Teaching Teachers SEL: A Ripple Effect of Kindness

SHANNON BLADY SBLADY@TULANE.EDU BROOKE GRANT BGRANT1@TULANE.EDU
MONIQUE HODGES MHODGES3@TULANE.EDU VICKI TEMPLET VTEMPLET@TULANE.EDU

Check-In

How are you feeling right now?
Purple - Movie or TV Show
Green - Food or Dish
Gold - Song

Goals of ‘Check-Ins’

Help the students to know one another
Help the class to come together and connect
Provide the opportunity for each voice to be heard at least once in the lesson and early
Invite reflection and self-awareness
Provide information to the teacher and other students

From Amy McConnel Franklin, Ph.D. Choose Change
Teacher Preparation and Certification Program

TPCP Mission: To develop innovative, caring and knowledgeable educators who use an interdisciplinary approach to meet the needs of diverse learners.

Vision: An innovative and caring educator in every classroom.

TPCP is a Post-baccalaureate Program that offers Alternative Certification in Early Childhood Education, Secondary Education in specific content areas, and Dance K-12 Education.

On average 200 students are enrolled in TPCP courses, half post-baccalaureate students and half are Tulane undergraduates.

160 completers since 2005.

Amy McConnell Franklin

Social and emotional learning (SEL) is the process through which children and adults acquire and effectively apply the knowledge, attitudes, and skills necessary to understand and manage emotions, set and achieve positive goals, feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain positive relationships, and make responsible decisions.
What's the Research Say?

Purple, Green, Gold Groups

North - Needs
You feel like you need more information about this quote.

East - Excites
This quote excites you.

South - Stance
You have a strong stance about this quote.

West - Worries
You have a worry about this quote.

"Initially, the thought of this course didn't really interest me but after the lesson last Thursday I had a complete change of mind. SEL is important. School to me is about preparing kids for what life has to offer and teaching them life skills that they can take into their own lives. Teachers have a job to educate kids but also be a positive role model and encourage especially for the children with a tough upbringing: good study habits, positive attitude, compassion, have fun, regularly exercise, be kind to everyone, accept differences etc..."

-Kayla M.
"I’m not a big fan of the SEL stuff you speak of, but I will admit it is changing me for the better. I am more comfortable sharing with my fellow classmates. I can see/hear how their day is going and know they are in the same situation as I. I also like that you see me as a person and not as just another student sitting in your class."

-Stephen M.

"This morning meeting provides a great way for the class to ease into the routine. It also gives them insight into what to expect for the day. I see how beneficial this approach is with our check-ins every Monday. I could see that the children were engaged and ready to start the day."

-Melissa L.
"...We do a check in. Depending on how much time we have (or don’t have) it could be quick as ‘I’m going to give you 30 seconds to think about how you’re feeling on a scale of 1-10’ (to the worst and 10 is the best) and when I say ‘go’ you’re real crayon fingers and look around the room to see where your classmates are. If we’re quick check in and then nominal to us unless a hand up/stand up. Usually there’s also another question, associated with the 1-10 check in like ‘do you want a personal note written down for you and why?’ What are you most excited about right now? How do you feel about the day so far? Is there anything you’re nervous about that you think your classmates could relate to and not themselves. I want them to get in the habit of really listening to their classmates’ feelings. They then go on to, except our hands in the middle of the circle, I could down from 3, and then all say ‘great day’.

Recently I had an exasperated voice out of the blue said to me ‘mom, I’m going to check in with you. I’m at 9 because… and 3 because…’. I thought that was amazing! They’re thinking about sharing their feelings with people outside of the class! And I also love that many of them are just at ONE but at two or more. Their understanding that feelings are very complex and different circumstances in the day can alter a different emotion." - Emily F.
Optimistic Closure