

Culturally Responsive

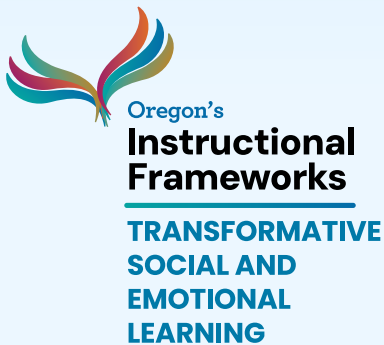
Community Responsive

Strengths-Based

Trauma-Informed

Grounded in Neuroscience
and the Science of Learning

[Oregon's Transformative
Social and Emotional Learning
Framework](#) provides a vision for
how education ecosystems can
support everyone to feel a sense
of belonging, develop agency and
collaborative problem-solving
skills and grow their abilities to
create positive change.



OREGON'S TRANSFORMATIVE SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL LEARNING
STANDARD 3:

Social Awareness & Belonging

“ [We can] recognize the shared humanity in every single one of us every day and make sure that it's at the forefront of everything we do. —Oregon Education Leader

Social awareness and belonging refer to an individual's ability to explore personal and collective identities, understand systemic injustice, develop and maintain identity-affirming relationships and create accepting and inclusive communities.

Why are social awareness and belonging important?

A sense of belonging is critical to student development and success. When students feel that they belong at school, they feel safe and are better able to engage with their peers and in academic learning. Adults can foster student belonging by teaching and modeling social awareness or an ability to understand and empathize with others, especially those with different backgrounds or experiences.

In educational ecosystems where social awareness and belonging are prioritized, adults and students alike celebrate the unique strengths of every individual and show compassion for those who are struggling.

What does this look like?

Practices

Demonstrate awareness and understanding of the similarities and differences that define, influence and affirm personal and collective identities.

Examples

An elementary teacher creates a classroom library full of books about diverse people and cultures. Students are encouraged to read books to learn about people different from them.

Practices

Apply social skills (empathy, compassion) to develop and maintain healthy relationships that collectively achieve mutual goals while affirming identities and perspectives.

Foster a sense of belonging that cultivates acceptance, support, inclusion and encouragement of others within a diverse community while addressing the impact of systemic injustices across situations and environments.

Examples

During a challenging time, a high school student was supported by teachers and peers to stay in school and maintain a healthy outlook. The same student is now a peer advocate and plans to graduate next year.

A middle school hosts a community book group that features authors of various backgrounds. Through the discussions, diverse parents and students have become friends and regularly support each other when challenges arise.



Pause and Reflect

- Think about a time when you've felt like you truly belonged. What factors contributed to your sense of belonging?
- What are some ways you learned about identities or cultures that are different from your own? How can you demonstrate this awareness and understanding for others?



Try It Out

- Read or watch stories about people with backgrounds or experiences different from yours.
- Find volunteer opportunities in your community to interact with people outside your regular social circles.
- When determining how to support a student or colleague, create a map of their interests, strengths, needs and other information that can help foster connection.

LEARN MORE & SHARE The new [Transformative SEL resources](#) on the Oregon Instructional Frameworks website provide tools and guidance for educators, instructional coaches, school and district leaders, and community members to integrate Transformative SEL into everyday education. Please share these resources with your community!



Access resources and get more information:
oregoninstructionalframeworks.org/TSEL