

Title

Reconciliation Means Something to Everyone

Grade Level

High School – Building-wide program

Theme

Reconciliation is journey of forgiveness and healing

Duration

On/Off for a semester

Goal

By using the Dakota Wokiksuya Memorial Ride as an example, students will understand that damaged relationships can be reconciled by a process of forgiveness and healing.

Objectives

Students will be able to:

1. Recognized the dangers of unresolved anger and unforgiveness
2. Understand reconciliation process used in the Dakota Wokiksuya Memorial Ride (vision, gather the need people, and take action to resolve inner issues and generate reconciliation.
3. Explain the background knowledge of the Dakota Wokiksuya Memorial Ride
4. Apply applications of the Dakota Wokiksuya Memorial Ride into their lives (understanding the emotions of bitterness and forgiveness in relationships – historical and present)

Standards

1. 9-12.US.2.1. Students are able to describe the causes and effects of interactions between the U.S. government and Native American cultures.
2. 9-12.US.2.3. Students are able to identify the influences of local groups on settlement patterns of South Dakota and the Great Plains Region.

Native Americans and reservation system

1. 9-12.G.2.2. Students are able to explain how humans interact with their environment.
2. 9-12.C.1.5. Students are able to describe the state, local, and tribal governments with emphasis on their structures, functions, and powers.
3. 9-12.US.2.1A. Students are able to evaluate the significance of interactions between the U.S. government and diverse cultures in relation to cultural preservation versus cultural assimilation.

Cultural Concept:

Be a good relative.

Cultural Background

Mutualism. As a value, attitude, and behavior, mutualism permeates everything in the traditional Indian social fabric. Mutualism promotes a sense of belonging and solidarity with group members cooperating to gain group security and consensus. (sited from: <http://nwindian.evergreen.edu>)

Teacher Activities:

Since this is a building-wide program planned for the high school that I work at, the teachers will need to be prepared first, before implementation of the program with the students.

In-service time will need to be given to staff members such things as:

1. the dangers of harboring bitterness and unforgiveness
2. taking action promotes healing in relationships
3. background knowledge US-Dakota War of 1862
4. background knowledge of the Dakota Wokiksuya Memorial Ride
5. viewing of the film “Dakota 38”
6. timeline of events

Student Activities:

At my school we have an advisee/advisor period for twenty minutes a day. This time would be used to incorporate a variety of activities to help students understand the process of reconciliation with the study of the Dakota Wokiksuya Memorial Ride.

1. Day 1 – The evidence of forgiveness and emotional health of people.
2. Day 2 – The evidence of unresolved anger and bitterness and the path to poor mental health and depression.
3. Day 3 – Background knowledge of the US-Dakota Conflict of 1862. (Chromebook search)
4. Day 4 – Background knowledge about December 26, 1862 in Mankato, MN. (Chromebook search and classroom discussion)
5. Day 5 thru 10 – Viewing of the film “Dakota 38” Give students a map of the “clearly-marked” path from Crow Creek to Mankato.
6. Day 11 – Class discussion of the film – debrief
7. Day 12 – Written response – How did Chuck Derby’s vision and action lead to reconciliation in his life? How did ride promote reconciliation in the lives of the other riders? Discussion in class.
8. Day 13 – Written response – What is the significance of 38 men and war in Chuck Derby’s life? Discussion in class. (Psychological closure to life issues)
9. Day 14 – Discussion – What steps were taken in “Dakota 38” that promoted reconciliation?
 - a. Answer: 1. Get a vision for betterment of the situation
 3. Gather the correct people for the situation and plan the efforts
 4. Take action
10. Day 15 & 16 – Written response – How can the lessons learned from the Dakota Wokiksuya Memorial Ride promote reconciliation in your life at home, school and with friends? Discussion in class.

Resources:

Video “Dakota 38” on the shared drive or a CD for each classroom
Teacher handouts as resources for building background knowledge

Assessment:

Can students verbalize and practice the steps to reconciliation when in school or when visiting with their guidance counselor or principal about conflicts at home, at school or with friends? After all, reconciliation means something to everyone.

References:

Various websites that students will use in the research of the US-Dakota Conflict of 1862.

Developer:

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