Assessing your School's Climate & Character needs...

- Ideas from Centennial Middle School

Karen Bromps, Principal, Centennial Middle School, WVSD. Spokane Valley WA. 2017

Our 2016-17 School Data-552 responses- from our fall and spring student-led conferences

- 99% of students and families feel welcome at CMS
- 99% students and families feel CMS is a safe place to be
- 98% of students and families feel that there is an adult at CMS that they trust to go to for help with a problem
- 98% of families feel communication occurs between home & school in an open and respectful manner
- 99% of students and families believe that CMS has high academic expectations for students
- 98% of students and parents believe that teachers and principals care about students' success
- 90% of parents feel they are encouraged to be actively involved in activities at CMS
- 90% of students and parents feel that teachers & principals ask for, and listen to, specific ways to engage and motivate students

Karen Bromps, Principal, Centennial Middle School, WVSD Spokane Valley WA. 2017 In order to know what you need to infuse into your students' lives at school, & ultimately what you want to assess, you need to establish an organic system in which all in the school operate from...

- Establish norms with your staff to operate from, together in your work, work with students, work with parents/families, and with community partners:
 - *Be genuine with each other, our ideas & feelings
 - Listen to understand
 - Frame our interaction with each other from the premise of promise and potential

Karen Bromps, Principal, Centennial Middle School, WVSD.

Spokane Valley WA. 2017

Take time for these critical conversations on...

- ❖ What is our core value around, and definition of, equity?
- ❖ Are students' voices & choices honored?- what evidence do we have?
- How do we, as adult teachers & learners, model and exemplify character to our students and each other?
- How can we hold each other accountable for not getting attached to the "True but Useless" issues/challenges?

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Then start the journey...

- Capture & respond to what the social & emotional needs are of students and families- How?
 - Surveys
 - ❖ Family connections, home visits, conferences, parent boot camp
 - Flight Time activities (Advisory)
 - Community Partnerships, including service learning
 - Check & Connect students (administration/counselors)
 - **❖**WEB
 - **❖** PBIS

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Allow room for everyone on the path...

- STUDENTS! My school alone has 3500 combined years of current and relevant student experience, compared to 600 years that teachers have, & 60 years that two administrators have
- Leadership experiences/opportunities should be treated as a Tier 1
 Intervention, meaning ALL students get this experience
- Create a dedicated time in your schedule to teach, model, reinforce & celebrate character, leadership, relational skills, service opportunities, growth mindset
- A frequent, fluid, & natural process to check-in needs to be in place

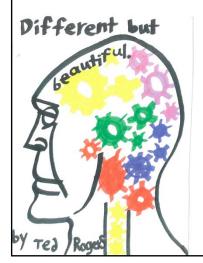
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Reflect on, & celebrate, all of the unique steps along the way ...

- ❖ Have students provide insight on culture of building-
 - ❖ Principal focus groups
 - ❖Students on collaboration/staff meeting agendas
- Utilize summer time to continue planning
 - ❖Staff, students, parents
 - ❖ Centennial Welcome Back bus
- PBIS- staff recognition & reinforcement..."if you don't feed the teachers, they eat the students."
- Align your School Improvement Plan with equal attention to & importance given to developing character in students as academic achievement (they will go hand-in-hand)

Spokane Valley WA, 2017

If the Path before you is clear, you're probably on some else's



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