

Project Prevent

The goal of the MPS Project Prevent grant is to provide safe and supportive learning environments for our students to thrive academically and socially. As a part of this grant, each of the 8 MPS schools receives training and support in the areas of trauma sensitive schools and social and emotional learning. The schools utilize the Second Step curriculum in all classrooms as a way to promote the development and use of positive social skills in the areas of skills for learning, empathy, emotion management, and problem solving. Parents have several supports available to them ranging from educational sessions to direct referrals to Project Ujima for families who have been impacted by violence. An MPS social worker is co-located at the Sojourner Family Peace Center with multiple community partners to better support families who have experience violence and reduce re-traumatization. Finally, we have expanded the School Community Partnership for Mental Health to bring community mental health agencies into each of the schools, allowing for students to be referred to and receive mental health supports within the school setting.

Project AWARE

MPS is dedicated to creating safe and supportive school communities that produce healthy and successful students by educating the whole child. Project AWARE High Schools are using DPI's Mental Health Framework to support the MPS vision and create trauma sensitive schools by implementing restorative practices into the tiered system of support in order to meet each school's mental health needs. In addition, numerous staff have, or will, receive training in Youth Mental Health First Aide.

Attachment: MPS Project AWARE Framework and Overview

Trauma Sensitive Schools

The MPS Violence Prevention Program, Project Prevent and Project AWARE teams in conjunction with the district PBIS team created a series of training modules on trauma. Six modules were shared with all schools during the spring of 2016. An additional three modules were shared between August 2016-February 2017 on the connection between trauma sensitive schools and social emotional learning. Subsequently, all K5 and K8 schools began implementing the Second Step curriculum (research based social emotional curriculum) and high schools have been exposed to Restorative Practices. On-going support ("champions", professional development, professional learning communities and cohorts) is currently being provided and will continue to be provided moving forward.

Attachment: Trauma Sensitive Schools Training Modules