

# 2020 Capital Region Trauma Sensitive Schools Institute



Keynote Speaker Dr. Victor Rios



***“Teach to the heart and the mind will follow.”***

Victor M. Rios was born in Mexico and immigrated to Oakland with his mother when he was 2 years old. Growing up in a single-parent household Mr. Rios grew up in some of the poorest neighborhoods in Oakland. Growing up around drug dealers and gangs, he was forced to join a local Latino East Oakland gang when he was 12 years old for protection from rival gangs. Being part of the gang brought Victor Rios into a life of crime, stealing cars, sometimes living in them, selling drugs, getting into fights with rivals, going in and out of Juvenile Hall. When Victor was 15 years old one of his best friends was shot and killed in the Fruitvale district by a rival gang and he died in Victor Rios' arms. It was around this time that a teacher who Victor Rios called Mrs. Russ began helping and mentoring him. An Oakland Police Officer also gave him a break from catching a major case with severe charges. Victor Rios began changing his life from gang member to college student. He enrolled at UC Berkeley and would eventually earn a PhD in Sociology. He began mentoring Oakland youth and working with them to get out of a life of crime and into college. Victor Rios has written several books including Punished: Policing the Lives of Black and Latino Boys. Today Victor Rios is a Professor at UC Santa Barbara. He continues his work with “at promise” youth in the Santa Barbara area. His research examines how racism, inequality, and class play a role in determining if a person will be successful in education. He is featured in the documentary “The Pushouts”.

A collaboration between  
Schenectady City School District and  
Capital Region BOCES

**Join us August 12th for a virtual  
conference featuring  
Dr. Victor Rios**

We are still looking for presenters to provide virtual presentations on Trauma Informed Practices in Schools.

Deadline for submissions June 26th

[Submit RFP Here](#)

**All SCSD employees are welcome to register free of cost**

Conference Registration:

[SCSD Employees Register Here](#)

[Non-District Employees Register Here](#)

More information about times and descriptions of breakout sessions will be sent closer to date of conference.