

# A California School's Plans to Bring SEL to Life with Differentiated Content and Peer-to-Peer Coaching

## DISTRICT PROFILE

**William Regnart Elementary School**

CUPERTINO, CA

**Student Population**

~400

**Technology Access**

NEARLY 1:1

**District Implemented Newsela**

2014



“The real question is, how can we educate our children as partners in problem solving?”

**Christy Davila**

LEAD TEACHER

## THE CHALLENGE

### Implementing SEL at the classroom level

More and more districts are investing in Social-Emotional Learning (SEL). Yet even when district programs are in place, Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) programs are in place, many schools still need support promoting social emotional skills in the classroom. Take for example William Regnart Elementary School in Cupertino, CA. “We really want to empower students to come into school every day with the tools to figure out social situations by themselves,” says Christy Davila, a lead teacher at Regnart. While the district had implemented some exciting at-home SEL programs, teachers like Christy were still hungry for relevant content and materials to bring SEL to life alongside academics. Davila asks, “The real question is, how can we educate our children as partners in problem solving?”



## THE PLAN

### The Newsela's Social-Emotional Learning Collection, and a buddy program

Regnart Elementary had been using Newsela content to differentiate instruction for upper elementary students for several years when they heard about The Newsela Social-Emotional Learning Collection. Davila and her team are excited to extend Newsela to support their SEL goals. “The way The Newsela SEL Collection is laid out for us, with content organized by the SEL concepts, is what got us excited. And the fact that it has content we can use at different grade levels is huge.” Davila and

her colleagues are taking an innovative approach to implementing the content and concepts across grades. The plan for the 2019-2020 school year is to adopt The Newsela SEL Collection in the 4th and 5th grade classrooms as part of literacy instruction, then have those students each pair up with a Kindergarten buddy for peer-to-peer coaching to pass the concepts on. “We love the idea of being able to partner with different grade-level classes to try to do things together that focus on peer teaching and learning, as opposed to just us teachers being the sage on the stage.”



#### THE GOAL

### Confident students across grades

Conversations about SEL goals and measurement are happening at the district, but Christy and her colleagues have their own ideas for what they hope to see as a result of their school-wide SEL plans. “We want kids to feel adept in these skills and gain this positive vocabulary. To us, that might mean feeling confident in their ability to stand up for someone who they think may have been left out, or expressing their own emotions,” Davila says. “Social-Emotional Learning is so important in preparing our kids with the tools they need to succeed in life. I’m really looking forward to what’s to come!”

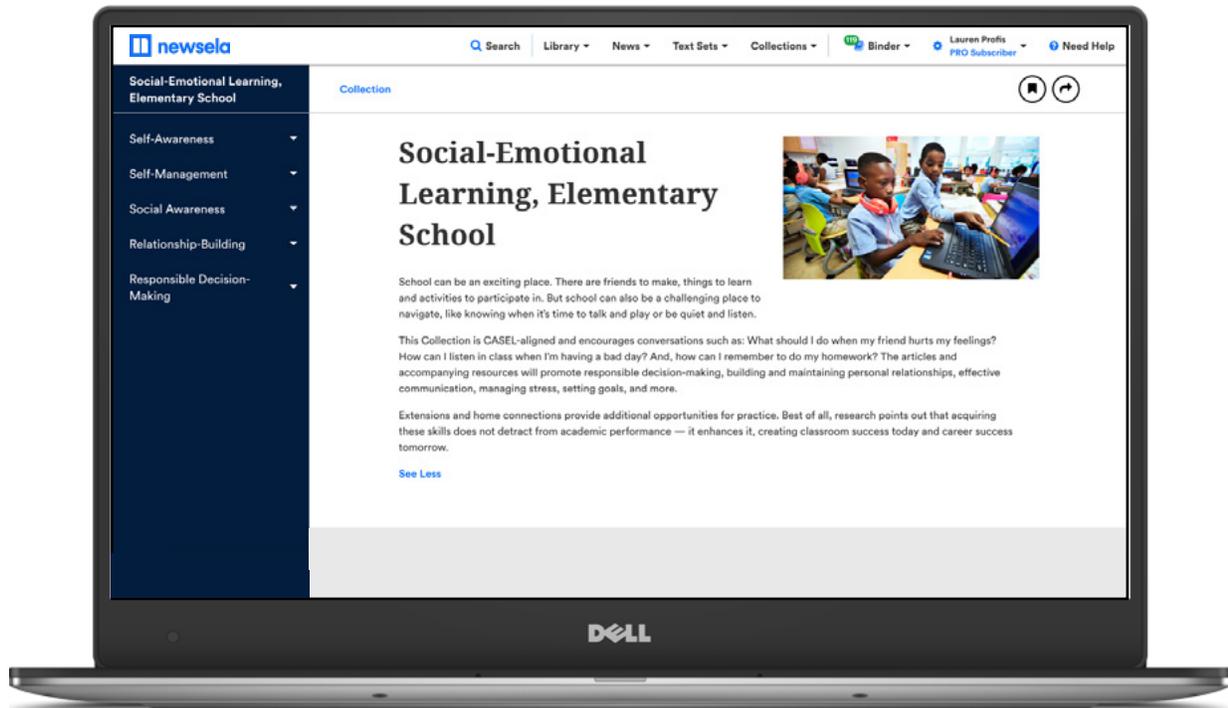


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## The Newsela Social-Emotional Learning Collection



The Newsela SEL Collection features engaging and age-appropriate content that explain and illustrate SEL concepts in the real world for elementary, middle, and high school grades. The content has embedded classroom strategies that spark meaningful conversations and learning, along with standards aligned quizzes and writing prompts to help students simultaneously develop reading and social-emotional skills.

The content and instructional strategies in The Newsela SEL Collection are organized by [CASEL](#)'s 5 core competencies:

- Self-Awareness
- Self-Management
- Social Awareness
- Relationship Skills
- Responsible Decision Making



 Go to [newsela.com](https://newsela.com) to learn how you can enhance your instruction with The Newsela SEL Collection today!