

MODULE #1 OUR BRAIN AND LEARNING Dr. David Walsh and Erin Walsh, Spark & Stitch Institute

Key Understanding	The major learning from this module: Too much stress can "hijack" the executive center of the brain, making learning and emotional regulation more difficult. Too little stress robs the brain of practice handling challenge and setbacks. A resource to go deeper: Harvard Center on the Developing Child – <u>A Guide to Executive</u> <u>Function</u> . <i>What this means to me: / Now that I know this I must:</i>
Action to Take	If I have 5 minutes I can: Notice how my body responds to stress. What do I feel? Where? If I have 15 minutes I can: Practice strategies to get back to calm. What works? If I have an hour I can: Plan a lesson to teach my students about how their brains respond to stress.
Regular Practices to Transform Culture	If I am ready to transform the culture I can: Work to implement district-wide trauma-informed and healing- centered practices so that all students experience safe and affirming environments that unleash learning.