

About Fargo Public Schools

Fargo Public Schools (FPS), located in Fargo, North Dakota, is the third largest school district in the state. FPS serves more than **11,400** students (grades pre-kindergarten through twelve) and employs nearly **2,000** employees across 23 campuses.

The data is clear and great to see, but the physically and psychologically safe environments Ukeru establishes for students and staff is the pinnacle of student outcomes.

Jen Sahr

MTSS Coordinator
Fargo Public Schools



Challenges

Looking to reduce restraint across their district, FPS searched for additional tools for their staff. While the district was already familiar with trauma-informed practices for large group approaches, **Ukeru brought trauma-informed care to the individual level** consistently throughout the curriculum. With the goal of working towards creating and maintaining physically and psychologically safe learning environments, Ukeru's philosophy and training fit perfectly with what FPS was trying to accomplish.

Working with Ukeru

FPS began by piloting Ukeru in 2019 in 3 of their schools with the district's highest restraint numbers. To start, FPS had a few staff trained, including the assistant principals of each of the 3 schools. From there, the momentum continued to increase, resulting in district-wide training.

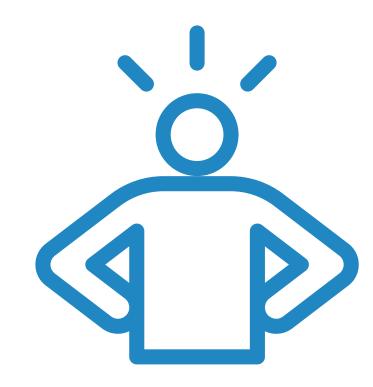
In order to support efforts to champion Ukeru, FPS went the extra mile. "We kept administration and staff informed of training progress, as well as the data as it related to restraint reduction. We also brought Ukeru back into the district to provide onsite consultation with staff. This gave our staff and trainers an opportunity to ask questions, problemsolve challenges, and feel affirmed in their Ukeru implementation, "said Jen Sahr, MTSS Coordinator for FPS.



The Ukeru team is always open and willing to talk through situations. They practice what they teach, even in the way in which they teach it-leading by example. We have worked with over six different team members, and every single one is credible, reliable, and compassionate.

Jen Sahr MTSS Coordinator Fargo Public Schools

Restraint reduction



Staff feel better equipped to handle crisis situations



Positive feedback from parents

Results

After implementing Ukeru, FPS continued to make Ukeru strategies a priority in their district. Because of their strong, united efforts, FPS saw incredible results. FPS reduced restraints by over 67% across the district. Additionally, many of their locations have seen a complete elimination of restraints.

While their data shows great success, the feedback the district has received from staff and parents has been equally positive. FPS staff have expressed their appreciation for the training- specifying that they feel calmer and better equipped to support students in crisis. Parents have also expressed great appreciation for the district's efforts using Ukeru.

FPS completely transformed their culture using Ukeru. Their results speak for themselves- restraints have been dramatically reduced, staff feel safer, and parents are appreciative!