

Maple Woods CC The Sewing Lab Jason Breit LPS Early Childhood Center
 KC Farm School LPS DAC Michael Martin + Two Seams Production
 Orange Easel Katie Fisher Meals On Wheels
 LPS Transportation Northland Police Academy
 Relentless Pursuit John Morris PC's For People
 Wicklunds CarStar Vet Center of Liberty KC Pet Project Specialty Divers Inc.
 LPS Copy Center Nourish KC Dixon Land + FBI Office
 Liberty Economic Development Council Heather Buckman + RV Elementary
 MCC Withers Branch Taylor Family Apple Orchard Tyree Koerner + ATF
 Operation Breakthrough Liberty Animal Shelter NTRC Beth Beckett
 Loulla Efstathiou KCKCC Miriam Spencer
 Ron Green + Jeff Daly Liberty U - Pull
 Liberty Community Center Friends of the Pharis Farm
 Rebel Song Academy Assisted Transportation
 Liberty Equestrian Center Wellington Senior Living Center
 Noel + Peggy Chase Gary Hild Jo Macklin / Distrkct LPS Grounds Crew
 Kansas City Community Gardens Crider Welding Missouri Conservation Dept.
 Tom Esselman Kanbe's Markets Bob Johnson Jake Pollard + Full Circle
 Addison Banks Brandon Turner + Caterpillar LMS Urbavore Farms
 Amber Rios + LMS Cafeteria Staff Patty Stark + Serenity On The Square Yoga
 Schumacher Elementary Liberty Education Foundation Heritage Middle School
 James Brando + Rosecrans Airforce Base KC Art Institute Sugar Kittens Cafe

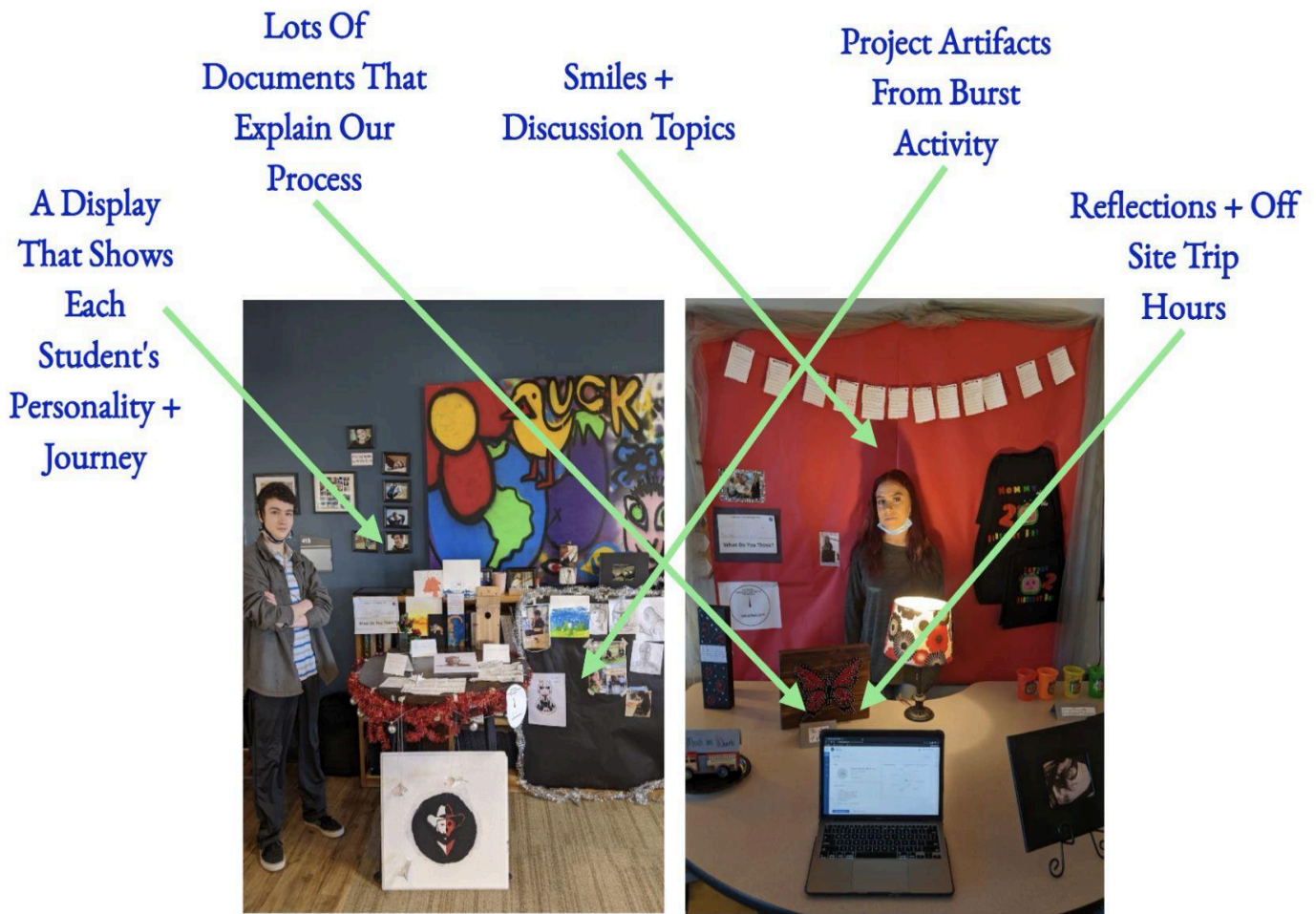


THANK YOU!

Our LA Showcase Process



What Should You See At Each Student Station ?



Great Conversation Starters:

What Was Your Biggest Challenge This Semester?

What Did You Learn This Semester About Life That You Could Pass On To Others?

What Was Your Favorite Off - Site Experience?

What Did You Learn About Yourself, What You're Good At, Or What You Might Want To Do After High School?

What Are You Most Proud Of This Semester?

Which MTC Skill Categories Did You Engage In The Most ?

What Are You Excited To Try Next Semester?

What Are Your Best Artifacts From This Semester?

Phases Of A Phoenix Graduation Project



Please join us in Tahiti (*the room across from the wood shop*) and explore a collection of poems, illustrations, stories and pictures that showcase the transformation of students at Liberty Academy.

Something changes when you learn someone's story. When you slow down and listen to what makes our students who they are.

When you hear about their experiences you gain a greater understanding of the decisions they make, the passions they carry, and their perspectives on life. We grow empathetic. We give more grace. We celebrate their wins. We move from acceptance to understanding.

Students at Liberty Academy have often been othered. For one reason or another, things didn't work out at their previous high school. Every one of them has a story to tell. A story that is powerful. A story that is inspiring. A story that challenges our preconceptions. A story that needs to be heard. And in many ways, a story that is still being written.

These are their stories.

Thoughts That Guide Us . . .



"Developing agency is a collaborative effort where both parties stand to gain (**and lose**). Collaboration, then, is fundamentally about a relationship between two (**or more**) equals. As such, agency demands individualization, relationship, and equality. Developing a student's capacity to use their agency is difficult, complicated, and very personal work. It's unquantifiable, un-testable, and very nearly an art form. **It's also the central role of the educator."**

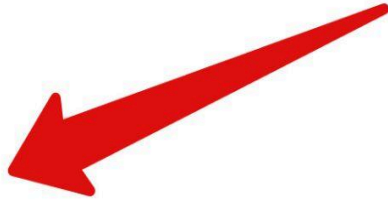
"Like other kids, they don't all conform to the same "standards"; like other kids, they are individual and diverse. Like other kids, they have triumphs, and struggles, and doldrums, and passions, and frustrations, and joys. What an oak tree actually needs is soil and water and light and air, and what a child needs is love and stories and tools and conversation and support and guidance and access to nature and culture and the world. If a kid asks for your feedback, by all means you can give it; it would be impolite not to. **But what we should be measuring and comparing is not our children but the quality of the learning environments we provide for them."** (**Carol Black**)

"You can do all the strength finder quizzes you want, **but your insight into yourself is constrained by your roster of previous experiences.** We learn stuff about ourselves, our interests and our strengths as we try things, so we should have a period of zig-zagging and experimentation like those athletes, like those comic book creators, like those technology inventors. And we shouldn't just see it as a sunk cost, where you say well, **"I've started down this path, so now I don't want to get off". That's not lost time. You haven't wasted it.** It doesn't mean that transitioning is easy, but you can take what you learned in one domain and bring it to the other." (**David Epstein, Range**)



MASTERY
TRANSCRIPT
CONSORTIUM.

"Wait, What Do You Mean You Don't Use Grades?"



Purpose. At Liberty Academy, our programming is designed for interest based exploration, collaborative menu design, real world off-campus engagement, and long term personal growth.

Our daily environment is communal with a strong focus on human agency, mentor based relationships, and personalized pathway design in a competency based academic setting. Our students don't have classrooms, our teachers don't have desks, and our schedule is subject free and flexible to the hour. Our school isn't designed to help students prepare for specific careers, it's designed to help students figure out what comes next as a result of the things they're learning about themselves. We believe that innate talent and world changing potential come standard in every student. We're designed to help kids find that talent, explore it, and think deeply about how they want to use it.

Process. Our curriculum is not designed around the consumption of standardized content. It's designed around the things that give students the ability to live a life of purpose, opportunity, and stability; contextual and application based learning opportunities, continuous support and care, rich experience, authentic choice and the development of voice, mentorship, transferrable skill sets, and academic competencies that connect to an ever-changing world of work.

Product. Students submit a portfolio of evidence to earn each mastery credit. The featured evidence displayed on the mastery transcript are individual pieces of evidence from a variety of portfolios that the student has chosen to feature. These provide an authentic snapshot of the breadth and quality of work indicative of this student. Additionally, many credits on the mastery transcript have a single piece of evidence attached to them. This evidence was selected by the student from the portfolio of work used to earn that particular credit, and gives the reader a window into the type of work associated with the credit.

What Does This Look Like?



About

Profile

Email: [Redacted]
 Student Id: [Redacted]
 Start Date of Enrollment: 8/23/2021
 Graduation date: Not graduated yet
 Address: [Redacted]

Student Statement [Edit](#)

Approved

I believe that creativity and honesty can make the world a better place. I hope to make a living with my art so that I can continue to do what I enjoy and live comfortably doing it. I can persevere through projects and am talented and creative.

[Start revision](#) [Delete](#)

Personal Statement

Credit Distribution

— Foundational Credit (FC)
- - - In progress FC
— Advanced Credit (AC)
*** In progress AC

29

Skill Status

Evidence details [Update](#)

Coping, Growing, & Learning ★ 📄

Approved

I created many sketches throughout the semester.

Role:
Duration:

Featured Evidence

Artifact

Skill

IMG_20220308_100031187

What I've Learned

Highlights

Three to five bullet points. Use verbs to describe noteworthy activities involved in completing the work. May also include the work's accolades or impact.

⋮ I learned it can be hard working with younger kids sometimes but when you get to know the kids and start working with them, it's fun for them and you. ⋮

⋮ I chose to showcase this piece of evidence because I enjoy working with kids, and this was a good opportunity for me to practice this skill for a potential career someday. ⋮

⋮ Something else I really want you to know is that just because you have siblings doesn't mean it's going to be easy to work with kids. You have to be able to communicate with the kids effectively. ⋮

⋮ 5/12/23: I did research and went on trips to decide what I want to do after I graduate ⋮

⋮ 10/18/23: Took notes about my after graduation plan ⋮

After Graduation plans

I have a lot of plans for after I graduate. I will start with... (text is small and blurry)

image_123650291 (5)

[Update](#) [Delete](#)

Explore.



Engage.



Connect.



Serve.

Heal.

Grow.

*1200 Hours
Of Off-Site & Real World
Experiences Per Semester*



*Personalized Project
Design + Pathway Building*

We don't do public school
like **anyone** else....



*Authentic Skill Practice vs.
Standardized Content
Acquisition*



*Over 1200 Skill Based
Personalized Projects Per
Semester*

*30-35 Off-Site Trips Per
Week Customized To
Student Interest + Skill
Preference*

"Here's to the crazy ones. The misfits. The rebels. The troublemakers. The round pegs in the square holes. The ones who see things differently. They're not fond of rules. And they have no respect for the status quo. You can quote them, disagree with them, glorify or vilify them. About the only thing you can't do is ignore them. Because they change things. They push the human race forward.

And while some may see them as the crazy ones, we see genius. Because the people who are crazy enough to think they can change the world, are the ones who do." (Steve Jobs)

WHAT DO WE DO AT LIBERTY ACADEMY



We use massive amounts of **off - site programming** (career exploration, project work, and volunteering) to help kids better understand their **interests, aptitudes, and next steps after graduation.**

We give students in our community who have fallen behind a chance to graduate on time using **self - guided, skill based portfolios** that serve as **comprehensive learning records** of the past, present, and future.

We immerse students in an environment and culture designed to isolate deficits, heal trauma, increase self-efficacy, and rebuild the **whole child** using **agency, mentorship, conversation, and authentic experience.**

We work to **isolate and patch the academic skill gaps** most necessary for life after high school (reading comprehension, basic number sense, communication skills, computer literacy) using a framework of daily **standardized personalization.**

We give students the opportunity to **design and navigate their own secondary learning pathways** while engaging in a sustainable programming model designed to build and grow the concept of **Match Quality.**

Favorite off - site **career exploratory / volunteering** experience?



"Meals on Wheels because it makes me feel good about helping people who need it."

"Relentless Pursuit because it really makes you look at how other people live and different ways you can help, even if just a little."

"The KCAI trip because I thought about my future and what I really what do do in life."

"Vet Center of Liberty because it helped me figure out which parts of the job I like and dislike."

"Kanbe's Market because it's really helped me become more grateful for what I have."

"Wicklunds CarStar because it's helped me understand what I want to do in life."

"The Sewing Labs trip because it made me happy to think about what I can do with my future."

"The apple orchard weekly trip because I'd like to own land when I get older and it gave me an idea of what I'd like to put on it to help others."

Favorite **school project or area of engagement**
this semester?



"My favorite activity is drawing and journaling because it helps me focus on things I need to accomplish."

"I really enjoyed doing the ceiling tiles and painting wall murals. I get to express myself and do what I love."

"My wall painting because it represents the biggest lesson I learned from RP: Always make the next right decision."

"The sewing bag I made from scratch. Being able to make something and be proud of the outcome makes me happy."

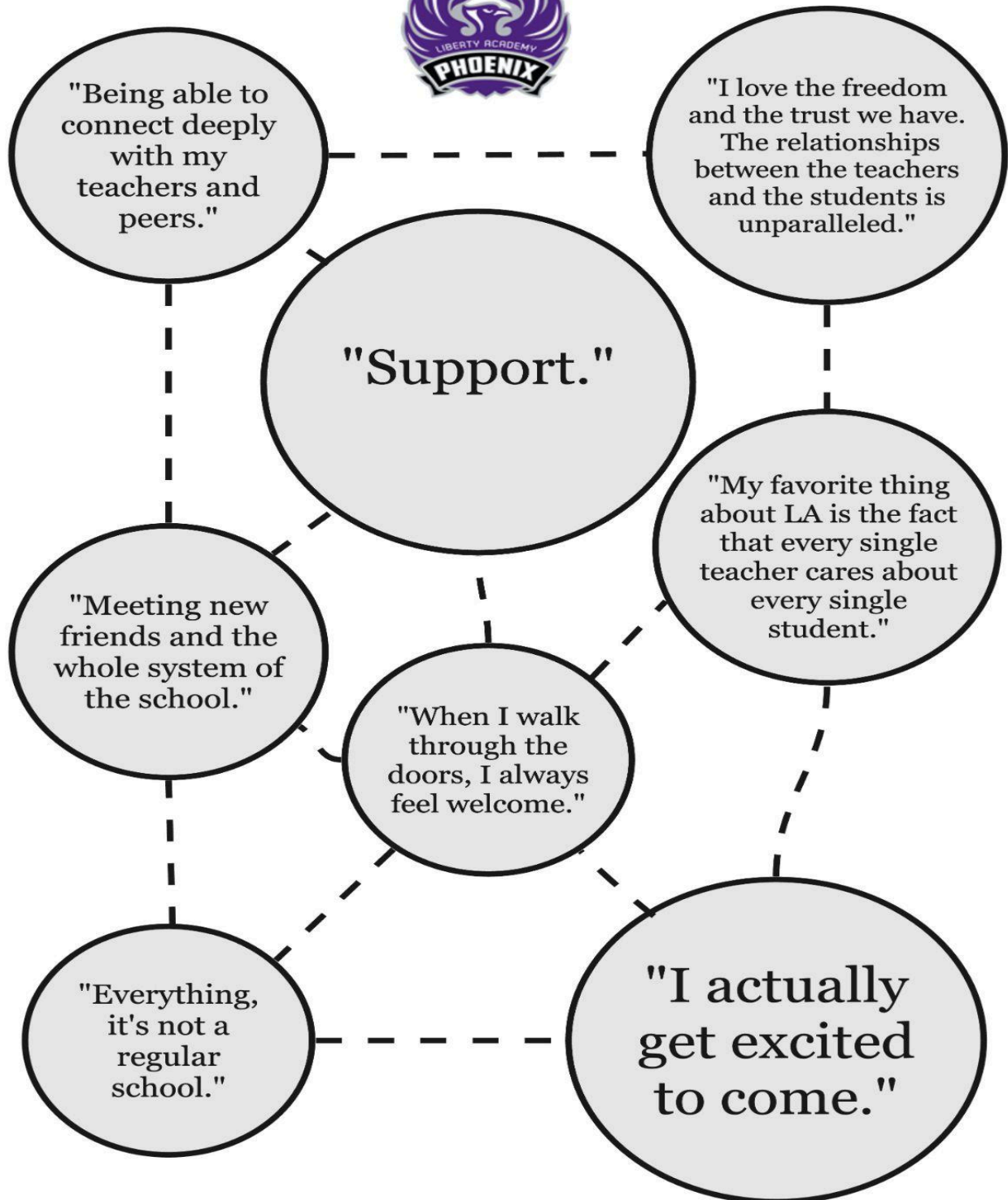
"Working on my table because it made me think of new ways to problem solve."

"Trying to learn Russian on my own."

"My dragon wall painting. It's a great, collaborative project."

"My music has helped me express my emotions and better my knowledge of what I want to do in my future."

Favorite thing about going to school at Liberty Academy?



What's the most **valuable lesson you've learned** about life, learning, or yourself this semester?



"That your actions will shape your future. There's no in between."

"That putting yourself first is ok and that you **MUST** take accountability for your actions."

"Life is worth living. You need to find the right people, take care of yourself, and be happy with the things you're doing in life."

"Probably that drama and people that live in drama aren't worth my time."

"Don't let your mind tear you down..keep fighting hard and follow your dreams."

"Everything takes time and patience."

"I'm not alone, realizing that I have help in my life."

"My self - worth."

What's One Thing About Liberty Academy **That People Really Don't Understand** Unless You Go Here Or Visit All The Time?



"It's community based and can really help kids that struggle."

"That this school is almost solely based on expressing yourself and learning to become independent."

"It's not a school for bad kids!"

"That a lot of the kids here are really hard workers and really talented."

"This school is an opportunity for redemption."

"Whachu think we is, we ain't."

"It's helped me become a more mentally healthy person."

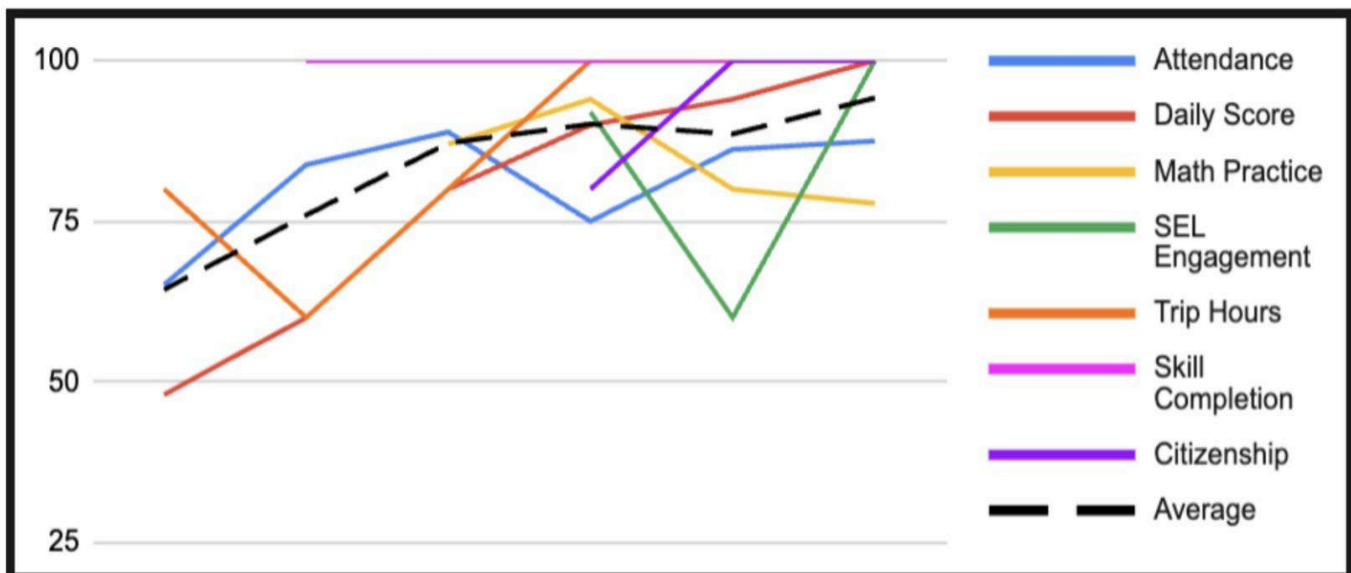
"Everyone learns differently and LA is just more personalized that fits each student better."

Using Data To Help Kids Grow, Share Their Stories, & Plan For The Future



At Liberty Academy, we value individual growth (personal + academic) above all else and strive to ensure that the data we collect (on a daily, weekly, and monthly basis) correlates to that value. Every student has their own data profile that is used to guide decisions, drive conversation, and build personalized graduation pathways. Our collection process is intuitive, responsive, and designed to be formative rather than summative. We want every student to fully understand how their activity, engagement, and partnership effects their data and how their data effects their ability to grow, heal, transform, and graduate.

LA Student	B2 - 2023 (10/30 - 12 / 8)	B1 - 2023 (9/5 - 10/13)	B4 - 2023 (3/31 - 5/8)
Average Burst Attendance	83.3	94.8	100
Average Daily Engagement Score	2.2	2.9	3.1
Math Engagement	88.9	87	94
SEL Workshop Engagement	50	0	50
Off Site / SL / RWL Hours	12.5	5	8
MTC Skill Completion / Mastery		22	25
Minor Behaviors Charted	2	0	0
Major Behaviors Charted		0	0
Aggregate Behavior Per Burst	2	0	0
Reading / Math / Core Skill Practice			





A little boy planted a carrot seed.

His mother said, "I'm afraid it won't come up."

His father said, "I'm afraid it won't come up."

And his big brother said, "It won't come up."

Every day the little boy pulled up the weeds around the seed and sprinkled the ground with water.

But nothing came up.

And nothing came up.

Everyone kept saying it wouldn't come up.

But he still pulled up the weeds around it every day.

And sprinkled the ground with water.

And then one day

A carrot came up.

Just as the little boy had **known it would.**



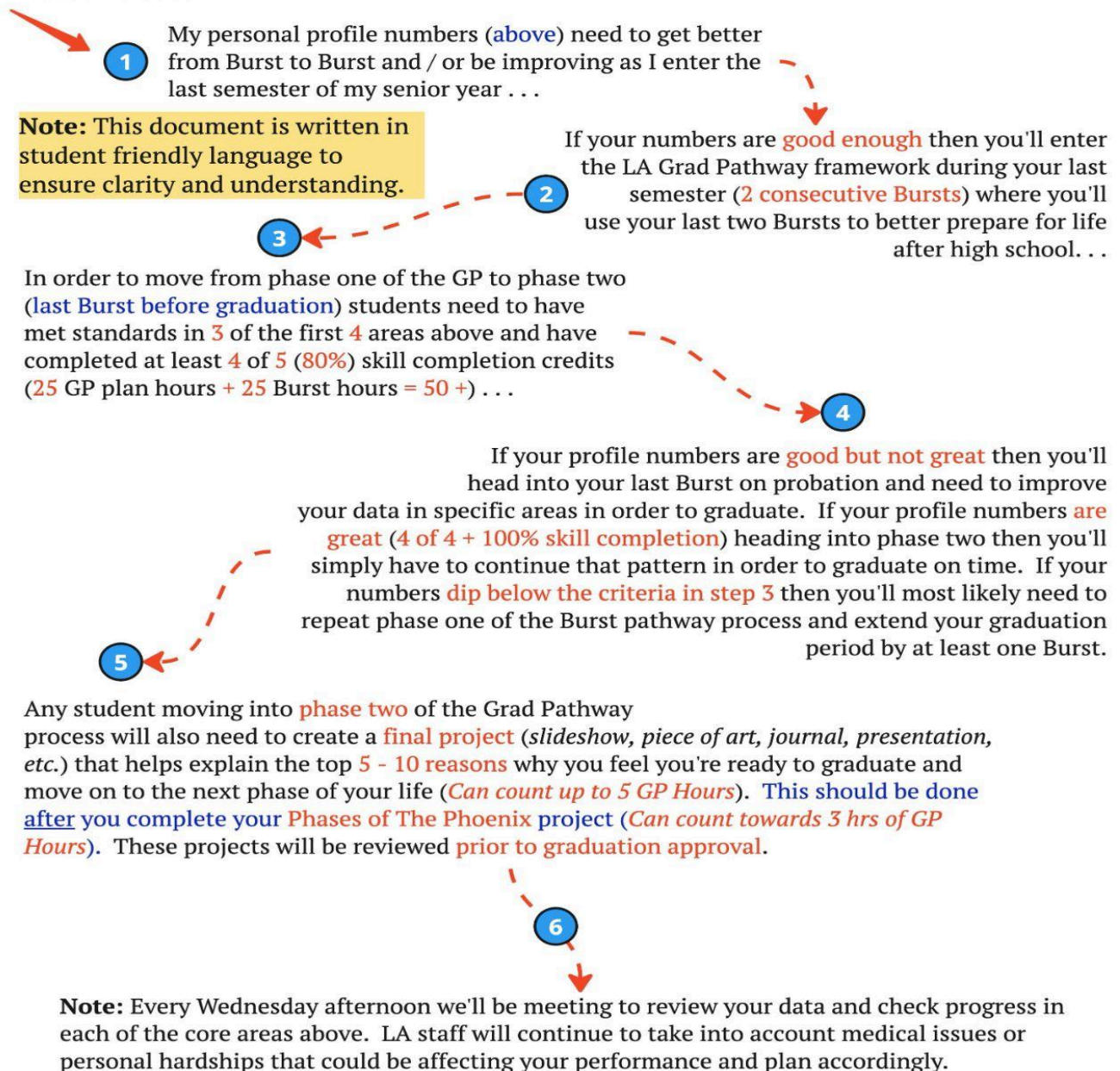
***SCAN HERE TO READ MORE
ABOUT LIBERTY ACADEMY . .***

How Do I Graduate From LA ? ← - - → You've Got To Grow To Go . . .

What Data Do We Collect & Value ?

- ✓ Daily Attendance (LA Standard is 80% or Constant Improvement)
- ✓ Average Daily Engagement Score (LA Standard is 2.0 or Better) (Using Daily Organizer Scores)
- ✓ Off Site Career Exploration + Volunteering Hours (LA Standard is 8 -12 Hours Per Burst)
- ✓ Skill Completion % (LA Standard is 5 Skills Per Burst / 50 Hours = 100% / GP Included)
- ✓ SEL + Reading Practice + Math Practice (LA Standard is Weekly Attendance / Engagement)

Start Here . . .





What's Your Favorite Thing About Going To School At Liberty Academy? "**The People.**"
(CJ Stagner / New Student)

At some point, everyone who spends time at Liberty Academy usually says, "**It just feels different.**" Creating a sense of **belonging** is foundational to what we do and it starts with agency, trust, support, and acceptance. We want every person that walks through our doors (student, staff, and visitor) to feel as though they're in a great place to grow and someplace they can both be themselves and find themselves. Every Wednesday, we check in with our kids to see how they're doing, how we can help, and how to make sure we're staying connected. Here are the questions we ask and our most recent bank of responses from Burst four:

1

71 % - Strongly Agree / Agree

Even though I might be having a bad day or a rough week, I feel connected to our school, understand what we do and how / why we do it, and genuinely feel as though it's a great place for me at this stage of my life.

5% Disagree

2

72 % - Strongly Agree / Agree

Most of the time I feel very confident that I'm growing as both a student and a person thanks to the environment, opportunities, and community I get to be a part of at Liberty Academy.

4% Disagree

3

70 % - Strongly Agree / Agree

Most days I really look forward to going to school at Liberty Academy. It's a place where I feel safe, cared for by the staff / others, and have the freedom to be myself.

8% Disagree

4

74 % - Strongly Agree / Agree

I'm constantly working to be my best self at Liberty Academy. I'm learning to manage my emotions / heal trauma, challenge myself academically, figure out who I am, and prepare for the future.

2% Disagree

Post Burst Student Reflections (4 x Per Year)

Please use everything you've reflected on and documented above to write a little more about how you feel you've grown as a person over the last 6 weeks? Please be as honest and thoughtful as possible. Our main goal is to help you build your own understanding of the progress you're making and how you're using the opportunities you have at Liberty Academy to better understand yourself and the person you hope to be in the future. (100 Word Minimum)



Over the past 6 weeks I've learned that it's okay to stray away from what you know. It's hard to try new things and at first you will most surely fail. But as you practice, it gets easier. When I first started expanding my knowledge and stepping outside my comfort zone, it made me panic, I was overwhelmed. But I kept pushing through. It's helped me to understand my boundaries as well. Helped me to know when it's okay to step away and breathe. Now I know in the future, I'll be able to know my limits and I'll know pushing myself can help me achieve my goals.

This is the building that saved my life.



Phases Of A Phoenix



Fragile → Motivated

My freshman year I struggled heavily with depression and anxiety so being in regular school was a struggle for me. It was a struggle to get up in the morning and get ready for school as well and when I did attend school I was very quiet and out of the way. My grades weren't as good either and eventually I completely stopped going to school and switched to online and was even given a tutor. My mental state was getting worse at this time to the point where I was even mistreating myself. Then one day I was asked if I would like to transfer to liberty Academy and at first I was hesitant because I already was struggling with school but then I thought , I can't go back to the regular high school because it was just going to be the same outcome as my freshman year, so I said yes and was enrolled in liberty Academy in my sophomore year. My first day at the academy was different but in a good way. I wasn't used to going to an alternative school like this before, everyone was very welcoming and friendly. I was super shy and quiet so I knew it would take me a little time to warm up to everyone. My first day I met new people and reconnected with old friends. When I went home that day I realized that the academy was the school for me.

Throughout my 3 years of being at this school I've been able to open up a lot more and do things that get me out of my comfort zone. As I'm finishing my senior year of high school at liberty academy I realized how much this school has changed me as a person and helped me with a lot of opportunities. Being able to get up every morning with a smile on my face to come to school and get my work done was something I wasn't able to do 3 years ago. Being able to be comfortable enough to talk to my teachers and them give me positive feedback is a part of the reason why I am the way I am today. I've become a strong motivated successful woman and part of that is because of the Academy.

Phases Of A Phoenix



Irresponsible → Capable

I used to be a very irresponsible person, but I had a reason why.

Going to a school before where I had nothing to do but cry.

All I knew was to flee from everyone including me.

I couldn't connect with my peers, my principal or my teachers.

Because I was different from almost all social norms.

I hated almost everyone there, including myself.

My home life wasn't good, what was worse was my mental health.

Declining rapidly down the rabbit hole.

I couldn't understand what I was being taught so there was
nothing that I'd know.

Failing every class, besides for one's I liked.

Like choir, woodwork and art, were my only delights.

I would run and hide from things that weren't familiar.

At some point my brain felt like a pillar.

Not developing, not okay, nothing was going the right way.

I had no chance of getting anywhere or to graduate.

But then I gained an opportunity to spread my wings and fly.

Burst my passions into flames like a phoenix and soar through the sky.

I realized even though my brain wasn't wired to do normal things.

I was capable of doing my thing and to see what my full potential could bring.

My mental health may still be bad, but all the time I am not sad.

I've risen from the ashes of my burned down passions, and found a way to
learn my things from views I could know.

I've written more songs than I could count and found a life after school.

I've made new friends, who'll be there in the end and who will hold me very close.

I've connected with my society and made friends with some old foes.

I've learned that all that I was missing was knowing which way to go.





**Have A Great Summer &
See You Next Fall !**