

WHEREAS; the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) defines social and emotional learning (SEL) as the process through which children and adults acquire and effectively apply the knowledge, attitudes, and skills necessary to understand and manage emotions, set and achieve positive goals, feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain positive relationships, and make responsible decisions; and

WHEREAS; according to the Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning, SEL is made up of five core competencies, including self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills, and responsible decision-making; and

WHEREAS; SEL is a lifelong process and plays an essential role in one's ability to make meaningful contributions at home, in school, in the workplace, and in the community; and

WHEREAS; research suggests that SEL interventions can improve students' academic performance and engagement, stress management, and attitudes towards themselves and others, and that evidence-based SEL programs are more effective when they include strategies for family and community engagement; and

WHEREAS; many of the skills acquired through SEL are considered an asset in the workplace, and developing students' competencies from a young age will play an integral role in ensuring a strong future workforce; and

WHEREAS; implementing SEL into classrooms can also be a crucial first step towards addressing the multitude of mental health challenges facing kids today, underscoring the potential long-term benefits for society as a whole; and

WHEREAS; today, the state of Wisconsin joins DPI, along with educators, SEL advocates, students, and families across the state, in raising awareness of SEL and the many benefits it can bring to the state, both now and in the future;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim March 2 2026 as

SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING DAY

throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance
to all our state's residents.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this 26th day of February 2026.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State