

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

WELL-MANAGED SCHOOLS PROJECT OVERVIEW

The purpose of this project is to evaluate the Well-Managed Schools (WMS) classroom management approach. WMS is not a student curriculum; it is a set of strategies that can be used by teachers during day-to-day classroom instruction. The strategies focus on reinforcing social skills and dealing with inappropriate behaviors, thereby creating a more effective structured learning environment. WMS can be implemented as a stand-alone approach or be integrated seamlessly in support of MTSS-B models or other student support systems.

The project is being directed by Drs. Tricia Neppi and Richard Spoth at Iowa State University, in collaboration with Boys Town's Translational Research Center in Omaha. It is being funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Education's Institute of Education Sciences.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS:

- ✓ Participating schools can have up to half of their 1st through 5th grade regular classroom teachers trained in WMS as part of the project*
 - ✓ Participation of teachers within schools is voluntary; participating teachers complete 5 surveys and 4 classroom observations across their participation
 - ✓ Schools will receive \$50 per teacher (up to \$1,000) to offset the time and any inconvenience for collecting student records and allowing data collection activities
 - ✓ If WMS training takes place on school days, schools will be reimbursed for the cost of substitute teachers for teachers attending the training
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STUDY DESIGN:

The project will involve 78 - 1st through 5th grade teachers. This will be the last phase of a larger ongoing study that involves 405 1st through 5th grade classroom teachers.

- Once they agree to participate in the study, teachers will be randomly assigned to the WMS condition or continue with their current classroom management practices
- All teachers complete surveys and receive observations by the research team

Approximately 780 students will be selected to participate (with parental consent) in brief surveys related to classroom environment.

Each participating school will be included in:

- Cohort 4—Academic Years 2022-23
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*** Following their 1-year project participation period, reduced cost WMS training will be available for participating teachers not selected for WMS training during the project.**

WELL-MANAGED SCHOOLS PROJECT OVERVIEW (CONTINUED)

ROLE OF SCHOOLS AND ADMINISTRATORS:

- ✓ Allow research team to recruit teachers
 - ✓ Allow contact with parents in participating teachers' classrooms (for purposes of student recruitment and consenting procedures)
 - ✓ Allow and provide space for recruited students to complete three 20-minute surveys
 - ✓ Allow a total of four 20-minute observations to be conducted across the 2022-23 school year in each participating teacher's classroom
 - ✓ Provide the research team with de-identified student data for participating teachers' classrooms, including:
 - Grades, Attendance, Disciplinary referrals, Standardized achievement test scores
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DETAILS ON TEACHER INVOLVEMENT:

All Teachers —

- ✓ Agree to be randomly assigned to study condition:
 - Half will be trained in 2-day WMS and asked to employ WMS classroom practices during the school year
 - Half will continue classroom management as usual
- ✓ Complete 5 surveys and be observed four times for 20-minutes across their one year of participation
- ✓ Receive \$175 in survey incentives

Teachers Assigned to WMS Condition —

- ✓ Attend 2-day WMS training (may count as official training transcript or graduate credit)
 - All WMS training costs are covered by project funds
 - Training day salary support available if not covered by regular contract time
 - Trainings will be held in the vicinity of participating school districts
 - ✓ Receive WMS manual and companion workbook, posters, and other WMS implementation resources
 - ✓ Participate in coaching sessions with a trained WMS consultant
 - 20-minute observation followed by 10-minute consultation
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For more information, please contact Dr. Tricia Neppel at 949-280-9325 or wmsproject@iastate.edu

Partnerships in Prevention Science Institute
Department of Human Development and Family Studies
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WELL-MANAGED SCHOOLS PROJECT

Anticipated Timeline: 2022-2023

Spring 2022: Begin School Agreements and Teacher Enrollments

Fall 2022: Training for WMS Teachers

Coaching Visits for WMS Teachers

Student Surveys

Teacher Surveys and Observations

Spring 2023: Coaching Visits for WMS Teachers

Teacher Surveys and Observations
