

Merrick SEL Practices

Merrick Mental Health Team
Winter 2022



Waterfall style chat...when I say
go...
What is one thing you are looking
forward to over break?



Why?

- We set the tone for learning and interactions at the launch of the school day.
- Every interaction we have with our students during the day is social and emotional- we want to be intentional about it.
- Ending our day intentionally provides a sense of accomplishment and supports forward thinking.

What?

Intentionally chosen strategies and activities to foster positive interactions and create an equitable experience in a safe environment.

When?

Throughout the entire school day, as a regular part of daily lesson planning.
- Welcoming, engaging strategy, & Closure

3 Signature Practices Snapshot



Welcoming/ Inclusion

Opening each day with activities and routines that build community and connects to the work ahead.

Engaging Strategies

Embed strategies to anchor thinking and learning throughout the day. Balance of interactive and reflective experiences.

Optimistic Closures

Closing each day in an intentional way. May be reflective of the learning, help identify next steps, or make connections to one's own work.



Welcoming/ Inclusion Activities

Things to remember...

- ✓ Establish safety and predictability
- ✓ Welcome students warmly, on time or late
- ✓ Set norms for respectful listening
- ✓ Focus on community building
- ✓ Promote interpersonal interactions
- ✓ Integrate student culture and background





Engaging Strategies

Things to remember...

- ✓ Be aware of the SEL skills students will utilize during these activities
- ✓ Strategies to anchor thinking and learning
- ✓ Balance of interactive and reflective experiences





Optimistic Closures



Things to remember...

- ✓ It's important that each day ends in a thoughtful, intentional way where students can reflect on learning or celebrate accomplishments.
- ✓ Create a moment that makes students look forward to returning tomorrow
- ✓ Students may consider:
 - ✓ Something they learned
 - ✓ Someone they helped
 - ✓ Something they want to share with their family
 - ✓ Something they enjoyed during the day

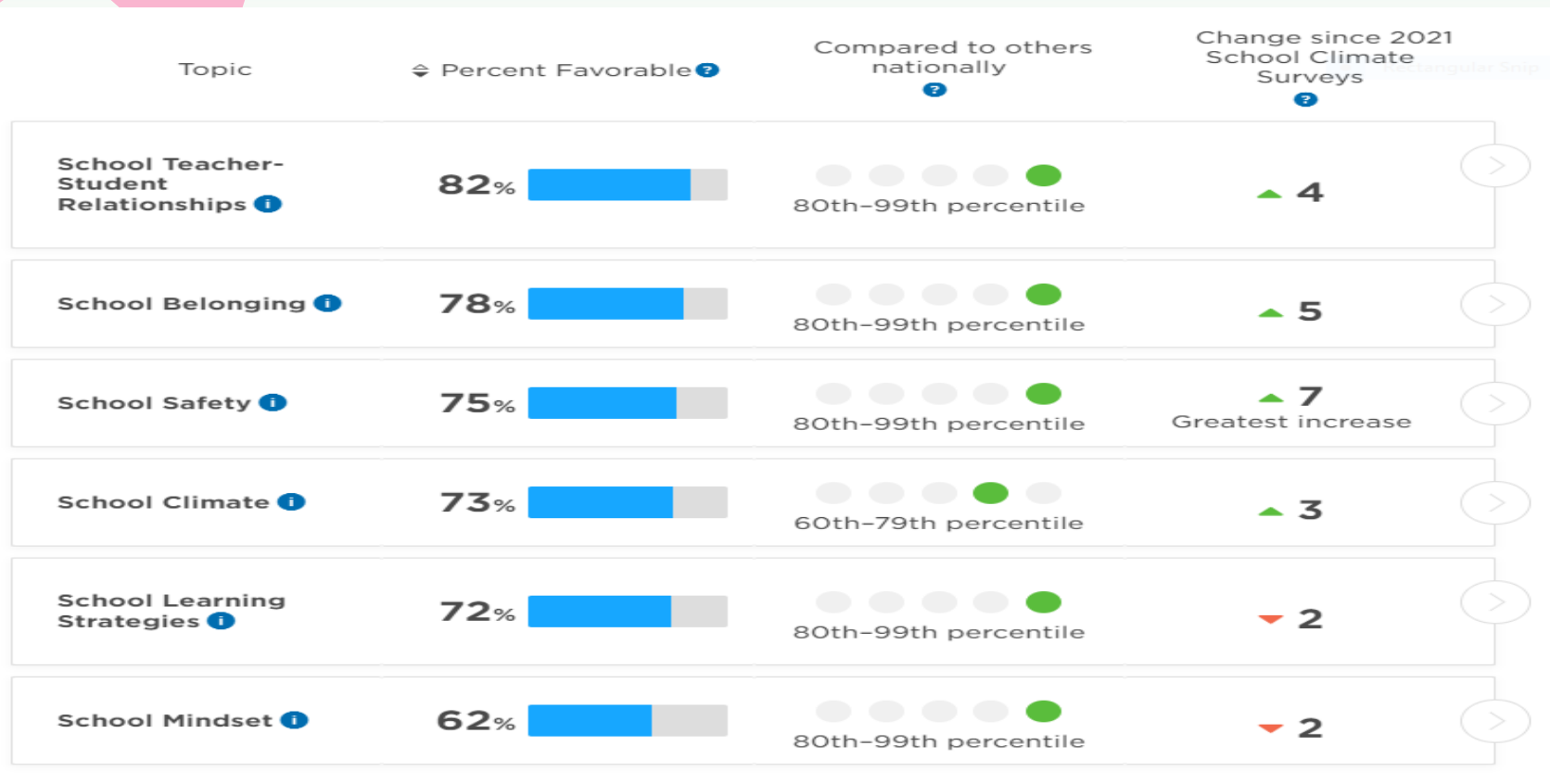


Morning Meeting at Merrick



Student Climate Survey 3-5

What feedback do students have for us?



School Teacher-Student Relationships

How strong the social connection is between teachers and students within and beyond the school?


QUESTION



How respectful are your teachers towards you?

91%

 responded favorably

 **4**

from 2021 School Climate Surveys



QUESTION



If you walked into class upset, how concerned would your teachers be?

77%

 responded favorably

0

from 2021 School Climate Surveys



QUESTION



When your teachers ask, "How are you?", how often do you feel that your teachers really want to know your answer?

73%

 responded favorably

 **9**

from 2021 School Climate Surveys




QUESTION



How excited would you be to have your teachers again?

85%

 responded favorably

 **2**

from 2021 School Climate Surveys



School Belonging

How much students feel that they are valued members of the school community?

QUESTION



How much support do the adults at your school give you?

85 %

 responded favorably

 **6**

from 2021 School Climate Surveys



QUESTION



How well do people at your school understand you as a person?

68 %

 responded favorably

 **6**

from 2021 School Climate Surveys



QUESTION



How much respect do students at your school show you?

77 %

 responded favorably

 **7**

from 2021 School Climate Surveys




QUESTION



Overall, how much do you feel like you belong at your school?

83 %

 responded favorably






 **4**

from 2021 School Climate Surveys



School Safety

Perceptions of student physical and psychological safety at school.

QUESTION	60 % responded favorably	▲ 18 from 2021 School Climate Surveys	
> How often are people disrespectful to others at your school?			
QUESTION	67 % responded favorably	▼ 3 from 2021 School Climate Surveys	
> If a student is bullied in school, how difficult is it for him/her to get help from an adult?			
QUESTION	84 % responded favorably	▲ 3 from 2021 School Climate Surveys	
> How likely is it that someone from your school will bully you online?			
QUESTION	74 % responded favorably	▼ 1 from 2021 School Climate Surveys	
> How often do you worry about violence at your school?			
QUESTION	89 % responded favorably	▲ 11 from 2021 School Climate Surveys	
> How often do students get into physical fights at your school?			


School Climate

Perceptions of the overall social and learning climate of the school.

QUESTION

➤ How positive or negative is the energy of the school?

83% 
responded
favorably

 **3**
from 2021
School Climate
Surveys



QUESTION

➤ How fair or unfair are the rules for the students at this school?

78% 
responded
favorably


 **2**
from 2021
School Climate
Surveys



QUESTION

➤ At your school, how much does the behavior of other students hurt or help your learning?


49% 
responded
favorably

 **4**
from 2021
School Climate
Surveys



QUESTION

➤ How often do your teachers seem excited to be teaching your classes?

82% 
responded
favorably

0
from 2021
School Climate
Surveys



School Learning Strategies


How well students deliberately use strategies to manage their own learning processes generally?

QUESTION



Before you start on a challenging project, how often do you think about the best way to do it?

70% 
responded
favorably

 **2**
from 2021
School Climate
Surveys



QUESTION



How sure are you that you can figure out a good way to get your schoolwork done well?

82% 
responded
favorably

 **5**
from 2021
School Climate
Surveys




QUESTION



When you get stuck while learning something new, how likely are you to try to learn it in a different way?

54% 
responded
favorably

 **3**
from 2021
School Climate
Surveys




QUESTION



Overall, how well can you figure out how to learn things?

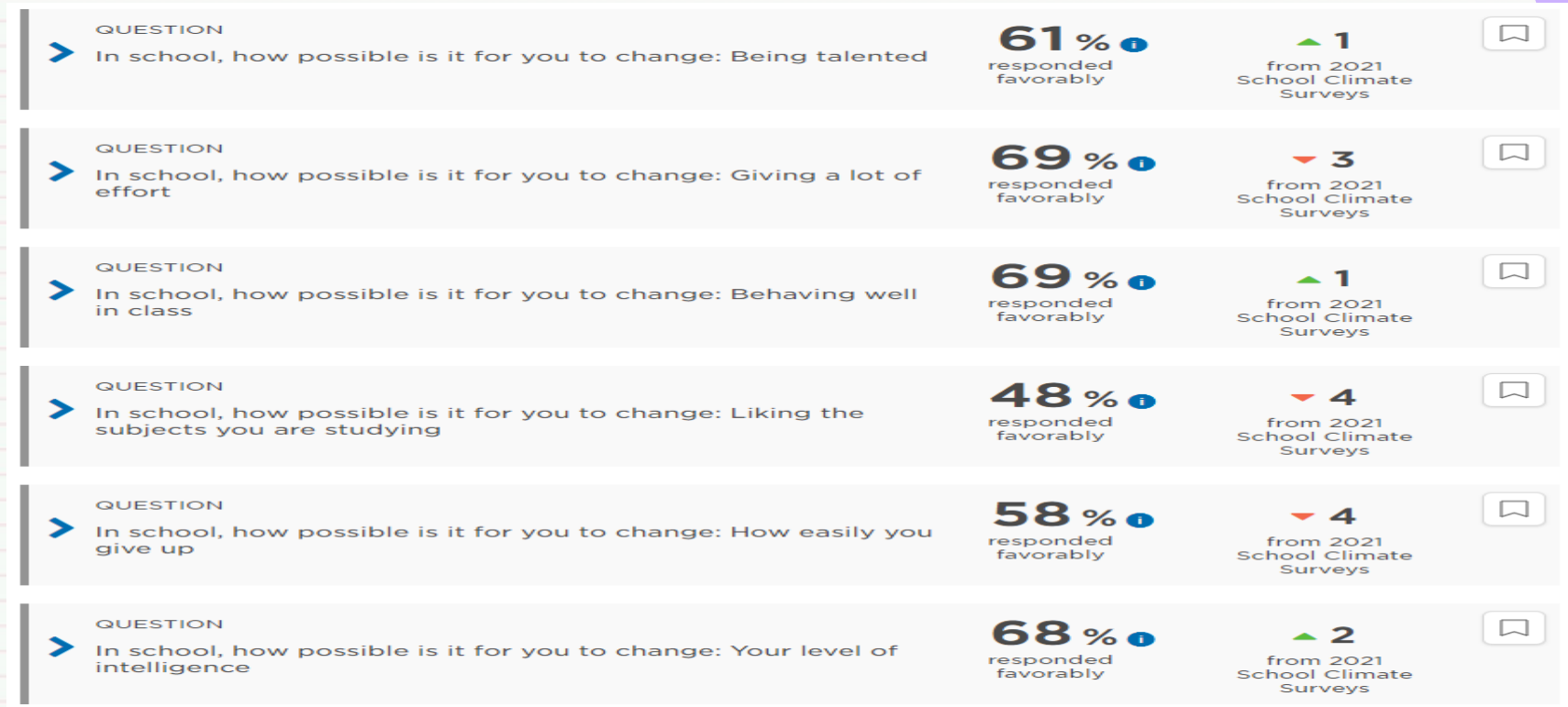
82% 
responded
favorably

 **3**
from 2021
School Climate
Surveys



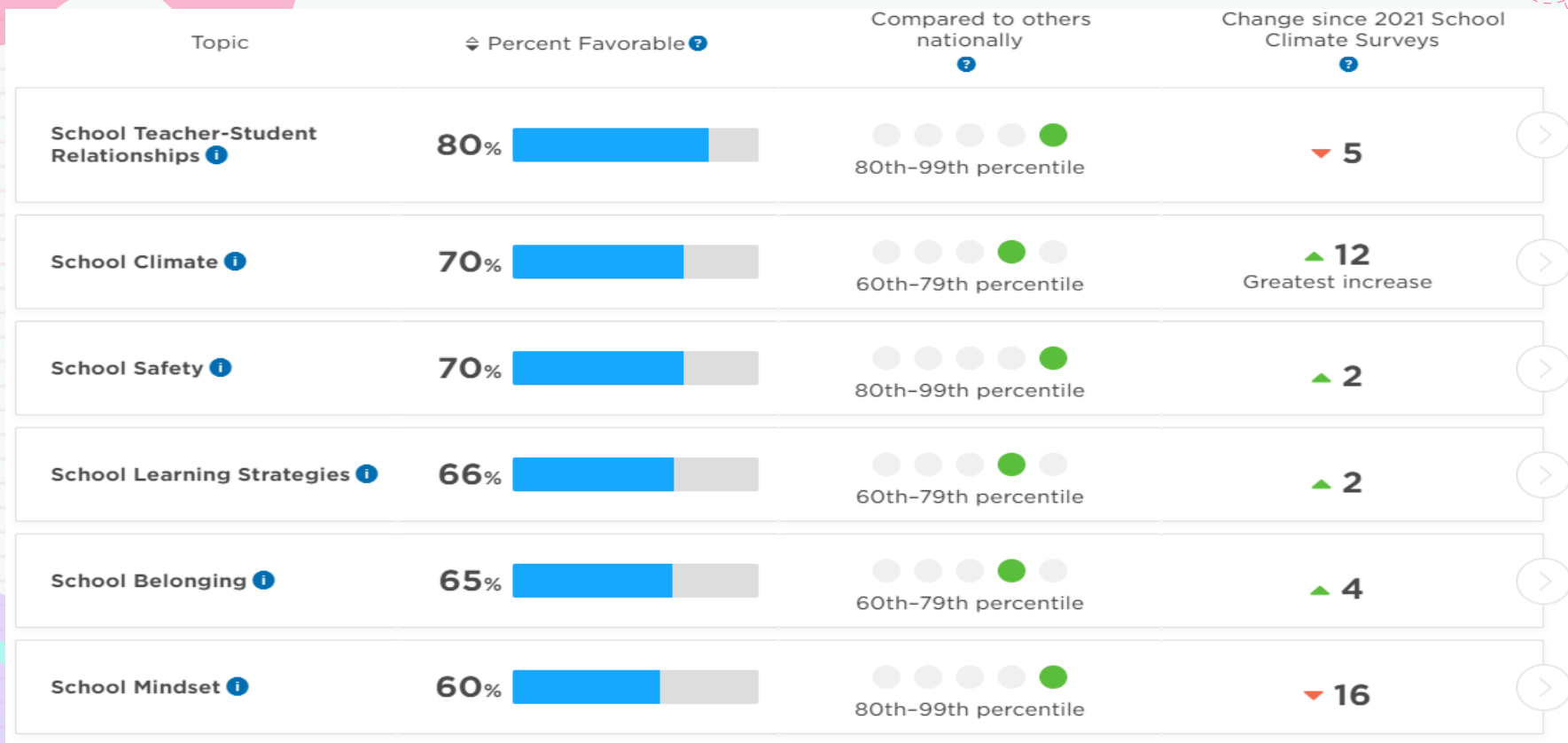
School Mindset

Perceptions of whether students have the potential to change those factors that are central to their performance in school.








Student Climate Survey Grade 6

What feedback do students have for us?



School Teacher-Student Relationships

How strong the social connection is between teachers and students within and beyond the school?

QUESTION ➤ How many of your teachers are respectful towards you?	89 % i responded favorably	▼ 5 from 2021 School Climate Surveys	
QUESTION ➤ If you walked into class upset, how many of your teachers would be concerned?	75 % i responded favorably	▼ 13 from 2021 School Climate Surveys	
QUESTION ➤ If you came back to visit class three years from now, how many of your teachers would be excited to see you?	83 % i responded favorably	▼ 5 from 2021 School Climate Surveys	
QUESTION ➤ When your teachers ask how you are doing, how many of them are really interested in your answer?	76 % i responded favorably	▼ 5 from 2021 School Climate Surveys	
QUESTION ➤ How many of your teachers would you be excited to have again in the future?	75 % i responded favorably	0 from 2021 School Climate Surveys	

School Climate

Perceptions of the overall social and learning climate of the school.

QUESTION



How positive or negative is the energy of the school?

83% 

responded
favorably

 **8**

from 2021
School Climate
Surveys



QUESTION



How pleasant or unpleasant is the physical space at your school?

81% 

responded
favorably

 **18**

from 2021
School Climate
Surveys



QUESTION



How fair or unfair are the rules for the students at this school?

71% 

responded
favorably

 **2**

from 2021
School Climate
Surveys



QUESTION



At your school, how much does the behavior of other students hurt or help your learning?

32% 

responded
favorably

 **1**

from 2021
School Climate
Surveys



QUESTION



How often do your teachers seem excited to be teaching your classes?

83% 

responded
favorably

 **33**

from 2021
School Climate
Surveys




School Safety

Perceptions of student physical and psychological safety at school.

QUESTION

➤ How often are people disrespectful to others at your school?


44 % 
responded
favorably


 **13**
from 2021
School Climate
Surveys



QUESTION

➤ If a student is bullied in school, how difficult is it for him/her to get help from an adult?


62 % 
responded
favorably


 **1**
from 2021
School Climate
Surveys



QUESTION

➤ How likely is it that someone from your school will bully you online?


78 % 
responded
favorably


 **15**
from 2021
School Climate
Surveys



QUESTION

➤ How often do you worry about violence at your school?


75 % 
responded
favorably


 **13**
from 2021
School Climate
Surveys



QUESTION

➤ At your school, how unfairly do the adults treat the students?


75 % 
responded
favorably


 **12**
from 2021
School Climate
Surveys



QUESTION

➤ How often do students get into physical fights at your school?

88 % 
responded
favorably

 **12**
from 2021
School Climate
Surveys




School Learning Strategies

How well students deliberately use strategies to manage their own learning processes generally?

QUESTION

➤ How often do you use strategies to learn more effectively?


72% 
responded
favorably


 **28**
from 2021
School Climate
Surveys



QUESTION

➤ Before you start on a challenging project, how often do you think about the best way to approach the project?


65% 
responded
favorably


 **16**
from 2021
School Climate
Surveys



QUESTION

➤ How confident are you that you can choose an effective strategy to get your schoolwork done well?


71% 
responded
favorably


 **8**
from 2021
School Climate
Surveys



QUESTION

➤ When you get stuck while learning something new, how likely are you to try a different strategy?


49% 
responded
favorably


 **7**
from 2021
School Climate
Surveys



QUESTION

➤ Overall, how well do your learning strategies help you learn more effectively?

72% 
responded
favorably

 **3**
from 2021
School Climate
Surveys





School Belonging

How much students feel that they are valued members of the school community?

QUESTION

➤ How connected do you feel to the adults at your school?


47 % 
responded
favorably


 **9**
from 2021
School Climate
Surveys



QUESTION

➤ How well do people at your school understand you as a person?


64 % 
responded
favorably


 **1**
from 2021
School Climate
Surveys



QUESTION

➤ How much do you matter to others at this school?


68 % 
responded
favorably


 **18**
from 2021
School Climate
Surveys



QUESTION

➤ How much respect do students in your school show you?


70 % 
responded
favorably


 **5**
from 2021
School Climate
Surveys



QUESTION

➤ Overall, how much do you feel like you belong at your school?



















75 % 
responded
favorably

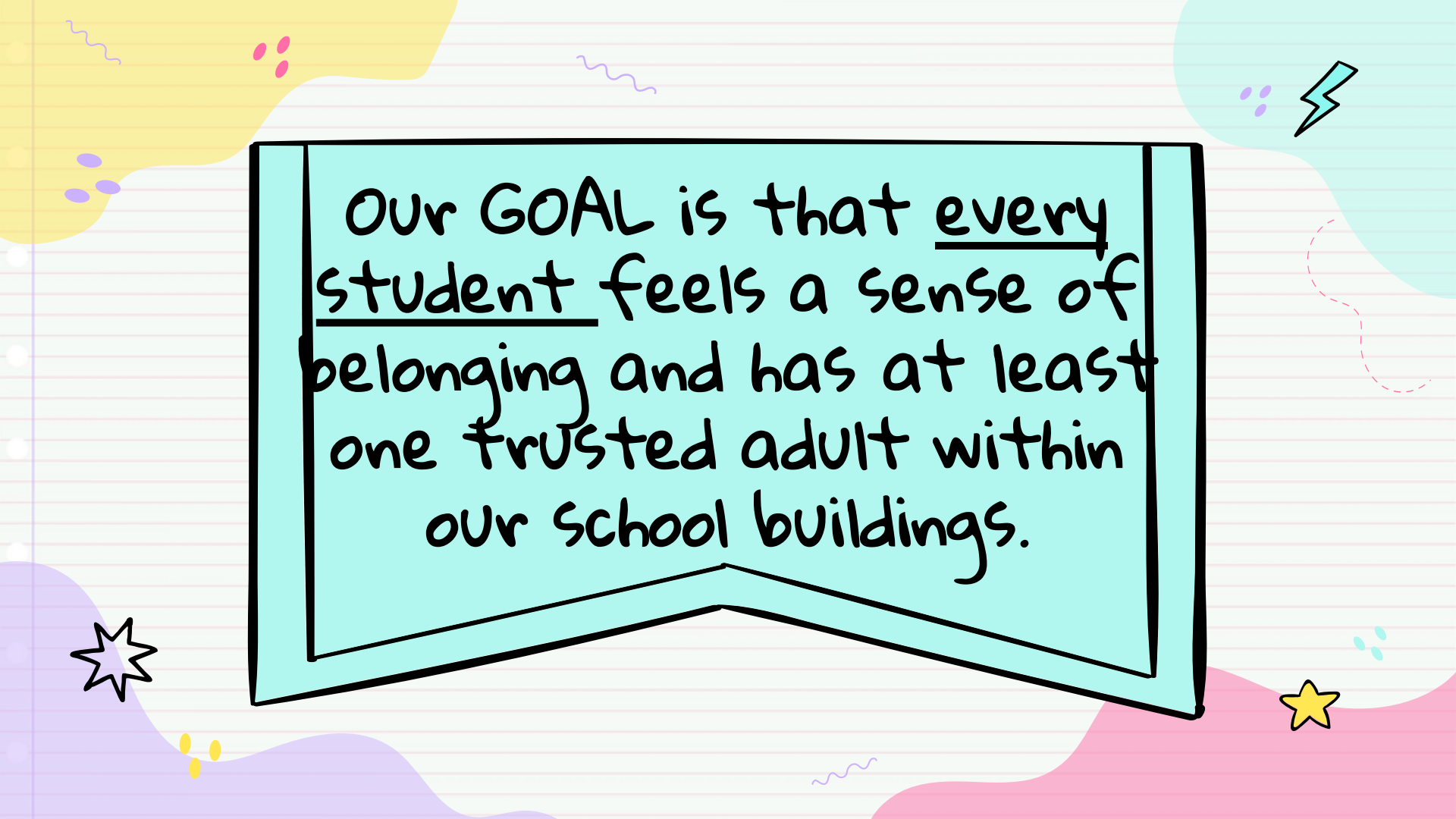
 **6**
from 2021
School Climate
Surveys




School Mindset

Perceptions of whether students have the potential to change those factors that are central to their performance in school.

QUESTION	60 % 	 9 from 2021 School Climate Surveys	
> In school, how possible is it for you to change: Being talented	responded favorably		
QUESTION	67 % 	 33 from 2021 School Climate Surveys	
> In school, how possible is it for you to change: Putting forth a lot of effort	responded favorably		
QUESTION	64 % 	 24 from 2021 School Climate Surveys	
> In school, how possible is it for you to change: Behaving well in class	responded favorably		
QUESTION	45 % 	 11 from 2021 School Climate Surveys	
> In school, how possible is it for you to change: Liking the subjects you are studying	responded favorably		
QUESTION	53 % 	 28 from 2021 School Climate Surveys	
> In school, how possible is it for you to change: How easily you give up	responded favorably		
QUESTION	69 % 	 6 from 2021 School Climate Surveys	
> In school, how possible is it for you to change: Your level of intelligence	responded favorably		



Our GOAL is that every
student feels a sense of
belonging and has at least
one trusted adult within
our school buildings.



Next Steps:

- ☐ Add something to what you are already doing
- ☐ Continue SEL Grade Level Meetings
- ☐ Share successes
- ☐ Continue learning

The background features a light pink grid pattern. On the left, there is a large yellow wavy shape with a pink squiggly line and two pink dots. At the bottom left, there is a teal wavy shape with three purple dots. On the right, there is a large pink wavy shape with three teal dots. At the top right, there is a purple wavy shape with three yellow dots. A small purple squiggly line is located at the bottom right.

Optimistic Closure

What is one takeaway that
you will try tomorrow?

The image features a central yellow speech bubble with a black outline and a light blue inner border. The bubble has a wavy, irregular shape. Inside the bubble, the text "Thank you!" is written in a black, handwritten-style font. The background is a light pink color with horizontal white lines, resembling a notebook page. There are several colorful, abstract shapes scattered around the bubble: a yellow shape in the top left, a purple shape in the top right, a light blue shape in the bottom left, and a yellow shape in the bottom right. Small, colorful squiggles and dots are also scattered throughout the background.

Thank you!