



Engaging and Motivating High School Students Through Student-Centered Learning

11th Annual Summer Leadership Institute

Mark D. Benigni, Ed.D.

Superintendent of Schools



COLLABORATION -
THE HEART OF OUR WORK

DISTRICT PROFILE

Our Schools

- 8 Elementary Schools
- 2 Middle Schools
- 2 High Schools
- Venture Academy
- College & Career Readiness Center

Our Students

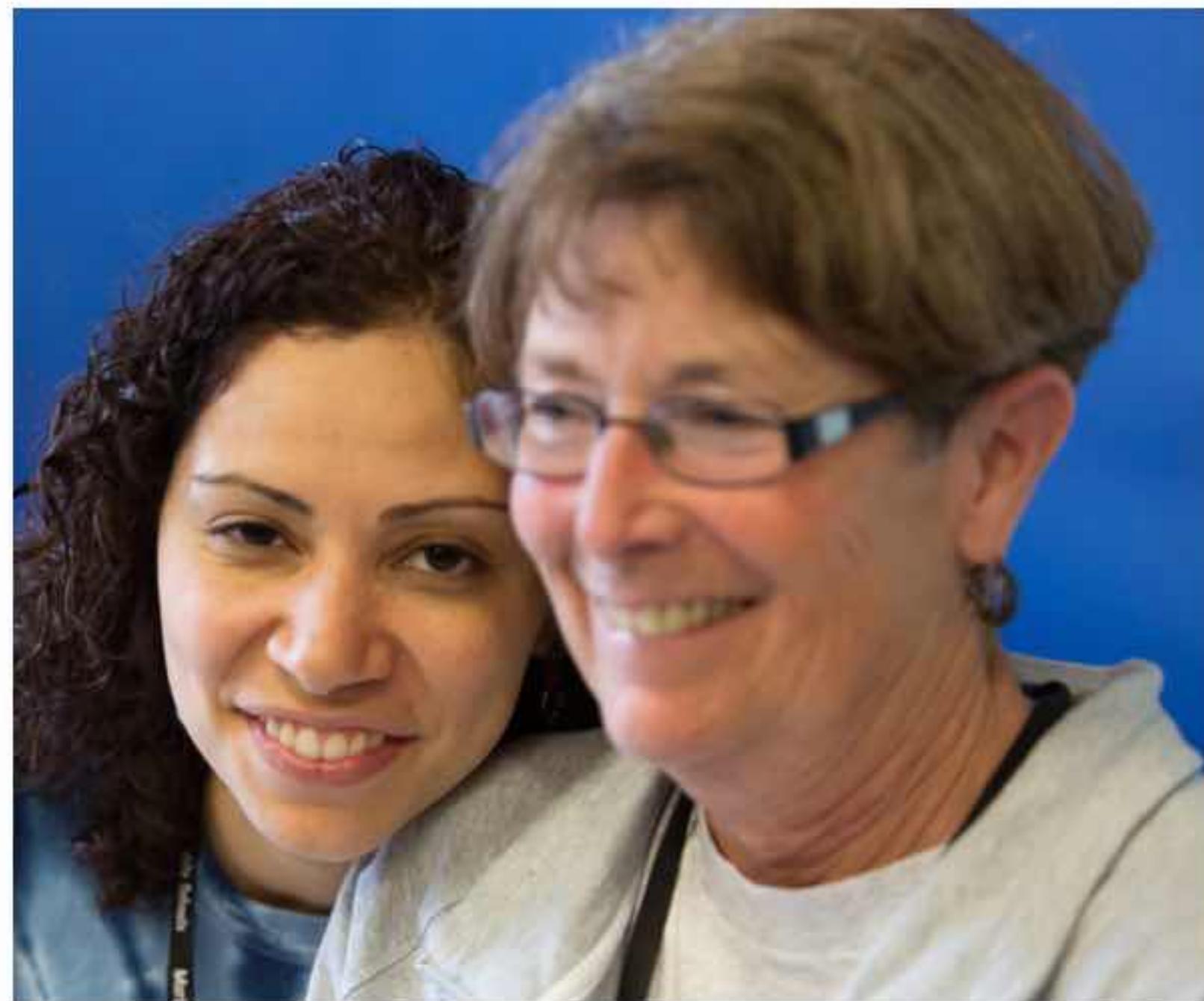
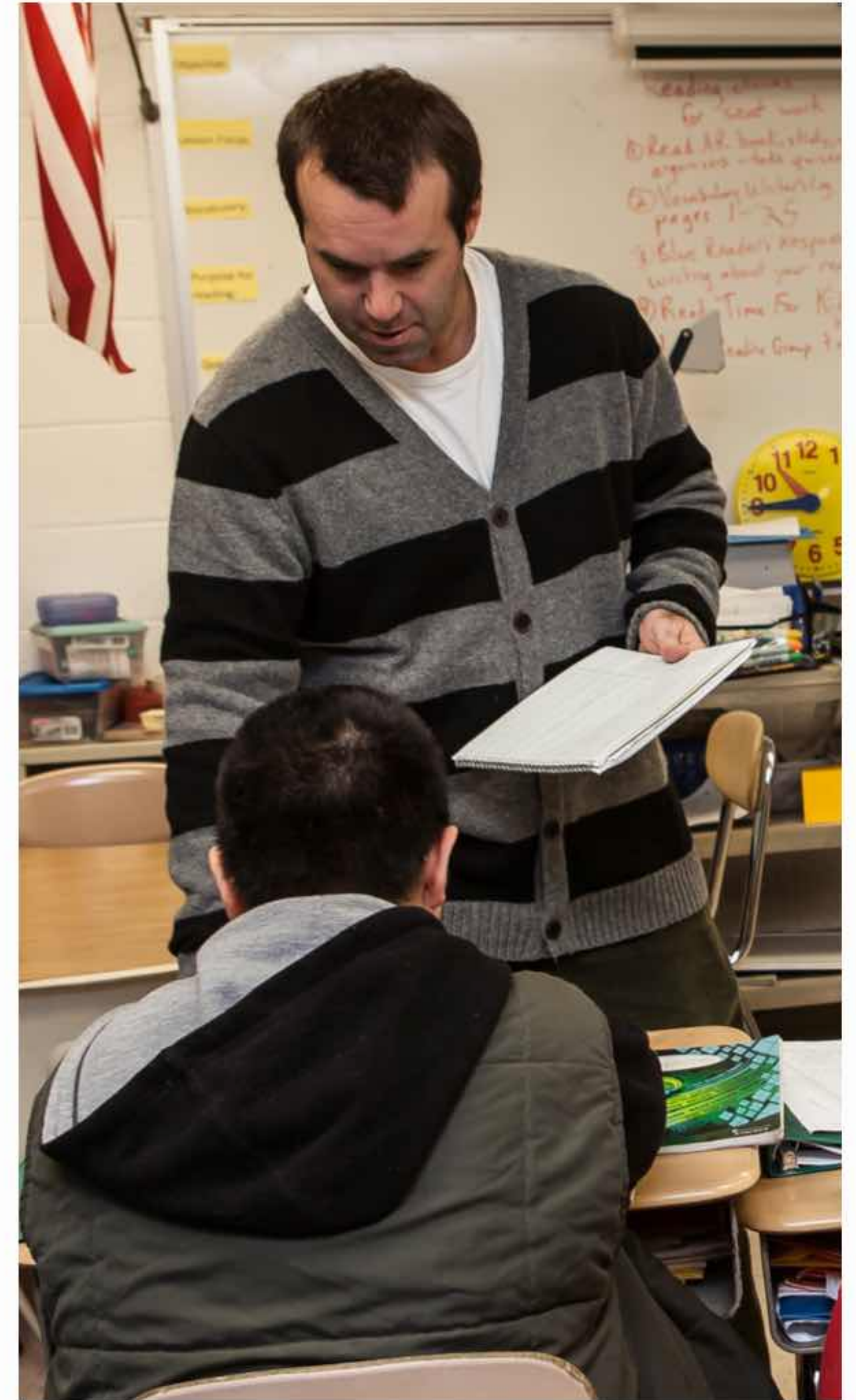
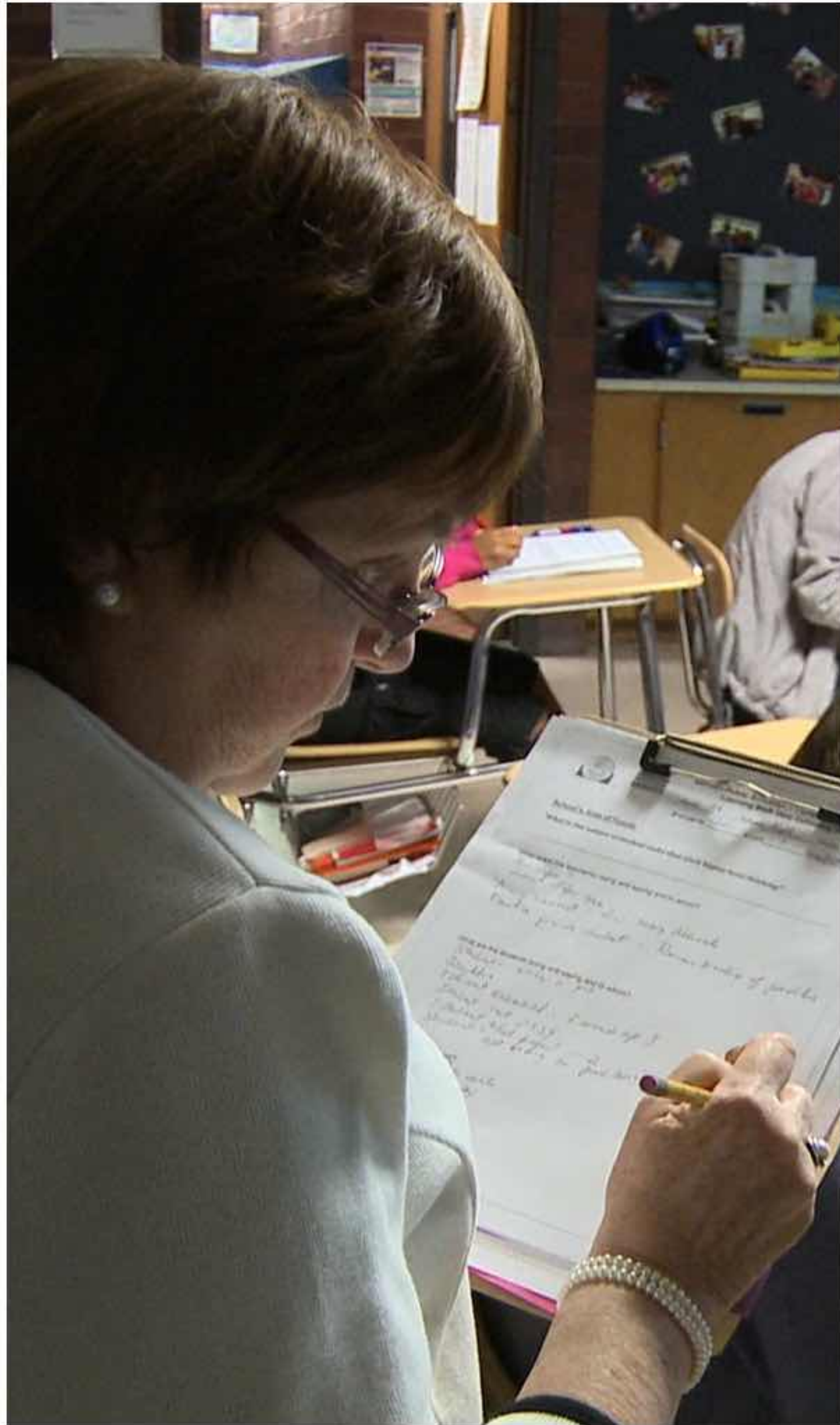
- 9,100 Total Students
- 76% of Our Graduates Pursue Higher Education
- 67% Minority Students
- 70% Free and Reduced Lunch Students

WHY I AM SO PROUD OF...

OUR SCHOOLS



OUR TEACHERS



OUR STUDENTS



OUR FAMILIES



OUR COMMUNITY



IN THE **MERIDEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS,**

WE DO NOT...

Screen student applicants by academic performance or courses taken

Require long applications, autobiographies, essay questions, or recommendations

Require family interviews or volunteer work for admission

Provide one pathway for student success

IN THE **MERIDEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS,**

WE DO...

Enroll all
students at all
times

Provide
accommodations
for students with
special needs or
limited english
skills

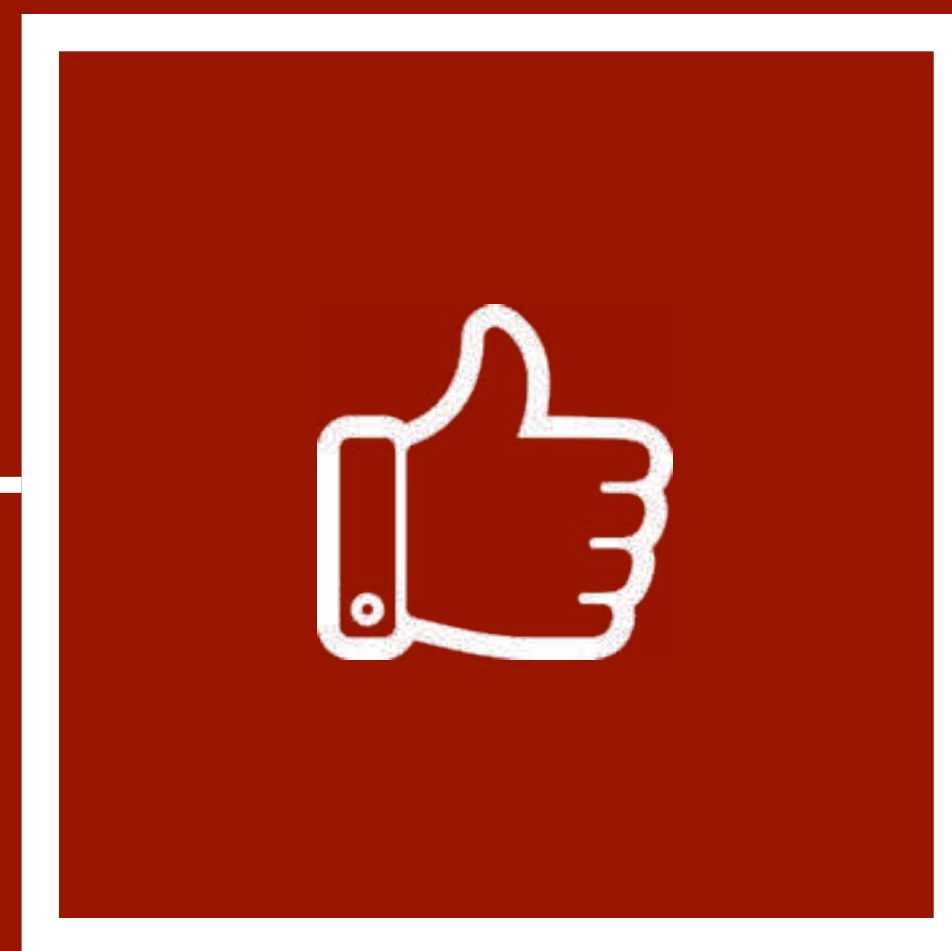
Provide
subsidized
lunch and
breakfast

Provide
personalized
learning
opportunities
for all

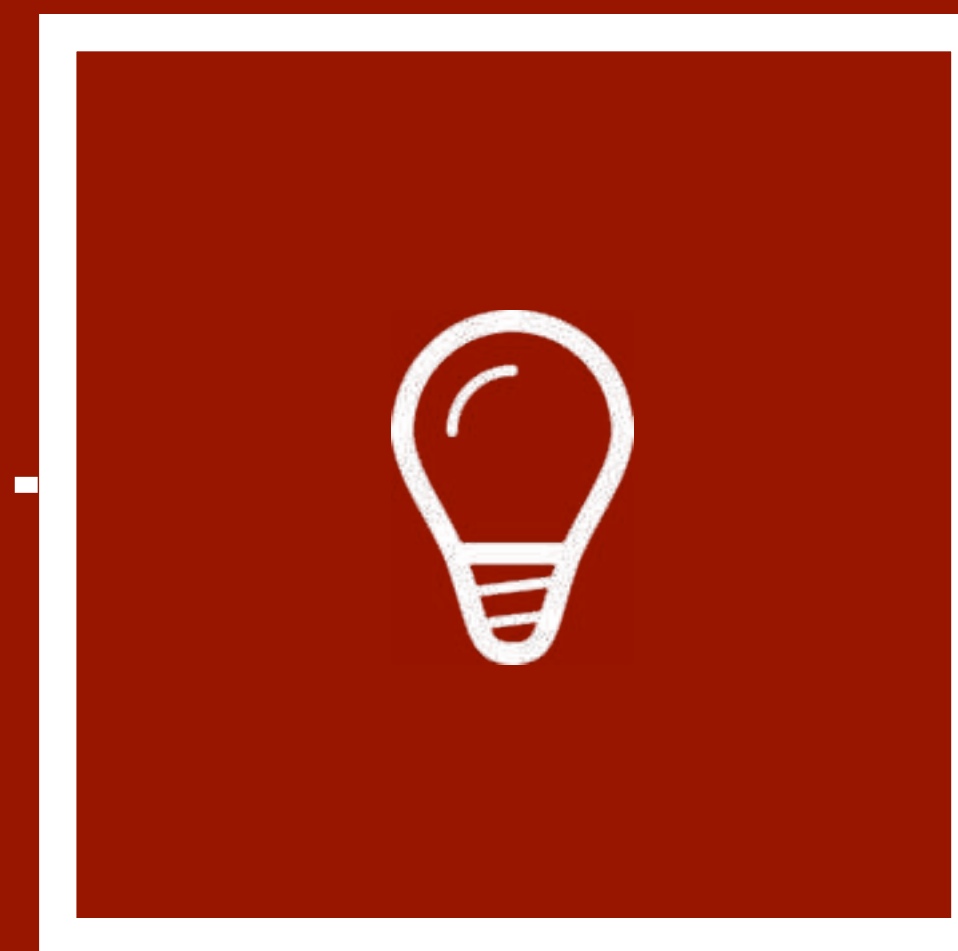
WE:



DREAM



BELIEVE



INNOVATE

WE WORK TOGETHER

TO CREATE **STUDENT-CENTERED LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS**

Barbara A. Haeffner

Director of Curriculum and Instructional Technology

WHAT DID WE DO?

"If you manage people or are a parent (which is a form of managing people), drop everything and read *Mindset*."

—GUY KAWASAKI, author of *The Art of the Start*

mindset

THE NEW PSYCHOLOGY OF SUCCESS

HOW WE CAN
LEARN TO FULFILL
OUR POTENTIAL

- *parenting
- *business
- *school
- *relationships

"Will prove to be one of the most influential books ever about motivation."
—PO BRONSON, author of *NurtureShock*

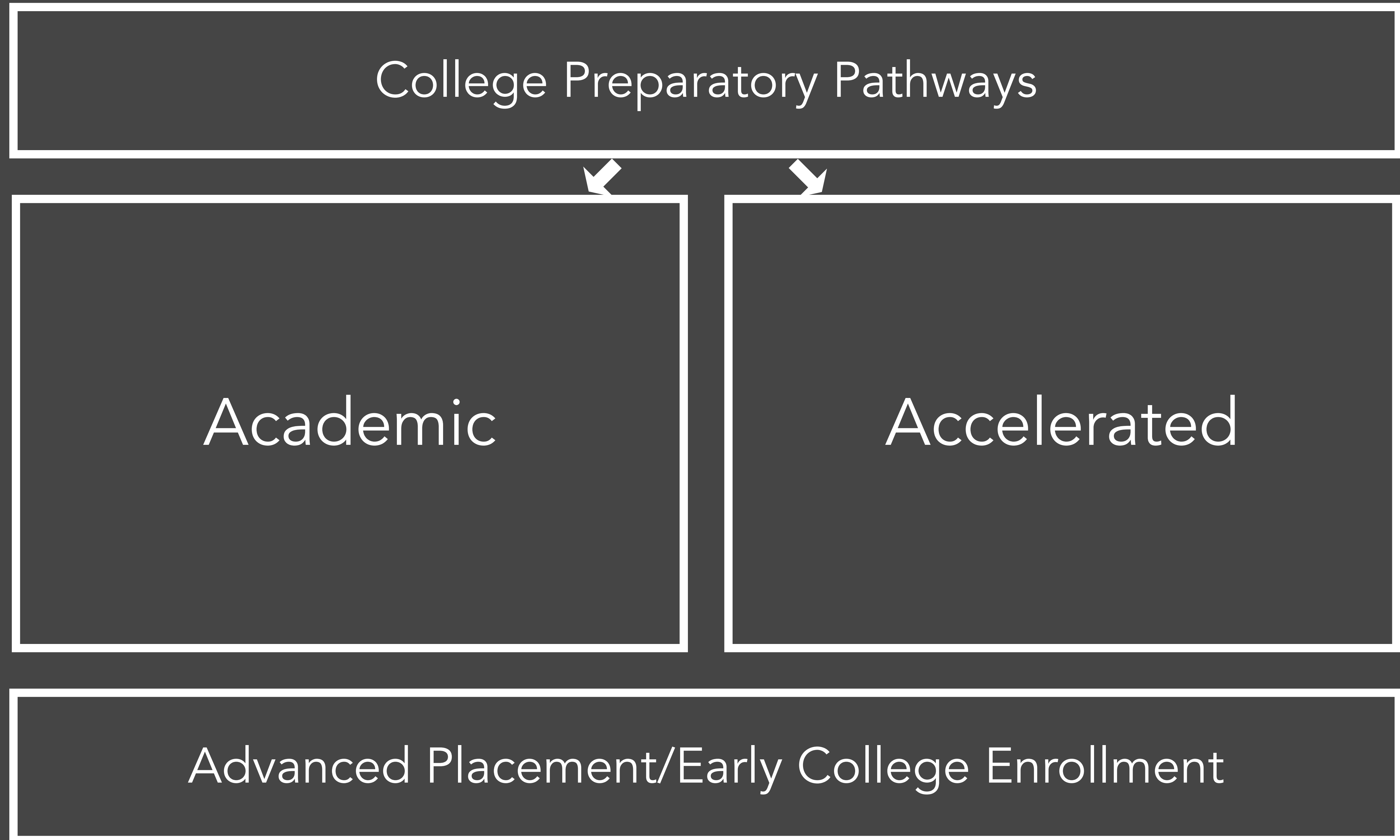
CAROL S. DWECK, Ph.D.

ABANDONED
The Fixed Mindset

ADOPTED
The Growth Mindset

Raised the Bar for All Students

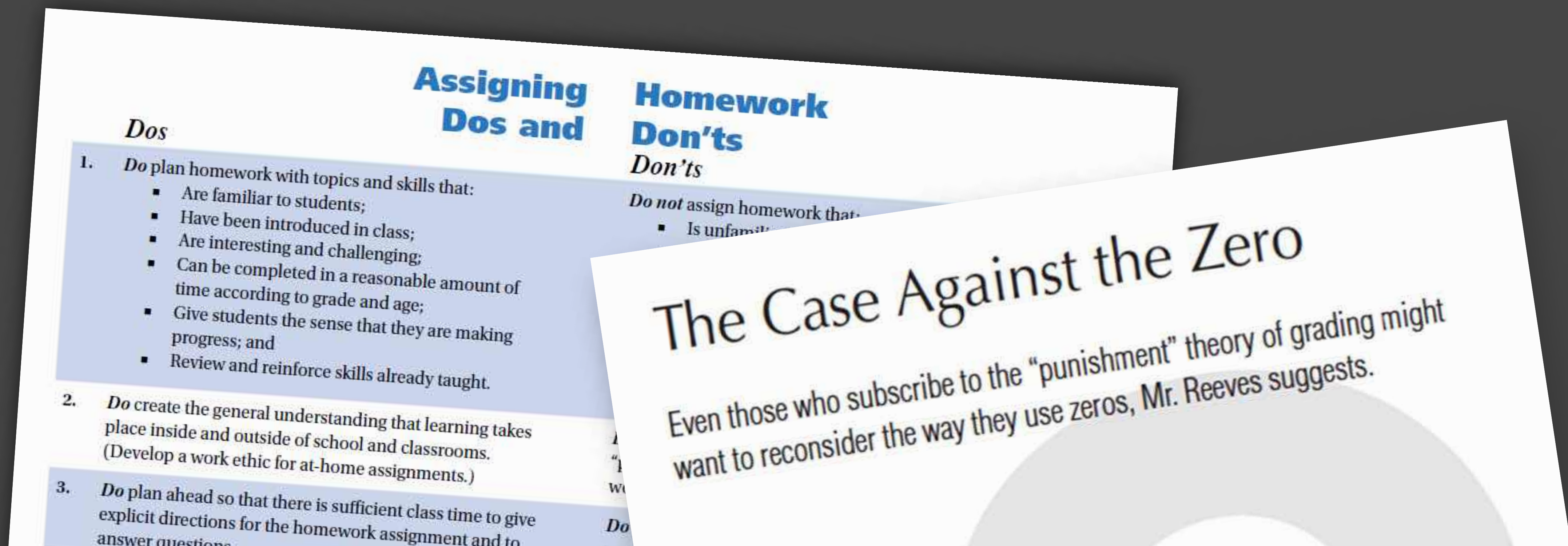
Collapsed Academic Levels from Five to Two

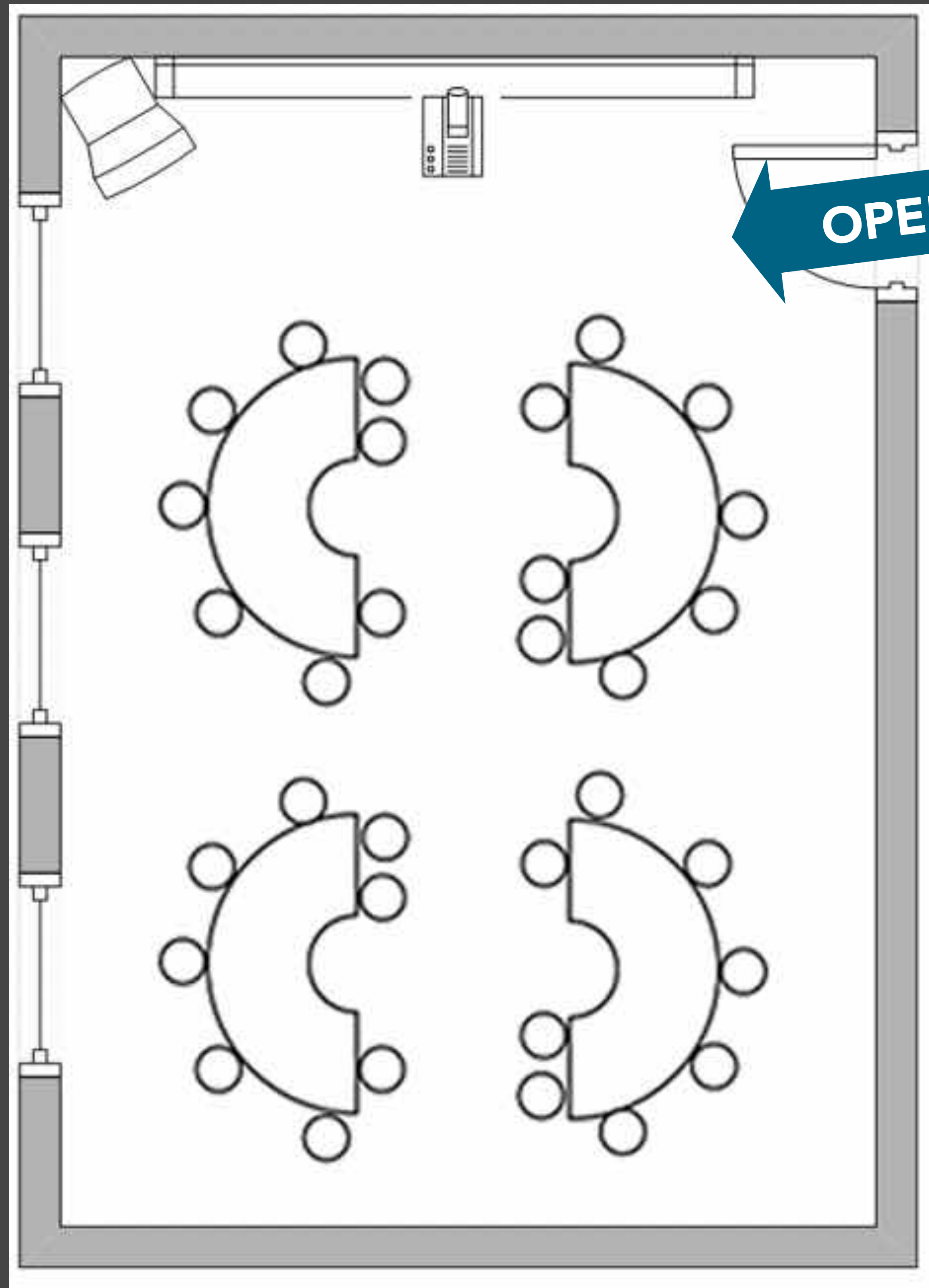


Adopted a No Zero Policy

We continue to:

- Encourage Work Completion
- Review Current Grading Procedures
- Engage and Motivate Students





Opened Access to All Classes

- Eliminated Prerequisites
- Give Students Choice

Increased Academic Rigor

MPS is proud to offer **18** Advanced Placement/Early College Experience (ECE) course offerings for **all** of our students. Recently, the Board of Education unanimously approved the addition of the following three AP/ECE course offerings: AP Microeconomics, AP Government, and AP Physics.

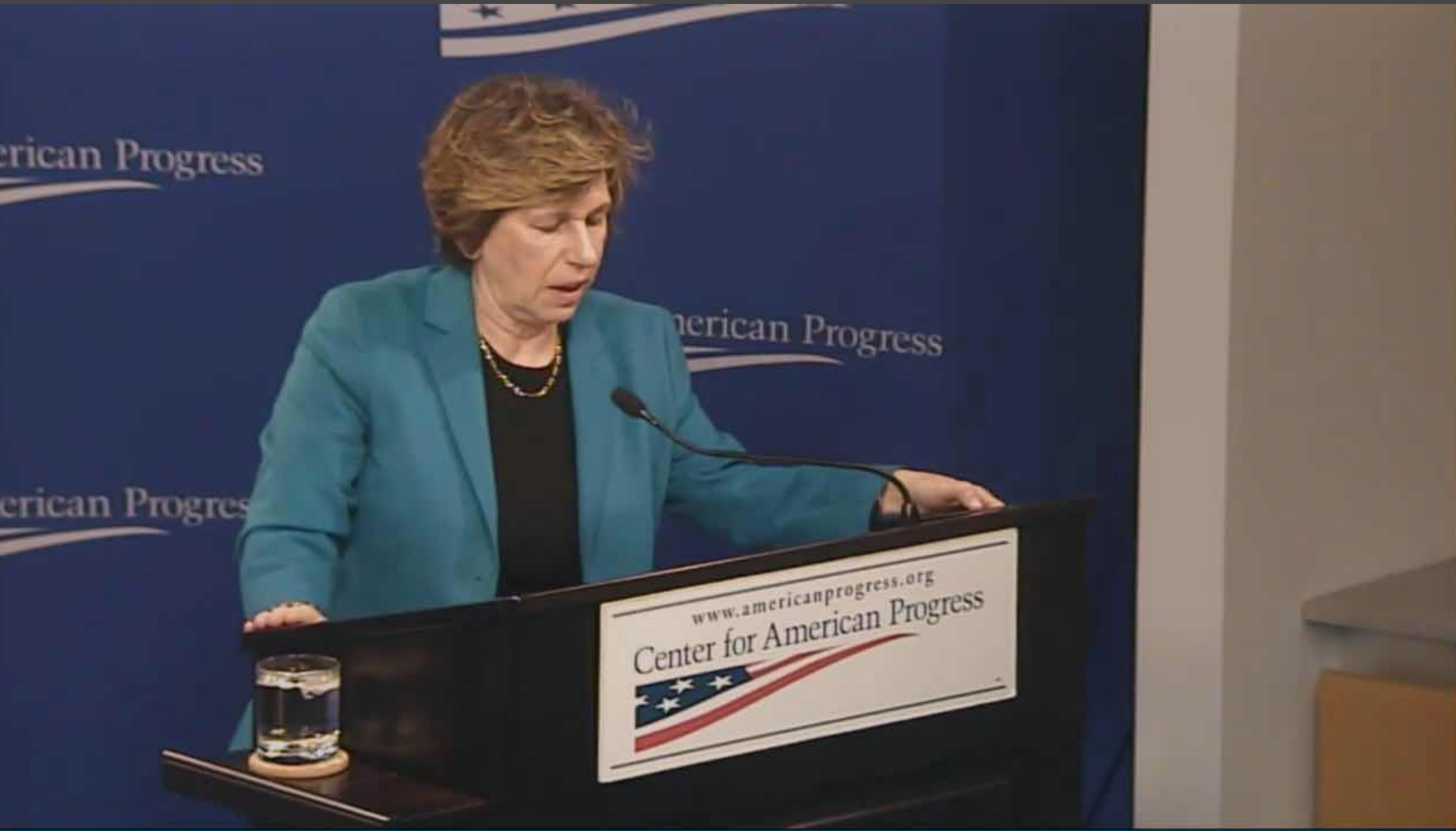
AP/ECE PARTICIPATION	2010	2014	INCREASE SINCE 2010
ALL STUDENTS	218	520	139%
BLACK STUDENTS (15%)	5	50	900%
HISPANIC STUDENTS (47%)	29	117	303%
WHITE STUDENTS (35%)	155	317	105%

WHAT DID WE DO?

SUCCESSFULLY IMPLEMENTED COMMON CORE

SUPPORTED **OUR STAFF** WITH **COMMON CORE**

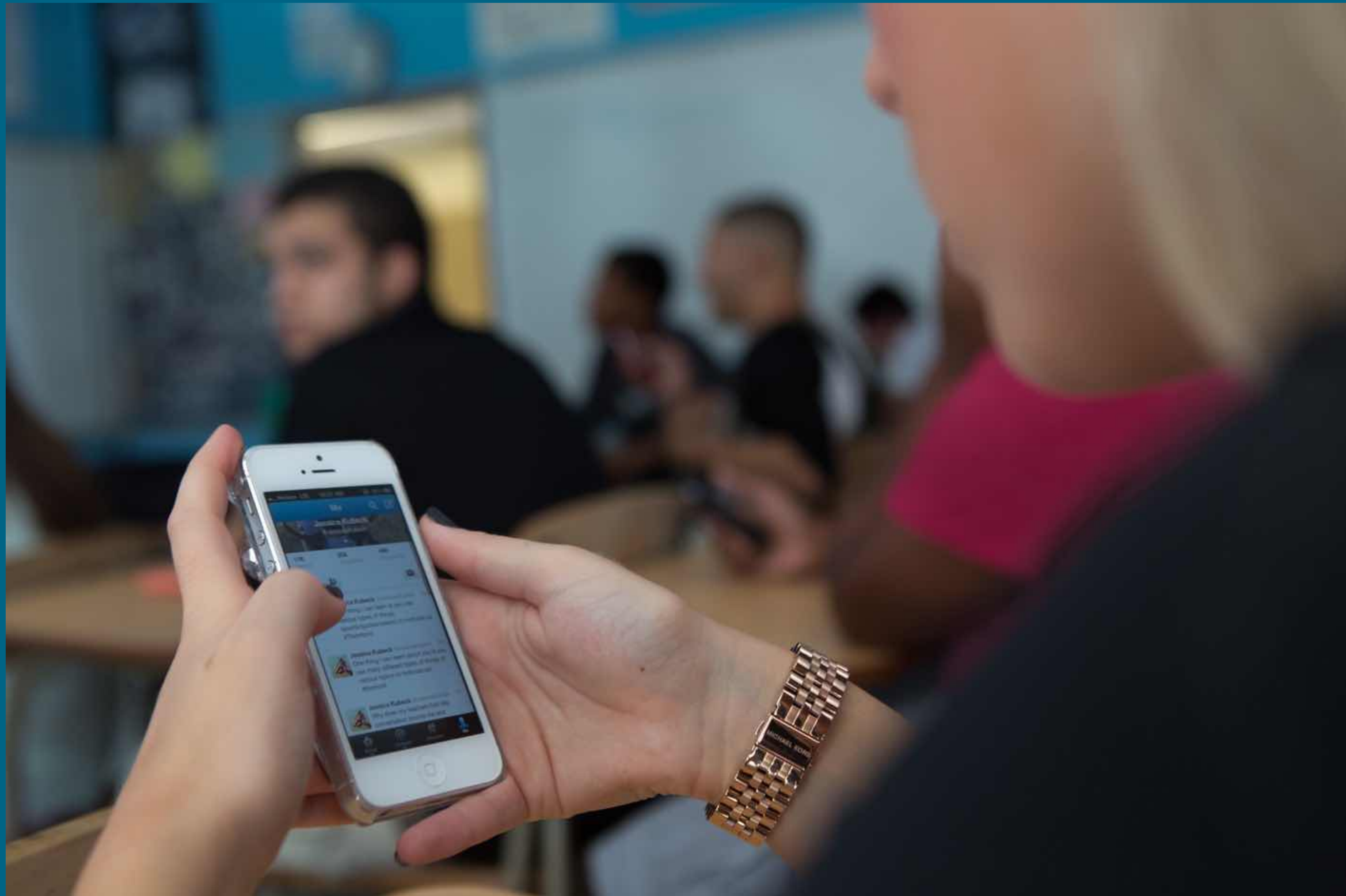
- AFT invited and sponsored our teachers to participate in training in Washington, D.C. and trainers came to CT
- Our teachers now provide training to their colleagues in the district
- Topics included: Introduction to the Common Core, Unpacking the Common Core State Standards, and Planning for Instruction



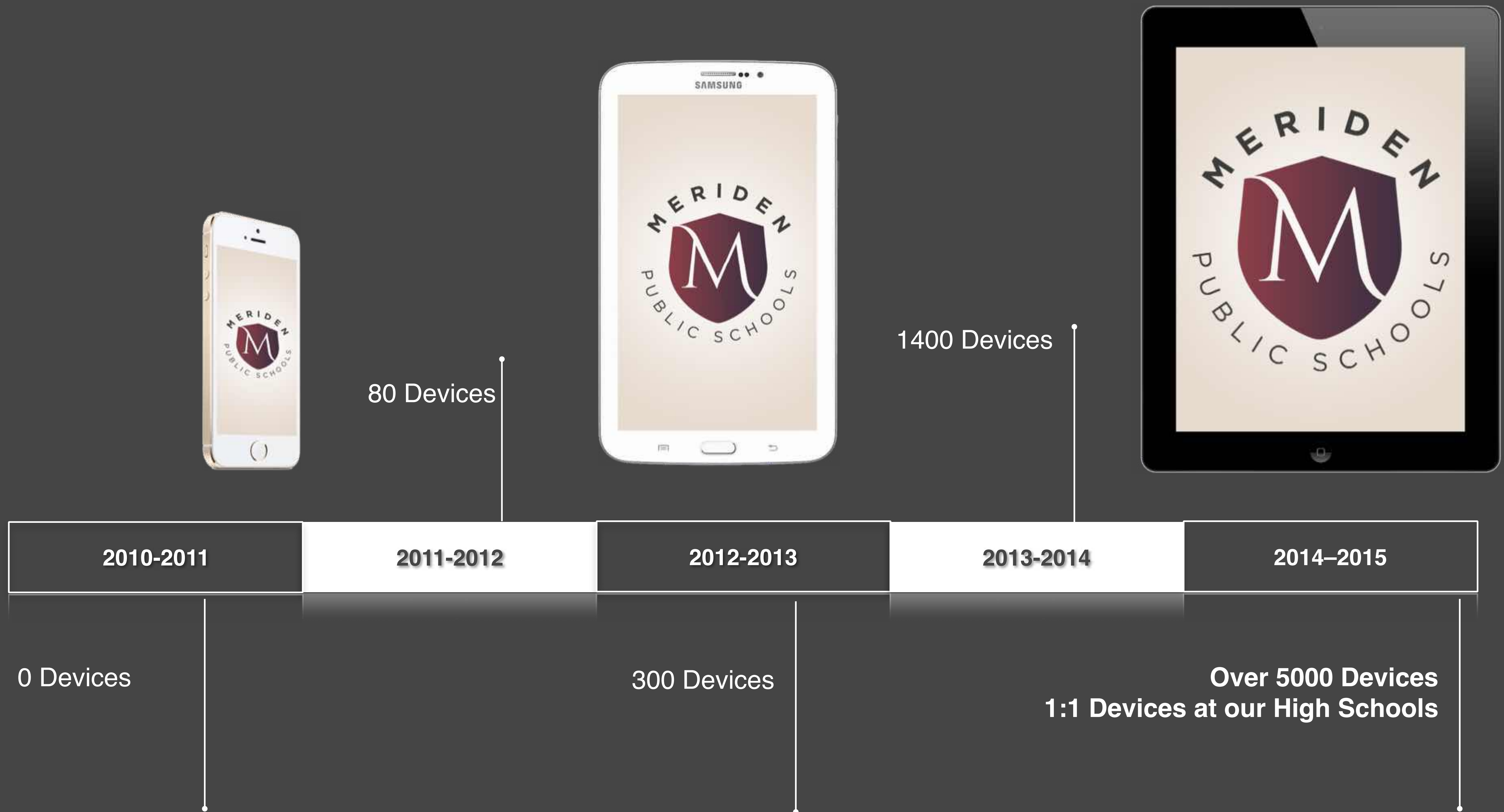
UNIVERSITY COLLABORATION

- 80 hours of mathematics training at Wesleyan University for kindergarten to grade 8 teachers
- 20 days of training in science at Central Connecticut State University for our middle school science teachers
- Common Core Implementation Partnerships will continue in 2015 - 2016

ADOPTED **BYOD** GUIDELINES



Devices to Support Blended Learning





TONY TERZI
@TonyTerzi

LAUNCHED SCHOOL CLIMATE SURVEYS

The screenshot shows the Meriden Board of Education School Climate Survey website. At the top left is a logo of a school building. The main header reads "MERIDEN Board of Education School Climate Survey". To the right is the slogan "Pride in All We Do" and the Board of Education logo. A navigation bar contains links for "Home", "Trends", "MPS Care Entries", "Watch Groups", "Notifications", and "Log Out". Below the navigation bar is a search section with a "Search by Student:" label, a text input field, and a "Go" button. Underneath is an "Advanced Search:" section with three rows of filters: "Survey:" with a dropdown menu showing "Student Survey Fall 2014", "Factor:" with a dropdown menu, and "Factor Score Range:" with two dropdown menus separated by "to". A "Search" button is located below the range filters.

Created Online Support Portal

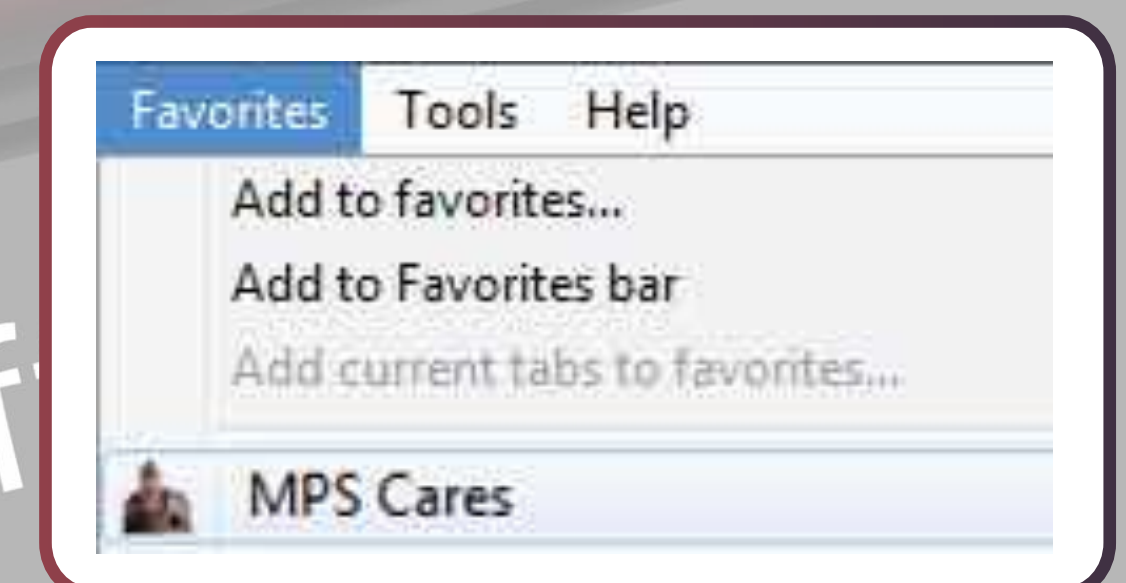
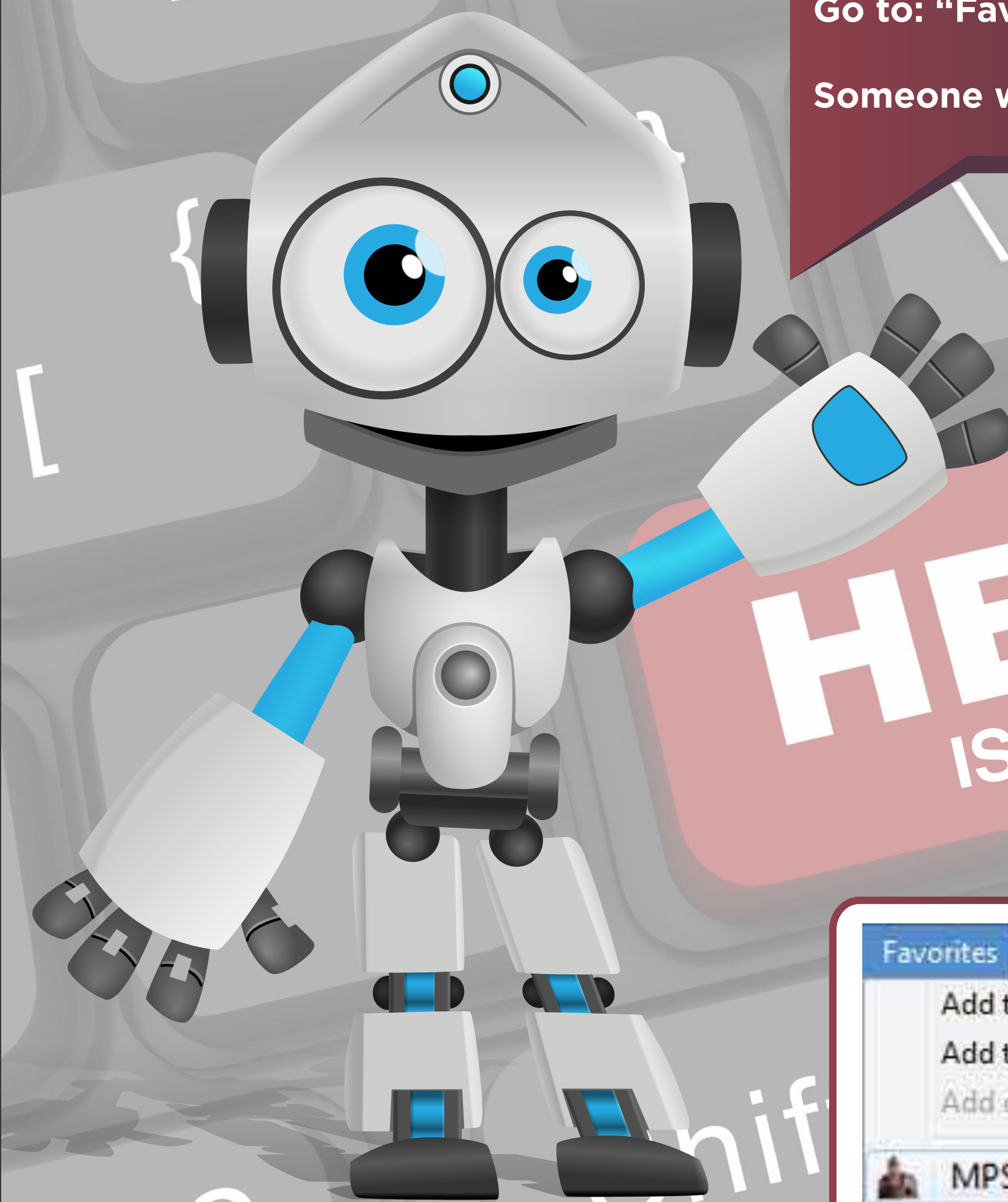


Sometimes you just need to talk to someone ...

Is something bothering you?
... want to tell someone?

Go to: "Favorites" and "MPS Cares"

Someone will reach out to you soon!



BOE Reviewed, Revised, and Developed District Policy and Goals to Put Students at the Center

Policy 5005
Date Revised: August 19, 2014

GOALS FOR STUDENTS

The Board and staff shall work together to establish for each student an environment conducive to learning and shall aspire to the following goals regarding students:

to provide a student-centered learning environment to meet the individual needs

to provide a student-centered learning environment to meet the individual needs of each student according to his or her specific background, capabilities, learning style, interests and aspirations;

to provide an educational program which will lead to college and career readiness for all students;

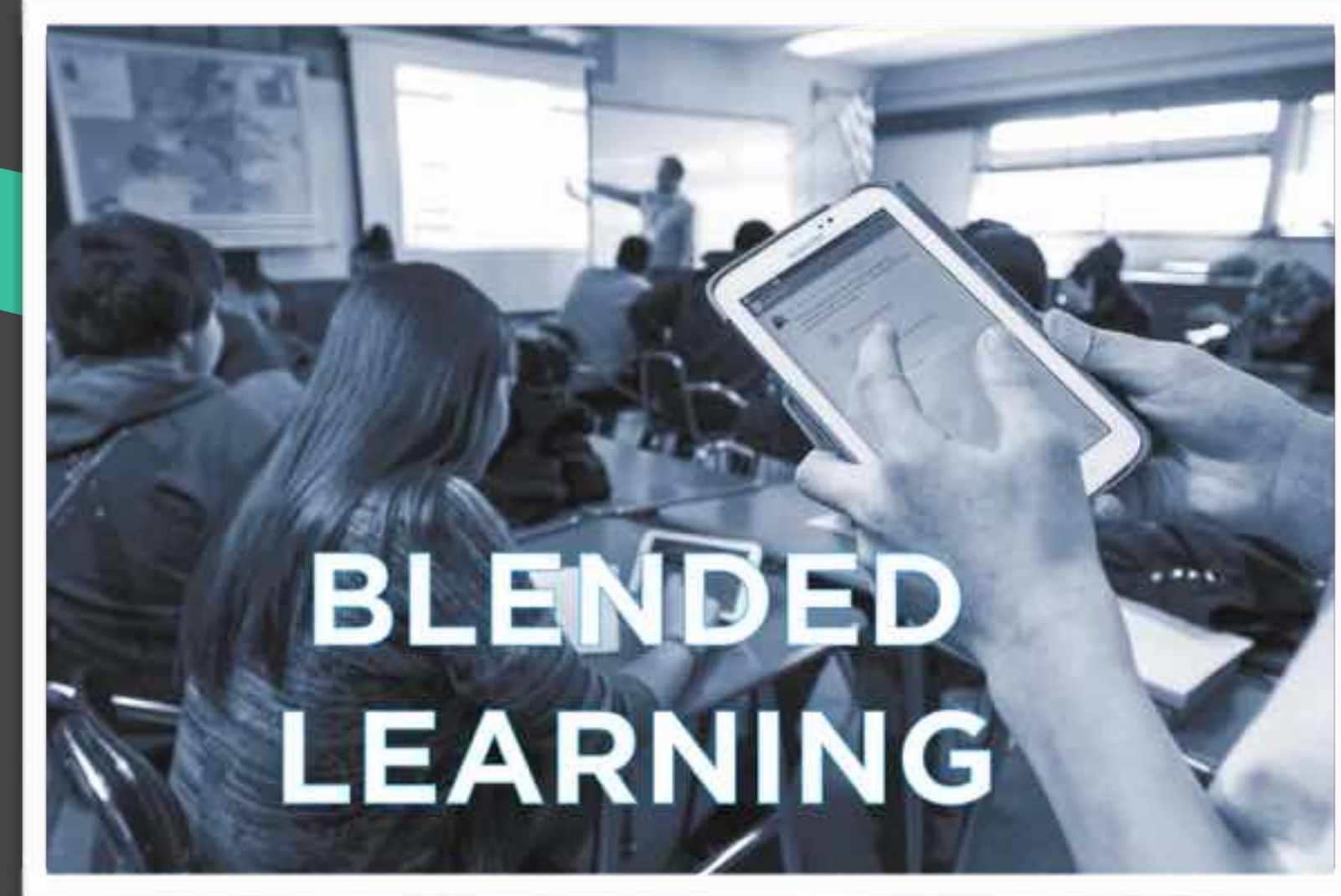
to provide a technology and resource rich learning environment;

to provide opportunities for learning outside the traditional classroom and school building (e.g., online courses, independent study, internships and externships);

Susan O. Moore

Supervisor of Blended Learning

WHERE ARE WE NOW?



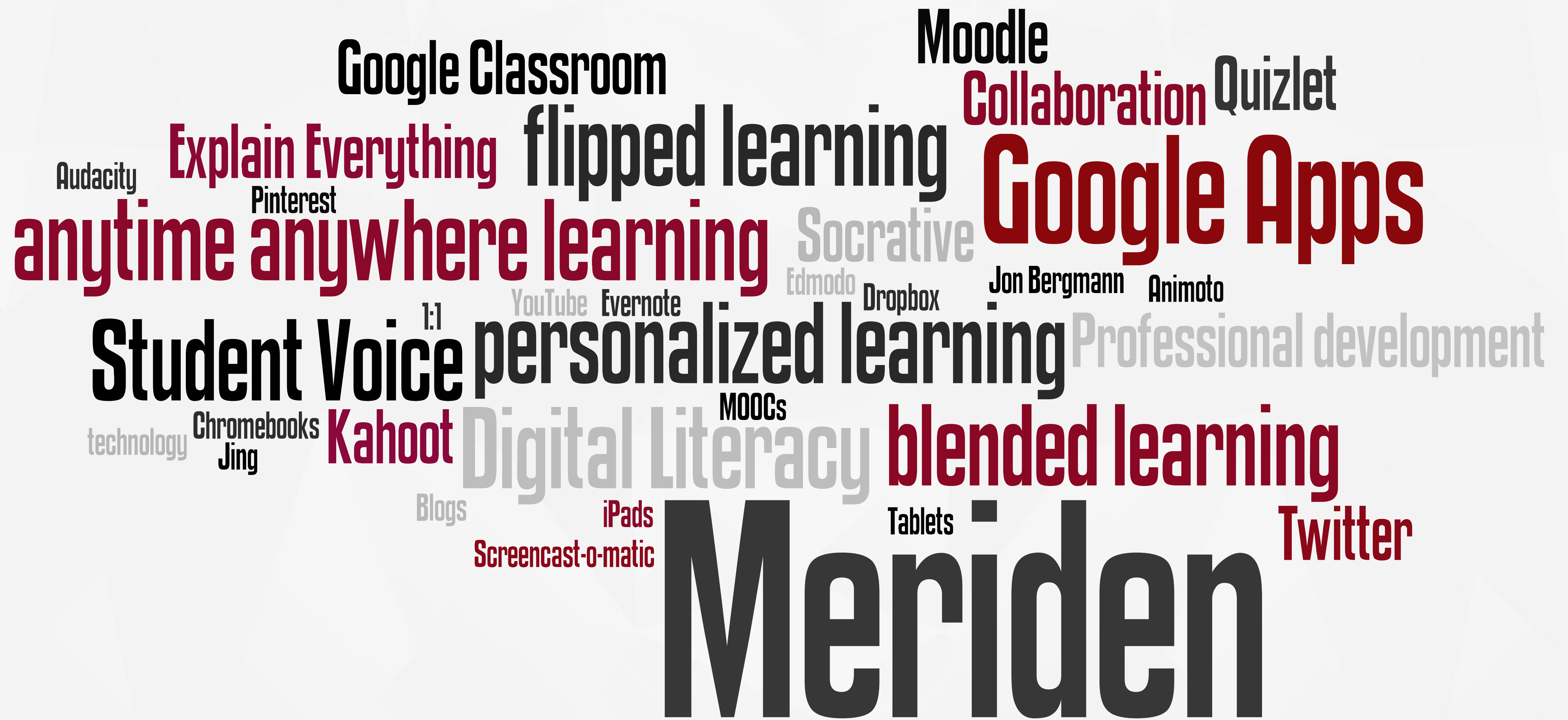
Students at the Center



Student Voice



Blended Learning



Blended Learning Resources



Dante Solano




Maloney High School Senior

iPad 7:25 PM 55%











Study Feed Quizlet

17 terms

Industrialization, 1865-1901

 Cards
  Learn
  Scatter

TERMS INFO

Gross National Product	The total value of all goods and services produced by a country in a year.	
Laissez-faire	Policy that government should not interfere in the economy	
Entrepreneur	Person who takes business risks for profit	
Time Zone	Region that keeps the same standard time	
Land Grant	Free Land given to railroads	
Corporation	A company that is owned by many people	
Stock	Certificates that indicate amount of ownership in a corporation	
Blacklist	A group of workers identified as troublemakers	
Vertical Integration	Combining companies that supply equipment and services for a particular industry	
Horizontal Integration	Combining competing firms into one corporation	

iPad 7:29 PM 54%

courses.meriden.k12.ct.us/course/view.php?id=211

Faculty & Staff Course: US HISTORY 10

- ▶ CONFLICT AND WAR
- ▶ America and World Affairs
- ▶ American Popular Culture
- ▶ Topic 8
- ▶ Topic 9
- ▶ Topic 10
- ▶ My courses

Settings

- Course administration
 - Turn editing on
 - Edit settings
 - Users
 - Filters
 - Grades
 - Backup
 - Restore
 - Import
 - Reset
 - Question bank
 - Legacy course files
- Switch role to...
- My profile settings

Search forums

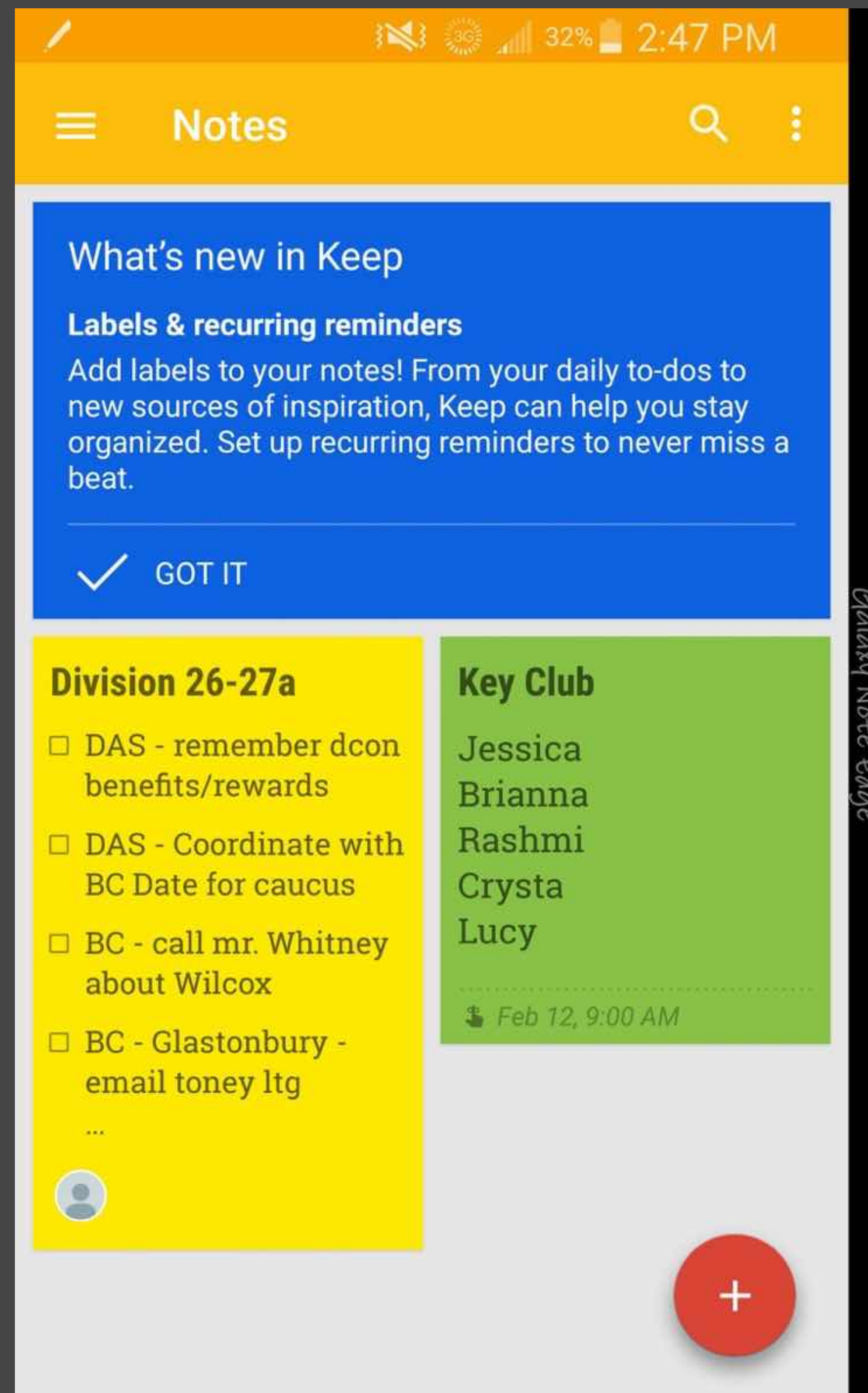
Go

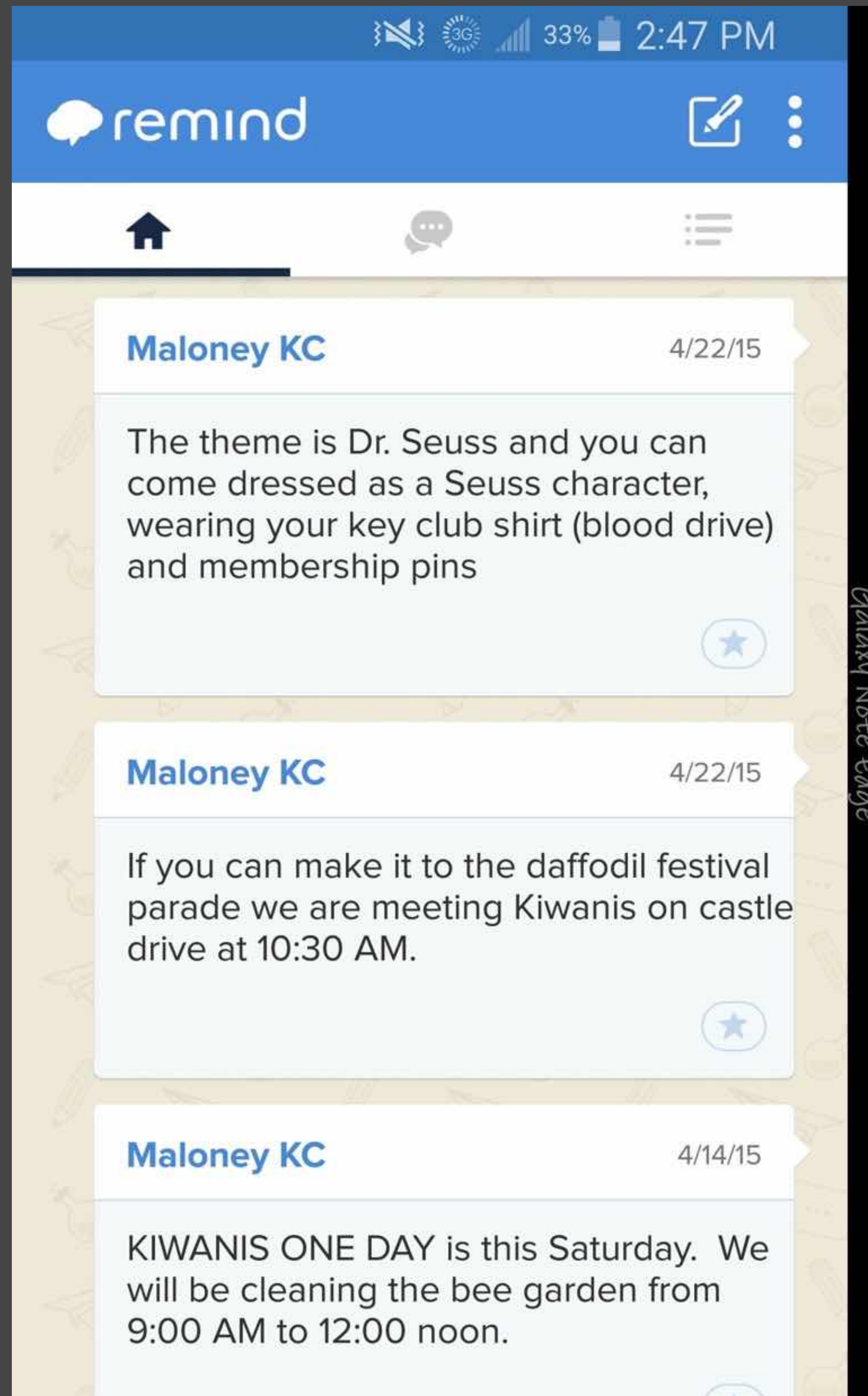
Immigration

Essential Questions

1. Has the U.S. as a whole been the biggest beneficiary in terms of immigration?
2. Should the United States limit immigration?
3. Did urbanization affect the U.S. both positively and negatively?

- Immigration Forum
- immigration moodle guide
- Intro PP
- Challenge Project Immigration
 - Challenge Project Question Guide
- Map and Graph
- A Nation of Immigrants
- Naturalization
- Political Cartoon Immigration
- Destination America
 - Destination America Computer Lab Worksheet
- Chinese Exclusion DBQ
- Political Bosses DBQ
- Jacob Riis DBQ








Jacquelyn Townsend

Platt High School Graduate

iPad 10:50 AM 75%

APE Posts

Mr. Flynn
Teacher

Posts

Group Management

Progress


Library

Latest Posts

Groups by Me 11

- Advisory
- AP European History
- **APE**
- Motivation Module
- Senior Forum
- Senior Forum 4


Logout



Me to APE

French Revolution Doc on TED ED

Watch the doc, through the link and answer the 15 short answer questions. You have more time to watch this look at the due date. On Thursday we will discuss the end of chapter 18. On Friday we will discuss French Rev Chapter 19 up to Napoleon.




[The French Revolution \[Documentary\] \[History Channel\]](http://ed.ted.com/on/Ny4fsiAJ)
<http://ed.ted.com/on/Ny4fsiAJ>

0 submitted

Due: Jan 6, 2014

Dec 28, 2013 • Reply



Jackie Townsend to APE

War and diplomacy

- Philosophers called war a foolish waste of life and resources in stupid quarrels of no value to humankind
- 18 century European system of self-governing and individual states were largely in the principle of self-interest
- Balance of power: counterbalance the power of one states by another to prevent any one state from domination the others
- The balance of power did not imply a desire of peace large armies created to defend a state's security were used for offensive purpose as well

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#obamacare #flynnsf

Kaylee @Kayleejuarba_ 1d
A lady signed up for #Obamacare in Florida And had 102 choices & took 22 minutes to finish on the website. Policy is \$113 a mth #flynnsf

Elijahh Castillo @Tha_Conscience 1d
The #GOP is mad about the #Obamacare health exchanges not working perfectly which is ironic since they just shutdown the government.#flynnsf

MarthaAnne follows

Vanessa Lopez @MagicalVanessa 1d
Positive tweet. #flynnsf pic.twitter.com/BXBPcD3q71

Daijah Moore @Monae_MoeMoe 1d
"@NRO: #Obamacare: "a tumor growing on our economy and our health-care system." natl.re/1enYKNt" #negative #flynnsf

Josh @joshchaparro 1d
Coverage under Obama care will on average be 99% higher for men and 62% for women than under current plans. #FlynnSF

Tixaayy @Alex_T113 1d
forbes.com/sites/scottgot... #flynnsf people may have to owe more money than they are being told

Josh @joshchaparro 1d
Obama care helps citizens positive #FlynnSF


Chris Hanson follows

iPad
11:55 AM
72%

Close
🕒
📄
📌
📖
⋮


Note from Orville H Platt High Sc...
9/18/13

lutherchart
9/11/13



lutherchart.ppt
12 KB

Snapshot from...
9/10/13



Chapter 13: reformation and relig...
9/9/13 The social Impact of Protestant reformation The reformation would have an impact on the family, education, and popular religious practices due to Christian...

Note from Orville H Platt High Sc...
9/9/13 That the inability to feel for another is a disease Changing antidote to gift would changes the meaning of the ability to feel for another it makes it seem like there are...

Anatomy of an atom
9/6/13 History: Alchemists : People who study chemical science Democritus: Greek school teacher , 4th century B.C Proposed that all matter is made of very small particl...

AUGUST 2013

EGE chemistry chapter 1

A Revived Papacy

- The involvement of the renaissance papacy in dubious finances and Italian political and military affairs had given rise to numerous sources of corruption
- Taking a jolt from the Protestant reformation the papacy had its own reformation
- Pope Paul III perceived the need for change and expressed it decisively
- Paul took the audacious step of appointing a reform commission to study the condition of the church. The commission's report in 1537 blames the church's problems on the corrupt policies of popes and cardinals
- A colloquy had been held at the regensburg in a final attempt to settle the religious division peacefully was the turning point in the direction of the Catholic reformation and the nature of papal reformation
- When pope Paul IV Was chosen to be pope in 1555 he increased the power of the inquisition that even liberal cardinals were silenced

The Council of Trent

- Pope Paul III took the decisive step of calling for a general council of Christendom to resolve the religious difference created by the Protestant revolt
- The council met intermittently in three major sessions:
- Formulating doctrinal definitions that would encourage Protestants to return to the church
- Restatement of the catholic doctrines in strict opposition to Protestant position
- The final doctrinal decrees of the council of trent reaffirmed traditional catholic teaching in opposition to Protestant beliefs
- Of the reform decrees that were passed the most important established theological seminaries in every diocese for the training of priests
- After the council of Trent the RCC possessed a clear body of doctrine and unified church under the acknowledge supremacy of the popes, who had triumphed over bishops and councils

Politics and wars of Religion in the 16th century

-

Student Engagement



Students Design Personalized Learning Experiences



Jasmine McLeish

Platt High School Graduate

PLATT HIGH SCHOOL DRAMA DEPARTMENT
PRESENTS

LOCKDOWN

Directed by Students: Kiera Flynn and Jasmine McLeish



Personalized Learning Experiences - Piano 4



Jasmine McLeish

Jennifer P. Straub

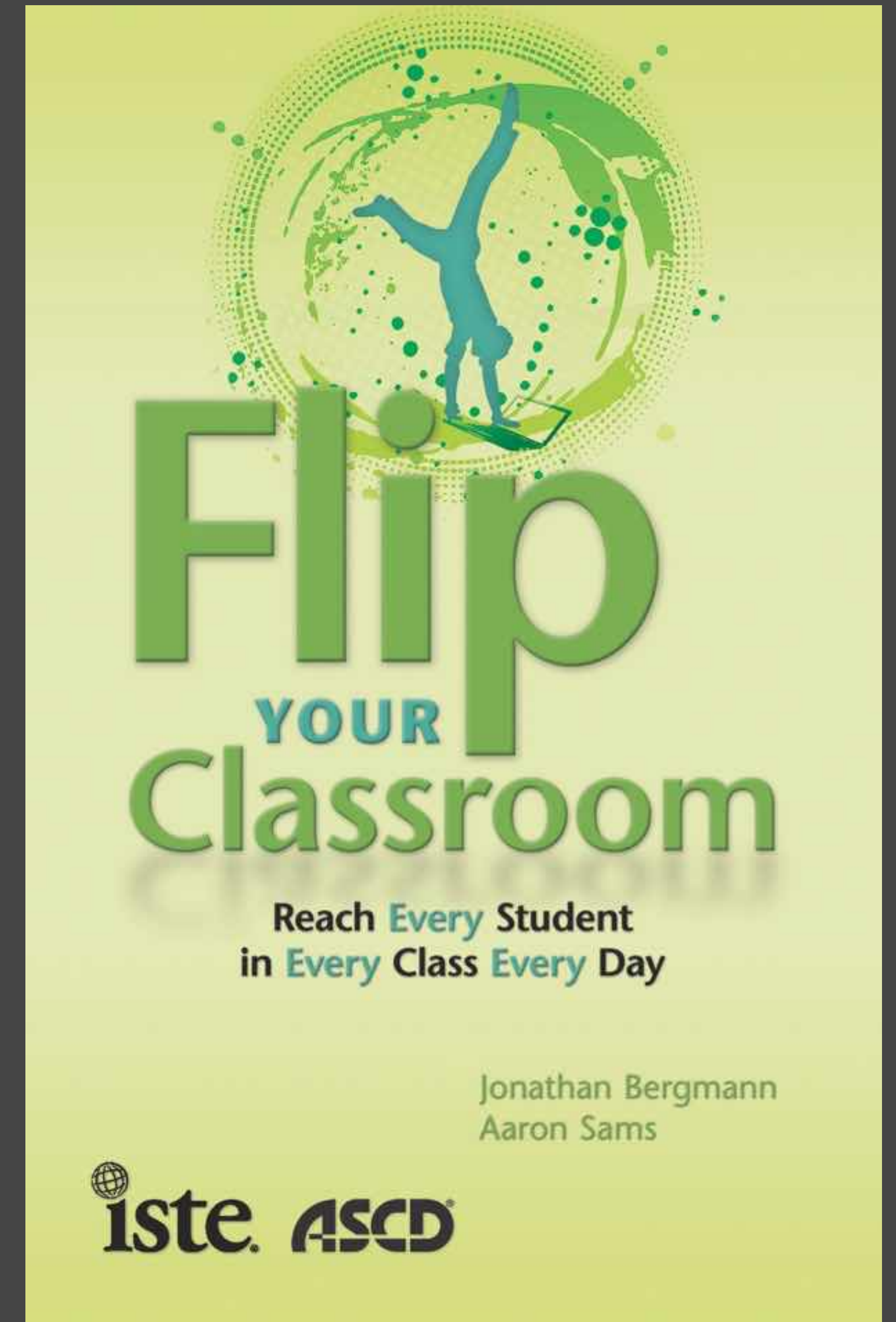
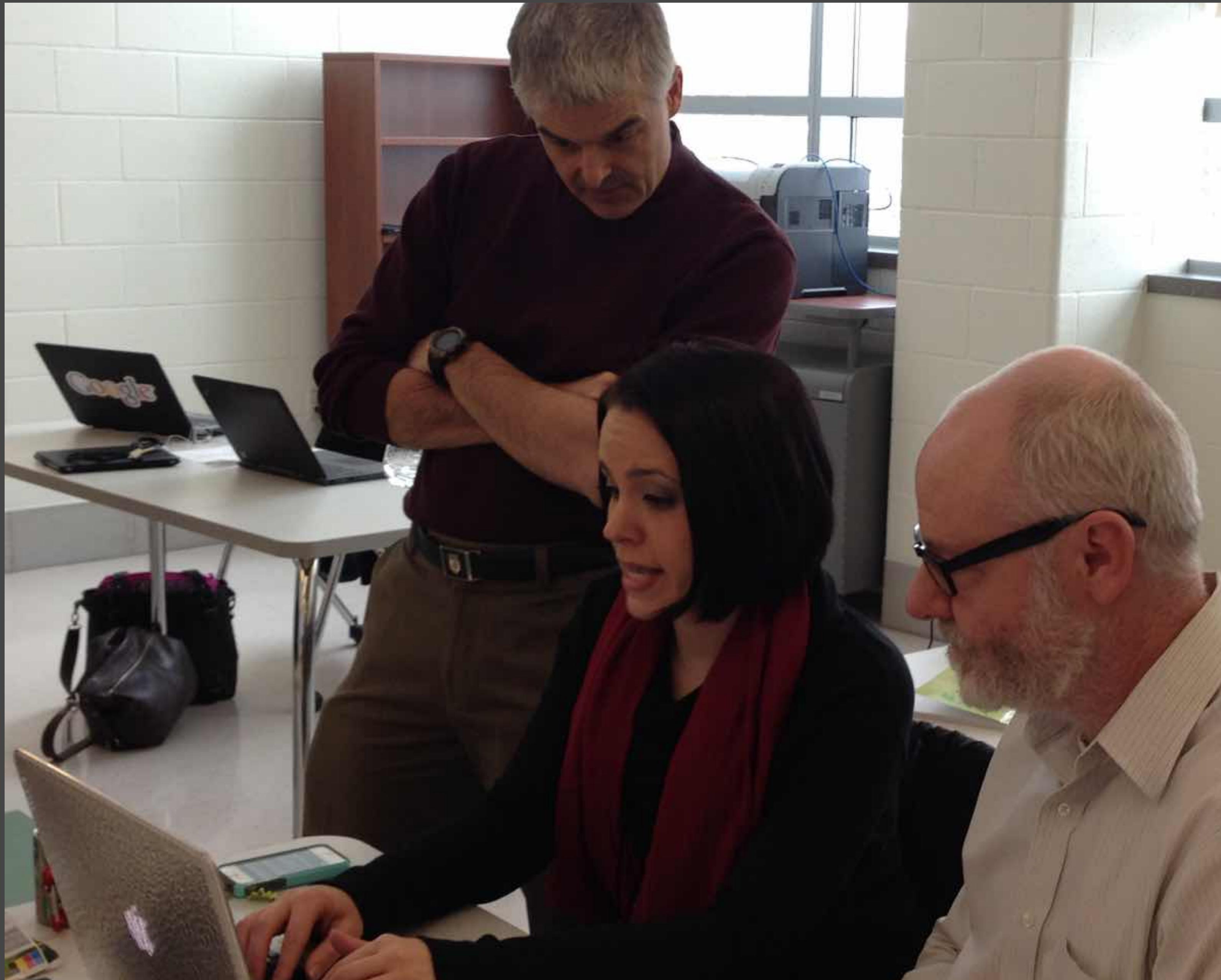
Principal, Maloney High School

WHAT DID WE LEARN?

Leadership Matters



All Educators Need Professional Development

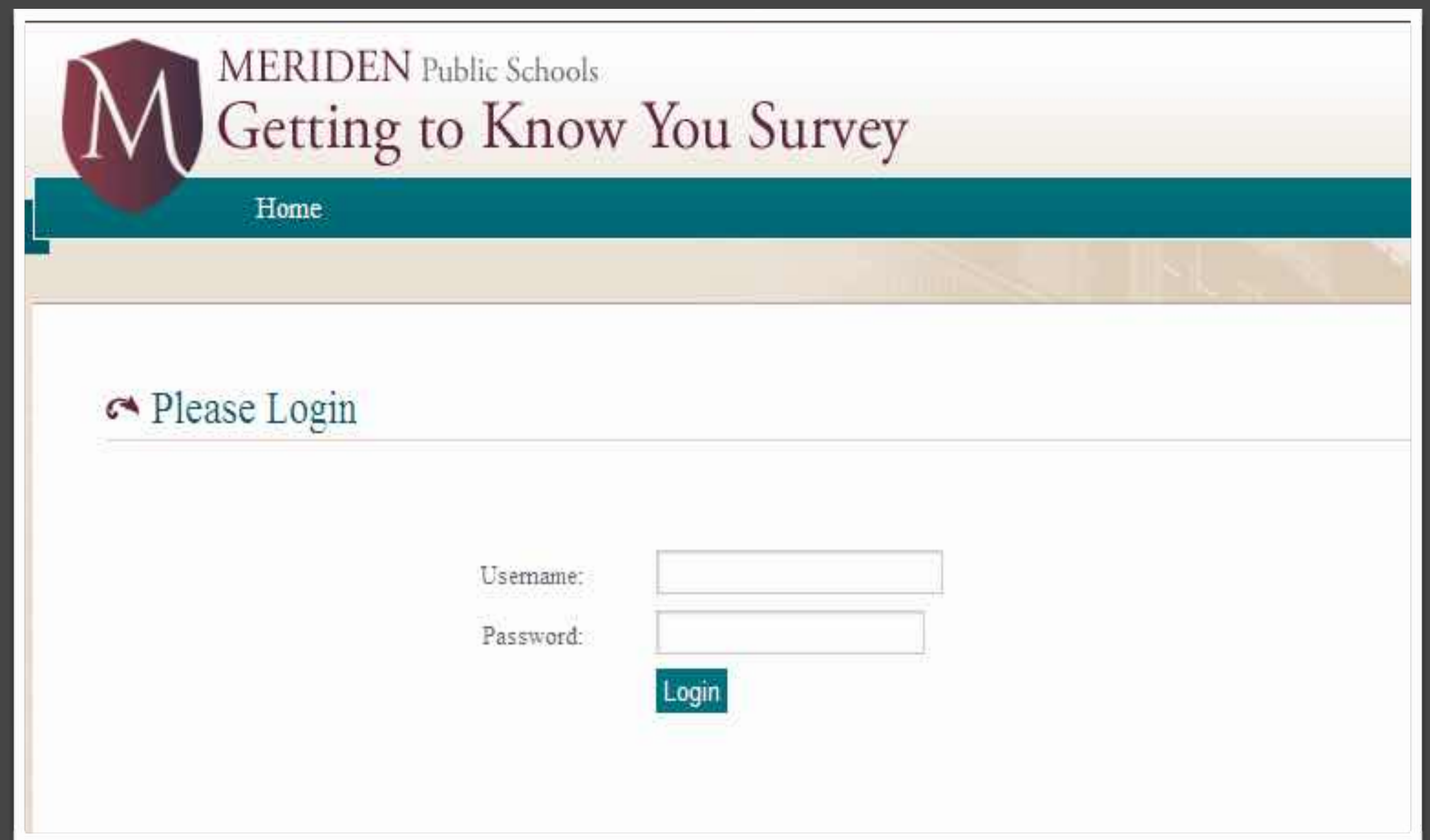


All Educators Need Integrated Collaboration Time




We Need To Know Our Students

Launched
Getting to
Know You
Survey



The screenshot shows the login page for the 'Getting to Know You Survey' at Meriden Public Schools. At the top left is the Meriden Public Schools logo, a red shield with a white 'M'. To its right, the text reads 'MERIDEN Public Schools' and 'Getting to Know You Survey'. Below this is a teal navigation bar with the word 'Home' in white. The main content area has a light beige background with a faint image of a building. A heading 'Please Login' is followed by a horizontal line. Below the line are two input fields: 'Username:' and 'Password:'. A teal 'Login' button is positioned below the password field.

Student-Centered Learning Works

- ❖ Personalize
 - ❖ Differentiate
 - ❖ Engage
- 

Deeper
Learning
Occurs

Resources Need To Be Reallocated

Book Purchases



Digital Content

Paper/Pencils



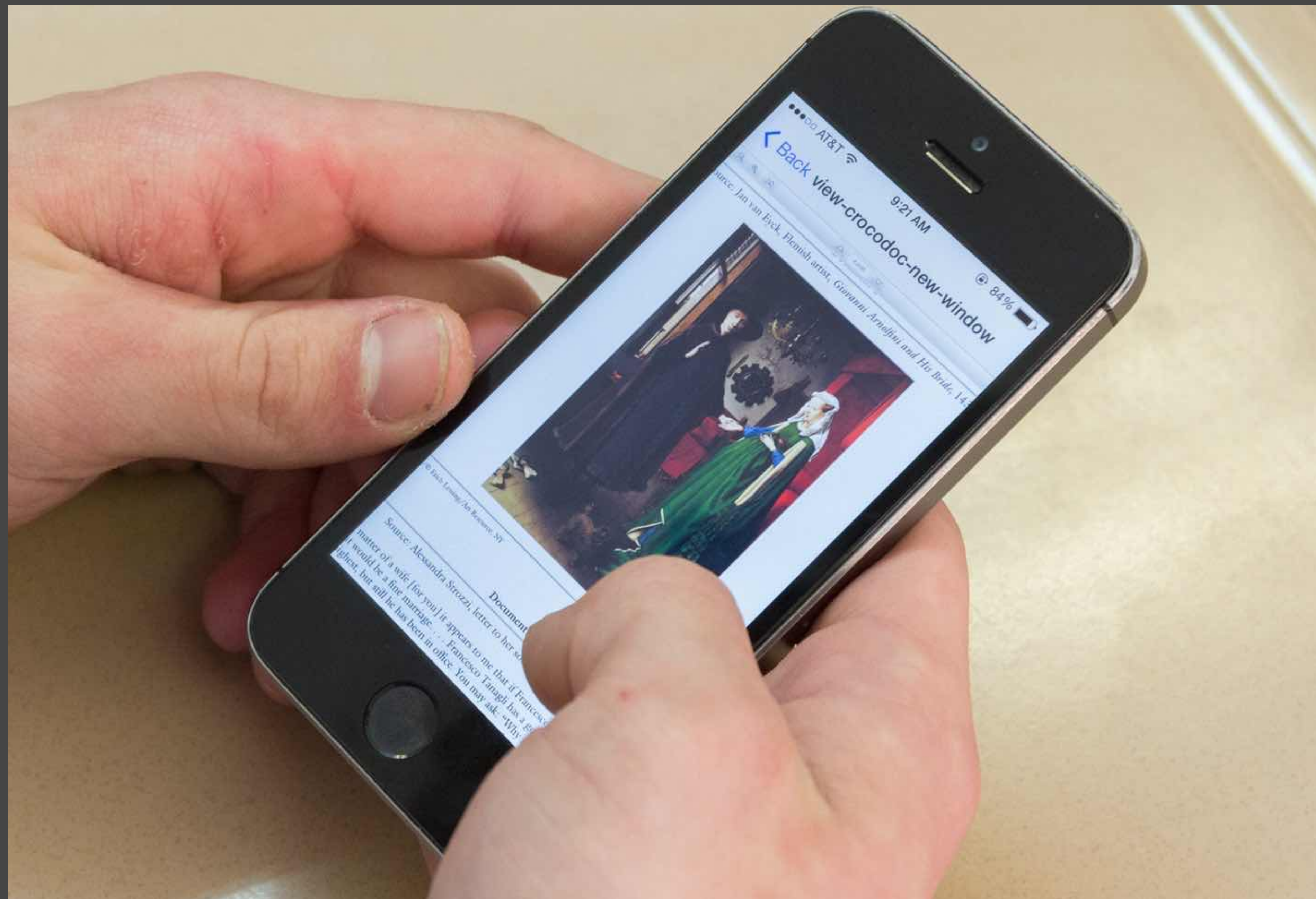
Devices

Outside Consultants

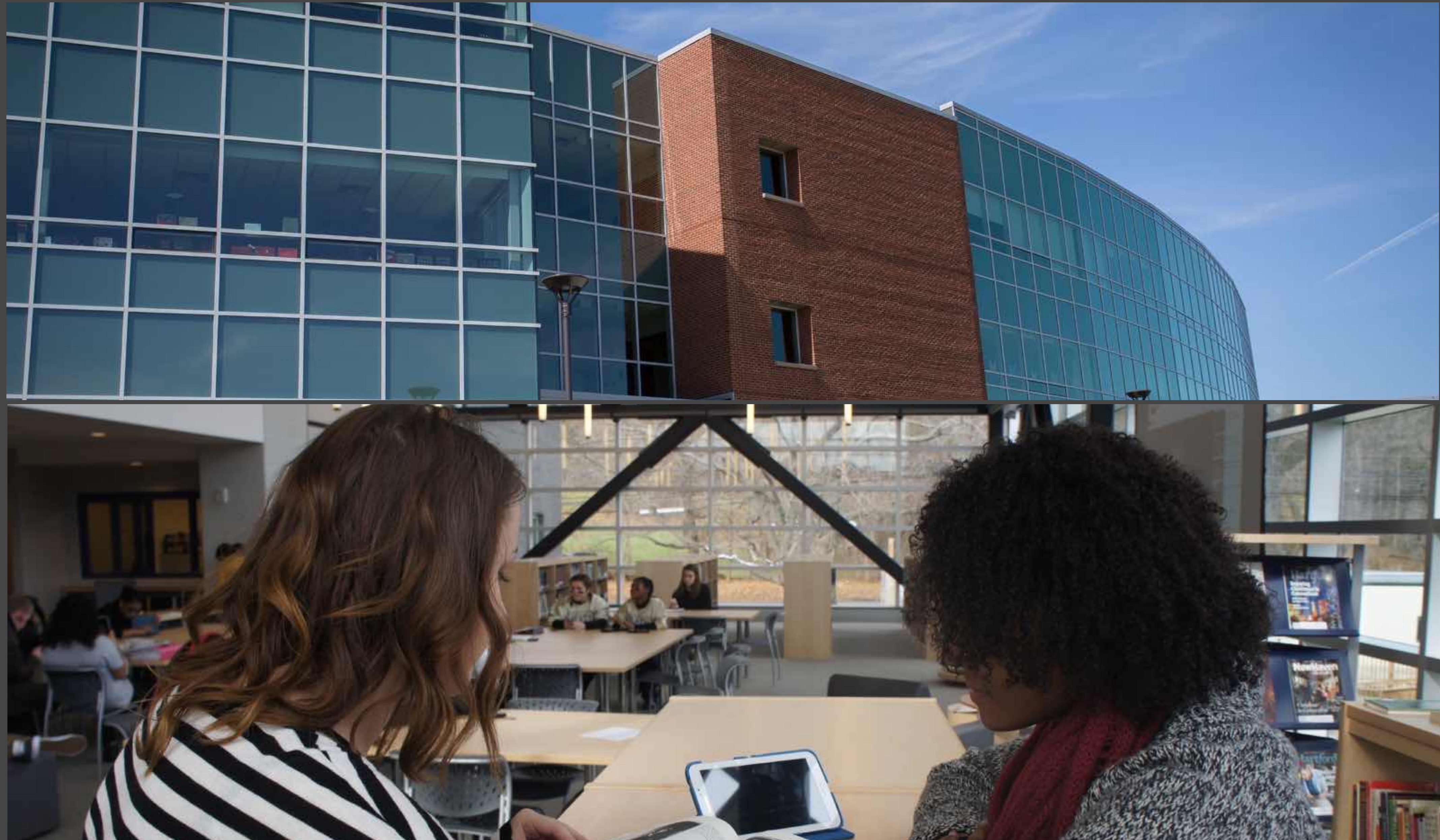


MPS Staff

Digital Content Provides Opportunities For Anywhere Anytime Learning



Our Facilities Need To Support Student-Centered Learning Environments



Media Centers support Student Collaboration and Interaction



Grant Opportunities Are Available To Support Education Transformation



- Supervisor of Blended Learning
- Technology Integration Specialist
- PLE Coordinators
- Content Area Coaches

Digital Learning Levels the Playing Field for All Students and Promotes Success



Mark D. Benigni, Ed.D.

Superintendent

WHAT WERE OUR RESULTS?

Improved Academic Performance

STATE TESTS 2013			DISTRICT TESTS 2014		
Grade 3	↑↑ Reading	✓ +	Grade 4	↑↑ Reading	✓ +
Grade 5	↑↑ Science	✓ +	Grade 5	↑↑ Math	✓ +
Grade 6	↑↑ Math	✓ +	Grade 6	↑↑ Reading	✓ +
Grade 7	↑↑ Reading	✓ +	Grade 7	↑↑ Math	✓ +
Grade 8	↑↑ Reading & Writing	✓ +	Grade 7	↑↑ Reading	✓ +
HIGHEST SCORES IN DISTRICT HISTORY					

Improved School Climates

Suspensions	↓↓↓ 58%	✓ +
Expulsions	↓↓↓ 88%	✓ +
Arrests	↓↓↓ 77%	✓ +
REDUCTIONS SINCE 2010-2011		

Improved Attendance

From 2012 - 2014

1.7% Attendance Increase

Increased PLE Credits



Maloney HS 2014

77

Platt HS 2014

72

Recovered Credits for Graduation

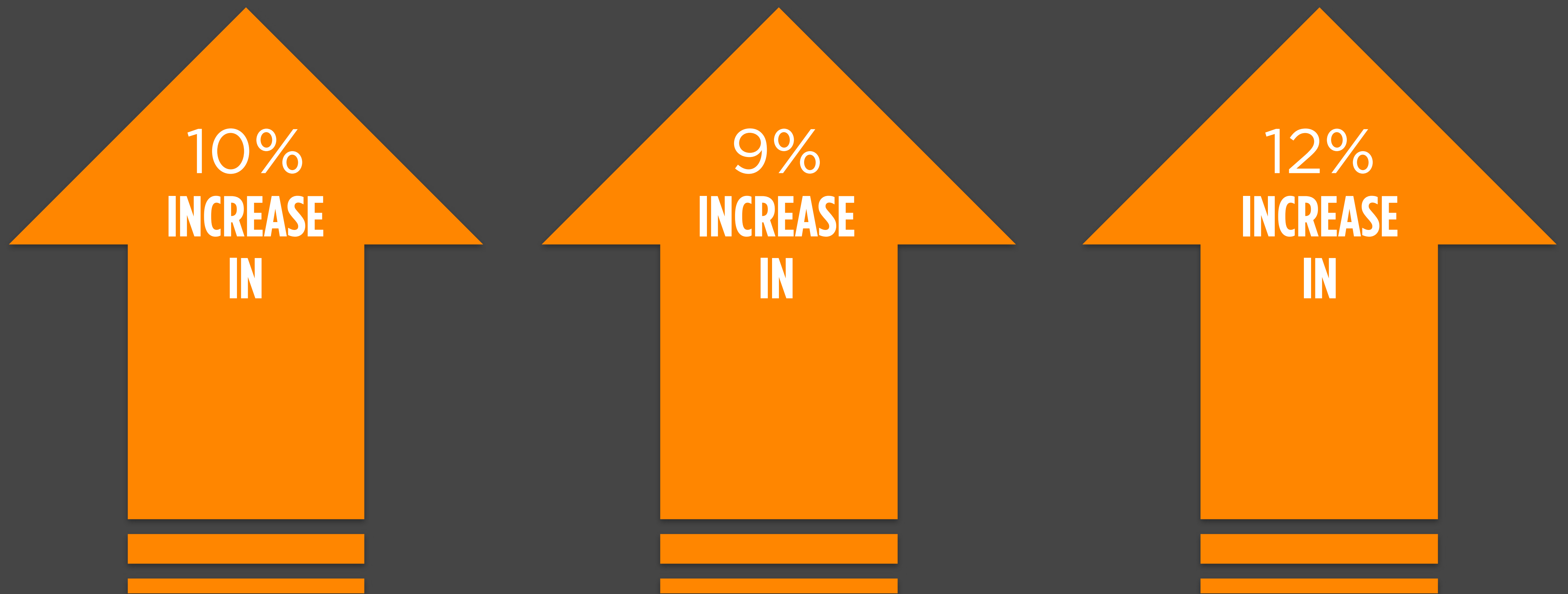
		Number of Students who earned back credit
2014	School Year	130
	Summer School	115

Improved Student Perceptions of Positive School Climates

Increase:

All Schools	10%
High Schools	16%

Improved Teacher Perceptions of Positive School Climates



Teachers' perceptions of a
"positive school climate."

Teachers' perceptions that
"staff is supported by
administration."

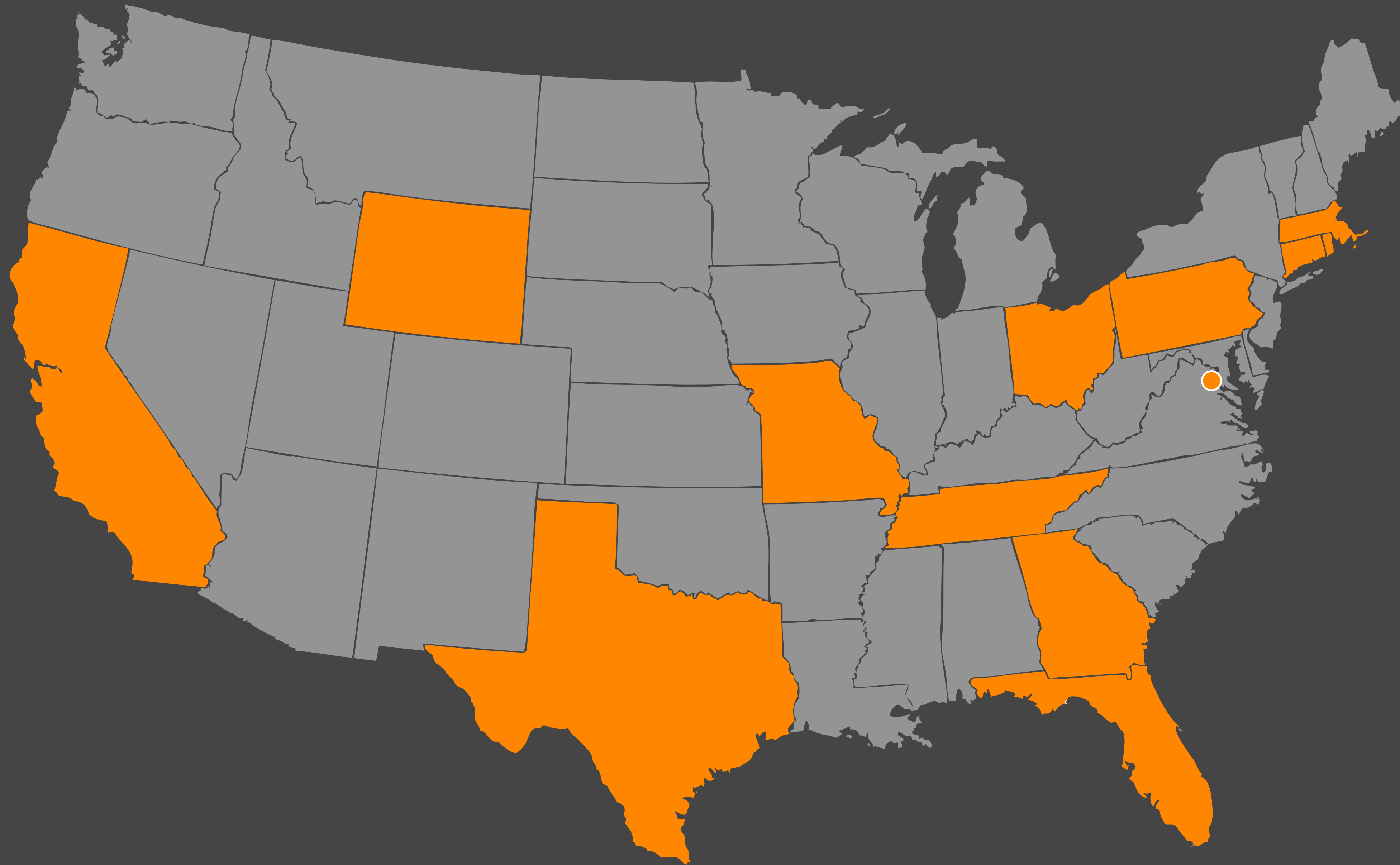
Teachers' perceptions that
"administration treats all staff
with respect."

Improved Parent Participation in Climate Surveys

Number of Parent Surveys

2011 - 12	281
2012 - 13	329
2013 - 14	1034
2014 - 15	2118

National Presentations



National Visitors

- Assistant Secretary of Education Deb Delisle
- U.S. Dept. Education Northeast Communications Director Elizabeth Williamson
- Governor Dannel Malloy
- Former Education Commissioner Stefan Pryor
- AFT President Randi Weingarten
- USDA Under Secretary for Food, Nutrition, and Consumer Services Kevin Concannon

- Teams of Educators from:
 - Iowa
 - Massachusetts
 - Vermont
 - New Hampshire

- Educators and Superintendents from across CT



BLENDED LEARNING SUMMIT



35 Districts Attended



Featured in the Press

EDUCATION WEEK

DA District Administration

TECH & LEARNING

AASA
THE SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION

eSCHOOL NEWS

 **AASPA**
American Association of School Personnel Administrators | Est. 1938

School Business Affairs

SmartBlogs

ASCD SmartBrief
LEARN. TEACH. LEAD.

THE
JOURNAL

n p r[®]

Published Work

Topic	Publication
School and Community Collaboration	<i>The Edvocate</i>
High Quality Education for All Students	<i>District Administration</i>
Putting Technology to Work	<i>School Business Affairs</i>
Effective Leadership	<i>AASA National Superintendent E-Journal</i>
Building a Diverse Applicant Pool	<i>American Association of School Personnel Administrators Best Practices</i>
School Climate	<i>School Psychology Quarterly</i>

Competitive Grants

RECEIVED 20 GRANTS

TOTAL FUNDING RECEIVED: \$6,090,380



CONNECTICUT

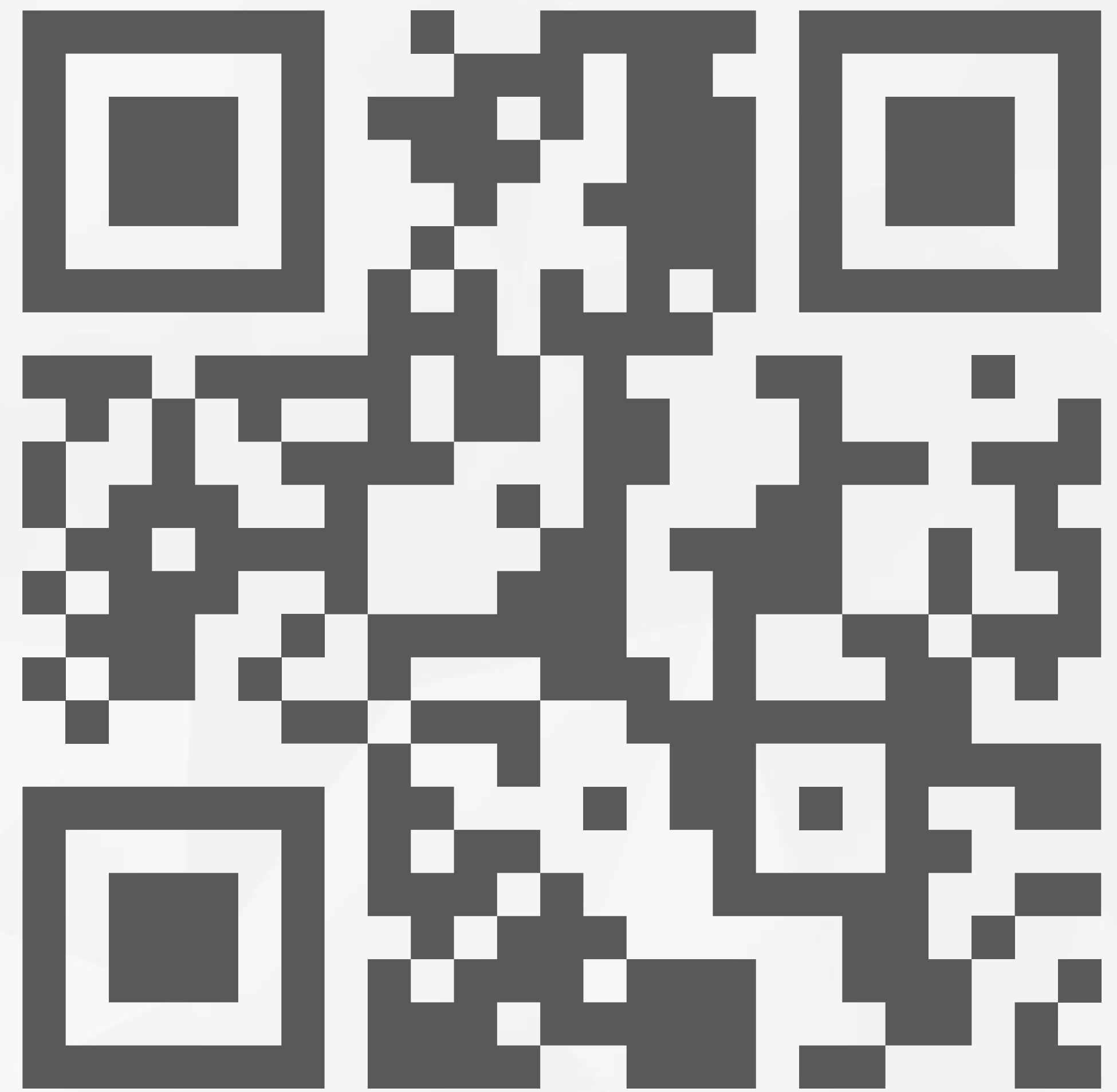


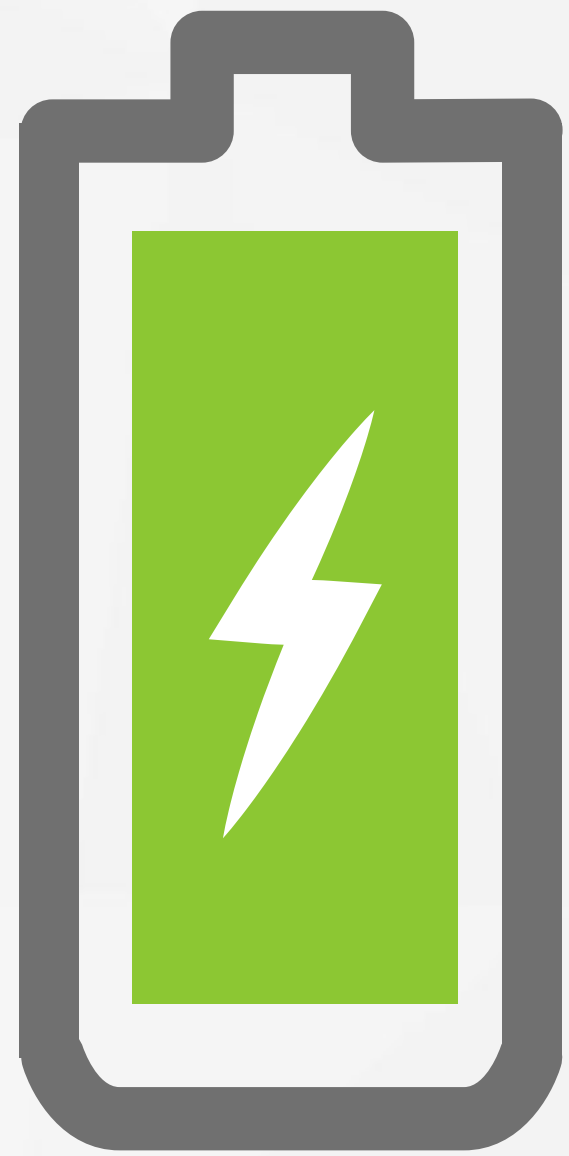
STATE DEPARTMENT
OF EDUCATION

Engaged and Appreciative Student-Centered Learners



2015 SUMMER **LEADERSHIP** INSTITUTE





TAKE CHARGE

of your learning



The Meriden Public Schools is engaged in a digital transformation that supports Student-Centered Learning

Student choice and voice leading to greater engagement

Teacher development to support 21st Century Learning

Flexible learning spaces to support personalization

Collaboration amongst students, staff, families, and community partners

I'M CHARGED!

The Meriden Public Schools launched the I'M  CHARGED! initiative to spotlight innovative teachers and engaging classroom environments

Effective use of technology
in 1:1 classrooms

Rigorous instruction with
timely feedback

Student-led
learning opportunities

Expanded learning outside
the classroom