FIGURE 5.4 • Creating a Welcoming Classroom Environment for MLs: SEL Checklist

PHYSICAL NICE-TO-HAVE ITEMS: I HAVE PROVIDED	YES	NO	MY PLAN TO INCORPORATE THIS ITEM
Rug(s)			
Couch(es)			
Comfortable seating (e.g., bean bag chairs) in addition to standard seating			
Fidget or other age-appropriate and culturally inclusive toys			
Soft lighting			
Plants			
PHYSICAL MUST-HAVE ITEMS: I HAVE PROVIDED	YES	NO	MY PLAN TO INCORPORATE THIS ITEM
Desks arranged to foster small-group discussions and collaboration			
Texts and classroom library books that represent the linguistic and cultural diversity of the students in my class			
Talk moves posted in the room that are needed to support pair and group discussions that I will add to throughout the year			
NONPHYSICAL MUST-HAVE LOOK-FORS: I HAVE	YES	NO	MY PLAN TO INCORPORATE THIS LOOK-FOR
Built relationships with students			
Established students' trust			
Implemented an assets-based model			
Shared my own vulnerabilities with students			
Consistently provided linguistic scaffolds and supports			
Incorporated students' cultures and background knowledge into instruction			
Expressed my appreciation and gratitude to my students and encouraged them to share their gratitude with each other			

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