When asked where they go for information on social skills programming, school administrators said they...

- Don't make these decisions: 13% of administrators
- Don't go to anyone: 20% of administrators
- Go to someone in their district: 28% of administrators
- Go to their ISD: 18% of administrators
- Go somewhere else: 21% of administrators

This means 33% of administrators across the state are either:

- not involved in making decisions about social skills programs
- or
- not going to anyone else for help or information when doing so!

How many administrators find these sources very helpful?

- Their District: 90%
- Their ISD: 79%
- Other Sources: 66%

Participants: Statewide 361

A random sample of public school principals and superintendents

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The Michigan School Program Information Project
Statewide Findings Report

Fall 2016
When talking to administrators in the state, this is what they valued most about different sources of information.

**Their District Trust**

“Our building principals are very curious people and they are frequently looking for solutions to problems. We collaborate a lot, we talk a lot and we share a lot with each other in terms of, ‘Hey we heard about this, I went here, I learned about that’.”

- Superintendent

“For me to go to my principals meeting and tell them that this program has been fantastic this year and we’re getting great results, I think weighs more heavily than a 5-page research paper that says it works.”

- Principal

**Their ISD Capacity**

“The ISD does a great job vetting a lot of these programs...I mean a lot. And we’re finding that partnership with the school district to be powerful.”

- Superintendent

“Other districts in other counties don’t have such a proactive ISD like ours. They don’t get exposed to the latest research unless they’re really seeking it out themselves. I just feel fortunate as an administrator in my county to be able to tap into many experts over at the ISD.”

- Principal

**Other Sources Networks**

“All of our buildings have consultants that work with them from state and federal programs that say ‘Hey, we went to a conference, we saw this, and it might be a program that might be good for this school.’ Everyone’s got a large network, friends that work in other districts.”

- Superintendent

“I use my professional organizations and my networking contacts if we’re deciding on anything, so it really needs to be endorsed by people I know or an organization that I know.”

- Principal

What’s next?

We are Learning...

How administrators use their social networks to find information

What administrators think about research, and how they use it to make decisions about social skills programs

Want MORE?

CONTACT US at mispi@msu.edu for more detailed information about your ISD/district or if you have questions about the study!