

Safe And Supportive Elementary Schools



How we are working to ensure that the culture and climate in our schools is inclusive, socially and emotionally responsible

Safe and Supportive Schools Initiative

In order to create a district that is welcoming, supporting, and inclusive for all, we know that it is important for a students to feel positively connected to his or her classroom and community, and communities to feel connected to their schools.

We ask ourselves the following two questions:

With a strategic focus on social emotional learning and cultural competence, we ask:

how do we know whether our schools are welcoming and inclusive places for all?

is our curriculum reflective of all students in the Arlington school system?

Students Feeling Connected within Their Schools

Over the past few years, our work in creating inclusive schools (*ie. Responsive Classroom, Open Circle, Safe and Supportive Schools committee*), has placed more emphasis on improving the experience of all students at school.

We will use the summer months to develop action steps for addressing cultural proficiency in our 2017-2018 professional learning plan.

School Culture and Climate

Safe and Supportive Schools work has asked adults to think about the way our practices, our words and our interactions impact our increasingly diverse community.

This program (SaSS) has complemented other school-based priorities:

- Responsive Classroom

- Open Circle

- Tools of the Mind

- Mindfulness

- Growth Mindset

- Social Thinking

- Cultural Competency/Proficiency

Where is this leading us?

A common vocabulary among staff about highest quality learning language.

Teachers are aware of the power of their words and how their words can help students to feel empowered and confident.

Prompt for long-range perspective for planning for sustainability and continued improvement.