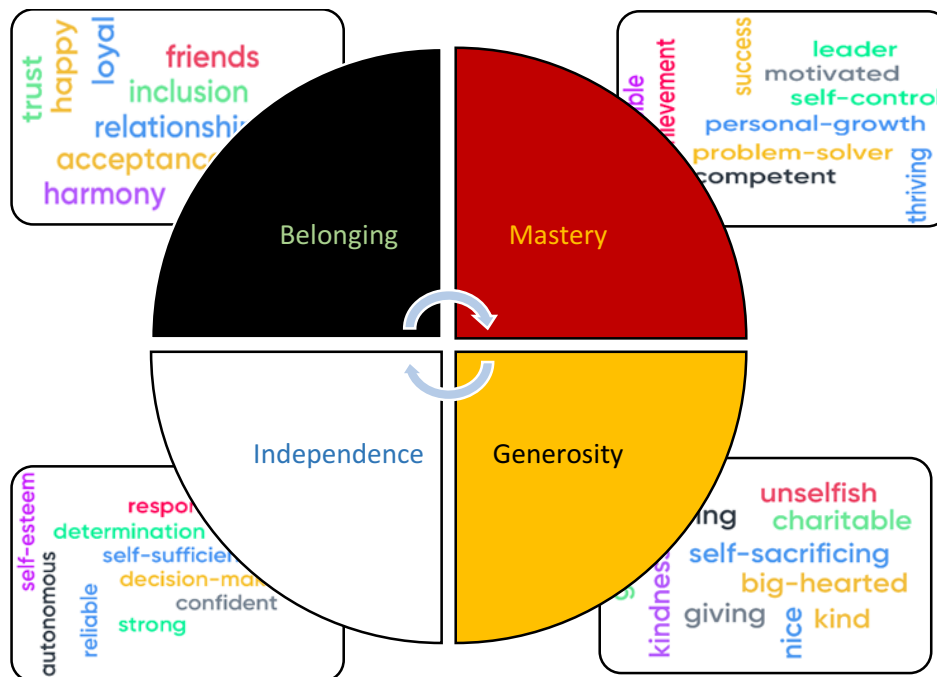


I believe that development of a child's sense of belonging, mastery, independence and generosity are crucial to become an effective ally in the reconciliation process.



Adapted from Brendtro, Brokenleg and Van Bockern's *Circle of Courage* Model.

I am committed to helping my students develop in the four *Circle of Courage* areas of needs. These areas contribute to a well-balanced and meaningful life, regardless of one's culture or past.

The *Circle of Courage*:

- teaches children a sense of belonging, to be okay with who they are and to help others feel as though they also belong.
- encourages children to recognize their personal gifts, talents and skills and to be proud of these things.
- leads children to a sense of independence by teaching them positive choices and that they can fix their mistakes.
- teaches children to recognize that they have valuable things to offer and how to display forgiveness.

It is necessary to do more than just talk about reconciliation, we must practice it in our everyday lives – within ourselves, our families, our schools, our communities and beyond.

The development of the *Circle of Courage* skills provide the necessary tools students need to make a positive contribution to greater understanding, empathy, mutual respect and relationships with all people, regardless of culture.

Becoming an ally and actively supporting Truth and Reconciliation is my dream for all students.