



# Genuine Yup'ik Person:

**Culturally Responsive Embedded Social and Emotional Learning in  
Lower Yukon School District (CRESEL)**



Lower Yukon School District



# Our Flow

- © Our Agreements
- © Gathering: What is a valuable life lesson you learned from your culture, community or family that still resonates with you today?
- © Taking Action from the Heart
- © Role of Youth and School Board
- © Connecting at Your Table



# Our Agreements

- © In every chair, a leader
- © Value our time together
- © Speak to be understood;  
Listen to understand
- © Safe space for  
meaningful conversation
- © Challenges —>  
Solutions





A close-up photograph of a pair of hands, wearing light-colored, textured gloves, gently cupping a large cluster of ripe, dark blueberries. The hands are positioned in the center of the frame, with the fingers slightly curled to support the fruit. The background is a soft-focus outdoor setting with green grass and some small white flowers. The lighting is natural and soft, highlighting the texture of the gloves and the glossy surface of the blueberries.

**What is a valuable life lesson you learned  
from your culture, community or family  
that still resonates with you today?**





<https://youtu.be/Nwo7OzQMYYN>



# Culturally Responsive Embedded Social and Emotional Learning (CRESEL)

**CRESEL in Lower Yukon, binds and nurtures the wisdom of elders to younger generations, empowering and preparing them to live and learn successfully, through the teachings and values of Yup'ik traditions, native language (Yugtun) and Yuuyaraq (Way of Life).**



# Research finally catches up to common sense!

**Yup'ik Values: Respect for self nature, animals; Humor; Knowledge of family**

**Yup'ik Values:  
Humility,  
Hard work,  
Listening,  
Domestic  
skills**



**Yup'ik Values:  
Sharing;  
Cooperation;  
Community  
wellness;  
Spirituality**

**Yup'ik Values: Respect for Elders and others; Love for children; Compassion; Family roles; Helping others**

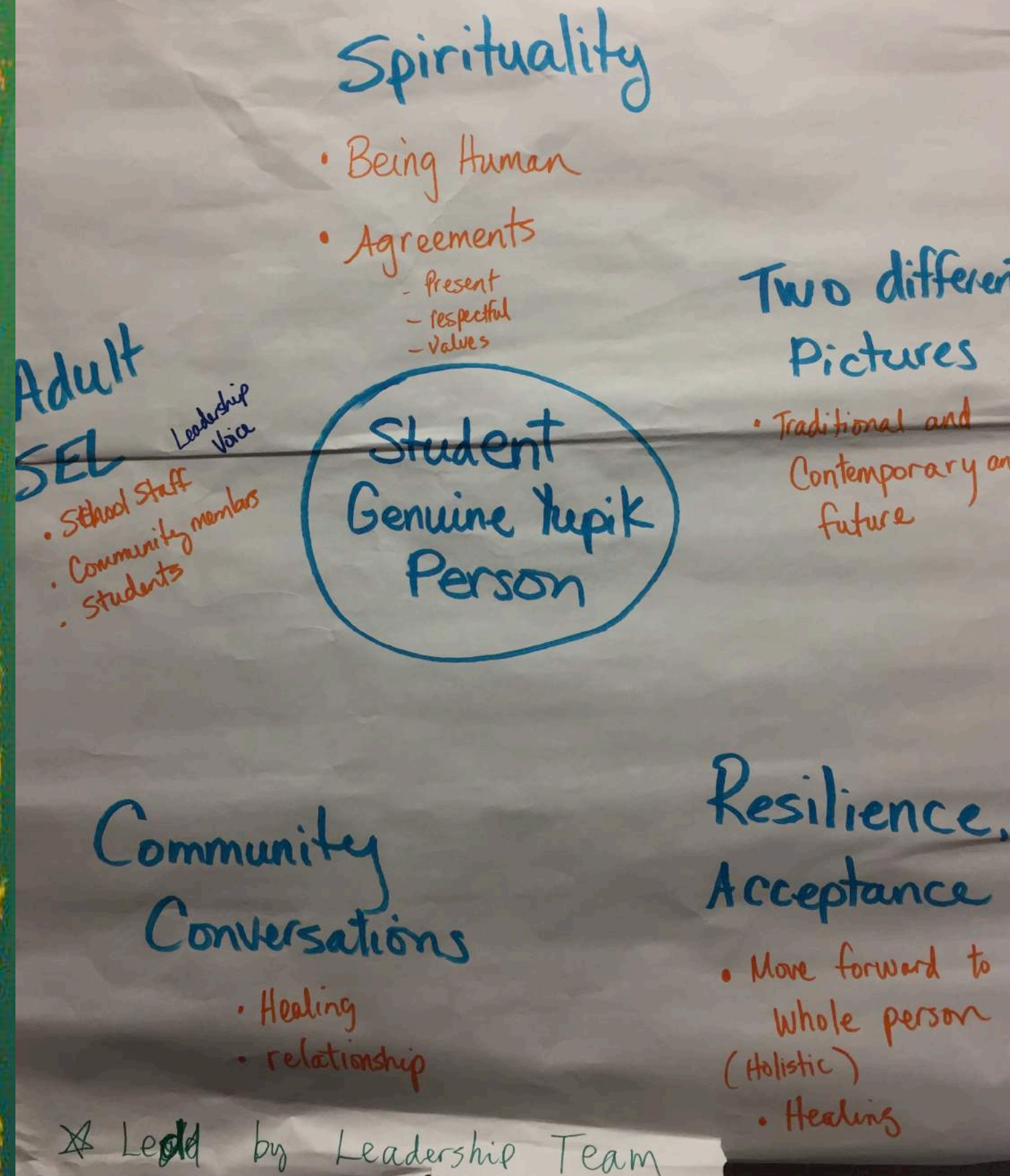


Culturally responsive  
SEL is from the heart.

How can we help adults  
and students learn to take  
action from the heart?

Core beliefs:

- © Relationship
- © Sense of belonging
- © Intentional  
conversation about  
values

















# Natural Helpers: Youth as Leaders in CRESEL





# Role of the Board

Matthew Kozevnikoff, Regional School Board

© Leadership Team

© Community Conversations

© Communication Loop

© Celebration





# Connecting at Your Table

- ©What can board members do to model traditional values and SEL skills?
- ©What actions can board members take to “lean into” community voice?



# Thank You!

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