



May 4, 2014

Honorable John Kline
Chairman
House Education and Workforce
Committee
2181 Rayburn Building
Washington, DC 20515

Honorable George Miller
Ranking Member
House Education Committee
2101 Rayburn Building
Washington, DC 20515

Honorable Todd Rokita
Chairman
Subcommittee on Early Childhood,
Elementary, and Secondary Education
2181 Rayburn Building
Washington, DC 20515

Honorable Carolyn McCarthy
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Early Childhood,
Elementary, and Secondary Education
2101 Rayburn Building
Washington, DC 20515

Chairman Kline, Ranking Member Miller, Chairman Rokita and Ranking Member McCarthy:

I am writing in support of H.R. 4366, the Strengthening Education through Research Act. Specifically, I support inclusion of social and emotional learning as an identified area of focus for federal education research.

H.R. 4366 adds social and emotional learning (SEL) to the list of identified issues that should be studied and evaluated by the federal education research system, such as the Institute of Education Sciences. SEL skills help students succeed in school and also prepare them for future roles as citizens, employees, managers, parents, volunteers, and entrepreneurs. I am confident that H.R. 4366 will help ensure that additional research and evaluation will be conducted on the impact of SEL programs on student success and academic achievement, including closing the achievement gap.

Thank you for your work on this bipartisan bill. I look forward to working with your committee on other legislation designed to support students and schools across the country.

Sincerely,

Joan Cole Duffell
Executive Director

Our vision: Safe children thriving in a peaceful world

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