

Wednesday, January 29, 2020

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Members of East Carolina University's Rural Education Institute pose alongside Pines Elementary faculty and staff in the school's Library for a brief photo op. (Courtesy photo)

Schools, ECU partner on Matrix of C.A.R.E.

East Carolina University's Rural Education Institute in the College of Education and Washington County Schools have partnered on a project entitled Matrix of Collaborative Action For Resilience in Education, known by the acronym "Matrix of C.A.R.E."

The Matrix of CARE promotes student resiliency and provides information and support to their teachers.

The project prepares

Pocosin Arts

school personnel to help youth respond in healthy ways to traumatic stress and is supported by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NC-DPI) Training to Increase School Safety Community Partner grant. The Matrix of CARE team members provide ongoing trauma informed services to students and staff at Pines Elementary and embraces the community in which the school is located.

Two Community Learning Exchanges were hosted in 2019 in which families,

students, and community members came together at Pines Elementary School to share ideas around creating a supportive and safe school environment.

Additionally, faculty from the Rural Education Institute, Drs. Kristen Cuthrell, Loni Crumb, and Martin Reardon, alongside the CARE Coach, Jasmine Garland McKinney, recently presented the project at the RISE regional training in Winston-Salem, NC.

The ECU team was pleased to have Pines Ele-

mentary School Counselor, Monique Cannon, and second grade teacher, Susan Berry join them at the conference.



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