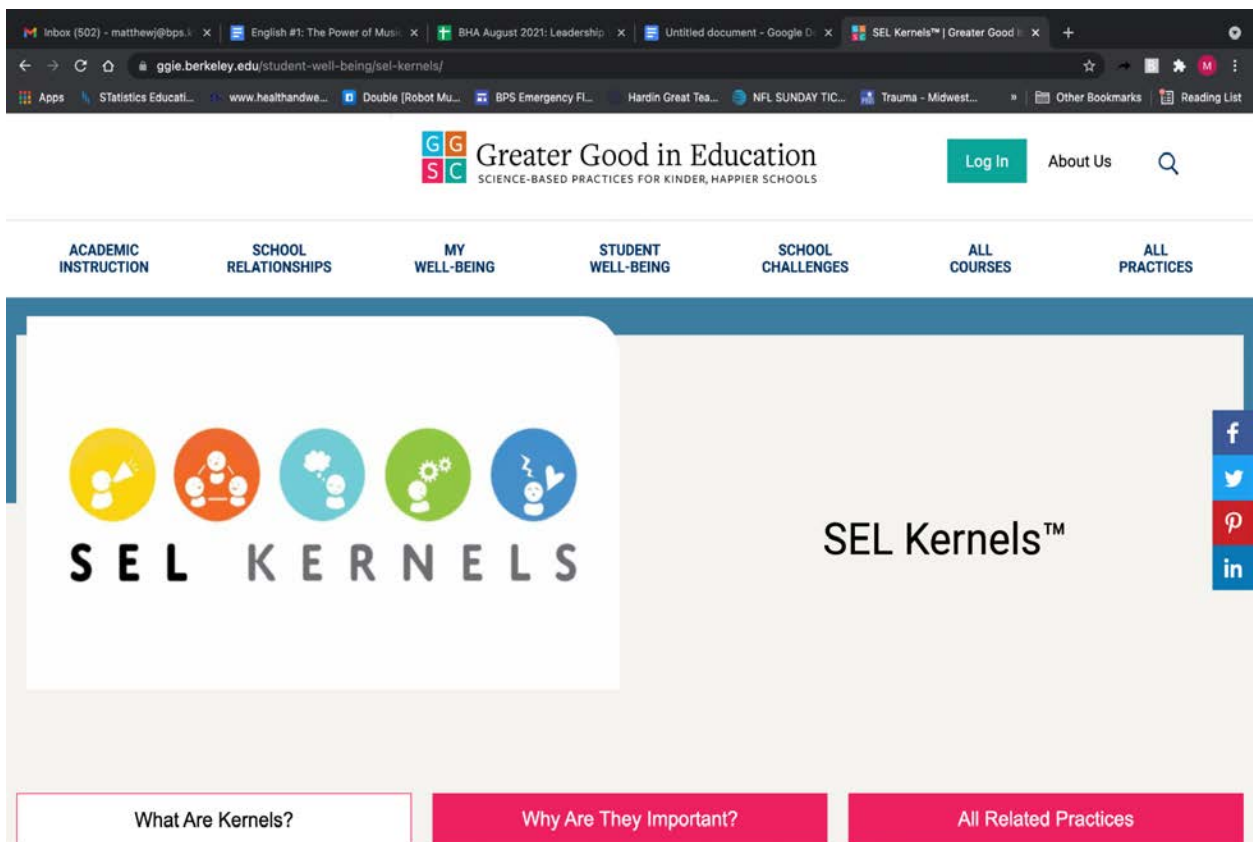


Buffalo Hide Academy July Board Report

July started with BPS Administrators attending the School Administrators of Montana Conference.

All workshops were exceptional and the messages were inspiring and provided a solid template for providing a quality education during a difficult time.

One of the workshops I enjoyed particularly was implementing SEL strategies. Berkeley and Harvard University have created a FREE Social Emotional Learning curriculum for teachers. This curriculum is research based, meaning it is proven to be effective.



The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the SEL Kernels website. The browser's address bar shows the URL ggie.berkeley.edu/student-well-being/sel-kernels/. The website header features the logo for Greater Good in Education (GGIE) with the tagline "SCIENCE-BASED PRACTICES FOR KINDER, HAPPIER SCHOOLS". Navigation links include "Log In" and "About Us". A horizontal menu lists categories: "ACADEMIC INSTRUCTION", "SCHOOL RELATIONSHIPS", "MY WELL-BEING", "STUDENT WELL-BEING", "SCHOOL CHALLENGES", "ALL COURSES", and "ALL PRACTICES". The main content area displays the "SEL KERNELS" logo, which consists of five colorful circles (yellow, orange, light blue, green, dark blue) each containing a different icon representing social-emotional learning concepts. To the right of the logo, the text "SEL Kernels™" is displayed. On the far right, there are social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, and LinkedIn. At the bottom, there are three pink buttons: "What Are Kernels?", "Why Are They Important?", and "All Related Practices".

What Are Kernels?

Developed by Harvard University's Ecological Approaches to Social Emotional Learning (EASEL) Laboratory, kernels are specific activities or strategies that are commonly used by research-based programs to support the growth and development of social and emotional skills and competencies.

Kernels have been developed for grades K-6 and include a variety of activity types and instructional methods, such as games, routines, and storytelling. Each kernel includes adaptations and extension activities, as well as grade level differentiations when applicable.

Drawing from EASEL's [content analysis of 25 leading SEL programs](#), kernels have been categorized into the following constructs: **cognitive, emotional, interpersonal, character, and mindset**.



Brain Power (Cognitive Skills)

The ability to direct thoughts and actions toward achieving goals.

Cognitive skills help students when they are faced with everyday tasks that require self-control, concentration, planning, problem solving, coordination, or conscious choices between different options. These skills include:

- The ability to control impulses
- Keep track of changing information over short periods of time
- Sustain attention and ignore distractions

I was also very honored to be a presenter at the SAM conference. I presented on “Using Restorative Practices in Leadership”. It was nice to highlight the work of our excellent Administrative Team.

