



Donna-Marie Cole-Malott, Ph.D., Workshop Facilitator

Cultivating Community: Strategies for Supporting WCASD Students and Diverse Families

February 27, 2024

Session Objectives/Outcomes: In this session, participants will:

1. Cultivate a supportive and inclusive environment in the WCASD community to deepen family connections and celebrate diverse voices.
2. Offer practical strategies to promote joy, wholeness, and healing within families and the broader school district.
3. Empower participants to appreciate and address the unique needs of diverse families and students, fostering empathy and understanding.
4. Provide tools and resources for fostering inclusivity and unity within families and across the WCASD community.
5. Foster meaningful dialogue and collaboration among participants, encouraging collective growth and enrichment.

Check-In: Introduce yourself and one reason you chose to attend today's workshop Breakout Conversations:
Two cycles 3-minutes each

Activity #1 Description:

Implicit Bias Starts in Preschool: Yale Study <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VBDabRNLpM8>

For this activity, we invite you to engage in reflection upon the presented data and participate in breakout discussions focusing on the following questions: Explore how the data resonates with you and your child within the WCASD, discerning its significance and relevance to your experiences.

Breakout Conversation Questions

1. Reflect on your initial impressions upon reviewing the presented data.
2. Pose inquiries regarding the data you've encountered, expressing any questions or uncertainties that arise.
3. Consider the potential implications of the data for both you and your child within the WCASD, contemplating how it may influence your experiences within the district.
4. Brainstorm potential strategies and initiatives the district could implement to address various data points, fostering constructive solutions and improvements.

Activity #2

Ghody Muhammed: "Unearthing Joy" "What does it mean to feel beauty, wholeness, wellness, and happiness?"

Five Pursuits: Identity, Skills, Intellect, Criticality, and Joy Question#1:

1. How is your heart? How are you feeling today? What emotions are you feeling? How do you see yourself recognized in our school and classroom? How do you feel about yourself? How are you learning more about yourself and who you wish to be? (P. 154)
2. Why do you think there is so much resistance to education rooted in Black histories or histories of people of color? (P. 90)
3. In what ways are the five pursuits of Identity, Skills, Intellect, Criticality, and Joy? What are your experiences with beliefs about them?
4. How can the WCASD help me and my child foster joy in learning and enhance their overall schooling experience?

Check Out: One idea that resonated with you from today's workshop? [Mentimeter link](#)

Resources: [RFA Opportunity Gap For Pennsylvania](#)