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Please enjoy this complimentary excerpt from *SEL From a Distance*.

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<b>SEL Common Definition:</b>		
<b>Why SEL?</b>	<b>What SEL?</b>	<b>How SEL?</b>

## What Is the Systemic Behavior Gap? How Can We Avoid It?

Figure 6 is a visual representation of what we refer to as the Systemic Behavior Gap (adapted from Hannigan, Hannigan, Mattos, & Buffum, 2020), which we define as the gap between the implementation of behavior initiatives and the collective responsibility of all. The reason we want to point this out is because this gap already existed with in-person SEL implementation, so it will just widen from a distance if we are not intentional. In context with the SEL work from a distance, here are the pitfalls and guidelines for success:

**Lack of communication:** Transparent dialogue is necessary between you and your students, families, and other stakeholders.

**Lack of collaboration:** Working together is necessary with your students, families, and other stakeholders.

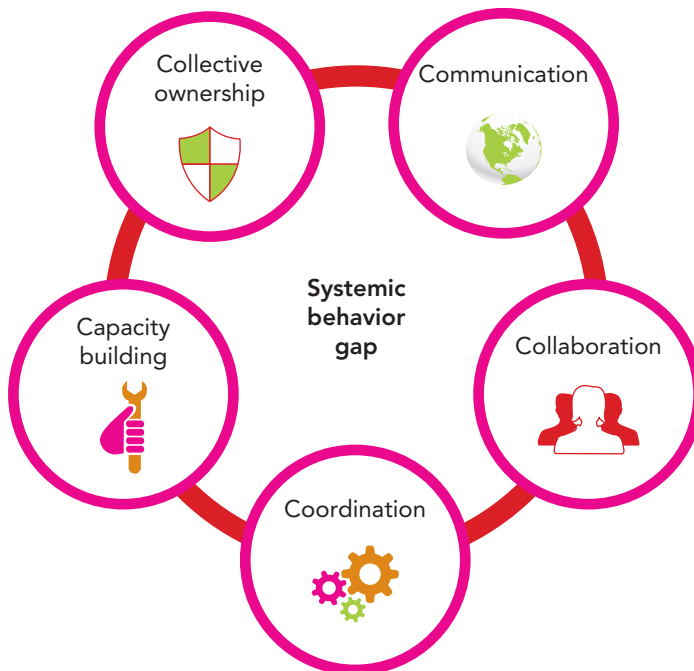
**Lack of coordination:** Resource alignment is necessary for yourself, your students, their families, and other stakeholders.

**Lack of capacity building:** Learning together is necessary for all.

**Lack of collective ownership:** We all (student, teacher, families, other stakeholders) take responsibility for the success of every student.

**Figure 6**

## Systemic Behavior Gap



Source: Used with permission. From *Behavior Solutions: Teaching Academic and Social Skills Through RTI at Work* by John Hannigan, Jessica Djabrayan Hannigan, Mike Mattos, and Austin Buffum. Copyright 2021 by Solution Tree Press, 555 North Morton Street, Bloomington, IN 47404, 800.733.6786, SolutionTree.com. All rights reserved.

The point of sharing the Systemic Behavior Gap prior to beginning the next sections is to make sure you are mindful of the contributing factors that will impede implementation so they can be avoided. Any classroom, department, grade level, and schoolwide implementation failure can be traced back to any of these five contributing factors.

