

*We partner with you to implement practical, research-informed practices that shift the way educators, students, and parents think of school! We focus on student engagement and empowerment in equitable learning environments to build academic resilience, social and emotional learning (SEL), and, ultimately, efficacy.*



**Let's Help  
Students  
Change  
The World.**

## **IDE Corp. – We ARE Innovative Designs for Education!**

- Customized Professional Development
- Innovative curriculum design
- Leadership development
- Six books on instructional innovation

### **Key Topic: Executive Function and SEL**

#### **Goal: Make Up for Losses Caused by COVID-Related School Closures**

- We believe SEL and executive function are inextricably linked. What does it take to build [CASEL's](#) five competencies of SEL: self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationships, and responsible decision making?
- We believe that the competencies of social and emotional learning (SEL) and the path to academic achievement begin with executive function.
- In her book [Building Executive Function: The Missing Link to Student Achievement](#), IDE Corp. President Dr. Nancy Sulla makes the case for deliberately working to build executive function. She groups executive function skills according to the life skills they support:
  - Conscious Control; Engagement; Collaboration; Empowerment; Efficacy; Leadership
- Executive function skills can be fostered through activities, structures, and teacher facilitation!

#### **Learning Opportunities**

- Keynote presentation with Dr. Nancy Sulla on Executive Function and SEL
- Customized on-site or remote workshops and coaching
- [Virtual Learning Communities](#)
- [Self-Paced PD Experiences](#)

***Let's Talk!***

# Executive Function Skills Build SEL, Which Build Academic Achievement

## Executive Function Skills Mapped to Increasing Levels of Complex Thinking

Conscious Control (CC)	Engagement (En)	Collaboration (C)	Empowerment (Em)	Efficacy (Ef)	Leadership (all)
<b>Working Memory</b> Storing and manipulating visual and verbal information (CC) Identifying same and different (En) Remembering details (CC) Following multiple steps (En) Holding on to information while considering other information (CC) Identifying cause-and-effect relationships (En) Categorizing information (En)			<b>Problem Solving</b> Defining a problem (Ef) Analyzing (Ef) Creating mental images (Ef) Generating possible solutions (Ef) Anticipating (Ef) Predicting outcomes (Ef) Evaluating (Ef)		
<b>Cognitive Flexibility</b> Shifting focus from one event to another (CC) Changing perspective (En) Seeing multiple sides to a situation (C) Being open to others' points of view (C) Being creative (Ef) Catching and correcting errors (Em) Thinking about multiple concepts simultaneously (En)			<b>Inhibitory Control</b> Attending to a person or activity (CC) Focusing (CC) Concentrating (CC) Thinking before acting (CC) Initiating a task (En) Persisting in a task (En) Maintaining social appropriateness (C)		
<b>Planning</b> Setting goals (Em) Managing time (Em) Working towards a goal (Ef) Organizing actions and thoughts (Ef) Considering future consequences in light of current action (Ef)			<b>Self Awareness</b> Self-assessing (Em) Overcoming temptation (C) Monitoring performance (Em) Reflecting on goals (Em) Managing conflicting thoughts (CC)		
<b>Reasoning</b> Making hypotheses, deductions, and inferences (Ef) Applying former approaches to new situations (Ef)					

Adapted from Appendix A of *Building Executive Function: The Missing Link to Student Achievement* by Nancy Sulla, published by Routledge

### Blog Posts and Videos:

[The PBL-SEL Connection](#)

[Game Plan: Executive Function in Sports](#)

[All Students Can Learn with Executive Function](#) (video)

[Executive Function: The Big Picture](#) (video)