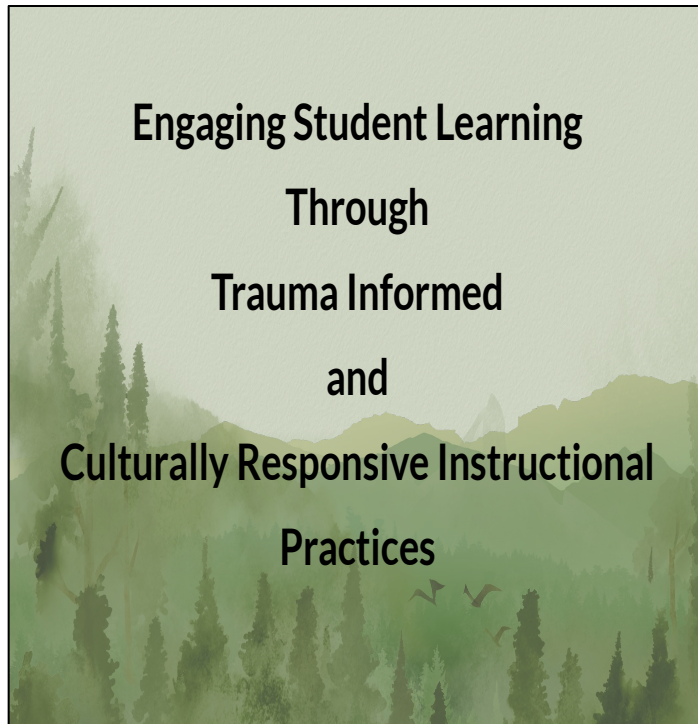


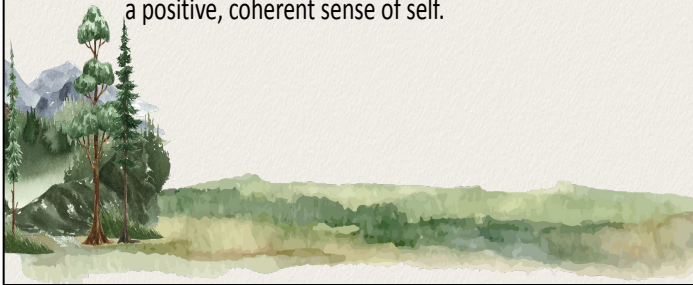


As a district, we will be moving forward in our vision of Trauma Informed Practices. Today we will be cultivating a common vocabulary and understanding of this initiative.

We Started with a Commitment :

Our cultural mission statement says:

We will empower our students as they participate in the Western culture, it is important that they be given the opportunity to discover and explore their cultural identity first. Students will be enriched with a positive, coherent sense of self.



This is our why. By supporting our mission of building Indigenous Identity in our students, we will be engaging them in their responsibilities to their learning. So how do we begin to do that?

Processes We Put in Place

Shared Instructional Expectations

We will build a unified approach to trauma informed and culturally responsive teaching practices.

Alignment with District Mission

Align teaching practices to the mission of building student identity first through engagement, and to support all learners.

Trauma Informed Training

Ensure that we can meet the needs and fully understand the whole student.

Build Culturally Responsive Practices

Incorporate the respect and value of cultural identity in our instructional practice.



We will continue our trauma informed practices to create supportive and engaging learning environments. We will build that through culturally responsive practice in our instructional content and approach.

The Vocabulary:

- **Trauma Informed Instructional Approach:** an approach to education that acknowledges and responds to the impact of trauma on students' learning and development, creating a safe, supportive, and predictable environment. It emphasizes empathy, self-awareness, building trusting relationships, offering choices, and promoting resilience to help students feel secure, connected, and empowered to learn.
- **Culturally Responsive Instruction:** an approach that integrates students' cultural background, language, and experience into classroom learning to make education more accessible, effective, and equitable. This student-centered approach uses students' existing strengths and assets to promote higher-level academic skills, critical thinking, and a sense of cultural affirmation and well-being.

While we have been working on a trauma informed approach that supports the whole students, and inherently we are also utilizing a cultural approach to our teaching, we need to go deeper and fully understand how we can blend these two instructional modalities to both build a cultural identity for our students and support the whole student with supportive practice.

What Does Trauma Informed Instruction Look like?

- **build predictable clear routines-** build stability and expectation into your instructional routine to will limit the feeling of anxiety that come from chaotic environments.
- **teach social-emotional skills-** allow students the opportunity to express themselves in a positive way by modeling positive choices and self regulation
- **build relationships with the student-** by building relationships with your students you will increase their resilience to adverse situations and times of frustration

We will foster safe, supportive learning environments to allow our students the best possible opportunities to learn.



Trauma Informed Instruction acknowledges that all students come to us as unique individuals with unique experiences. It creates a supportive space for each learner with the understanding that their external environments affect their learning and their ability to process and retain information. It is our job then as educators to create predictable supportive environments by building relationships, modeling positive choices, and resiliency in the face of adversity.

What Does Culturally Responsive Instruction Look like?

- **utilize Oneida Language in routines-** build the use of Oneida language into your class routines. This will create a more immersive cultural environment.
- **teach keeping a cultural perspective in mind-** allow students to interact with content from an indigenous perspective.
- **build students cultural identity-** encourage students to explore their cultural identity by incorporating cultural teachings into your curriculum. Use cultural knowledge to support the curriculum.

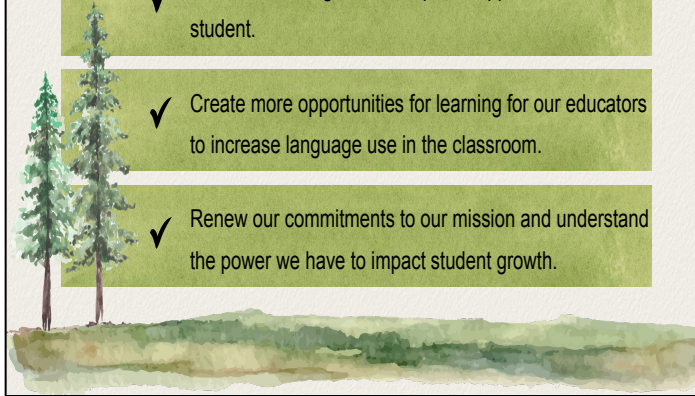
We have the important responsibility to ensure that our students grow in their understanding of their own cultural identity to guide them in their futures.



Our district is founded on the mission of ensuring that our students learn their language, their culture, and their own sense of self. We are a school of choice. Our parents and our community supports us in our endeavors to teach in a culturally responsive way. It is our responsibility to ensure that we are incorporating culturally responsive practices outside of just the language and culture classes but in the general education setting as well. Students will build a stronger sense of self and have higher-level academic skills, critical thinking, and a sense of cultural affirmation and well-being.

How do We Get There?

- ✓ Continue Trauma Informed and add Culturally Responsive Instruction to professional development.
- ✓ Continue building relationships to support the whole student.
- ✓ Create more opportunities for learning for our educators to increase language use in the classroom.
- ✓ Renew our commitments to our mission and understand the power we have to impact student growth.



As a district, we can renew our commitments to our mission by embracing opportunities to increase educator understandings of trauma informed and culturally responsive instruction. We can build these opportunities through continued professional development and explicit language learning for our educational staff.

References and Additional Information:

- National Education Association. (2023, September). *Trauma-Informed practices*. [www.nea.org](https://www.nea.org/professional-excellence/student-engagement/tools-tips/trauma-informed-practices).
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- *Cultural Values and Their Impact on Education* | EBSCO. (2021). EBSCO Information Services, Inc. | [www.ebsco.com](https://www.ebsco.com/research-starters/education/cultural-values-and-their-impact-education).
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Listed are some articles that might be of interest and that I used to inform this presentation.