavioral incidents



- Applied restorative practices (e.g., conducted a chat or circle)
- Informed parent/s or caregiver/s
- Had a school case conference



- Referred to a behavior support team
- Referred to principal or school administration
- Referred to SRO or law enforcement<sup>a</sup>
- Referred to residential treatment<sup>b</sup>



- Screened/assessed for co-occurring disorder<sup>a</sup>
- Screened/assessed for trauma<sup>a</sup>

## Types of behavioral incidents that led to student referrals to MN SBDM:

- Being truant or skipping class
- Bullying<sup>a</sup>
- Disruptive behaviors toward another student, staff, volunteer, or visitor, including verbal fighting WITHOUT physical contact or insubordination/refusal to comply with reasonable requests or rules
- Distribution of drugs (intent to sell) on campus
- Electronics violation<sup>a</sup>
- Fighting with physical contact/physical assault
- Insubordination/refusal to comply with reasonable requests or rules
- Tobacco use or paraphernalia, including vapes<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Indicates that the behavioral incident occurred only in SY2018-19

<sup>b</sup> Indicates that the behavioral incident occurred only in SY2019-20

## End of year status for students served:

