

School Climate Transformation: Using a PBIS Model in Indian Country ...transforming the social culture.

Goal

To fully implement a culturally-grounded and culturallyappropriate Montana Behavioral Initiative (MBI) in schools that serve primarily tribal areas.

Partners

- Tribal Cultural Advisors
- Target Schools
- MBI and Indigenous Consultants
- Montana OPI American Indian Youth Development Coord.
- Project SOARS Montana's School Safety and Mental Health Initiative

Changing Adult Behavior

- Build and grow decision making systems
- Encourage positive interactions with children
- Engage students, families and cultural advisers in problem solving
- Align multiple programs into a "paradigm"

An effective school represents the community it's a part of. The school must be a reflection of community values and traditions." – A Tribal Elder from the Fort Belknap Reservation (2015)

Montana Schools

144,500 total students

Quaglia Student Voice participation for SCT Schools: Staff - 209 Parent/Families - 167

Challenges

Participation

Secondary - 1514

Elementary - 579

• Extensive staff and administration turnover

American Indians than Whites

- Tension between "Native" ways and "White" ways
- Staff availability for training (substitute teachers are not available)
- Too many programs in high need schools
- Inconsistent data and decision making infrastructure
- Target schools average 280 miles from SEA
- Inconsistent Internet availability

 White: 79% of school-age population American Indian: 11% of school-age population Special Education rate is 3.5% higher for

Montana is home to seven reservations and **12 sovereign Native American nations.**

Heart Butte





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