For Immediate Release

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NSCC Releases School Climate Practices for Implementation and Sustainability:
Latest Strategies From Top Experts

New York City, March 11, 2013 – The National School Climate Center (NSCC) announces the release of 11 School Climate Practice Briefs for Implementation and Sustainability, which provide educators and policy makers with practical, up-to-date guidance on school climate through the lens of essential educational issues such as, dropout prevention, bullying, equity, and leadership. These briefs present the latest in research and best practice for effective school climate reform from leading education organizations.

Research shows that school climate, the quality and character of a school, leads to increased student achievement, positive social-emotional development, lower student suspensions, greater sense of safety, increased social trust among students and adults, reduced bullying and higher teacher retention. The 11 issues selected to be included in this set of Practice Briefs are based on NSCC’s work with the entire academic community—teachers, staff, school-based mental health professionals, students and parents—to improve the climate for learning.

National Dropout Prevention Center/Network is privileged to partner with NSCC on this important resource development, and created a School Climate Practices for Implementation and Sustainability Brief on School Climate and Dropout Prevention. This Brief highlights School climate reform, an evidence-based strategy, supports K-12 students, school personnel, parents/guardians and community members learning and working together to promote pro-social education.

The full list of School Climate Practices for Implementation and Sustainability Briefs are:

1. School Climate and Standards By Patricia A. Ciccone, Superintendent, Westbrook, CT Public Schools and Jo Ann Freibeg, Education Consultant, CT State Department of Education

2. School Climate and Research By Amrit Thapa, Research Director, National School Climate Center

3. School Climate Measurement and Analysis By Darlene Faster, National School Climate Center and Daisy Lopez, National School Climate Center

4. School Climate and Youth Development By Richard Cardillo, National School Climate Center

5. School Climate and Shared Leadership By William H. Hughes, Director of Leadership, Schools That Can Milwaukee and Director of the School and Instructional Leadership Program, Alverno College, Milwaukee, Wisconsin and Terry Pickeral, Senior Consultant, National School Climate Center
6. **School Climate and Moral and Social Development** By Richard Weissbourd, Lecturer on Education, Suzanne M. Bouffard, Practice Program Project Manager and Stephanie M. Jones, Associate Professor in Human Development and Urban Education Advancement, Making Caring Common Initiative, Harvard Graduate School of Education

7. **School Climate and Inclusion** By Clement Coulston, Special Olympics Project UNIFY® and Student, University of Delaware and Kaitlyn Smith Special Olympics Project UNIFY® and Student, University of Northern Colorado

8. **School Climate and Equity** By Randy Ross, New England Equity Assistance Center, the Education Alliance at Brown University

9. **School Climate and Dropout Prevention** By Marty Duckenfield, Public Information Officer, National Dropout Prevention Center and Beth Reynolds, Executive Director, National Dropout Prevention Center

10. **School Climate and Bullying Prevention** By Jonathan Cohen, National School Climate Center and Adjunct Professor in Psychology and Education, Teachers College, Columbia University and Jo Ann Freiberg, Connecticut State Department of Education and Member, National School Climate Council

11. **School Climate and Adult Learning** By Jonathan Cohen, National School Climate Center and Adjunct Professor in Psychology and Education, Teachers College, Columbia University and Philip Brown, Senior Consultant, National School Climate Center

NSCC President, Jonathan Cohen notes, “The School Climate Practices for Implementation and Sustainability Briefs examine school climate contributions to major education issues, and provide concrete guidance on how practices can be implemented and sustained in schools. We are thrilled to present this new resource to educators, researchers, and policymakers at every level, and are honored to share the expertise of our esteemed colleagues in the field.”

The School Climate Practices for Implementation and Sustainability Briefs are vital tools that will aid policymakers and education leaders in creating and sustaining positive, safe, equitable and engaging school climates; and assist teachers to incorporate quality practices leading to positive student development. To view the complete briefs, visit: [http://www.schoolclimate.org/publications/practice-briefs.php](http://www.schoolclimate.org/publications/practice-briefs.php).

**About the National School Climate Center (NSCC)**

NSCC’s mission is to promote positive and sustained school climate: a safe, supportive environment that nurtures social and emotional, civic, ethical, and academic skills, knowledge and dispositions. For more than a decade NSCC has worked together with the entire academic community—teacher, staff, school-based mental health professionals, students and parents—to improve a climate for learning. NSCC translates research into practice by establishing meaningful and relevant guidelines, programs and services that support a model for whole school
improvement with a focus on school climate. For more resources on effective school climate reform, please visit: www.schoolclimate.org

**About the National Dropout Prevention Center/Network**

Founded in 1986, the National Dropout Prevention Center/Network (NDPC/N) offers dropout prevention resources and strategies to help increase the graduation rate in America’s high schools. It acts as a national resource for sharing solutions for student success, including research projects, publications and a variety of professional development activities. The NDPC/N also conducts third-party evaluations and Program Assessment and Reviews. For more information, visit http://www.dropoutprevention.org/.