

# Planning Day at A.R.E.S.

September 24, 2022

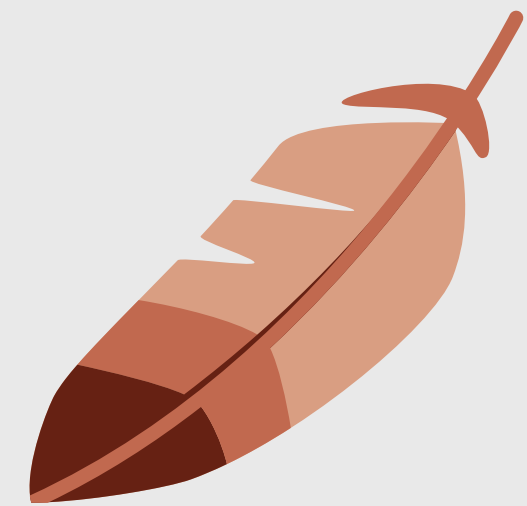


Adam Robertson  
Elementary

## Territorial Acknowledgement



We acknowledge, respect, and honour the First Nations in whose traditional territories the Kootenay Lake School District operates and all Aboriginal people residing within the boundaries of School District No. 8.



# Plan for the Day

8:30 - COFFEE & SNACKS

9:00 - SCHOOL GROWTH PLAN - VISION & GOALS

9:30 - CREATING A POSITIVE SCHOOL CULTURE

THE CIRCLE OF COURAGE

CODE OF CONDUCT &  
STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

COLLABORATION

12:00 - LUNCH

1:00 - NUMERACY & LITERACY

NUMERACY - INTERMEDIATE - TRACY

LITERACY - PRIMARY





# ARES Vision

To support the development of RESILIENT children who can thrive in any community

## ARES Goals

To actively incorporate the Circle of Courage philosophy and the four universal needs of all children (Belonging, Independence, Generosity, & Mastery) into our school-wide culture.

To Improve literacy proficiency for all learners

To improve numeracy proficiency for all learners





## First Peoples Principles of Learning

- The 9 principles are an attempt to acknowledge the deep value of First Peoples perspectives
- It is our responsibility to recognize, embrace, and make accessible First Peoples content and perspectives for all students
- They are guidelines - We can use them to reflect on our teaching practice and develop with our students to engage in authentic Indigenous learning experiences



# What is the Circle of Courage?



- A model of positive youth development first described in the book *Reclaiming Youth at Risk*, co-authored by Larry Brendtro, Martin Brokenleg, and Steve Van Bockern.
- Based on an Indigenous world view's child-rearing philosophy that emphasizes education and the empowerment of children
- Recognizes that there are 4 basic values that are universal human needs: Belonging, Generosity, Independence, & Mastery
- Aligns with the First Peoples Principles of Learning
- [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0PgrfCVCt\\_A](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0PgrfCVCt_A)

# The Circle of Courage is a model to help guide our responsibility & commitment towards Reconciliation

- It aligns with Indigenous world views on childrearing ~ Children are raised to be courageous, & respectful, without using harsh coercive controls
- It acknowledges that we must treat children with deep respect, if they are to learn "respect" themselves
- This traditional approach to child-rearing in the indigenous culture is validated by contemporary child research
- The Circle of Courage philosophy is a culturally responsive and culturally safe approach that meets the needs of ALL children





# A Safe & Caring School Culture

What we can do....



## **BELONGING**

Create an environment in which all people feel as though they belong

## **GENEROSITY**

Establish caring school practices

## **INDEPENDENCE**

Define roles for responsible behaviour

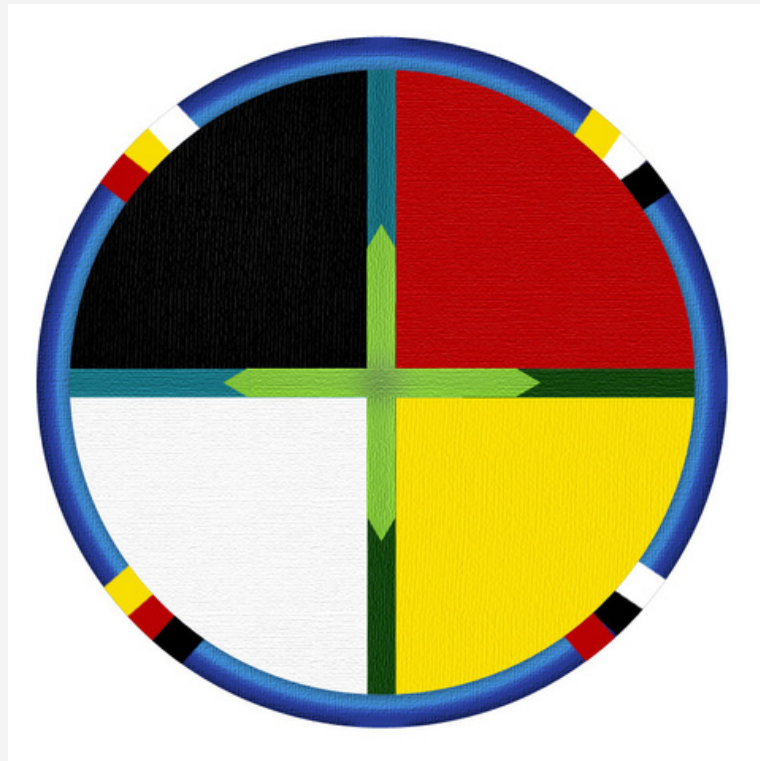
## **MASTERY**

Develop opportunities for small successes



# Where to begin...

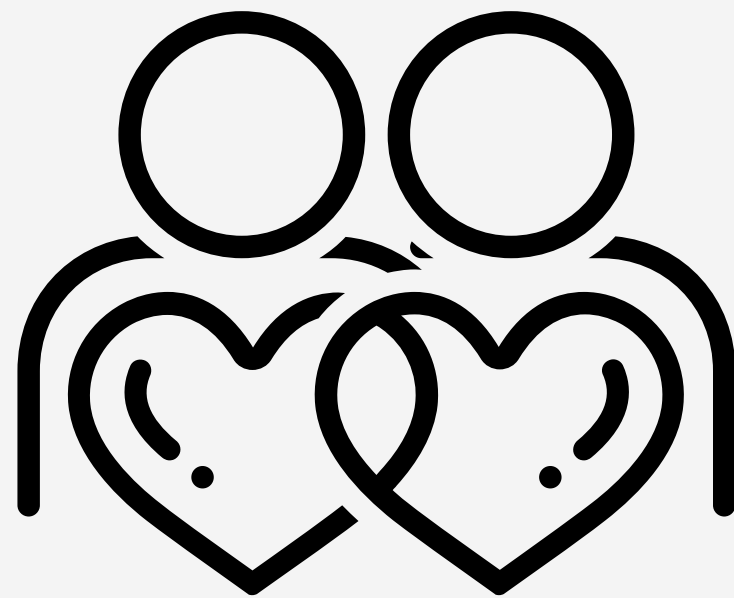
Courage



- Incorporate conversation about the 4 quadrants into everything we teach
- Understand that it is not a program, lesson plan, unit or black and white concept - it's a guiding philosophy
- Model the values ourselves and in the way we approach students
- Begin with the school wide culture

# BELONGING

What does  
BELONGING  
look like?



- Including others
- Respecting personal boundaries
- Taking turns, playing fairly, demonstrating sportsmanship
- Respecting the learning of others
- Respecting the property of others
- Being accepting and inclusive of all people
- Respecting the rights of others
- Building positive relationships with others
- Being involved in the school community

# GENEROSITY

What does  
**GENEROSITY**  
look like?



- Using kind words and actions
- Being considerate of others: Walking calmly, staying on the right, quiet in the hallway, etc.
- Helping others when they are hurt
- Finding an adult when something/someone is unsafe
- Being respectful and polite to others
- Contributing to the school community
- Demonstrating empathy and understanding
- Sharing ideas and work with others
- Engaging in helpful and thoughtful activities
- Supporting younger students without being asked



# INDEPENDENCE

What does  
INDEPENDENCE  
look like?



- Arriving on time, prepared and ready to learn
- Cleaning up after oneself and caring for the classroom and school
- Making positive choices
- Using equipment safely and with care
- Returning equipment after use
- Gradually assuming more responsibility
- Completing assignments
- Using self-control
- Maintaining a positive attitude
- Working independently and making good decisions
- Being trustworthy and taking responsibility for one's actions
- Setting goals and working towards them

# MASTERY

What does  
MASTERY look  
like?



- Demonstrating leadership
- Putting in one's best effort
- Striving for excellence
- Committing to teams/clubs, etc. and following-through with expectations
- Solving problems creatively
- Leading by example
- Creating opportunities for others
- Persisting until a task is completed
- Managing loss or failure positively and with a willingness to try again
- Being motivated to succeed
- Being a positive role model

# Reminders

- In order to build resiliency, we must empower (NOT TELL) students to take personal responsibility for themselves and their actions
- The 4 quadrants are all interconnected and not taught in isolation
- Rather than "rules," students have "Responsibilities"
- We need to practice this language when re-directing students ~ empowering them to be responsible for themselves



# Responding to Negative Behaviour or Poor Choices

- The focus is to help students assume greater personal responsibility for their negative actions, by creating an individualized plan that leads to healthier choices in the future
- We value each student and respond to situations individually
- We consider the diversity in needs, personal history, previous experiences, age, as well as level of comprehension
- We ensure the student feels safe, respected, while helping them assume greater control of their actions as they move forward



# Code of Conduct & Student Responsibilities

*The goal is for these to become naturally  
embedded in our school culture*



Thoughts? Ideas?.....

What can you do to incorporate the Circle of Courage Values into your classroom culture?

What else can we do as a school?

