

Dear Staff,

While the first week of school still remains fresh in our students' and our minds, our administrative team has put together a prompt that will offer everyone in our school communities an opportunity to reflect on their experience with belonging during the first week of school. The prompt is provided. We are asking all staff and students to respond to this prompt in an approximately 15-minute writing session. Responses may take a variety of forms.

The process of conducting the prompt is as follows:

1. Distribute the handouts with the prompt (provided) during _____ period (secondary) or in the morning (elementary) on **Tuesday, September 21st**.
2. Give students approximately 15 minutes to respond to the prompt. Feel free to give them more time if they need it. Staff should also respond to the prompt.
3. Collect the prompt when students are done and keep all of them in this folder.
4. On **Friday, September 24th**, during the District early release time, you will have the opportunity to review your students' responses using the "Belonging Prompt Class Summary" provided. At that time, you will be able to share your takeaways from the student responses with colleagues.
5. Turn the folder with all of the student responses, staff responses and your summary of student responses to your principal.

The hope is that if all of us, in various roles throughout the district, will be able to hear each other's voices. It will also be a powerful expression of the value that we place on our relationships.



The 'Belonging Prompt' is designed to give you another opportunity to be seen and heard—to know that Lakewood School District is listening. Your experiences are important to us.

We know that everyone brings a distinct set of cultural and social experiences to school every day. These gifts make you who you are and provide the basis for meaningful social and learning relationships. This is the foundation of social and academic learning.

NAME (optional) _____

Please reflect on situations when you may or may not have felt a sense of belonging during the first week of school. Share examples of either or both. Feel free to write on the back of this page if you need more room.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.



CLASS SUMMARY

BELONGING

YOUR VOICE MATTERS

NAME (optional) _____

The "**Belonging Prompt**" is designed to give students one more opportunity to be seen and heard—to know that all of us are listening. We are asking teachers to review the responses written by the students in your classrooms using the following questions and to summarize or list in the space below what you are seeing. Use the back of this page if you need more room to write.

1. In what situations and in what ways are students describing that they felt a sense of belonging?

2. In what situations and in what ways are students describing that they did not feel a sense of belonging?
