

# Circle Planning Guide

- 1. What is the purpose or goal of your circle?** (ex. Community building, check-in, address specific classroom issue, curriculum/content...etc.)
- 2. Circle Introduction:** [How will you introduce and convey the reason for the circle to the participants?]
- 3. Establish core guidelines:** (What are the core guidelines you would like to introduce to the participants? What additional questions will you ask to create shared guidelines and values? Do you have them written on a poster board for all to see?)
- 4. Opening** (How will you open the circle? A poem, quote, song, breathing, story...?)
- 5. Introduction of Talking Piece.** [What object are you using and Why?]
- 6. Check-In** [What question will you ask for the initial check-in round? ex. On a scale of 1-10, today I am a .....]

**7. Discussion Rounds** [What needs to be addressed in the circle? What questions will you ask? How many rounds will you facilitate?]

**Consider:** Are the questions high or low risk? Do the questions directly or indirectly address the goal and purpose for the circle? What are some potential challenges that may surface? How will you handle them?

**8. Check out** [What question do you want to present to bring closure to the circle? ex. how are people feeling right now?]

**9. Closing** [How will you close the circle, praise and celebrate the participation of the circle members? poem, quote, song, breathing, story...?]