Curriculum/Technology/Student Service Committee Meeting

Upper Merion Area School District
June 13, 2023

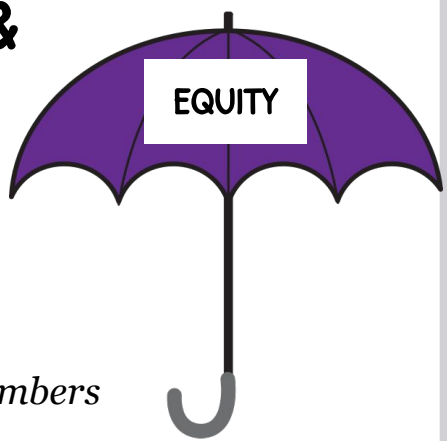
Agenda

1. Advisor of Diversity, Equity, and Culture Updates Investigating the Impact of Artificial Intelligence
2. STEM Updates - Dr. Sean Gardiner
3. Humanities Updates - Dr. Andrew Kuhn
4. Staff & Student Survey Results - Dr. Susan Silver

What if...

...we create opportunities, remove barriers, and **assure for a sense of belonging** where every learner is encouraged to reach his or her dreams?

- EQUITY is the umbrella under which all District initiatives fall.
- Equity drives all decisions.
- We are DATA-FOCUSED. - Multiple measures of data - Perceptions, Student Learning, School Process, & Demographics
- All stakeholders* participate in some way in this journey.



Students, Parents, Staff, Teachers, Administrators, and Community Members

Advisor for Diversity, Equity & Climate
Mr. Ross Hamilton

Historically Black College & University (HBCU)Tour









- 38 UMAHS students attended an overnight tour to: **Howard University, Norfolk State University Virginia State University,** and the **National Museum of African American History & Culture (Smithsonian)**
- Cost effective rate of $75/per student
- Guided tours were provided at each college and students were presented with direct networking opportunities to the admission departments at each school
- Thank you to chaperones: Treena Sadler, Whitney Howard, Matt Reid, Treci Butler, Amanda Staehle, Lauren Roder (planning), My College Tours

HBCU Tour: Highlights

- Students were able to meet & greet the Student Government President of Howard University
- 5 seniors applied on the spot to Virginia State University (VSU)
- A senior was accepted to both VSU & Howard University (HU) and has selected to attend HU
- Students had an opportunity to network with the head track coach of VSU
- For dinner, UMAHS had an entire restaurant venue open solely f UMAHS











HBCU Tour: Thank You!



UMAHS BLACK STUDENT UNION/CALEY ELEMENTARY MENTORSHIP PILOT









- 23 UMAHS Mentors (9-12th grade)
- 21 Caley Mentees (3-4th grade)
- All mentors went through an initial training program
- Starting in February 2023, sessions were held, at Caley, 2x/month during lunch
- Special thanks to: Steve Van Mater, Jonathan Bauer, Whitney Howard, Julie Overly, Lauren Roder, Jessica Vicente

Inspiring Excellence: HS BSU Mentorship



World Cafe Conversation

- Held on 2/9/23 at UMAHS, the World Cafe method is an effective way for hosting a large group dialogue and hearing student voices
- For our initial conversation, I was able to secure roughly 25 high school students from the Black Student Union to participate in this opportunity
- In attendance were district administrators and building administrators from all district schools
- The session was led by Dr. Barbara Moore Williams and feedback is being used to help support continued DEI related work

Lunch Bunch Talks @ UMAMS

- Starting in Spring of 2023, I was invited by Principal Slavin to provided mentorship and check-ins with a small group of 5th & 6th grade students
- During our meetings we discuss: academics, goal setting, cause & effect scenarios, and career opportunities
- Meetings are held once a week during lunch

Student Support @ UMAHS

- Monthly check-ins with roughly 25 select students(9-12th grade) to support academic and social development
- Daily Lunch check-ins with a group of 15 students
- Great opportunity to hear student voice and build relationships
- Thank you to: Victor Brown & Shannon Newhard

Inspiring Excellence Talks



- Cpl. Alexander C. Figueroa of the Pennsylvania State Police)Office of Community Affairs, East Section Supervisor)
- Steven Bryson, Esq. (Fmr. Assistant District Attorney-Philadelphia)
- Spoke with both our H.S. and M.S. students



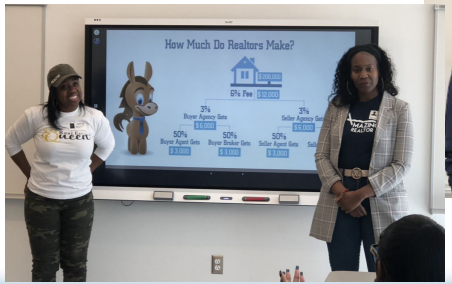
Inspiring Excellence Talks

- Members of local graduate chapters of the Pan-Hellenic Council stopped by to share about the history of Black Greek Letter Organizations and scholarship opportunities
- Executive Regional Director of California Teachers Association (UMAHS alumni) and Psychologist
- Jennie Hall, Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame inductee & Women's Basketball Collegiate National Champion
- Local real estate agents









Inspiring Excellence Talks



- We recently welcomed back two Upper Merion Area High School alumni to the high school
- These alumni shared with our students about their undocumented journeys both through and to college
- Special thanks to Daryl Schumacher for assisting in the organization of this event

Student Voice Committee (SVC)

This year I have had the privilege to lead the SVC committee which has been a great avenue for students to share their personal experiences and insight on school policies and initiatives



Keynote Speaker: CREATE

- I had the privilege of being the keynote speaker for the 15th Annual CREATE Speakout

- Special thanks to: Angela Della Valle & Susan Busch



Professional Development Sessions



- "Removing the Master Narrative: Culturally Relevant Strategies"
- "How to Enrich Your Curriculum Through the Exploration of Historically Black Colleges & Universities: Culturally Relevant Strategies"
- "Setting the Stage for Culturally Responsive Teaching: Student Voice"

Committee Participation



- Member of the UMASD team: 2022-2023 Consortium for Mental Health & Optimal Development (Univ. of Pennsylvania)
- PA Seal of Biliteracy
- High School Black Student Union 2023 Kente Celebration

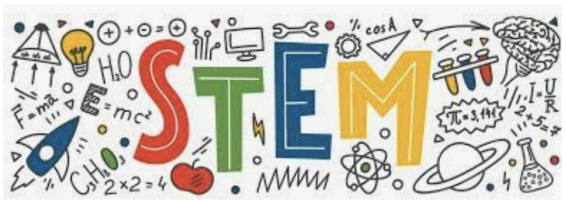
Additional Support



- Provided additional support (planning & push-in)for teachers in the development of culturally relevant lessons
- Conducted sensitivity lessons
- Support for DEI related mediations



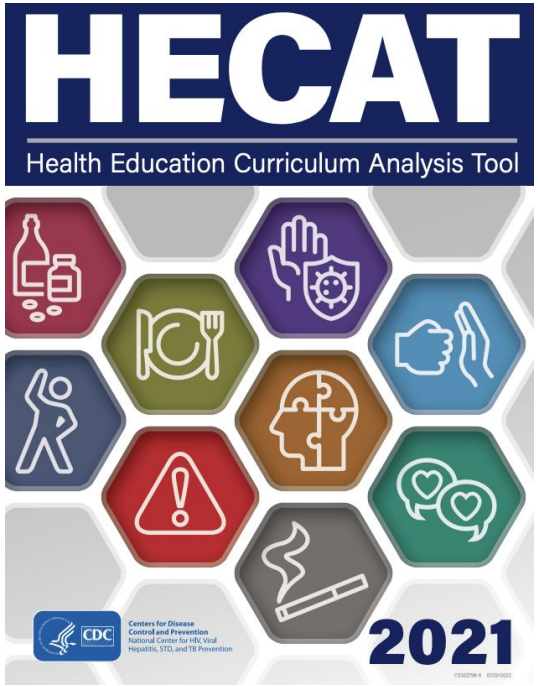
Personalized Learning & Artificial Intelligence



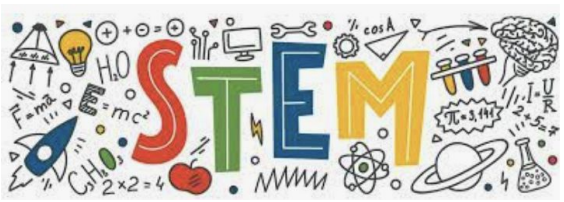
STEM UPDATES

MS Health

CDC
CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION



- The HECAT identifies the:
  - Healthy behavior outcomes (standards) considered to be the most important behaviors to promote in a K–12 health education curriculum.
  - The corresponding knowledge and skill expectations that must be met at various grade levels in order to achieve these outcomes.
- The HECAT builds on:
  - The characteristics of effective health education curricula.
  - Reflects the National Health Education Standards.



STEM UPDATES

MS Health

5th Grade = 14 Days

Unit 1: Healthy Relationships

- Characteristics of Healthy Relationships
- Social Media and Healthy Relationships
- Ways to Express Affection, Love, and Friendship

Unit 2: Puberty

- Personal Hygiene
- Hormones and Glands
- Physical Changes - Menstruation, Body Hair, Impact of Food on Puberty
- Emotional Changes - Hormones

6th Grade = 14 Days

Unit 3: Puberty (Review and Extend)

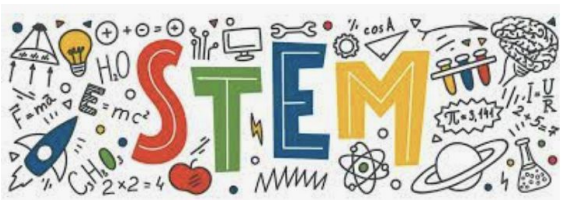
- Personal Hygiene
- Hormones and Glands
- Physical Changes - Menstruation, Body Hair, Impact of Food on Puberty
- Emotional Changes - Hormones

Unit 4: Gender and Sexual Health

- Biological Sex, Gender Identity and Expression
  - Define Gender Identity and Expression.
  - Explain the difference between sex assigned at birth and gender identity and expression.
- Sexual Orientation
  - Define sexual orientation including sense of identity, attractions, and related behaviors.
  - Describe personal characteristics related to sexual identity, orientation, and gender that make people different from each other.

Note: Used the CDC Health Education Curriculum Analysis Tool (HECAT).

- **Blue font indicates an update to the curriculum**



STEM UPDATES

MS Health

7th Grade = 14 Days

Unit 5: Healthy Relationships

- Characteristics of Healthy Family Relationships
- Peer Influences on Healthy Relationships
- Consent in Intimate/Sexual Relationships
- Decision Making Related to Sexual and Risky Behavior Decisions

Unit 6: Alcohol and Other Drug-Use Prevention

- OTC, Prescription and Illicit Drugs
- Factors Influencing Drug Use (Media and Peer)
- Responsible Decisions with Alcohol and Drugs (including abstaining)
- Decision to be Drug Free (Refusal Skills/Strategies)

Note: Used the CDC Health Education Curriculum Analysis Tool (HECAT).

- **Blue font indicates an update to the curriculum**

8th Grade = 14 Days

Unit 7: Healthy Relationships

- Affection, Love, and Friendship
- Consent in Dating and Sexual Relationships
- Decision Making in Intimate Relationships

Unit 8: Gender and Sexual Health

- Biological Sex, Gender Identity and Expression
  - Describe internal and external reproductive body parts using medically accurate terms in a gender-neutral way.
  - Describe the range of gender identities and expressions (e.g., cisgender, transgender, non-binary/conforming, expansive).
- Sexual Orientation
  - Define sexual orientation (i.e., patterns of emotional, romantic, or sexual attractions to men, women, or both sexes), including sense of identity, attractions, and related behaviors (e.g., heterosexual, gay/lesbian, bisexual).
- Reproduction and Puberty
- Contraception, Methods of Birth Control, and STI/D

HUMANITIES UPDATE



PA Seal of Biliteracy

- In Spring of 2022, PDE authorized school districts to award graduating school students with a Seal of Biliteracy that honors students who are fluent in two or more languages.
- Affirms the value of linguistic diversity by encouraging family and community support for development of home languages, as well as the study of additional World Languages.
- Students must demonstrate fluency at intermediate-high proficiency in reading, writing, speaking and listening in both English and another language – a very rigorous standard.

PA Seal of Biliteracy – Upper Merion Area HS

Committee of 10 teachers, counselors, admin, parents:

1. Trisha Brower - Guidance
2. Katie Davidson - ESL
3. Ross Hamilton - Diversity, Equity, and Climate
4. Andrew Kuhn - K-12 Humanities: Spanish
5. Nicole Miller - Guidance, ESL
6. Mohga Mohamed - parent: Arabic
7. Isabel Ocampo - World Language: Spanish & French
8. Brenda Rodriguez - admin assistant / parent: Spanish
9. Jen Sharp - World Language: French
10. Susan Silver - Ast. Superintendent

PA Seal of Biliteracy - Upper Merion Area HS

	Class of 2023 language(s)	Class of 2024 language(s)
1	French (and Fulah)	Spanish
2	German	Russian* (taking French)
3	Arabic*	Spanish
4	Spanish	Spanish (taking German)
5	Spanish	Greek
6	Spanish (takes French)	Spanish (taking French)
7	Brazilian Portuguese (taking Fr)	Spanish/French (tkg German)
8	Spanish (took French)	Spanish
9	Spanish (took French)	Spanish (taking Spanish)
10	Spanish	Spanish*
11	French (and Fulah)	Spanish (Sp IV)
12	Spanish	
SOBL	**23 Ss in 7 languages: Spanish, French, German, Arabic, Portuguese, Russian, Greek**	



French



German



Arabic



Spanish



Spanish



Spanish

PENNSYLVANIA SEAL OF BILITERACY



Portuguese



Spanish



Spanish



Spanish



French



Spanish

Act 35 Civics Data, UMAHS 2023

HS Juniors take a 50-question assessment based on the US Naturalization exam

95% of students scored 70% or higher
99% of students scored 60% or higher
20% of students scored a perfect score

World Language text recommendations

Spanish I & II - Autentico (SVAAS)
Spanish III & IV - Que Chevere (Carnegie Learning)
AP Spanish - Temas (Vista Higher Learning)

French all levels - T'es Branche (Carnegie Learning)

German all levels - Deutsch So Aktuell (Carnegie Learning)

all World Language text adoptions will be for 5 years

Journey to Cultural Proficiency
UPENN Mental Health & Optimal Development Consortium
2022-2023

Upper Merion Area School District Team

UMASD
Staff Resilience Survey

Staff Survey Results

PEOPLEBENCH

Upper Merion Area School District

Resilience involves being able to withstand and overcome adversity and unpleasant or difficult events successfully and to be able to adapt to change and uncertainty.

KATHRYN McEWEN

PEOPLEBENCH

Quick Reference: Factors that help us boost Resilience.

Living authentically	Finding your calling	Maintaining perspective	Managing stress	Interacting co-operatively	Staying healthy	Building networks
Understanding and using personal strengths	Linking work to a higher purpose	Perspective on set-backs	Self-care routines at work and home	Seeking feedback on performance	Study/learn how to change habits	Identifying network gaps
Personal values and impact on well-being (integrity)	Developing social connectiveness	Solution-focused problem solving	Passive and active relaxation	Seeking support	Healthy eating	Developing access to all levels of support required
Emotional regulation and control		Avoidance of thinking traps	De-stressing and de-briefing techniques	Offering support	Exercise	
Mood management		Positive energy and optimism	Time management	Listening	Better sleep	
		Response to, and management of, negativity	Workload negotiation		Limit exposure to blue light and news/media	
		Adaptability	Work-life balance			
			Mindfulness			

peoplebench.com

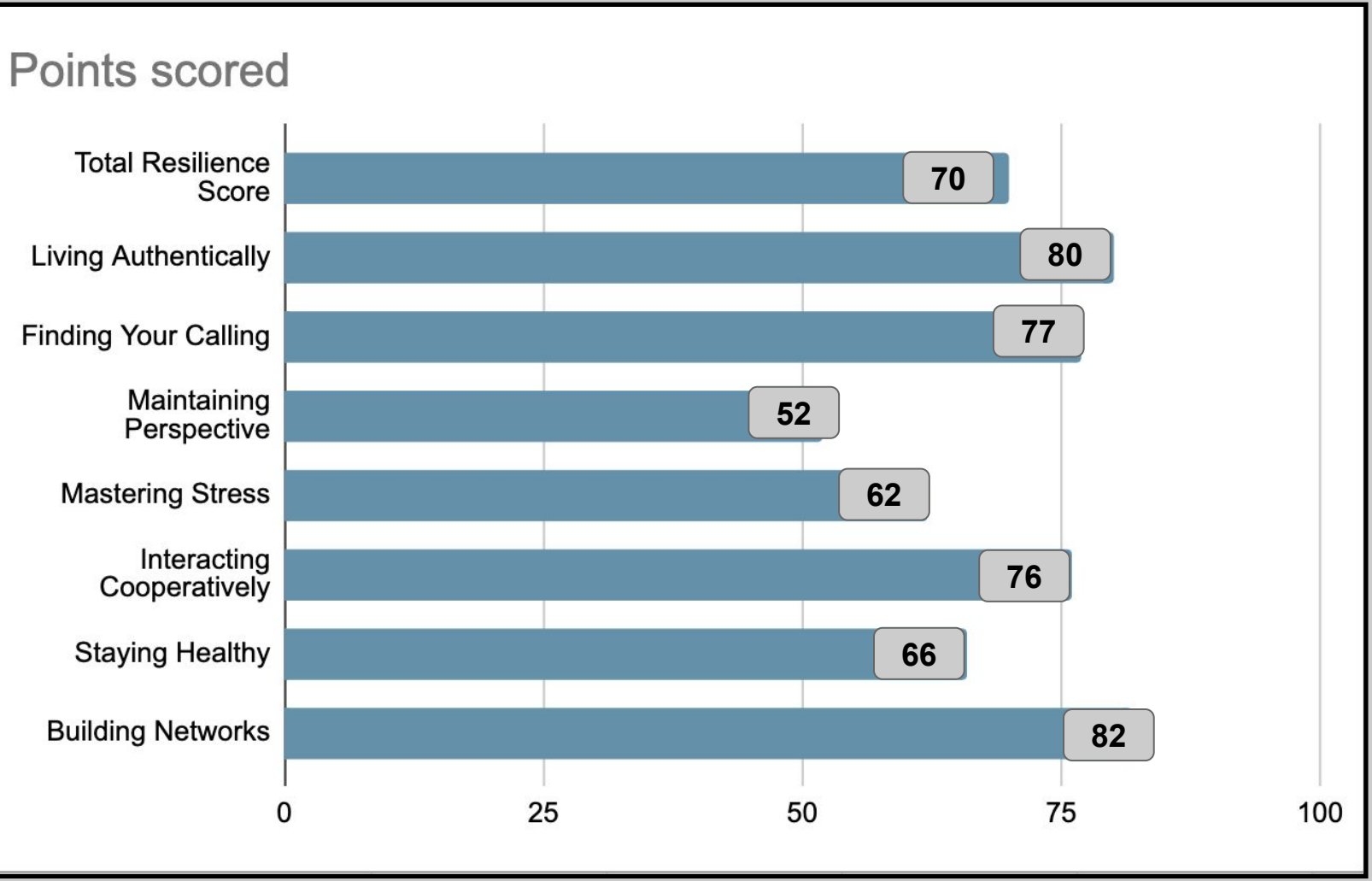
Survey summary.

- The following slides present results from a Resilience Tracker survey conducted from 16-23rd February 2023

- A total of 375 staff across the district completed the survey; the table opposite shows a breakdown of responses by school.

School name	Responses
Bridgeport Elementary School	22
Caley Elementary School	27
Candlebrook Elementary School	26
Gulph Elementary School	39
Roberts Elementary School	29
Upper Merion High School	103
Upper Merion Middle School	121
Upper Merion Area LEA Staff	8
Total	375

peoplebench.com


Points scored
Total Resilience Score
70
Living Authentically
80
Finding Your Calling
77
Maintaining Perspective
52
Mastering Stress
62
Interacting Cooperatively
76
Staying Healthy
66
Building Networks
82
0
25
50
75
100

Quick Reference: Factors that help us boost Resilience

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		Adaptability	Work-life balance			
			Mindfulness			

peoplebench.com

Growth Opportunities…

Focus on:

1. Maintaining Perspective
2. Mastering Stress
3. Staying Healthy





PEOPLEBENCH

Action Plan Steps

SEL examples:

Choose Your Own Adventure - Basketball Game	Choose Your Own Adventure - Volleyball Game	Choose Your Own Adventure - Fitness Room	Financial Planning with Kade Margolis	Gentle Yoga Movement Workshop by Healthy Measure	Managing Health, Managing Stress Workshop by Healthy Measure	Maximizing spaces: Outdoor amphitheater and outdoor classroom
Superfood Smoothies & Nutrition Workshop by Healthy Measure	The UMAHS Faculty Challenge	Therapy Dogs in School - K-4 only	Using Mindfulness in the Secondary Classroom	Walking Club	Meditation and Mindfulness in the Elementary Classroom	Health Fair

Student's Belongingness Project

Belongingness definition:

The extent to which people feel appreciated, validated, accepted, and treated fairly within an environment
(Cobb & Krownapple, 2019)

Student's Belongingness Project

Belongingness definition:

Appreciated: Having parts of your identity admired and positively noticed and/or represented by people, media, and others.

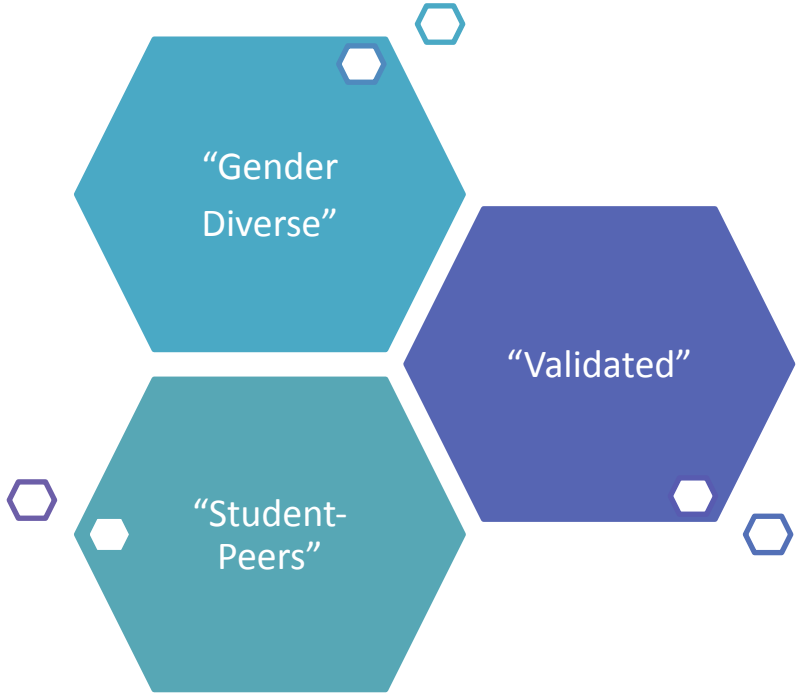
Accepted: Having your personhood completely embraced and regarded favorably without conditions attached to full belonging.

Validated: Having your lived experiences, thoughts, and/or feelings recognized and accepted as real, even if the other person(s) has not experienced similar things and may even disagree with the issues involved in your experience.

Treated Fairly: Having interactions defined by fairness and justice according to your specific circumstances, which may mean not being treated the same as others in order to ensure access to opportunities. Fair treatment may require different approaches that do not imply a lesser standard or status of personhood.

Student's Belongingness Results

Potential Opportunities : Summary



Next Steps - Action Plan


ANY
QUESTIONS?


Thank
you