

Webinar: Seizing the Moment – Race Equity Mindsets, Social and Emotional Well-Being, and Outcomes for Students

Supporting all students in grades K-12

A Publication From Regional Educational Laboratory West at IES

To access the RELs' evidence-based COVID-19 response resources, visit <https://ies.ed.gov/ncee/edlabs/projects/covid-19>.



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Primary Audience: Instructional Leaders **Secondary Audiences:** School Leaders and Superintendents

This Regional Educational Laboratory (REL) West webinar and panel discussion explored the interrelationships among race equity mindsets, social and emotional well-being, and outcomes for Black, Latinx, and other students of color. Presenters shared evidence on why equity in schools is key to improving student outcomes and discussed evidence on how educators can shift mindsets to support positive social and emotional development and build equitable education systems. The webinar discussed research on equity mindsets and promising and practical strategies to advance equitable learning environments for Black, Latinx, and other students of color; promote positive relationships among educators, students, and families; and foster agency and belonging for all students.



Promising Strategies

Six Recommendations for School and District Leaders

From the Education Trust-West

- Provide meaningful professional development and supports.
- Engage parents, students, and communities as full partners.
- Diversify the workforce.
- Ensure equitable access to and supports for success in rigorous and culturally sustaining coursework.
- Develop inclusive discipline and dress code policies.
- Provide access to integrated wraparound services and supports.

Three Mindset Shifts

From Envision Education

- Integrating social and emotional learning, academic rigor, and equity leads to student learning and growth.
- Instead of designing for students and communities, involve them in a process of co-creation.
- Focus on transforming systems and policies and reimagining learning.

Three Key Ideas

From the National Equity Project

- Focus on what students are learning versus what adults are doing.
- Identify the student experience you are after.
- See the system that needs interrupting and build equitable learning environments.

Questions to Consider



- How can you cultivate race equity mindsets and ultimately improve student experiences and learning?
- What mindsets and activities should we shift away from, and what should we shift toward? For example, shifting away from generic vision statements to ones that explicitly center equity, diversity, and belonging.
- How are you attending to students' well-being through community and restorative practices?
- How are students and their families involved in co-creating education systems and policies?
- What is the student experience you want to create?

Related Resources



- The Aspen Institute: [Pursuing Social and Emotional Development Through a Racial Equity Lens: A Call to Action](#)
- Center to Improve Social and Emotional Learning and School Safety at WestEd: [Creating Equity, Excellence, and Well-Being in Education](#)
- Envision Education: [A School Leader's View: Our Schools Model End-of-Year Exams on the Way Grad Students Defend Their Academic Theses. Innovations Like This Are Needed Now More Than Ever](#)
- National Equity Project: [What if We...Don't Return to School as Usual](#)
- The Education Trust: [Social, Emotional, and Academic Development Through an Equity Lens](#)

The U.S. Department of Education's Institute of Education Sciences funds a network of 10 Regional Educational Laboratories (RELs). Each REL serves a designated region of the country and works in partnership with educators and policymakers with a mission of supporting a more evidence-based education system to improve outcomes for students. In response to the impact of COVID-19 on education systems, the RELs collaborated to produce evidence-based resources and guidance.

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