## Culturally Relevant Pedagogy *explained*...

CRP is a teaching framework developed by Dr. Gloria Ladson-Billings.

**Tenet 1:** All students experience academic success.

Inquiry in the

Upper

Midwest

**Tenet 2:** Students develop their own cultural competence.

Teachers hold high academic and behavioral expectations for students.

Teachers use differentiation and scaffolding so that all students can attain high expectations.

Teachers act as a "warm demander" - providing students with love and relentlessness in the expectation that students work at the edges of their abilities. Students lives are at the core of the curriculum.

Students are not expected to give up aspects (like culture, language, etc.) of who they are in order to succeed academically.

Students see aspects of their identities mirrored in the curriculum, reading texts, assessments, and classroom environment. **Tenet 3:** Students examine & critique the status quo.

The curriculum reflects the real world and the real world is central to the curriculum.

Students are provided with the tools to examine and question what is considered "normal," "truth," and "the way things are."

Students discuss, question, reimagine, critique, and work to solve problems in their world.

"Teachers who are prepared to help students become culturally relevant are themselves culturally competent. They do not spend their time trying to be hip and cool and 'down' with their students. They know enough about students' cultural and individual life circumstances to be able to communicate well with them. They understand the need to study the students because they believe there is something there worth learning. They know that students have the academic and cultural wherewithal to succeed in school without losing their identities are better prepared to be of service to others; in a democracy, this commitment to the public good is paramount."

-Gloria Ladson-Billings, 2001

## Primary sources support culturally relevant pedagogy by:

- challenging and engaging students.
- bringing in windows & mirrors.
- teaching skills for critical analysis.

Students draw connections between the past and the present, set the present in context, and practice critical analysis skills needed for them to become active community members and critique the status quo.

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