

Happy Endings! Learning Your Students' Stories and Supporting Them from Trauma to Triumph

AA #3937

Dr. Don Parker & Dr. Veda Newman

Monday, January 23, 2023 - 9:00am - 12:00pm

[Register Here](#)

For some young people, school is the only place in their lives where they know they are safe and can form trusted, enduring relationships. It is, therefore, a cruel irony that many students who are affected by trauma also have trouble engaging at school. They may attend school with the best of intentions, hoping to form friendships, feel connected to their teachers, and succeed at the day's tasks. Yet they can find themselves defiant, demanding, and disengaged, unable to learn and confused about why they can't relate and bond with others. Participants in this professional development opportunity will learn how to help students understand that the events in their lives that caused trauma are not their fault. They will learn how they can help students progress from trauma to triumph and live successful lives by setting goals and learning how to regulate emotions so the brain can prepare to learn and process information.

Outcomes

1. Participants will understand how trauma affects learning and behavior in students and colleagues. (2b, 2k, 2EE)
2. Participants will learn how to respond appropriately to trauma-induced behaviors. (2b, 2k, 2ee)
3. Participants will learn how to create a cultural shift in both teacher-student and teacher-teacher interactions. (2e, 2g, 2k)
4. Participants will learn how to strengthen student outcomes through a healthier learning environment. (2k, 2L)
5. Participants will learn how to support students to understand that the trauma is not their fault and change the narrative. (2b)
6. Participants will learn how to work with students to create personal and academic goals so they can rise and thrive despite trauma. (2b, 2e, 2p)

Intended Outcome for Student Achievement

When student trauma is handled effectively, they are more likely to participate in learning.

Target Audience

General, special education administrators, teachers

Continuing Education

One Administrator Academy credit

*Administrator Academy credit will be offered for \$15, and payment must be sent to the Northwest Suburban Special Education Organization. Contact Molly Dunne at mdunne@nsseo.org for payment information.



Presenter:
Dr. Don Parker

Dr. Don Parker specializes in supporting school leaders and teachers to help them build authentic relationships with their students. This is achieved by optimizing the experience of staff and students to improve the culture and climate of the district. Dr. Parker has held multiple roles during his 25-year career -- teacher, dean of students, assistant principal for Student Life, assistant principal of C and I, assistant principal of Activities and Athletics, and school principal. Dr. Parker holds a doctorate in Educational Leadership and his superintendent license. He also is the author of "Building Bridges: Engaging Students Through the Power of Relationships." Dr. Parker offers professional development nationally via keynote addresses, workshops, and corporate retreats.



Presenter:
Dr. Veda Newman

Dr. Veda Newman understands what's special about special education -- the children. Dr. Newman is a former social worker and current special education administrator with over 15 years of experience in the public school setting. In addition, Dr. Newman is currently the director of Student Support Services with Sandridge School District 172 in Chicago Heights. She obtained a doctorate in Curriculum Leadership from Northern Illinois University, and her research interests include staff and student resilience.