



New Tools-Trauma-Engaged Schools – New Tools- Milestones, Social Media, & “Knowing to Doing” Video Library

Claudia Plesa, Heather Coulehan, Lori Grassgreen and Sharon Fishel

The Alaska Department of Education and Early Development in conjunction with the Association of Alaska School Boards and partners across the state have developed rich resources for schools responding to their students’ exposure to adversity. This session will cover new resources that have been developed.

Milestone guides (*online resource*): The Transforming Schools Guide offers some steps and a starting point to deepen personal growth, establish a common vision with colleagues and community, and remind each of us that this is a process of preparing, starting, applying, and refining our trauma engaged work. Individuals and teams move through the steps and cycle many times to continue to improve upon and deepen our trauma engaged approach. Seeing the path forward and celebrating successes are key components of effective implementation. These Milestone guides offer four levels of section to complete, broken out by role. Each of the 11 components within the framework and toolkit.

Trauma Engaged “Knowing to Doing” Video Library (*online resource*) There are over 50 peer-led and statewide experts short videos that are available in the Transforming Schools video library. These are organized by the 11 component areas and are tied to topics in the framework. They are under 10 minutes and are easily accessible for personal review or in a group setting to stimulate discussion.

Social Media Campaign: The Transforming Schools messaging campaign aims to transform schools to be trauma engaged by promoting the use of the Transforming Schools Framework and Toolkit and other trauma engaged resources among school administrators, staff, and community organizations and partners in Alaska.

In three phases, this campaign will encourage school administrators to evaluate their schools and implement trainings on trauma engaged practices, help school staff to integrate practices into everyday activities, and encourage a supportive and informed environment among community organizations.



The ultimate goal is to promote behavior change among the audiences. This includes the direct behavior change of school administrators and staff making the effort to evaluate their own level of trauma engaged behaviors and to choose to transform their schools to be trauma engaged. The indirect behavior change of the campaign is that audiences will use the Transforming Schools Framework and Toolkit as resources.

Tuesday, Nov. 2, 3:30pm-4:30pm

Register here:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_8HENhGtyTFKa2sth8s0WTg

Claudia Plesa is a Community Engagement Educator with the Coordinator with the Association of Alaska School Boards. Claudia is a graduate Eastern Oregon University with a Bachelor of Science in Sociology, with a minor in Gender Studies. She also has her Master of Science Degree in Sociology from Portland State University. After receiving her Master's, she spent over 5 years working to engage Alaskan youth and communities in violence prevention programming. Her work at AASB includes youth leadership promotion, community engagement, trauma engaged schools and family engagement.

Lori Grassgreen has been working on community engagement, youth leadership, and creating systems change in Alaska and internationally for more than 20 years. In her current role at the Association of Alaska School Boards as the Director for the Alaska Initiative for Community Engagement (ICE), Ms. Grassgreen and the ICE team seek to advance community coordination to effectively support youth resilience and conditions for learning. Specifically, ICE focuses on school climate, resiliency, cultural safety, equity, youth leadership, and school-wide transformation. Her work on international development, equity, domestic violence and sexual assault prevention, and regional development have provided a lens for supporting systemic, equitable, and community-driven solutions.

Heather Coulehan joined the Alaska AASB Team in May 2015, moving to Juneau (and is so happy to be here!) from Anchorage where she had been engaged in social and emotional learning (SEL), positive youth development, and prevention work for over 20 years. Heather brings her experience with supporting educators, developing curriculum, and facilitating professional development for the Anchorage School District to collaboration with school districts across the state. Focused on engaging families in the school community and in planning for and implementing evidence based SEL approaches, these collaborations increase



academic achievement and other positive outcomes for students. Heather holds a master's degree in Education from the University of Alaska Anchorage and an Alaska K-12 School Counseling Certificate.

Sharon Fishel has worked with the Department of Education since 2003. Currently she is the School Counseling Mental Health Specialist on the School Health, and Safety Unit. Some of her duties consist of school counseling, behavioral health, suicide prevention, alternative schools, and Title 1D Neglected & Delinquent youth. She currently serves as DEED's representative on the Alaska Mental Health Board and the Statewide Suicide Prevention Council. Her background is in elementary education, special education PK -12, secondary education, related service counseling and school counseling. She is also a Licensed Professional Counselor. Sharon has a Master of Science in Counseling, and a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education.

