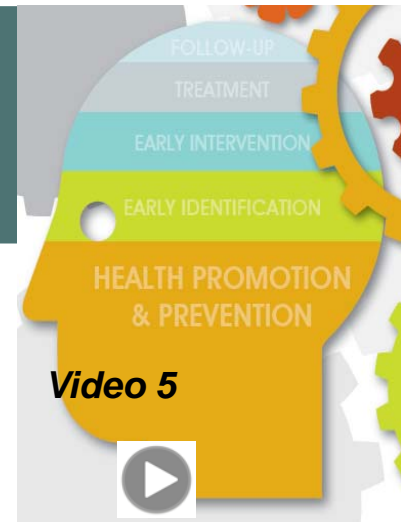


How can school staff support a welcoming, caring, respectful and safe learning environment?



Resources:

The Edmonton Catholic School District Mental Health Strategic Plan provides opportunities to further develop your understanding of mental health and build awareness about tools and strategies to support all students' mental health.

The Walk Around: Teacher Companion Tool

https://education.alberta.ca/media/142742/the-walk-around_teacher.pdf

Key Understandings:

- Educational settings must foster a sense of diversity and belonging.
- Creating welcoming, caring, respectful & safe learning environments requires a whole school approach.
- The Alberta Education Walk Around Tool can be used by teachers to reflect on four areas: physical appearance, social climate, success in learning and the relationship between home – school – community.
- Students need to be involved in the process of creating a welcoming, caring, respectful and safe learning environment.
- Safe and caring schools are created through human connection.
- Schools are diverse learning communities that must embrace and celebrate all students.

Questions for discussion:

- How can we ensure that we are creating welcoming, caring, respectful & safe learning environments?
- What am I doing to support community within my classroom?
- How are we involving students, parents, community members and our parish to support our school environment?

For more information:

- The Society for Safe and Caring Schools Community
<http://resources.safeandcaring.ca/>
- Respectful Schools Online Toolkit
<http://respectfulschools.ca/>
- School Act: Safe and Caring
<https://education.alberta.ca/media/1626590/whats-new-in-the-school-act.pdf>
- Whole School Approach
<https://education.alberta.ca/media/160216/what-is-comprehensive-school-health-october-14-2015-2-pager.pdf>

