



## 2021 New Mexico School Counselors' Community Conference

### Finding Common Ground in a Whole Child Approach

**Kori Sanchez Smith**

**1:00 p.m.**

Schools are hard at work, doing everything they can to meet the complex needs of students today. But with a wealth of priorities and initiatives, supporting the whole child can feel overwhelming. Where do we start? What do we do? How does this all fit into the Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS)? This session will look at the relationship between Social Emotional Learning, Restorative Practices and being trauma informed. Not only will we explore how the three initiatives overlap, but we will also identify the ways they build upon and support each other. Join me for an engaging, informative session that will prepare you to find common ground in your school's whole child work, truly meeting the needs of your students.

#### About Kori Smith



**Kori Smith** is a proud native of Berkeley, California. She started her teaching career in a small Title I school in California after receiving her B.A. in Early Childhood Education from Spelman College in Atlanta, Georgia. To be better equipped to meet the emotional needs of her students, Kori completed a M.Ed. in Community Counseling at the University of Oklahoma. Since starting her career, Kori has taught in urban districts, a charter school and a private school in both Title I and non-Title I settings across three states. As a teacher leader and administrator, Kori has led professional development on a variety of topics and developed an in-depth knowledge of community building, shared decision-making, program implementation and teacher development and evaluation.

Kori was honored to earn the position of Director of Social Emotional Learning (SEL) for Atlanta Public Schools where she spearheaded the first ever, district wide, implementation of social emotional learning. Her experiences leading a team to support over 70 schools and over 40,000 students has given her the skills and knowledge to help others take a similar journey. She has presented on SEL implementation at both small independent schools and for large district convenings. Additionally, Kori co-presented the EducationWeek Webinar "Social Emotional Learning- A Systematic Approach that leads to Student Success". She served as a panelist during the congressional briefing on "Teacher Health and Wellness: Fostering Student Achievement by Supporting Teachers' Mental and Physical Well-Being". Kori is a certified trainer of Restorative Practices and a certified GALLUP Strengths Coach, and proudly serves as the owner and strategic lead for Heart Shift Consulting.