



SCHOOL CRISIS
RECOVERY
and
RENEWAL

Acknowledging Our Humanity: Using Professional Development to supports Educator Emotional Wellness Too

Aug 7th

10:30 a.m.-11:15 a.m. PST

Image: Wikimedia Commons

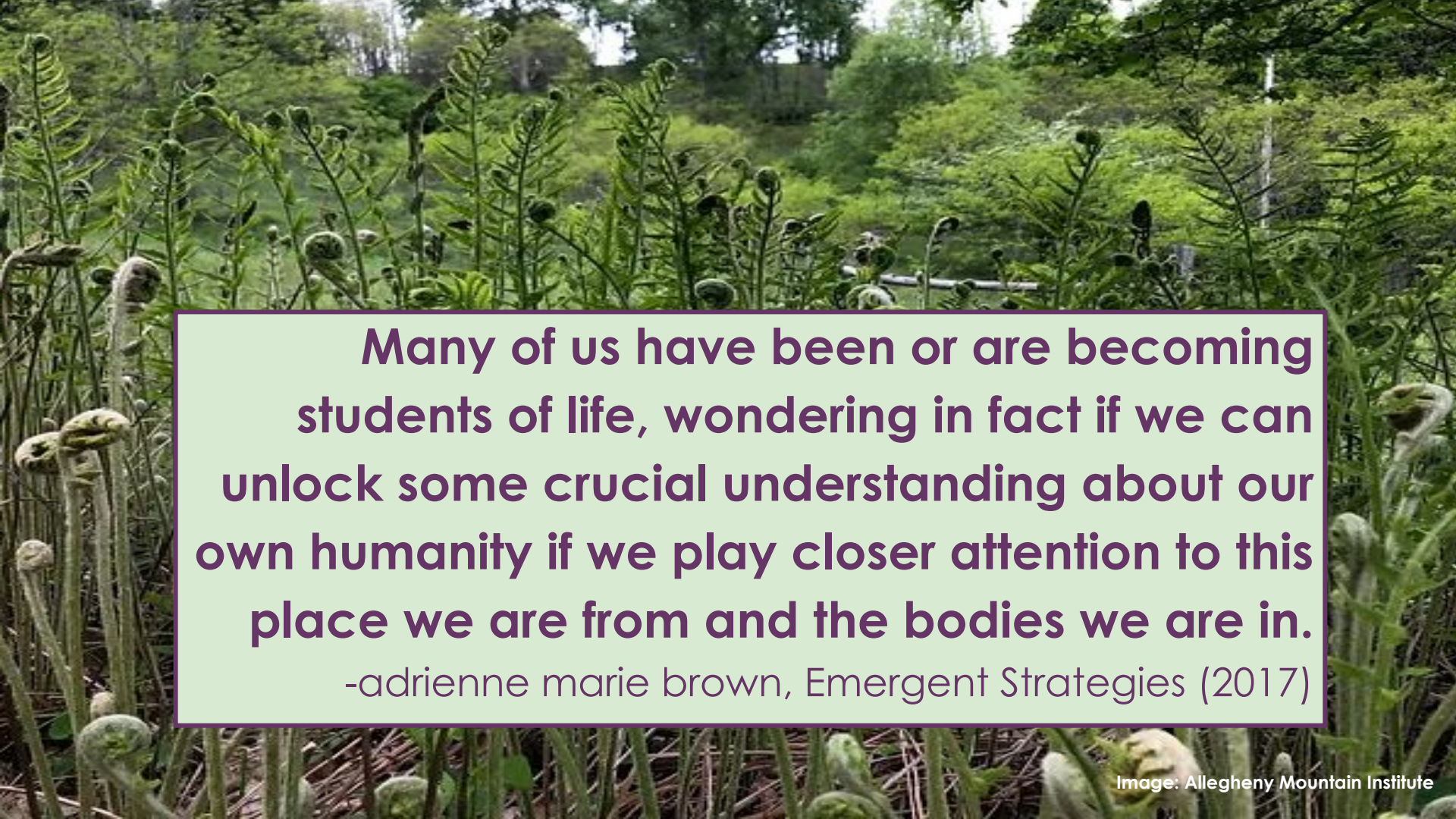
“It is imperative that I teach for liberation and humanize learning by making space for students to express their joy and process their trauma...”

-Keisha Rembert

Welcoming Mindstretch. **This Image:and question is an offering** as we settle in to the room.

What do you make space for in your school?






Many of us have been or are becoming students of life, wondering in fact if we can unlock some crucial understanding about our own humanity if we pay closer attention to this place we are from and the bodies we are in.

-adrienne marie brown, Emergent Strategies (2017)




Noticing and Naming



I enter the classroom with the assumption that we must build “community” in order to create a climate of openness and intellectual rigor. Rather than focusing on issues of safety, I think that a feeling of community creates a sense that there is a shared commitment and common good that binds us.

What we all ideally share is the desire to learn--to receive actively knowledge that enhances our intellectual development and our capacity to live more fully in the world. It has been my experience that one way to build community in the classroom is to recognize the value of each individual voice

**-bell hooks, *Teaching to Transgress: education as the practice of freedom*
(1994)**



**What do you
desire** for you
students,
colleagues
and your
school
community?

1. What does this require of us as educators?
2. What does this mean for the relationships we build/maintain?
3. What is needed from the systems we wade within?

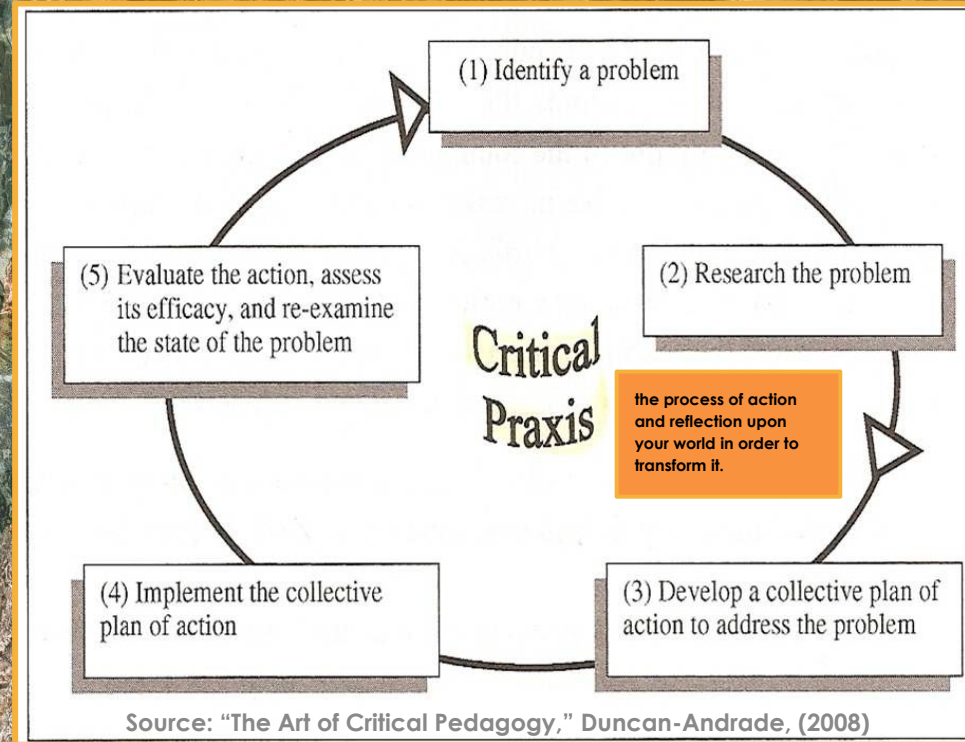
Slowing Down to Notice and Name What Is

Humanizing Professional Development allows us to examine, embrace and challenge our many identities.

It provides opportunity to feel and heal parts of ourselves that are activated by our work.

It roots into practices that support noticing and naming our experiences within school spaces.

It identifies and explicitly teaches shared values that foster a communal space of learning to build life sustaining frameworks.



Identify **three characteristics** present in your current PD

- Equity
- Perfectionism
- Collaboration
- Sense of Urgency
- Defensiveness
- Deficit Thinking
- Singular Thinking
- Celebration
- Distribution of work
- Quantity over quality
- Worship of the written word
- Connection
- Honesty
- Responsiveness
- Paternalism
- Either/or thinking
- Power Hoarding
- Curiosity
- Suppression
- Fear of Open Conflict
- Objectivity
- Right to Comfort
- Strength measured endurance
- Scarcity Culture
- Right to Comfort
- Trust
- Supportive

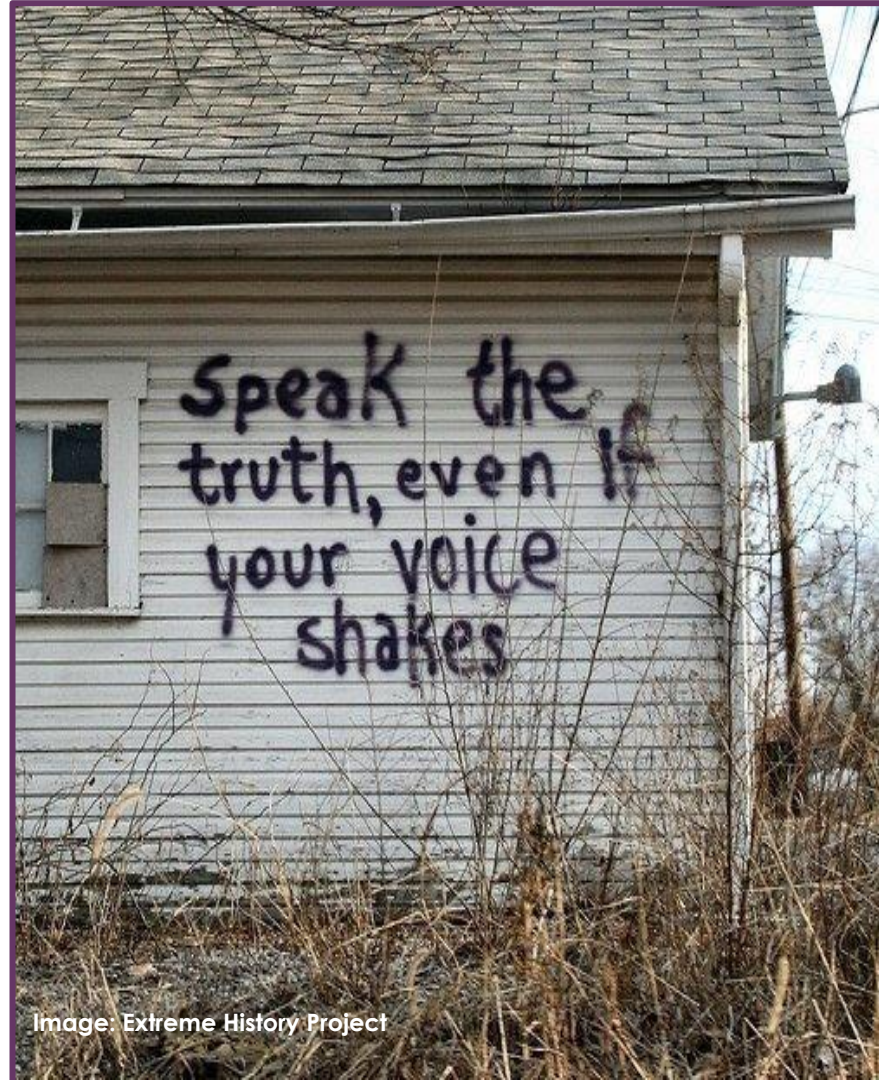


Image: Extreme History Project

COLLECTIVE JOURNAL ACTIVITY:

Reflecting on the three characteristics you identified, what more would you say about your current PD (*structure, culture, outcomes*)?

- Describe your experience in it.
- Explore the supports and challenges you face with it.

***When you feel like you've completed your thoughts, highlight a portion to share with the group.**

OUR ECOSYSTEM IS RELATIONAL



Ancestors, legacy supports,
policy + structural change

District supports, student
supports, transportation, county
or state office of education, public
health, government

Afterschool programs, community
and cultural centers, faith-based,
environment, parks, and nearby
clinics, recreation/childcare

Students, educators, families,
neighbors, site leaders, support
staff (bus, safety), volunteers

A PIVOT TOWARDS HEALING

“We need a fundamental shift in our values, a pivot in how we think, connect, act and work.

A pivot acknowledges collective harm and individual injury but also leans into the future and opens entirely new possibilities. “

-Shawn Ginwright PhD, The Four Pivots (2022)





The times are urgent; let us slow down. Slowing down is losing our way—not a human capacity or human capability. It is the invitations that are now in in the world-at-large, inviting us to listen deeply, to be keen, to be fresh, to be quick with our heels, to follow the sights and sounds and smells of the world.

DR. BAYO AKOMOLAFE

Green Dreamer Podcast EP317

