We were looking for a social-emotional learning program that would be quick to roll out on our Chromebooks, and Suite360 is a very good solution for that. The staff really loves Suite360 because it’s not something on top of everything else that we ask them to do. They don’t have to create lessons, which is something we’ve asked them to do in the past. But, no matter how you write a lesson plan, each teacher is going to put his or her own spin on it. So you’ll get teachers who are really passionate about cyberbullying, for example, and do a great job delivering the lesson and other teachers who may feel like that’s not part of their responsibilities, so they’ll just check the box. The great part about Suite360 is that it provides consistency.

Also, the reporting is straightforward and the dashboard gives us a quick snapshot of which students have completed the lesson and which students haven’t. We’ve found that most of the kids are completing the lessons—and we’re a rather large middle school for our area. We’ve rolled out successfully to the point that we want to use Suite360 even more for our tier 1 students. It’s also great that we can customize the program for individual students, if we need to address a specific issue that comes up.
We do parent forums once a month where we go over a topic, like school climate. Recently, we held a forum on social media; we thought the event would be really helpful for parents, but maybe fifty parents showed up. So, we’re looking for other ways to communicate with families. Suite360 is a better avenue to reach parents more quickly. It’s great that we can now send materials on key topics home.

Before you roll out the program I would sit down with a core group of people, like your guidance department, assistant principal, ISP, and committee members of teachers, to choose the lessons you’re going to roll out over the year. I would do this even before the school year starts, like June, July, or the beginning of August. Being able to allocate lessons for each month is really helpful.