

Breaking Down Barriers

Ensuring Success for All Students



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Superintendent

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District Overview

Our Schools

- 8 elementary schools
- 2 middle schools
- 2 high schools
- Venture Academy
- Success Academy
- College & Career Readiness Center

Our Students

- 8,600 students
- 71% minority
- 74% free/reduced price meals
- 19% SPED
- 15% ELL/LEP

Budget \$114,000,000

Setting the Vision for Success



Partnerships: Union and Community



Connecticut Birth to Three System



A photograph of students in a computer lab. In the foreground, a young man with dark hair and a white earbud is smiling and looking towards the right. He is wearing an orange and white basketball jersey with "OKLAHOMA STATE" and the number "15" visible. Behind him, a young woman with long dark hair and glasses is also smiling and looking towards the right. In the background, another student is visible, pointing at a computer monitor. The room has several computer workstations with monitors and keyboards. The lighting is bright and even.

Regardless of socioeconomic status or prior learning experiences, all students must be able to access digital resources to expand their world.

We All Learn Differently



Voice and Choice Matter

Flexible Learning Spaces



Anytime, Anywhere Learning

Board Policies

Policy 5005

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 of each student according to his or her specific background, capabilities, learning style, interests and aspirations;

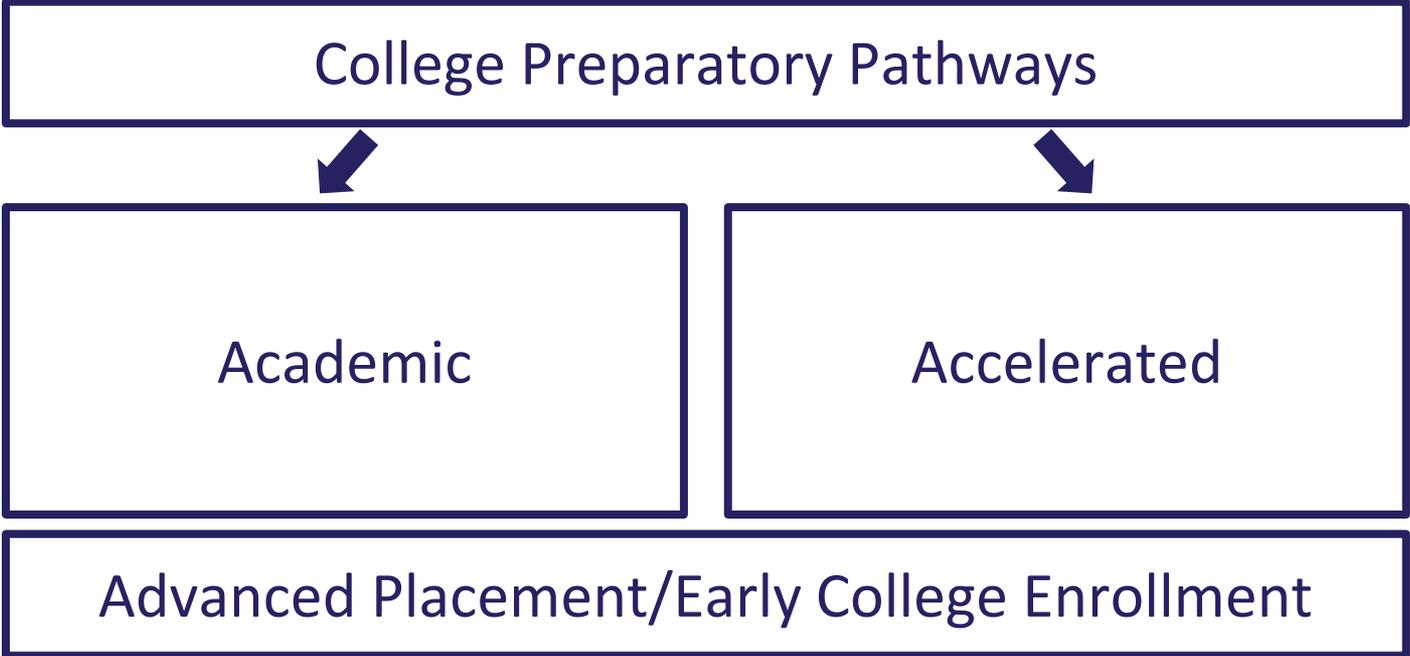
to provide an educational program which will lead to college and career readiness for all students;

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);

Raised the Bar for All Students

Collapsed Academic Levels from Five to Two



Growth Mindset

ABANDON

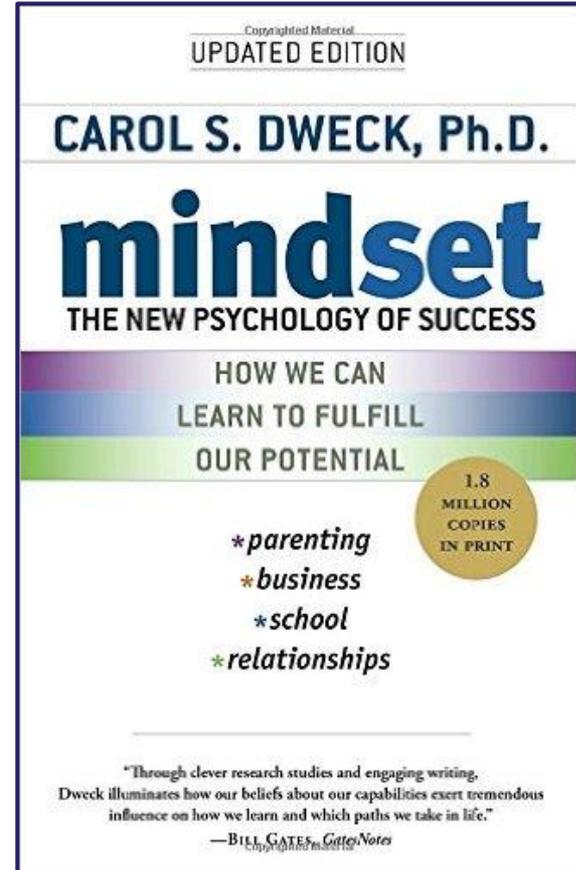


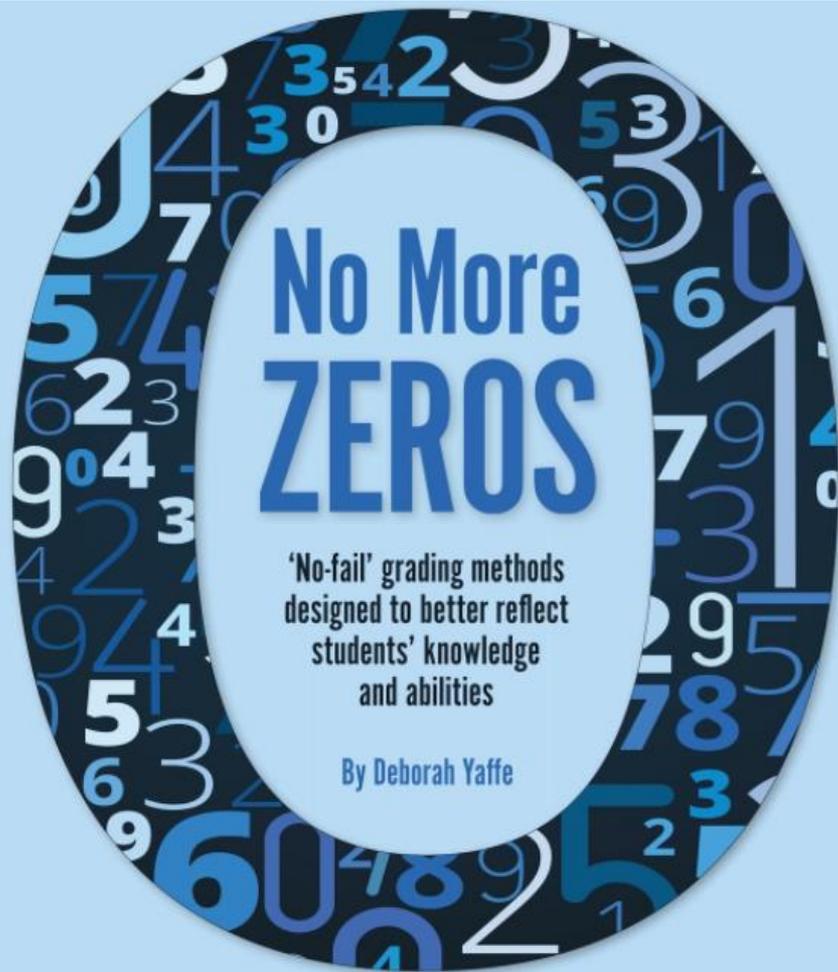
A Fixed
Mindset

ADOPT



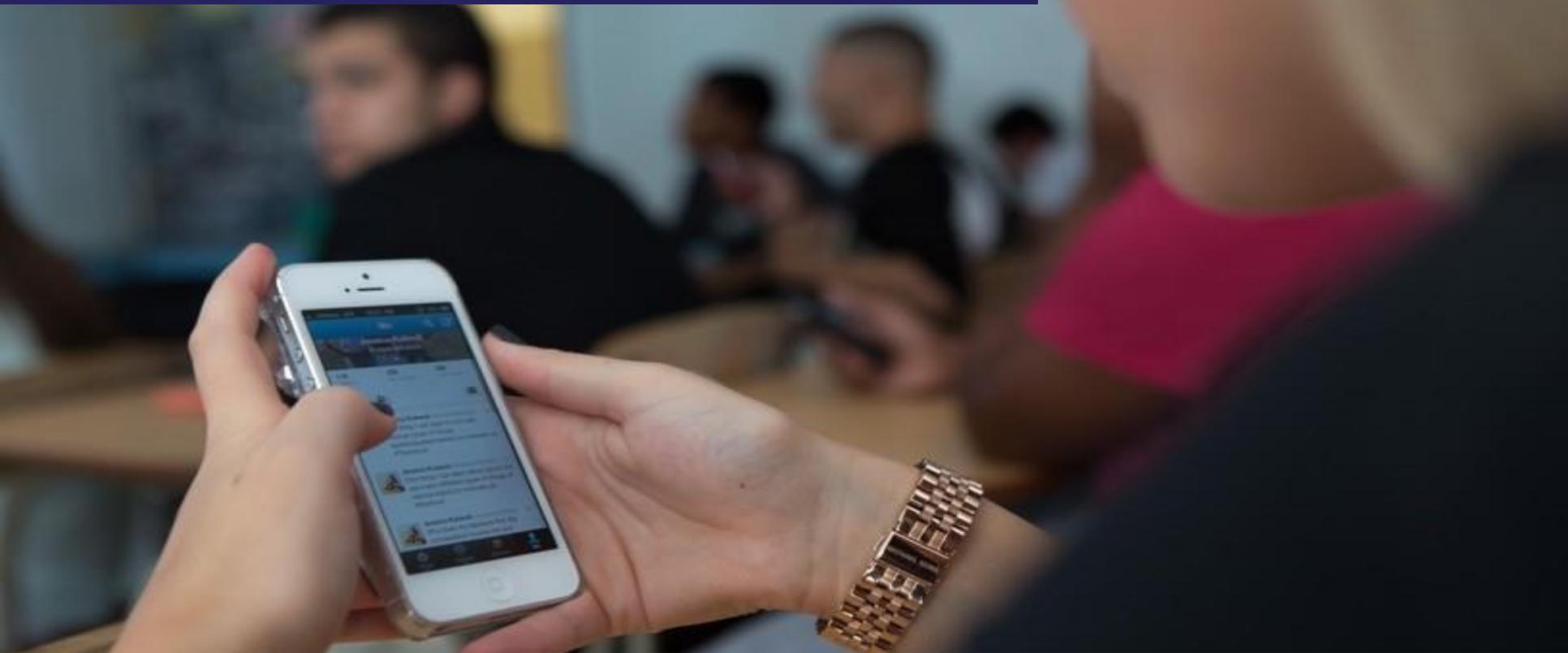
A Growth
Mindset



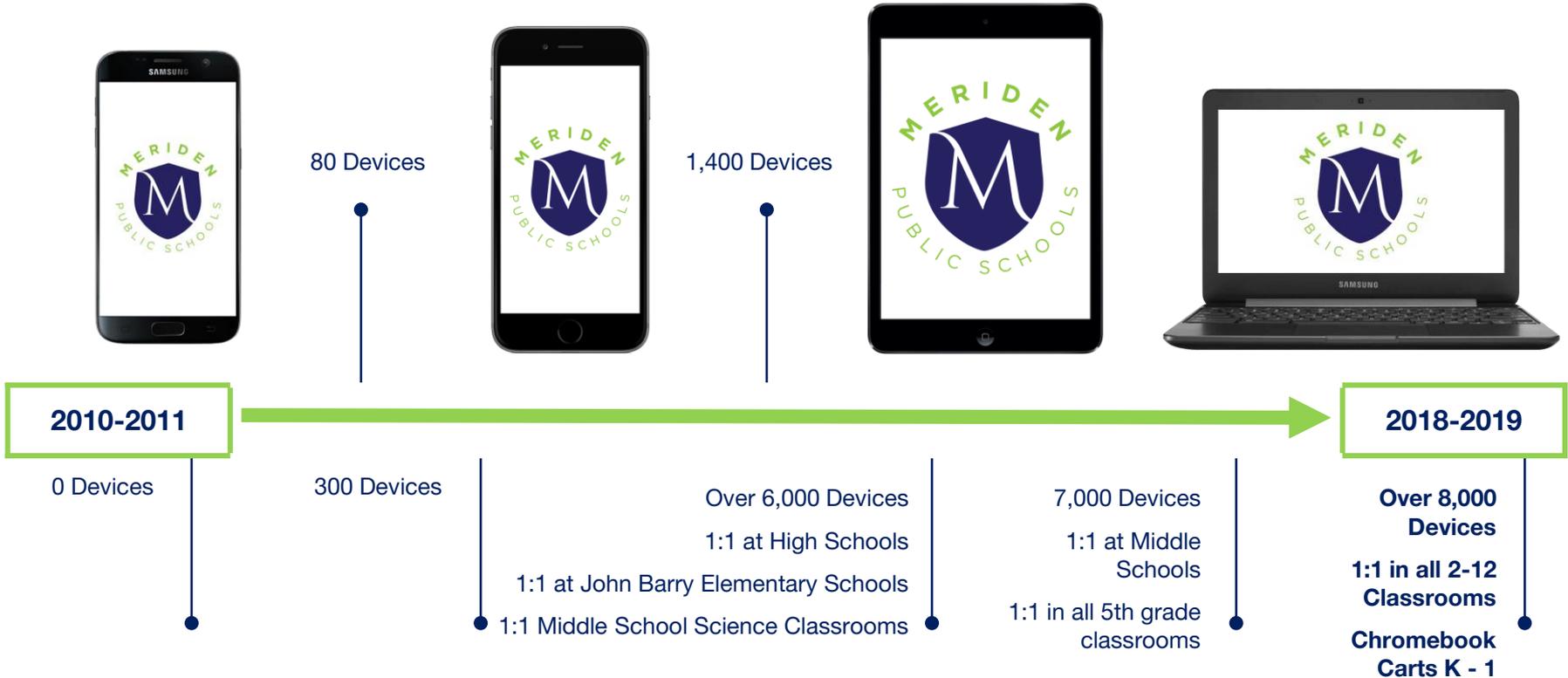


“Giving a kid a zero takes the kid off the hook. The consequence of getting a zero should be doing the work.”

Adopted K-12 BYOD Guidelines



Increased Mobile Devices



Digital Tools and Partners





High Schools of Tomorrow

College Partnerships



UConn

UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT

Quinnipiac

UNIVERSITY

WESLEYAN

UNIVERSITY



CENTRAL

CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY

Removing Obstacles: Ensuring Equity

Miguel A. Cardona, Ed. D.

Policy, Systems, and Disproportionality

1. Create Space for Critical Consciousness

(Alliyah El-Amin, February 2017) - Student Voice Matters

2. Raise the Bar - Equal parts support and accountability

3. Align Behaviors to Beliefs

Policy and systems work should support belief of reducing disproportionality of exclusionary practice and equitable outcomes



Climate Suite

LEA Assessment Theme of Climate Surveys:
Design assessments and programming to produce diagnostic, actionable data practitioners can use to address each individual student's needs.

The need: re-engage the disengaging student ... who feels "bullied."

Trigger E-Mails					
	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Very Often	Always
34. I got hit or threatened ...	1	2	3	4	5
OR					
35. ... mean rumors ... about me	1	2	3	4	5

Would you like to tell us about it?

MERIDEN Board of Education
School Climate Survey

School Climate Survey for Students - September 2013

Your answers to this survey will help us make your school better. If you do not want to answer a question, you can skip it. All of your answers are confidential. That means we cannot share your answers with anyone, unless you tell us about someone who is going to be hurt. We must keep all students safe. The survey is simple and only takes about 10 minutes. First, you tell how much you agree or disagree with each sentence. There are no right or wrong answers. Just tell how you feel about each sentence. Click NEXT to begin, and after you answer each question. The sentences are about you, your school and your school year. You are taking this survey.

Next

You've answered 0 out of 47 questions

MERIDEN Public Schools
Getting to Know You Survey

Home Reports

Print in All We Do

Log Out

Getting to Know You 2015-2016

Part I

First, tell us something about what you like to do outside of school.

- Is there a particular sport you are good at or you enjoy?
- If yes, what sport(s)? Yes No
- Do you play a musical instrument? Yes No
- If yes, what instrument do you play?
- If no, would you like to learn a musical instrument?
- If yes, what instrument do you want to learn?
- I attend religious services (church/synagogue/temple/mosque, or other house of worship). Never Rarely
- Do you like to sing or sing in a choir?
- Would you like to sing in a group at school about singing?
- Do you have any other interests?

MERIDEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Here, Students Succeed

MPS Cares
SPEAK UP

Against



Bullying



Planned fights



Students in crisis



Threats of violence



Weapons brought to school

Email: speakup@meridenk12.org
Text or Call: (203) 694-0746

Subgroup Data Analysis

Meriden Public Schools Suspensions and Arrests Summary August to December 31, 2018 Number of Offenses with Special Education Status										
School	2017 - 2018			2018 - 2019						
	OSS	ISS	Arrests	OSS	ISS	Arrests	Unduplicated Number of Students Suspended by Special Ed Status			
							Non SpEd	SpEd Violation >10 days	SpEd 5-10 days	SpEd < 5 days
	12	0	0	10	0	0	5	0	0	4
	8	2	0	4	3	0	5	0	1	0
	5	3	0	1	3	0	4	0	0	0
	4	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0

Meriden Public Schools Suspensions and Arrests Summary August to December 31, 2018 Number of Offenses									
School	Total ISS/OSS	Major Ethnic Group Suspensions				Major Ethnic Group in School			
		BLACK	WHITE	HISP	OTHER	BLACK	WHITE	HISP	OTHER
	10		10%	70%	20%	11%	10%	69%	10%
	7	14%	29%	29%	29%	9%	27%	55%	8%
	4	25%		75%		11%	26%	56%	7%
	1		100%			4%	34%	53%	8%
	0					6%	40%	45%	9%
	3	100%				11%	18%	61%	10%
	0					9%	27%	52%	12%
	4		25%	75%		7%	18%	66%	8%
	66	12%	6%	77%	5%	12%	24%	58%	6%
	45	22%	9%	56%	13%	11%	32%	50%	8%
	77	14%	16%	66%	4%	11%	31%	50%	9%
	90	22%	13%	60%	4%	12%	25%	55%	8%
	7	14%	14%	71%		12%	21%	61%	5%
	8	38%	25%	38%		12%	24%	60%	4%
Total	322	18%	12%	63%	6%	10%	26%	55%	9%



Open Access to AP/Early College Experience Courses

Twenty-seven course offerings to challenge all of our students

	2010 - 2011	2018 - 2019
All Students	184	966
Free/Reduced	40	532
Hispanic	25	308
Black	10	116
ELL	1	31
SPED	0	17

Restorative Practices



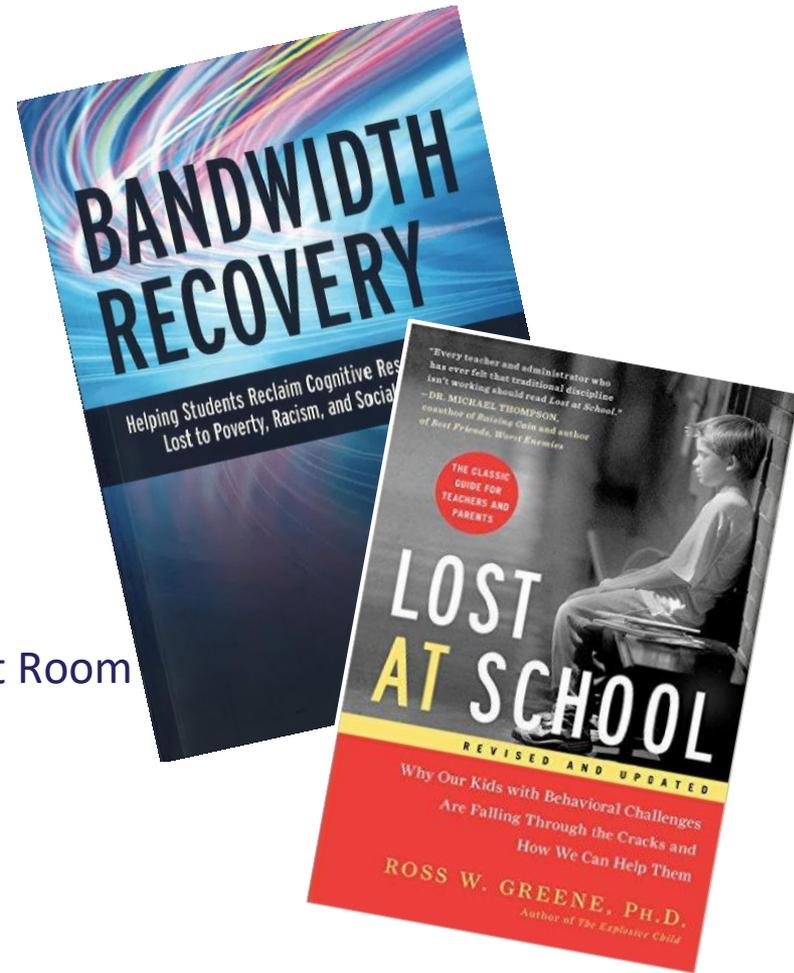
Restorative Practices

Systems Thinking

- Student/Teacher led teams
- Bottom up and Top Down Approach
- Professional Learning & Capacity Building

Policy & Human Resources

- In-School Suspension room to Student Support Room
- Hall Monitors to Climate Specialists
- Attendance workers to Family School Liaisons

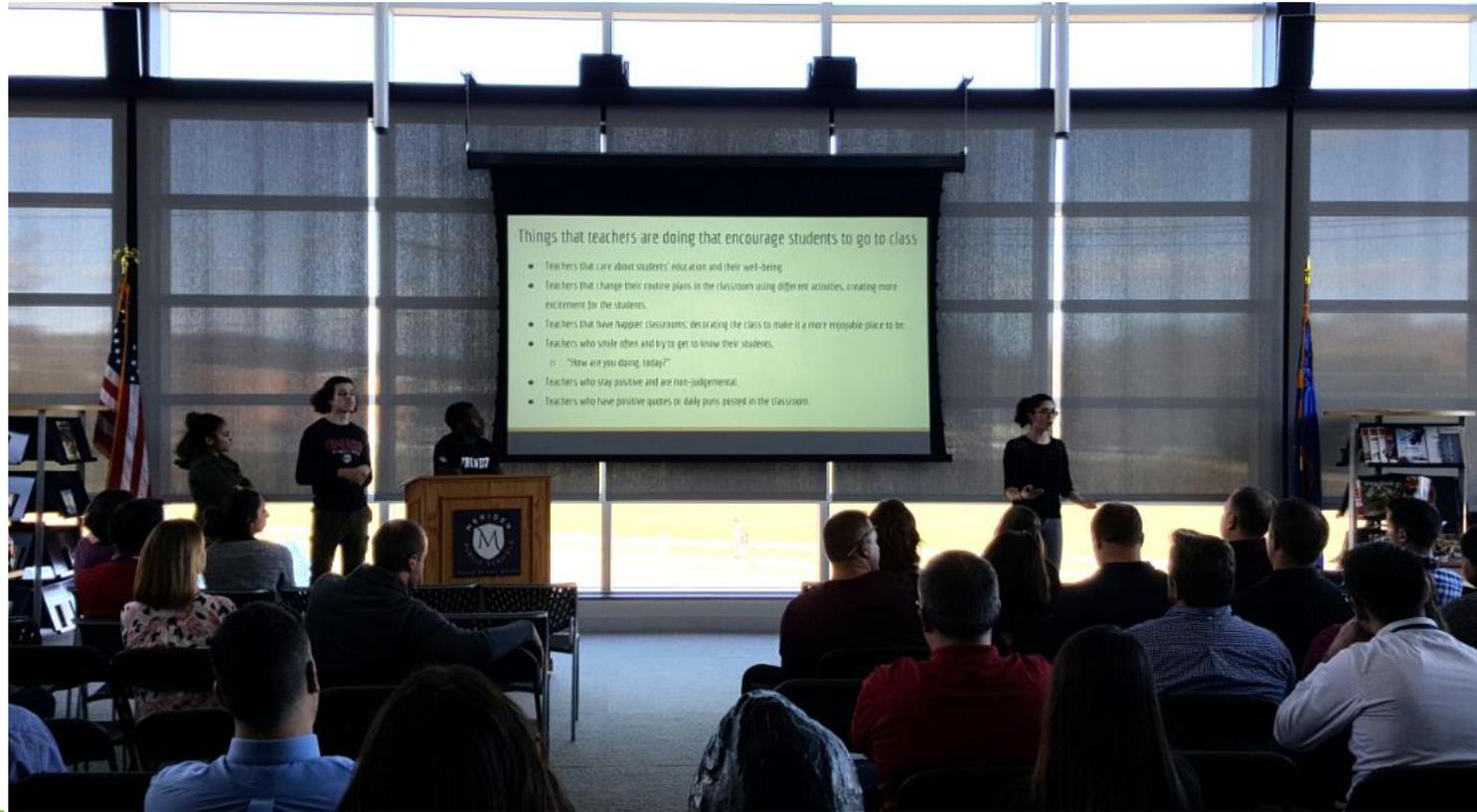


Youth Dialogue Sessions

- Structured Voice
- Student Facilitated



“Things that teachers do that encourage students to go to class.” -Message on projector



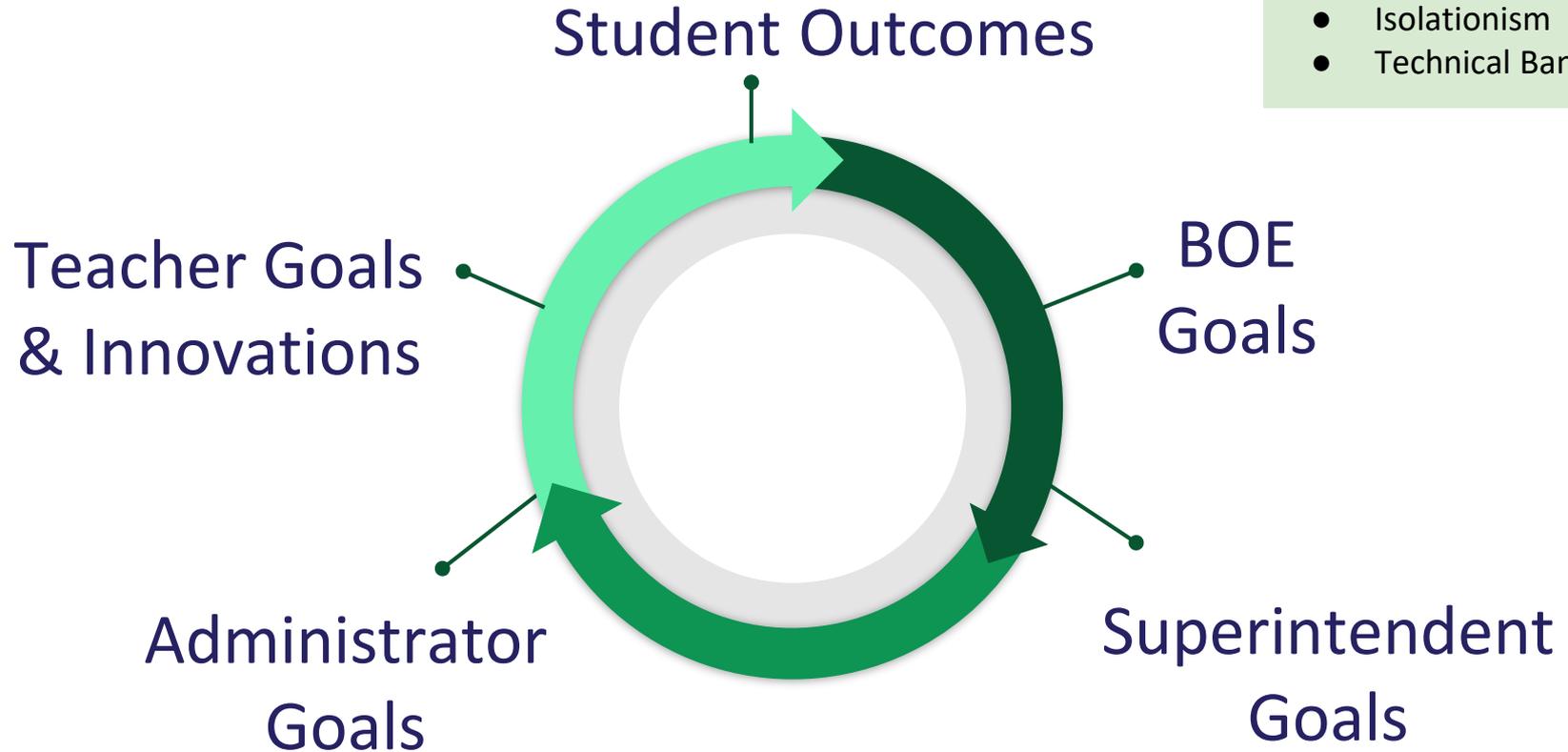
Raise the bar



Shared Purpose: Leadership Matters

Cautions:

- Silo Effect
- Isolationism
- Technical Band-aids



A low-angle, upward-looking photograph of a diverse group of people, including men and women of various ethnicities, holding their hands together in a circle. The image is bright and positive, with a green border at the top and bottom. The text "Culture Drives Strategy" is overlaid in the center in a bold, dark blue font.

Culture Drives Strategy

Redefining Student Supports

Patricia Sullivan-Kowalski
Senior Director Student Supports
and Special Education

Special Education Redesign

A four-pronged approach:

- Assure high quality and appropriate staffing levels
- Provide state-of-the-art facilities
- Create strong partnerships with community providers
- Buy-in from school leadership and staff and consistent monitoring



The Sensory Room



WHAT WORKS IN EDUCATION
THE GEORGE LUCAS EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

A screenshot of a video player interface. At the top left is the "edu" logo. To its right is the video title "Edutopia added a new video: The Sensory Room: Helping Students With Autism Focus and Learn." Below the title is the upload date and time "Apr 2 at 8:02am" and a globe icon. The main area of the player shows a video thumbnail of a sensory room with children and adults. A white play button icon is centered over the thumbnail. Below the thumbnail, the view count "10,105,138 views" is displayed.

edu Edutopia added a new video: **The Sensory Room: Helping Students With Autism Focus and Learn.**
Apr 2 at 8:02am • 🌐

Imagine a safe space where students with autism can go to calm their bodies, and then get back to the business of learning.

10,105,138 views

Over 12 million views



Universal Free Breakfast and Lunch



Welcome

to the



Summer bridge program



Raising the Bar for All Students

- On-Track Conferences
- B's or Better
- SAT Prep Class for all
- College Visits





Success Academy

College Signing Day



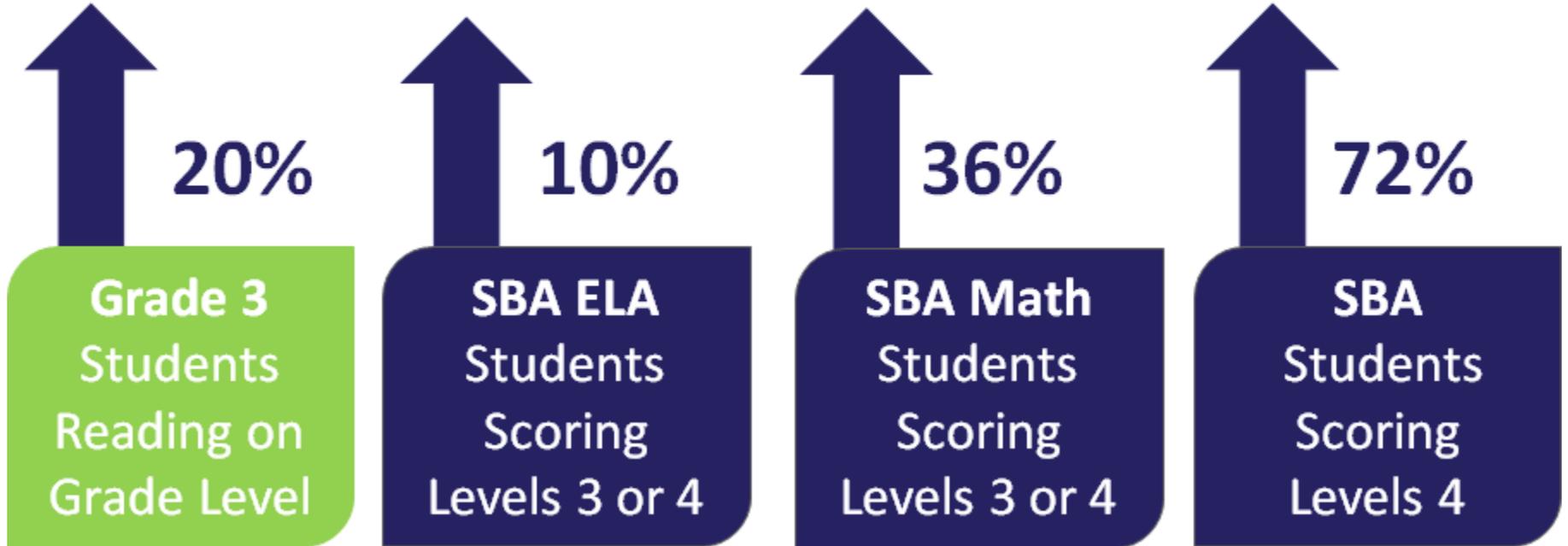
Indicators of Success

Mark D. Benigni, Ed.D.
Superintendent

State Accountability Index Success

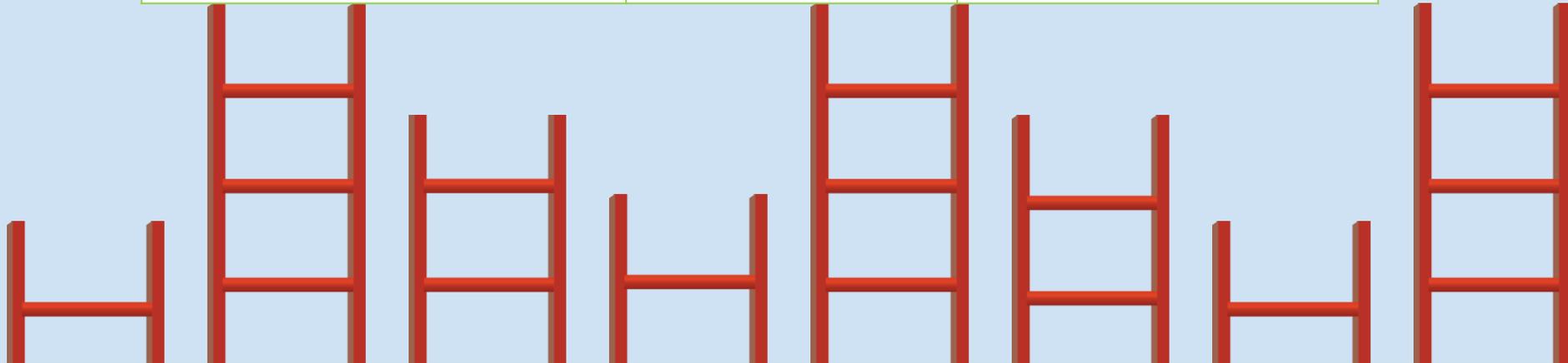
- District 5% increase overall State Accountability Index
 - Improved on 11 of 12 State Indicators
 - All 12 Meriden schools showed gains
- Largest ELA and Math Growth with High Needs Population in DRG H & I
- Three Schools of Distinction
- No Turn Around or Focus Schools

Elementary Student Achievement



SBA Scale Score Increases by Subgroup

Black	Latino	White
+32	+19	+15



Grade 9 On-Track Results

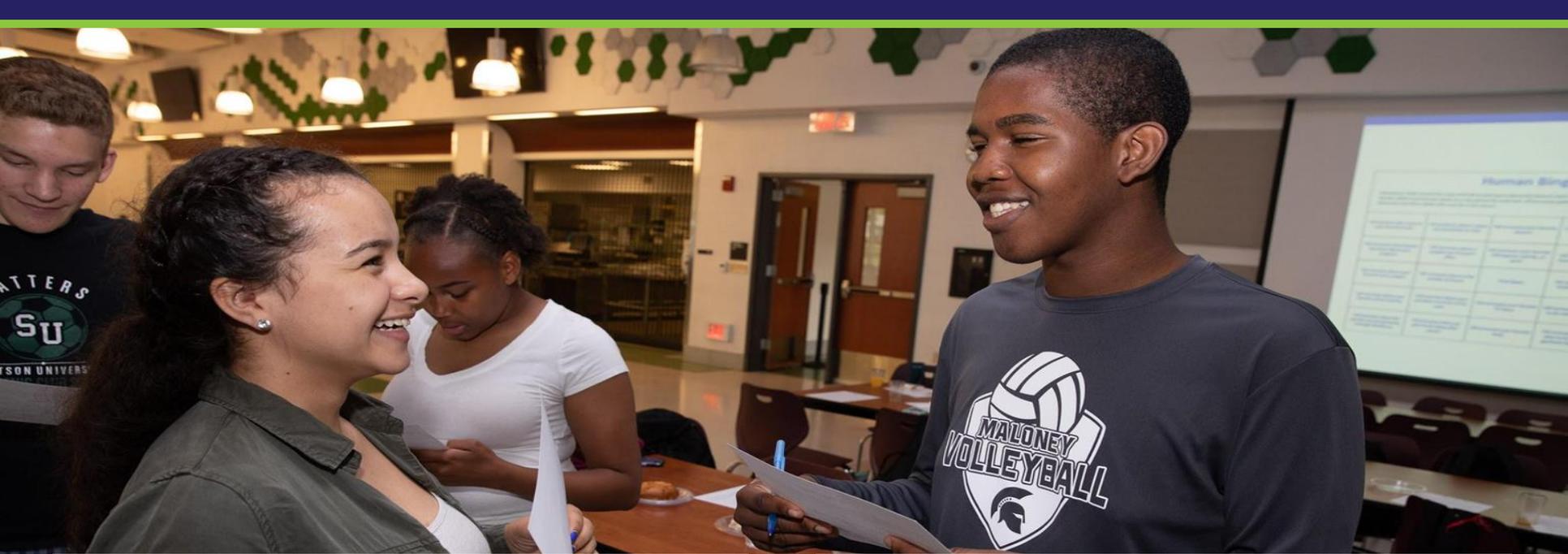
96% of Grade 9
students on-track
to graduate in
four years



Chronic Absenteeism



23% Decrease



 Suspensions
82% Decrease

 Expulsions
93% Decrease

4-Year Graduation Results

 20%
Increase



Since 2010



Here, Students Succeed