Evaluation of the Teach Resiliency Website: Pre-Service Educators’ Perspectives on its Usability and Acceptability

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Land Acknowledgement
Team Acknowledgment

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Agenda

• Mental health in our classrooms
• What is Teach Resiliency
• Evaluation of the website
  • Methods
  • Results
  • Recommendations and Next Steps
Evidence-based Implementation Sensitive for Classrooms
The Launch in 2017
Current Evaluation

• Why pre-service teachers?
  – Exploring their familiarity with mental health literacy resources
  – Incorporating their voices and recommendations in improving the website
Evaluation Questions

• According to pre-service educators’ perspectives
  – What are the strengths and weaknesses of the TR website?
  – What is the relevancy of the available resources for their professional needs?
  – What are some recommendations to improve its usability and acceptability for educators?
Methods

• Participation open to Bachelor of Education candidates across Canada

• Focus groups (interactive, live feedback)
  – 3 groups
  – 12 participants
Results

Strengths
- Usability features

Weaknesses
- Issues with uniqueness and digital housekeeping

Resource Relevancy and Acceptability
- Easy to use, multimodal, perceived high utility

Lack of familiarity with Mental Health Literacy
Strengths of Teach Resiliency

- Attractive visuals
- The search filter is comprehensive
- Tags associated with resources are helpful
Weaknesses of Teach Resiliency

- Digital housekeeping: Broken links
- Usability: Order of results
- Doesn’t offer anything different or unique than other repository websites
Relevancy and Acceptability of the Resources

- High utility
- Easy to use
- Multimodal
- Accountability
“But yes, I am going into practicum next week. I can very much see myself using this website. I know about it now, so why not take advantage of it? As a busy teacher, just envisioning myself a bit later, just like kind of in a rush, I have a million things on my mind, and I just want to get an overview of something. I definitely think this [Teach Resiliency] would be great for that for sure.”

-Participant 1
“I feel like right now, especially with what's been happening in the world and mental health, this would be such a great resource for teachers to implement, for themselves, for self-care, and as well as working with their students because it's so applicable right now. I feel like it's definitely a great resource that I could recommend, and especially being in a placement right now and seeing firsthand how mental health is being impacted. I feel like it'd be a great resource that can be added”

-Participant 8
Lack of Familiarity with Mental Health Literacy

- Perceived Teach Resiliency to be an applicable resource to enhance their training on mental health literacy

- Some of the participants reported not taking any formal courses on mental health or social-emotional learning in their B.Ed. program
“I was looking it over and I just thought it was really great just for me, as a future teacher to learn and also for the students as well. Right now, I'm currently at school, I'm studying in the Bachelor of Education program at [name of the university]. And I don't actually find there's a lot of learning about mental health for teachers or students, which is interesting”

-Participant 5
Recommendations for Teach Resiliency

Testimonials from teachers using the resources

Appearance and order of search results
sort by relevance and other variables
Our Next Steps

• A research-based ecological to identify
  – mental health literacy courses, programs and professional development resources available for pre-service educator
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