



Trauma Informed Principles *for Educators*

SAFETY

- How do we ensure the physical and emotional safety of our students and staff?
- Is the environment safe?
- Are students welcomed in a friendly and respectful manner as they enter?
- Are staff attentive to the discomfort or unease of students?
- Do students receive clear explanations regarding procedures?
- What unsafe events have occurred? How do we prevent these in the future?

COLLABORATION

- How can students and staff collaborate and share power in activities?
- How are student strengths and skills incorporated into the school?
- How are students involved in planning lessons and activities?
- How can students share expertise and use their background experiences to learn?

TRUSTWORTHINESS

- How do we support students and set healthy boundaries?
- How do we build trust with students and families?
- What procedures can be more transparent?

EMPOWERMENT

- Do we believe in the power and potential of all students?
- Do students feel validated and affirmed in the school?
- Are students building skills that will empower them in school and the community?

CHOICE

- How do maximize a student's agency by offering choice and control?
- What kind of choices do students have in how they learn?
- How can we embed small choices into daily school activities?
- How do we incorporate student interest into the curriculum?

HISTORICAL, CULTURAL, & GENDER ISSUES

- What systems are not promoting equity and healing in our community?
- How do we address these systems of oppression and inequity in a way that empowers individuals who have been impacted by them?

