

Collegial Circle Final Report

Please complete all information on this form. After it is complete, send it to the Teacher Center along with other supporting documentation. Electronic copies are preferred whenever possible.

COLLEGIAL CIRCLE INFORMATION

Title of Circle: The Anxious Generation Standards Area: Special Ed
Facilitator: Amy Brenner School(s): SHS
Beginning Date: 7/01/24 Ending Date: 9/15/24 # of Hours: 6

Please submit copies of the following to this report:

- ✓ Collegial Circle Attendance Log
- ✓ Collegial Circle Meeting Log
- ✓ Samples of strategies implemented, materials created, or student work samples where applicable
- ✓ Collegial Circle Reflection Sheets - completed by each participant

COLLEGIAL CIRCLE DESCRIPTION

What was the anticipated goal(s) of this Collegial Circle?

The Anxious Generation: How the Great Rewiring of Childhood Is Causing an Epidemic of Mental Illness is a 2024 book by Jonathan Haidt which argues that the rise of smartphones and overprotective parenting have led to a "rewiring" of childhood and a rise in mental illness. As a Book Study, we will explore the idea that the combination of the decline of play-based childhoods, exacerbated by what Haidt describes as overprotective parents motivated by excess fear of kidnapping, and increasing smartphone use has been harmful to children since the late 2000s and what outcomes we may see in our own students and potential strategies to support students in our classrooms.

What grade level(s) and or subject area(s) will benefit from this Circle?

Middle & High School grades 7-12

What level of Guskey's Professional Development Evaluation did you select for this Circle?

PARTICIPANTS' LEARNING: WE PLAN TO CREATE ACTIVITIES OR STRATEGIES TO INCLUDE IN OUR LEARNING RESOURCE STUDENT WORKBOOKS BASED UPON INFORMATION THAT WE FIND RELEVANT TO OUR STUDENTS. WE ALSO PLAN TO INCORPORATE OUR OWN TEACHING STRATEGIES INTO RESOURCE MINI-LESSONS THAT WE COULD POTENTIALLY USE IN OUR CLASSES. WE WOULD ALSO INCORPORATE OUR LEARNING INTO.

FINAL REFLECTIONS

Was the goal of your Collegial Circle met? Please explain.

Yes, as a group we discussed the pro's and con's of cell phone use in our school / classrooms. We took into consideration the arguments put forth by the author Jonathan Haidt and came to a general agreement that cell phone use in schools / classrooms are doing more harm than good in adolescents. We agree that the evidence shows there should be more restrictions on cell phone / social media use by teens, especially in the school setting. As per our discussions, the negatives outweigh the positives.

How did the members of this Collegial Circle assess whether the outcome was met? What evidence was utilized to assess your progress?

We were able to learn about the benefits of a phone free school day for our students, as well as benefits for us as teachers. We learned how to incorporate Anxious Generation information, data, and strategies with our students to improve academic performance.

How did your work impact teaching and learning? [Include student work samples, lesson plans, peer reviews, etc.]

We will attempt to implement cell phone / social media lessons and materials (based on *The Anxious Generation*) into our Resource classes in the fall. Amy Marino made a bulletin board outside a Resource room based on our collegial circle discussion. Picture attached. This bulletin board is already being used as an interdisciplinary resource by our Spanish teachers to teach both Spanish vocabulary as well as incorporate social emotional learning.

Did your work align with the Level of Evaluation you identified in your proposal? Please explain.

Yes, we created materials/strategies to incorporate into our classes in the fall including Learning Resource and potentially an SC or IC class. We created a bulletin board related to cell phone use / social media & social emotional learning based on our learning from *The Anxious Generation*.

Please included any additional comments you would like to share with the Collegial Circle Committee. This may include unanticipated outcomes, next steps, new learning, etc.

Unanticipated outcomes include how this topic related to our own personal lives and raising our own children in a world of social media and cell phones / learning.