Social Emotional Topic of the Month

Responsible Decision-Making

MAKING RESPONSIBLE DECISIONS

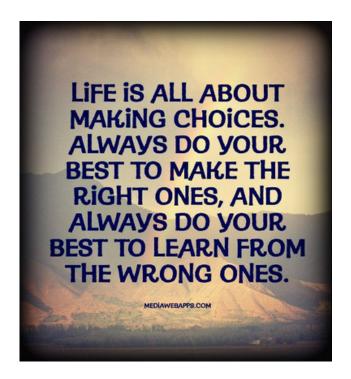
Responsible decision making is defined as "the ability to make constructive choices about personal behavior and social interactions based on ethical standards, safety concerns and social norms."

Essentially, all aspects of a potential decision and its consequences must be considered before a choice is made. To make the most appropriate behavioral choices, students need to learn how to evaluate the situation, analyze their options, and consider the potential consequences of each of those options for themselves and others.

What skills are associated with responsible decision-making?

In order for students to effectively make responsible decisions, they must develop competency with the following abilities:

- Identify the problem
- Analyze the situation
- Solve the problem
- Consider ethical responsibility
- Evaluate and reflect



"When possible, make the decisions now, even if action is in the future. A reviewed decision usually is better than one reached at the last moment."

-WILLIAM B. GIVEN, JR.