

May: The joy of connection & renewal

The Big Idea: May is often a high-stakes, high-stress month with testing and finals. This theme serves as a breath of fresh air—literally and figuratively—by moving community-building outside and focusing on physical and mental well-being.

Suggested Activities:

- **"Chalk the Walk" Morning:** Give students and staff sidewalk chalk as they arrive at school on a Monday morning. Have them fill the entryways and sidewalks with bright designs, welcoming messages, and joyful doodles to start the week.
- **Outdoor "Pop-Up" Classrooms or Lunches:** Encourage teachers to take their lessons outside, or host "Picnic Fridays" where students and staff eat lunch together on the lawn with some music playing.
- **Mindful May Minutes:** Dedicate the first two minutes after the morning announcements to a district-wide moment of calm, deep breathing, or a guided visualization to help everyone center themselves before testing.