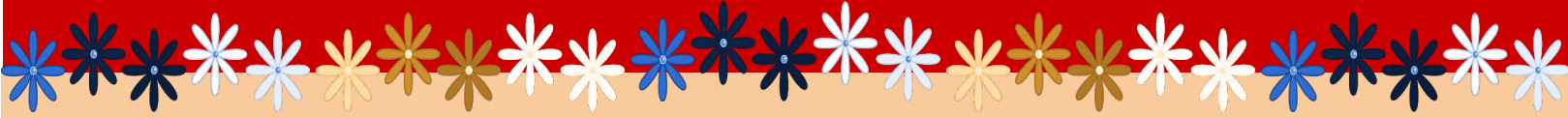


# Arizona School Safety and Climate Initiative



When a flower doesn't bloom, you fix the environment in which it grows, not the flower.

- Alexander Den Heijer

Positive & Protective  
Climates

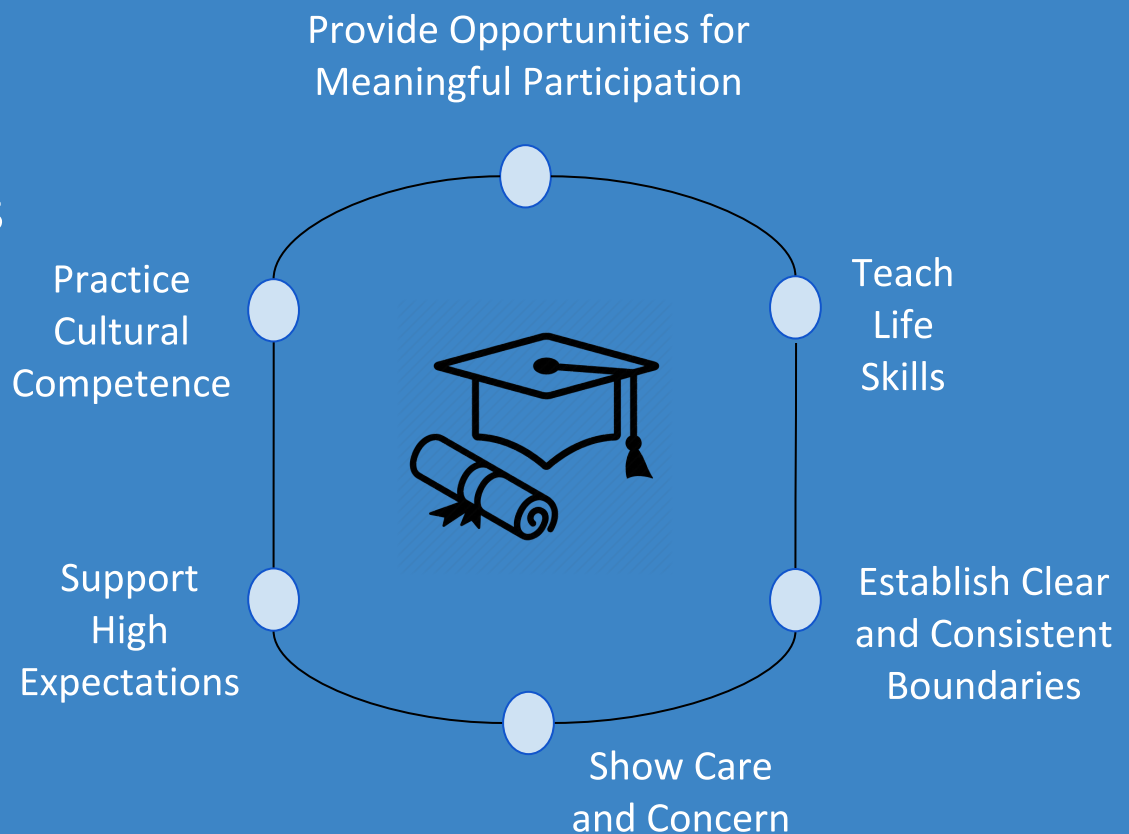


Connectedness



Safe  
Environments

## Building Student Connectedness



### What can we DO together in our schools?

- Collect data on student, staff, and parent perceptions of climate and safety
- Establish a multidisciplinary school safety and climate team
- Prepare and review a comprehensive school safety plan
- Identify areas for improvement
- Make a plan to address those needs

The Arizona School Safety and Climate Initiative is spearheaded by researchers and practitioners Jean Ajamie, Kris Bosworth, Mark Joraanstad, Jennifer Kirkpatrick, Sarah Lindstrom-Johnson, Cindy Ruich, Katie Stalker, and Mike Sukowski. For more information contact: [boswork@u.arizona.edu](mailto:boswork@u.arizona.edu) or [jean@pbisaz.org](http://jean@pbisaz.org)

# School Practices

1

## Establish Clear & Consistent Boundaries

- Follow Multi-Tiered Support Systems (MTSS) guidelines
- State rules positively –what you want students to do
- Display and teach rules
- Be consistent with consequences

2

## Practice Social Justice

- Include diverse experiences & backgrounds in classroom materials
- Always ask: who makes the decision & who is left out?
- Encourage classroom collaboration

3

## Provide Opportunities for Meaningful Participation

- Have students collaborate to set class rules & expectations
- Student-led decision-making opportunities
- Project-based learning experiences
- Student Advisory Councils

4

## Show Care & Concern

- Learn students' names and use them for positive comments
- Remember the 4 to 1 ratio - Provide 4 positive suggestions/comments for every negative
- Ask students for feedback

5

## Support High Expectations

- Have procedures in place so that students can manage themselves
- Be a facilitator of learning - supporting students to make choices about learning
- Praise action, not person

6

## Teach Life Skills

- Implement social emotional learning (SEL) curriculum
- Acknowledge students when they show kindness or other appropriate social behaviors