

BELONGING

EFFECT SIZE: 0.46

High-Quality Instruction Cycle Connection:

Step 6: Adapt Instruction

Utah Effective Teaching Standards Alignment:

- Standard 1, Elements 1–3
- Standard 4, Elements 1, 2

Personalized, Competency Based Learning Framework Essential Component:

Culture of Learning

WHAT?

Belonging is the extent to which students feel respected, included, accepted and encouraged by others in the social environment of school.

WHY?

The effect size of belonging is 0.46 which is approximately one year's growth for one year of learning. Also called "school connectedness," this affective relationship to the culture of school has been shown to shape a student's emotional, behavioral, and cognitive engagement with schooling." Source: [MetaX](#)

HOW?

Through supporting students in building a learning community where they have the opportunity to engage positively with one another and have their contributions honored, students are willing to be vulnerable with one another and value diverse learning perspectives as their perspectives are also valued.

PREPARATION:

- Plan authentic opportunities for students to share their learning in a variety of contexts — incorporating the multiple means of expression indicated in the Universal Design for Learning framework.
- Plan deep-level questioning that supports

the engagement of students and allows space for responses to guide further discussion.

IMPLEMENTATION:

Teacher Actions

- Model respectful discourse that allows for differing perspectives and engages students in critical thinking about one another's ideas.
- Incorporate student responses and expressions of their learning into the discourse of whole group discussions.

Student Look-Fors

- Share ideas with one another about their learning that demonstrate a willingness to share their ideas and their understanding with one another.
- Work together with peers positively to complete projects and engage in deeper understanding of the learners.
- Express enthusiasm at being with classmates and engaging with the classroom community.

Reflection

- How willing are students to share their understanding with the teacher?
- How do students engage with one another to deepen their understanding?

Go Deeper—Resources to learn more

Why is it important for student to belong? - Janine Bowen — <https://ced.ncsu.edu/news/2021/10/21/why-is-it-important-for-students-to-feel-a-sense-of-belonging-at-school-students-choose-to-be-in-environments-that-make-them-feel-a-sense-of-fit-says-associate-professor-deleon-gra/>

TheFirstDaysofSchool-HarryK.Wong-(chapter9-HowtoCreateaCultureofCourtesy and Cooperation) — <https://www.amazon.com/First-Days-School-Effective-Teacher/dp/0976423383?asin=0976423383&revisionId=&format=4&depth=1>



HOME CONNECTIONS:

- Model strategies and language to parents and students that exemplify the school as a place that is welcoming for all students.
- Engage regularly with parents about the learning happening in the classroom with positive examples of how students are contributing to the classroom community and overall content focus areas.
- Promote a welcoming environment where parents view the teacher as approachable and promotes inclusivity of the needs and concerns parents share regarding students.