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| Department of Elementary and Secondary Education logo | *News from Commissioner Jeffrey C. Riley & the*  *MA Department of Elementary and Secondary Education* |

**On the Desktop – Feb 13, 2020**

**Additional SOA Materials: Evidence-Based Programs and FAQ**

Dear Superintendents, Charter School Leaders, and Assistant Superintendents,

Thank you for your time and attention to the Student Opportunity Act planning process. When we shared the guidance materials with you last week, we noted that we would be preparing two additional documents for your reference this week. These two documents are attached to this email and will soon be available at the following link: <http://www.doe.mass.edu/commissioner/spec-advisories/soa.html>.

* **Evidence-Based Program Examples**: This document provides one-page summaries of each of the 17 evidence-based program examples that DESE identified and listed in the SOA guidance. These summaries provide the evidence base, program components, and successful implementation strategies for these programs. In addition, the document lists a DESE contact person for each evidence-based program; we encourage you to reach out to this point of contact with any program-specific questions. We hope that districts find this a valuable resource in planning and in engaging their stakeholders about evidence-based programs.
* **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)**: This document begins to answer initial questions that have come into the SOAplans@doe.mass.edu email account. We will continue to update this document as needed during the planning period until April 1. Again, please send your questions to this email address and we will get back to you with a response and will use your questions to ensure we provide answers to others who may have the same questions.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey C. Riley

Commissioner