



MIDDLE GRADES NETWORK KICKOFF NOTES | FEBRUARY 26, 2020

**Opening: Student Profile Activity Reflections**

**What type of student were you?**  
(Record the Profile Number)

**What type of student do you struggle with the most?**  
(Record the Profile Number)

After reading about the types of students and hearing from your colleagues, what are two things that you want to think about when you re-enter your school/classroom?

**What is the Middle Grades Network?**

**DIRECTIONS:** Underline the phrases that stand out to you in both the CPS definition and the “why” of this network.

**CPS defines equity** as championing the individual cultures, identities, talents, abilities, language, and interests of each student by ensuring they receive the necessary opportunities and resources to meet their unique needs and aspirations. In an equitable education system, every student has access to the resources, opportunities and educational rigor they need at the right moment in their education, irrespective of their race, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, language, learning path, accessibility needs, family background, family income, citizenship or tribal status.

**This means:**

**Promoting just and fair inclusion** and creating the conditions in which everyone can participate, prosper and reach their full potential.

**Ensuring that every child receives what they need** to develop into their full academic & social potential.

**Examining biases, interrupting inequitable practices and ensuring inclusive school environments** for all.

**Discovering and cultivating** the unique gifts, talents and interests that every human possesses.

**Removing the predictability** of success and failure that currently correlates with race, class, gender, gender identity or other social or cultural factor.

**MGN WHY:**

Creating more equitable and supportive educational environments where middle grades students thrive.

**REFLECTION: Where do you see yourself in this work?**

<p><b>Reflections on your personal why</b>          (What do you do at work that you enjoy? What would other people say that you are good at? What is the best day you've ever had at work? Why was it so great?)</p>	
<p><b>What is your personal why?</b>          (Finish the sentence: "My job is meaningful to me because...")</p>	<p><b>What is your team's why?</b></p>
<p><b>Additional Notes about the Overview</b></p>	
<p><b><i>Back to the Future Reports</i></b></p>	
<p><b>What surprises you about this research and what does it confirm for you that you already thought? (Turn and talk)</b></p>	<p><b>What are the high school outcomes and college outcomes for our students?</b></p>
<p><b>What is the relationship between 8th Grade GPA and Freshman 3.0 for our students?</b></p>	<p><b>What is the relationship between GPA and attendance and how do they change across grade levels?</b></p>

How could the in-school experiences of different grades of students lead to different attendance and GPA outcomes? What role do adults play in those experiences?

What does this data suggest about our possible problem of practice for the Middle Grades Network?

What do you want to take back to your schools from this report?

***The Value of Network Learning Communities  
Richards Team Panel***

Notes:

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## *Student and Family Engagement Breakout Sessions*

Which session did you attend?

What structures does your school currently have in place to implement this type of engagement?

Notes from your session:

## *Team Planning Time*

Reflect on your notes from the day. Given those inputs and your current CIWP focus, what is the information you would want to know from students and families?

How will you leverage the structures that you learned about today to answer these questions in the process of identifying your problem of practice?