

Essential Understandings & Standards Needs Assessment

The Oceti Sakowin Essential Understandings and Standards (OSEU) Needs Assessment survey was administered by the South Dakota Department of Education (SDDOE) to understand the implementation of the OSEU and the professional development support and resources needed to implement the OSEU in South Dakota schools. The survey was first administered in the early fall of 2021 and then again in the late fall of 2023.

Comparison of 2021 & 2023 Administrator Survey Results

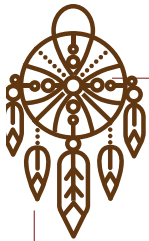
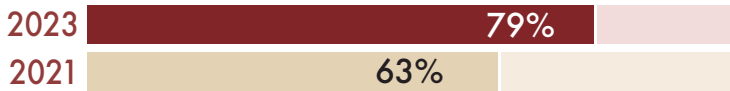
Awareness & Importance of the OSEU

In 2023, administrators were more likely to report . . .

• They are aware of the OSEU



• It is important to implement the OSEU in every classroom

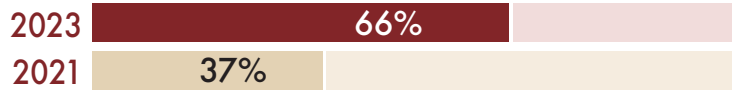


87% In 2023, 87% of administrators indicated that they provided OSEU resources to teachers (an increase of 40% from 2021).

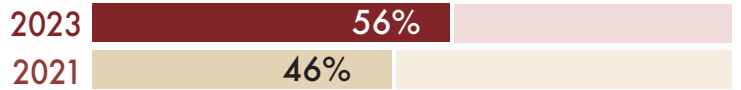
Challenges to OSEU Implementation

In 2023, administrators were more likely to report . . .

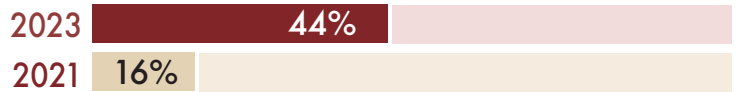
• Lack of confidence



• Uncertainty about how to integrate the OSEU



• Concern for the appropriateness of content



45% In 2023, 45% of administrators reported their district has a school-board approved policy requiring OSEU implementation (an increase of 28% from 2021).

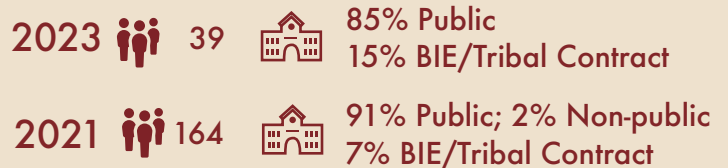
“Integrate local communities into schools to provide support that goes beyond paper and pencil. Assemblies, drum presentations, Native American heritage month activities in the schools.”

Administrator

Key Recommendation

Administrators identified a need for resources including cultural support and involvement of Elders and community.

SURVEY RESPONDENTS



Essential Understandings & Standards Needs Assessment

Comparison of 2021 & 2023 Educator Survey Results

Awareness & Importance of the OSEU

In 2023, educators were more likely to report . . .

• They are aware of the OSEU



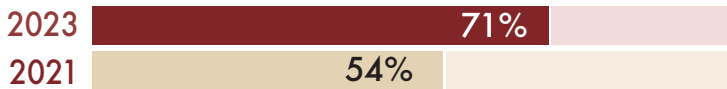
• It is important to implement the OSEU in every classroom



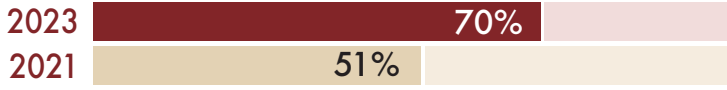
Use of the OSEU Standards

In 2023, the greatest increases in the use of the OSEU standards were for . . .

• Culture and language



• Identity and resiliency



62%

In 2023, 62% of educators reported they taught OSEU lesson plans in their classrooms (an increase of 17% from 2021).

“ Make the standards grade level appropriate, some of them are so far off for some grade levels. ”



Educator

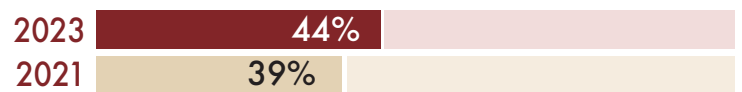


In 2023, educators reported using each of the seven OSEU standards more often than in 2021.

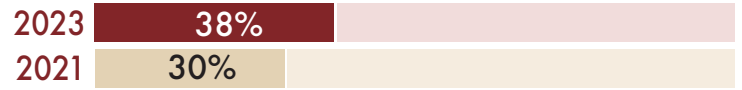
Challenges to OSEU Implementation

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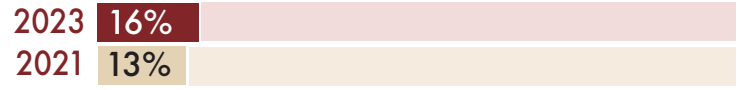
• Uncertainty about how to integrate the OSEU



• Lack of confidence



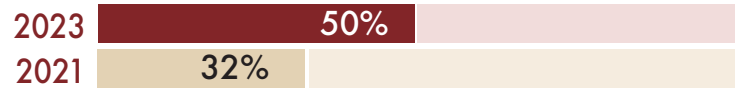
• Lack of support in the school



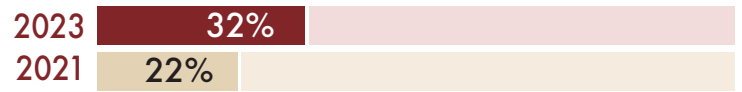
Fostering Connections to Community

In 2023, educators were more likely to report . . .

• They participated in the local Tribal community



• Collaboration with local Elders/Culture Bearers



Key Recommendation

Educators identified a need for aligning the OSEU standards across content areas and grade levels.

SURVEY RESPONDENTS

2023 384 2% Non-Public
7% BIE/Tribal Contract

2021 554 2% Non-Public
7% BIE/Tribal Contract



South Dakota Department of TRIBAL RELATIONS



south dakota DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION Learning. Leadership. Service.

CCNETWORK Comprehensive Center Network

REGION 11 Nebraska North Dakota South Dakota Wyoming