

New Book on How to Mend Our Educational System Post-Pandemic: Finding the Positives the Pandemic Engendered

New book, "Mending Education: Finding Hope, Creativity and Mental Wellness in Times of Trauma" has counterintuitive narrative about COVID's impact on education

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We have all bemoaned the COVID pandemic and its lasting negative impacts, but Karen Gross and Edward Wang turn that pessimism on its head. This is a must-have for educators everywhere."

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What Do Lobsters and School Systems Have in Common?

Massachusetts <u>Educators</u> Share <u>Pandemic</u> Positives for Immediate Implementation

Mending <u>Education</u>: Finding Hope, Creativity, and Mental Wellness in Times of Trauma

Mending Education opens with the story of a lobster who is anxious about the constant challenge of its molting shell.

Like the lobster, school-age children, young adults, teachers and education leaders have had to cope with constantly changing environments in past years. The parable of the lobster teaches that change (as in molting) leads to an improved shell and resiliency. Molting matters in Mending Education, which delves into how adversity can be a game changer in positive ways.

Discover how the crisis of a global pandemic allowed educators to improve learning across the pre-K-adult pipeline in Mending Education. While acknowledging the scale of loss and difficulty the Pandemic engendered within the field of education, Mending Education focuses on how sudden and forced changes to teaching and learning created "Pandemic Positives," which can be captured and brought to scale. In particular: Part I addresses how Pandemic Positives came into being, with special attention to the presence of educator hope, resiliency and creativity. Part II explores the Pandemic Positives that arose in three settings: when schools were closed, when learning turned online, and when schools re-opened. Part III provides strategies for replicating

the Pandemic Positives so they become educational game changers.

This book is grounded on trauma and mental wellness theory and includes the in-the-trenches experiences and voices of educators. The text features art created by the coauthors and shares both their professional and personal experiences, humanizing and enriching the book. Mending Education completes a trilogy composed of Breakaway Learners and Trauma Doesn't Stop at the School Door by Karen Gross.

- -- Focuses on what has been ignored in education in any organized and cohesive fashion—how a pandemic actually improved education if we have the courage and will to see those positives and implement them.
- -- Filled with the voices of educators—their spoken words that are often ignored or not understood, appreciated, or implemented.



School Bus by Karen Gross (2023)

- -- Includes an epilogue that is an actual conversation between the authors based on a set of questions, allowing them to share their thoughts and feelings about the book and its positive messages.
- -- Designed to be used in classrooms and in policy discussions—all in an effort to improve education for every student.
- -- Shares the professional and personal experiences of the authors, including their own individual experiences with trauma—a personal and revelatory read.

Sale: https://www.tcpress.com/mending-education-9780807786000
Amazon: https://www.amazon.com/Mending-Education-Finding-Creativity-Wellness/dp/0807786004

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