

**Mission, Markets, & Measuring what Matters:
Challenging and Supporting Schools in
Data-Rich Continuous Improvement**

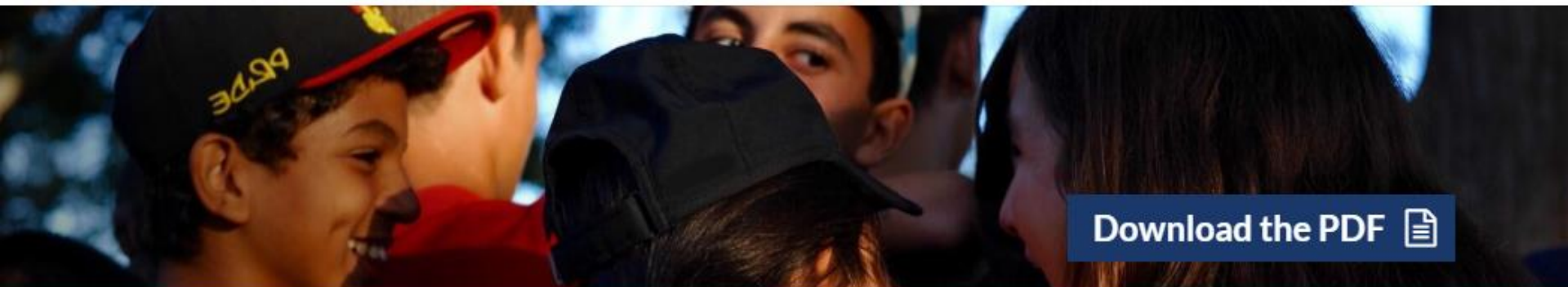
**NCPSA Winter Meeting
January 28, 2020**


Nice to Meet You!

Dr. Jennifer de Forest

Center for Effective Philanthropy, YouthTruth Team

jend@youthtruthsurvey.org



Download the PDF 

FROM DATA TO ACTION

Resources to help educators strengthen school culture and address bullying

A guidebook featuring resources from



OUR IMPACT

1,289,743

STUDENTS SURVEYED

147,636

STAFF & FAMILIES SURVEYED

39

STATES

5

COUNTRIES



Winter Meeting Agenda

- I. **Tune Up Q1: Listening to Students**
- II. Why Listen to Students? Why Measure the Student Experience?
- III. **Tune In Q2: Data in the Accreditation Self Study**
- IV. Associations and Data
- V. How Can We Reliably Measure the Student Experience?
- VI. American High School: Cohorts and Disaggregation
- VII. The Power of Feedback Loops!
- VIII. **Tune In Q3: Accreditation – Change over time & Feedback Loops**
- IX. If we have time! Reflecting on National Trends
- X. Final friendly provocations



Good Morning! Reflection Tune-Up Why Listen to Students?

Share one way that your accreditation process challenges your member schools to listen to students about their experience in school.

Why is student feedback a part (or not a part) of your accreditation process?

Share out thoughts!



**ASPEN Institute's Integrating
Social, Emotional, and Academic
Development**

**“Developing student agency
is an important factor in
students’ long-term success,
which is facilitated by
students exercising ... voice
in their learning.”**

Why Listen to Students?
Why Student Perception Surveys?
The Good Thing + The Smart Thing

STUDENT PERCEPTIONS



ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
STUDENT WELL-BEING
EQUITY



Yale *Center for Emotional Intelligence*

The Belonging Project at Stanford

Stanford's Gardner Center

"Students' relationships with their teachers and their motivation are linked with their academic achievement."

National School Climate Center

School climate reform is "a data-driven strategy that promotes healthy relationships, school connectedness and dropout prevention."



What is one way that you challenge/support your members to conduct data-rich/data-informed accreditation self-studies?

What are the challenges *for you* in this work?

Share out thoughts!

Associations & Data

How are Associations Challenging & Supporting Member Schools?

1) Benchmarking

Benchmarking
Data



250 Schools

Statistical Reports

(Enrollment, salaries, tuition, financial aid
by school type, size, county, race/ethnicity, gender)

Associations & Data

How are Associations Challenging & Supporting Member Schools?

2) Beyond Benchmarking! Model Building & Significance Testing

Benchmarking
Data



Market Dynamic
Studies



Three Metropolitan Areas
56 Schools (Religious & Not)
1850 Respondents

(Parents' price sensitivity +
Parents' perceptions of schools
and "fit")



Show-Me
Parents

Associations & Data

How are Associations Challenging & Supporting Member Schools?

3) Missions Measures:

What Exactly is Your Value-Add? Are you Meeting your Mission?

Benchmarking
Data



250 Schools
5 Statistical Reports

Market Dynamic
Studies



3 Metropolitan Areas
8, 20, 28 Schools
1850 Respondents

Survey Pilot:
Supports in the
Environment ...



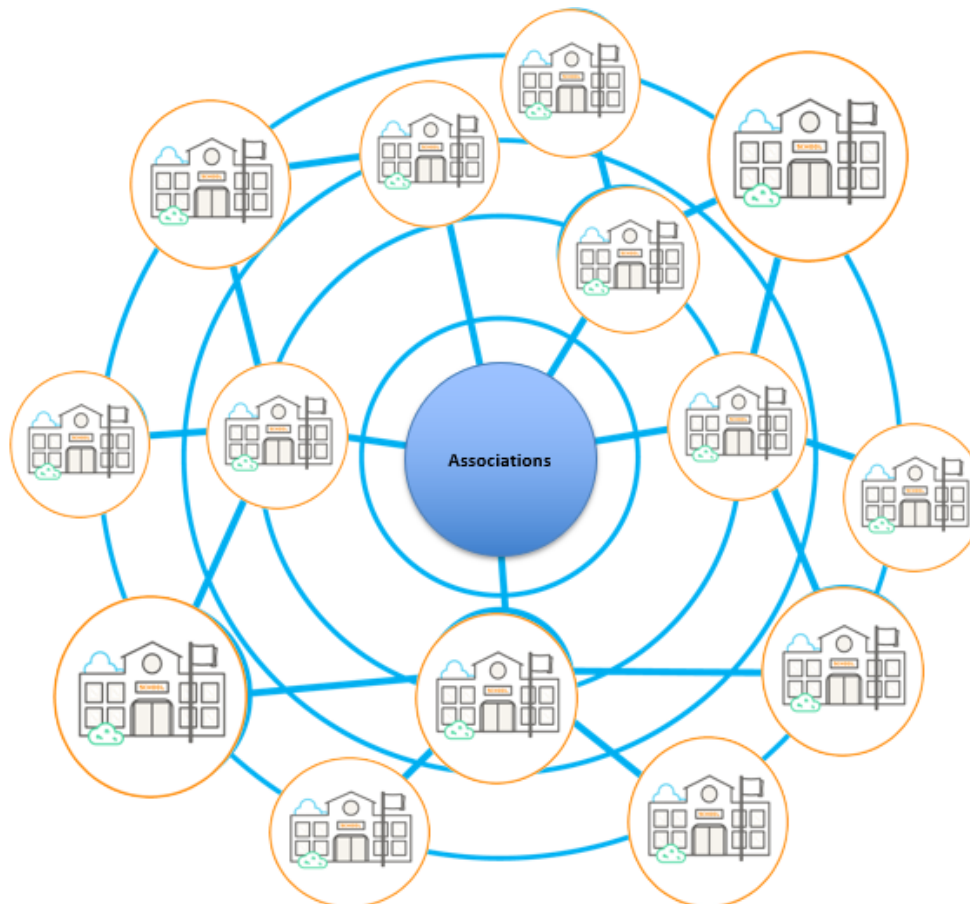
78 Schools
8 Shared Measures
20,000+ Participants

Building Robust & Meaningful Networks to Measure the Student Experience: If not Associations, who?

250 Schools
5 Statistical Reports

3 Metropolitan Areas
8, 20, 28 Schools
1850 Respondents

78 Schools
8 Shared Measures
20,000+ Participants



ESSA

States are Challenging and Supporting Schools!
If not Associations, who?



The OREGON Plan The Every Student Succeeds Act

Join In! Our Students. Our Success.

STUDENT SUCCESS ACT

THE STUDENT SUCCESS ACT MARKS A TURNING POINT FOR EDUCATION IN OREGON

When fully implemented, our state will see an additional **\$1 BILLION INVESTMENT** in schools each year.

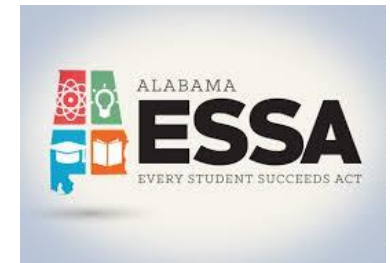
This investment will provide new opportunities for every student in our state, particularly students who have been historically underserved.

HOW THE STUDENT SUCCESS ACT INVESTS IN OUR STUDENTS

- At least **50%** Student Investment Account
- At least **20%** Early Learning Account
- Up to **30%** Statewide Education Initiatives

ROOTED IN EQUITY, AUTHENTIC COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, AND SHARED ACCOUNTABILITY FOR STUDENT SUCCESS.

The law requires school districts to build on the strengths and assets of young people, educators, families across the state, including members of the nine federally recognized tribes; students of color; students with disabilities; emerging bilingual students; and students navigating poverty, homelessness, and foster care.



How can we Measure the Student Experience in a way that is Valid, Reliable, and Actionable?

Elementary Students
2019 YouthTruth
Student Voice
Workshop





YOUTH TRUTH'S STUDENT EXPERIENCE SURVEY

student engagement

academic rigor/challenge

relationships with teachers

belonging & peer collaboration

school culture (respect & fairness)

Instructional methods

college & career readiness

+ Safety

+ PBL

+ STEM

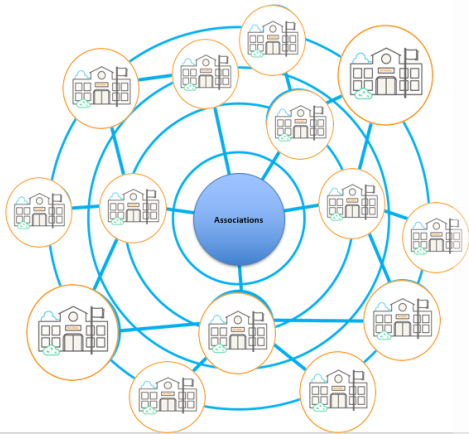
+ emotional & mental health

+ motivation & grit

+ drugs & alcohol

+ student voice & leadership

Culture First Student Anonymity + Privacy



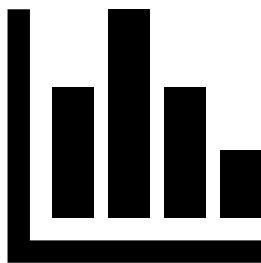


Chart Options

Cohort	Subgroup
CA schools ✓	School ✓
High poverty schools	School Masked
Rural schools	Grade Level
Suburban schools	Free-Reduced Priced Lunch
Small city schools	Gender
Large city schools	Race/Ethnicity
Small size schools	Self-Reported Grades
Large size schools	English Language Learners
Charter schools	Special Education
PBL schools	None
STEM schools	
None	

Past Results On


Close




“ ... a tool and a ... process to develop evidence-based awareness of ... inequities ... to create learning and change.”


Estela Mara Bensimon, USC

American High School: Reliable, Valid, and *with Context*

View Subgroup 

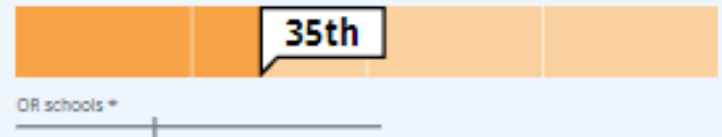
Key Measures

Average Rating 

Percentile Rank 

Engagement

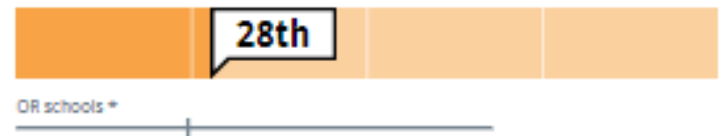
3.48



OR schools *

Academic Rigor

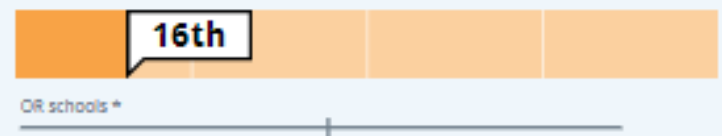
3.68



OR schools *

Relationships

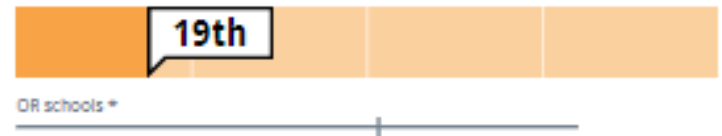
3.20



OR schools *

Culture

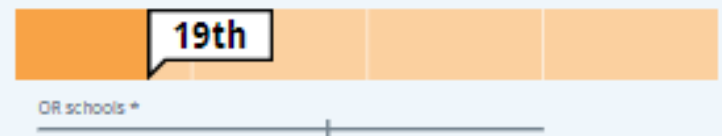
2.93



OR schools *

Belonging & Peer Collaboration

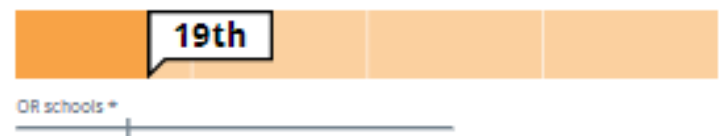
3.24



OR schools *

College & Career Readiness













3.05



OR schools *

American High School: Research-Based and *Actionable*

Relationships – Percent Positives

Question	Your School - Oct 2019	Typical YouthTruth school	Typical Rural school *	Share
How many of your teachers are willing to give extra help on school work if you need it?	57%	64%	61%	 
How many of your teachers try to be fair?	45%	62%	59%	 
How many of your teachers believe you can get a good grade if you try?	79%	79%	78%	 
How many of your teachers are not just satisfied if you pass, they care if you're really learning?	37%	53%	51%	 
How many of your teachers connect what you're learning in class to life outside of the classroom?	20%	36%	35%	 
How many of your teachers make an effort to understand what your life is like outside of school?	15%	34%	31%	 

Cohort:

Past results: On Off

American High School: Research-Based and *Actionable*













RESEARCH LIBRARY

Teacher Mindsets: How Educators' Perspectives Shape Student Success

2019, FutureEd

This report explores the critical importance of "teacher mindsets," or teachers' attitudes, beliefs, and practices, in fortifying students' investment in learning. The authors profile several schools in the forefront of that work, schools that have begun to use the new findings on teacher mindsets to shift adult belief and behaviors in ways that strengthen students' view of themselves as learners and their motivation to learn.

Relationships – Percent Positives

Question	Your School - Oct 2019	Typical YouthTruth school	Typical Rural school *	Share
How many of your teachers are willing to give extra help on school work if you need it?	57%	64%	61%	 
How many of your teachers try to be fair?	45%	62%	59%	 
How many of your teachers believe you can get a good grade if you try?	79%	79%	78%	 
How many of your teachers are not just satisfied if you pass, they care if you're really learning?	37%	53%	51%	 
How many of your teachers connect what you're learning in class to life outside of the classroom?	20%	36%	35%	 
How many of your teachers make an effort to understand what your life is like outside of school?	15%	34%	31%	 

Cohort:

Past results: On Off

News

Only Half of Students Think What They're Learning in School Is Relevant to the Real World, Survey Says



78%
of students at
elementary schools
feel engaged



59%
of students at
middle schools
feel engaged

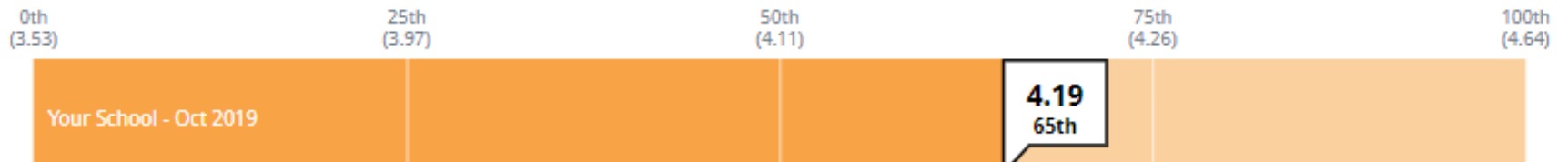


60%
of students at
high schools
feel engaged

American High School: Disaggregation for Actionability *and Equity*

I try to do my best in school.

1 = Strongly disagree 3 = Neither agree nor disagree 5 = Strongly agree



I try to do my best in school.

1 = Strongly disagree 3 = Neither agree nor disagree 5 = Strongly agree

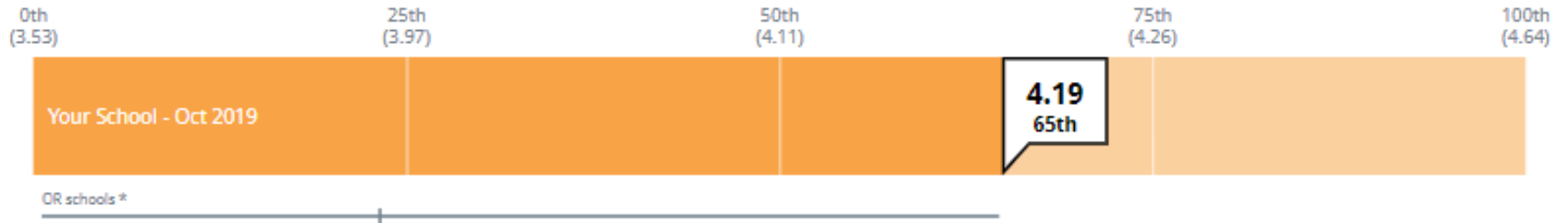


Chart Options

Cohort	Subgroup
CA schools ✓	School ✓
High poverty schools	School Masked
Rural schools	Grade Level
Suburban schools	Free-Reduced Priced Lunch
Small city schools	Gender
Large city schools	Race/Ethnicity
Small size schools	Self-Reported Grades
Large size schools	English Language Learners
Charter schools	Special Education
PBL schools	None
STEM schools	
None	

Past Results

Close



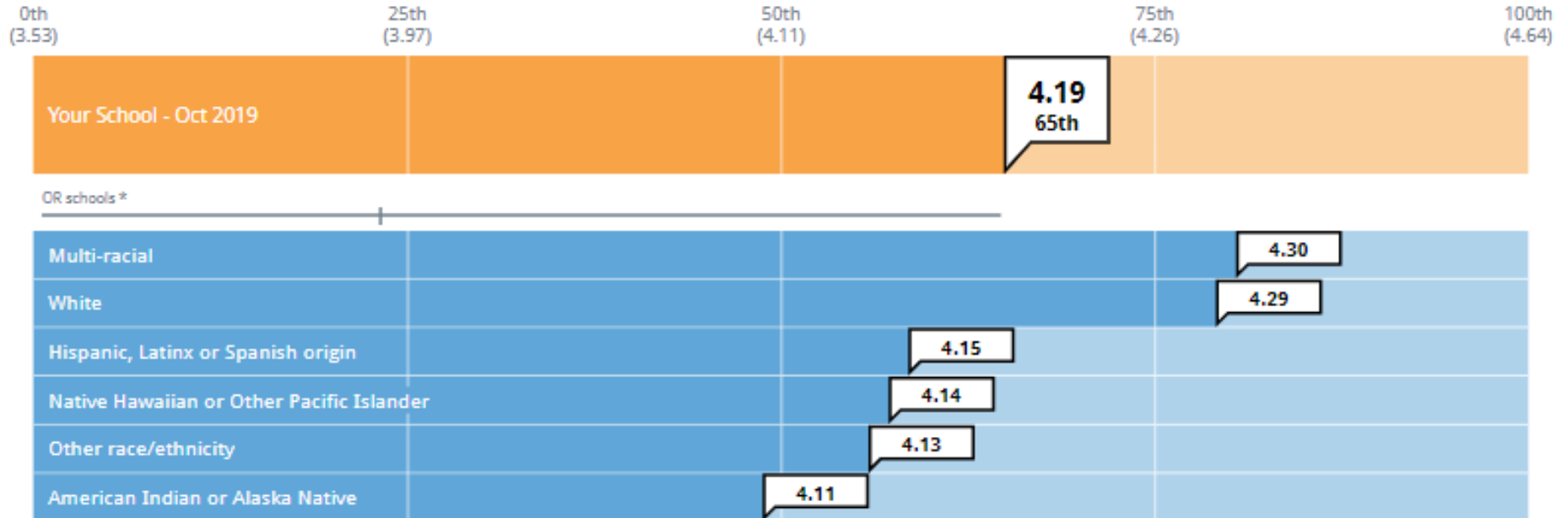
“Equity Mindedness”

“ ... a tool and a ... process to develop evidence-based awareness of ... inequities ... to create learning and change.”

Estela Mara Bensimon, USC

I try to do my best in school.

1 = Strongly disagree 3 = Neither agree nor disagree 5 = Strongly agree



Cohort: OR schools *

Past results: On Off

Subgroup: Race/Ethnicity

Overall

Black or African-American

Key Measures

Average Rating

Percentile Rank

Engagement

3.27

6th

Large city schools

Academic Rigor

3.64

21st

Large city schools

Relationships

3.34

32nd

Large city schools

Belonging & Peer Collaboration

3.37

47th

Large city schools

Culture

3.18

45th

Large city schools

College & Career Readiness

3.05

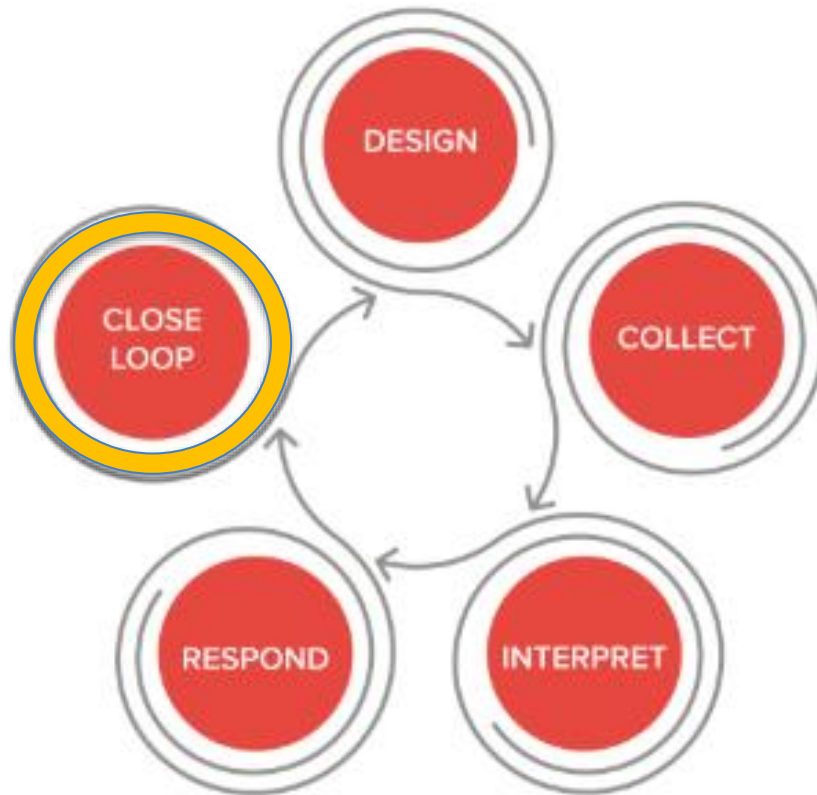
20th

Large city schools



View Subgroup ▼

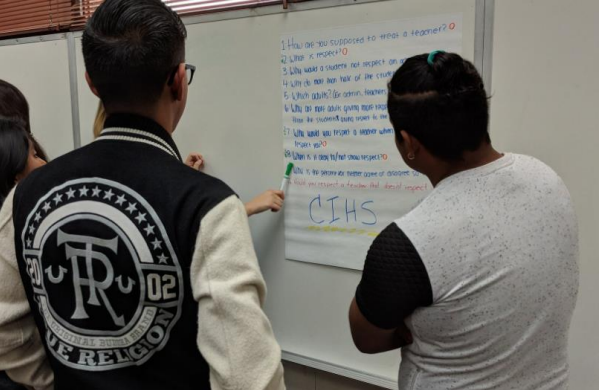
Key Measures	Average Rating ?	Percentile Rank ?
Engagement	3.48	
Academic Rigor	3.68	
Relationships	3.20	
Culture	2.93	
Belonging & Peer Collaboration	3.24	
College & Career Readiness	3.05	



5 STEPS OF A HIGH-QUALITY
FEEDBACK LOOP

“Those collecting perceptual feedback have the responsibility to share with constituents the results of feedback and the organization’s response to it.”

Fund for Shared Insight



[Return to Headlines](#)

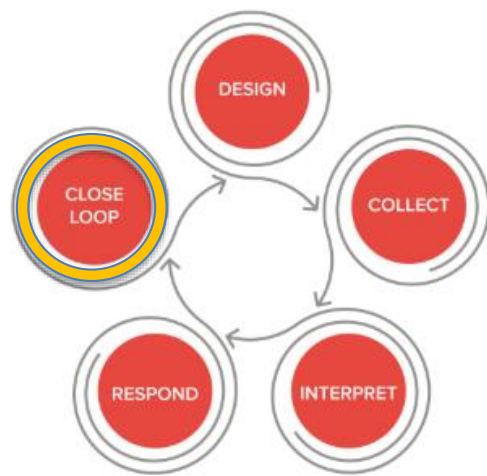
El Monte Union Students Engage Peers through YouthTruth Survey



In an effort to engage students and gather feedback on how to improve their learning environments, El Monte Union student leaders across the District's six high schools recently administered a YouthTruth survey asking their peers a series of questions on their overall academic and social experiences.



YouthTruth
STUDENT SURVEY
A NATIONAL NONPROFIT



5 STEPS OF A HIGH-QUALITY
FEEDBACK LOOP

In what ways does your Accreditation Process support and challenge your members to track their change over time?

In what ways does your Accreditation Process support and challenge your members to engage stakeholder feedback loops?

What are the challenges *for you* in this work?

Share out thoughts!

Listening as Leadership!

Affirmation v. Information



No Bad News



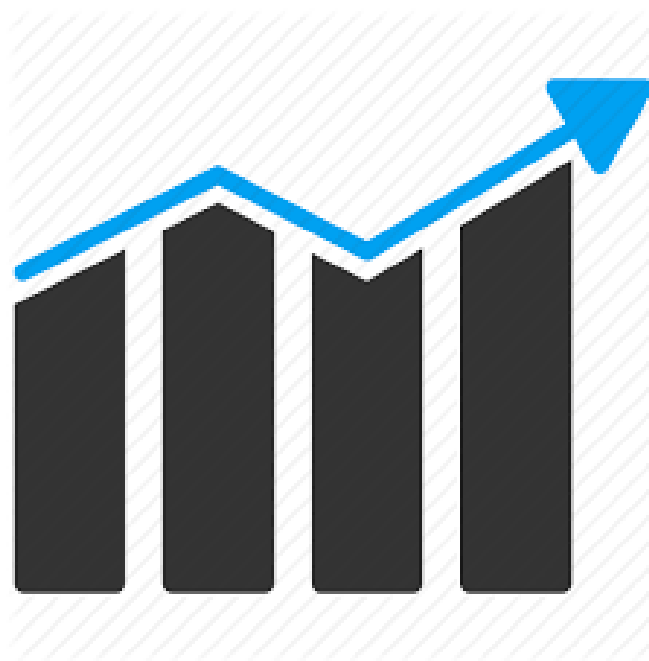
The Kool Aid factor



Do we Have Time?
**What have over 1 million students said about
the culture and climate of their schools?**



YOUTH TRUTH'S STUDENT EXPERIENCE SURVEY

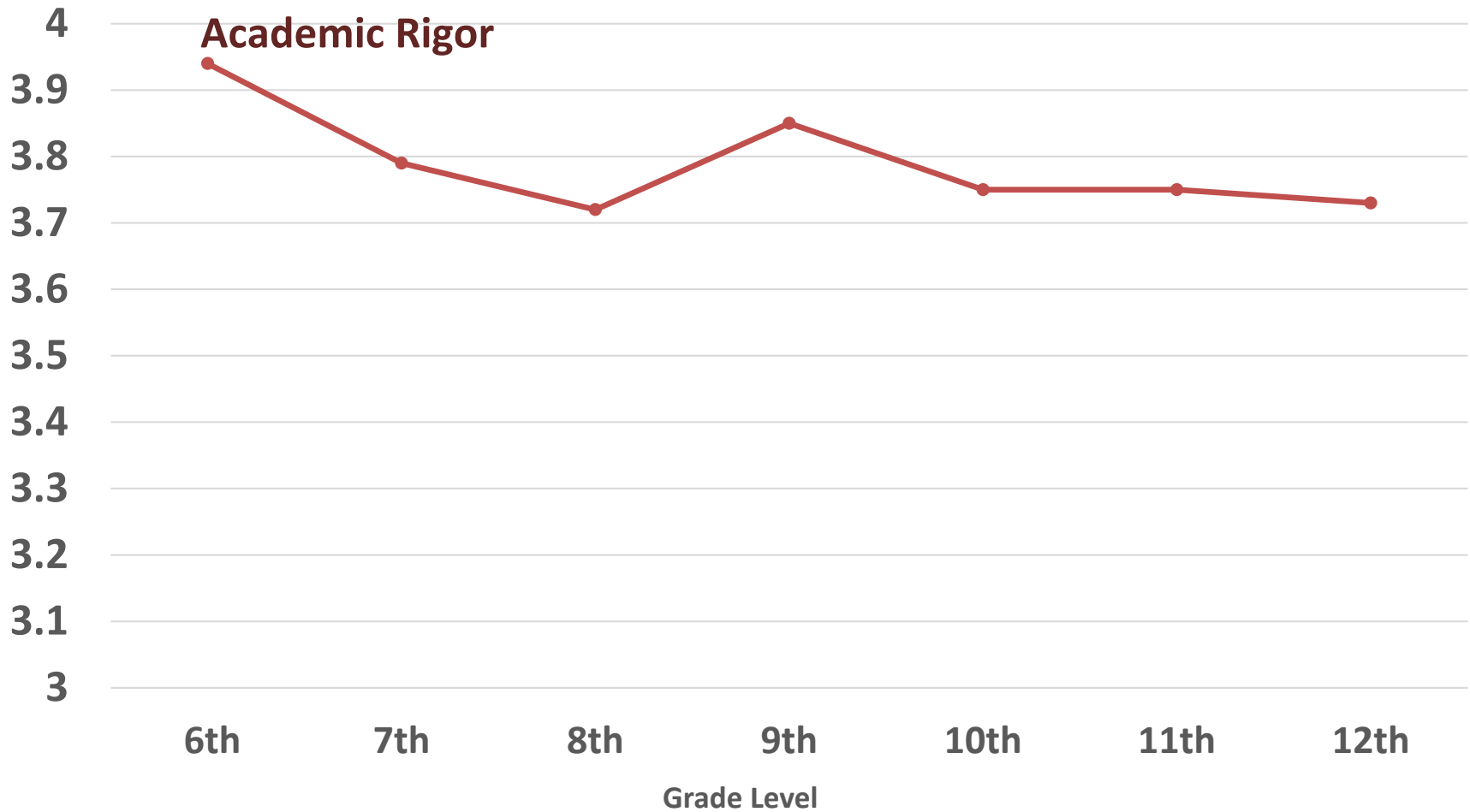


What do you think the 6-12 grade-level averages are?
How do you think that they trend?

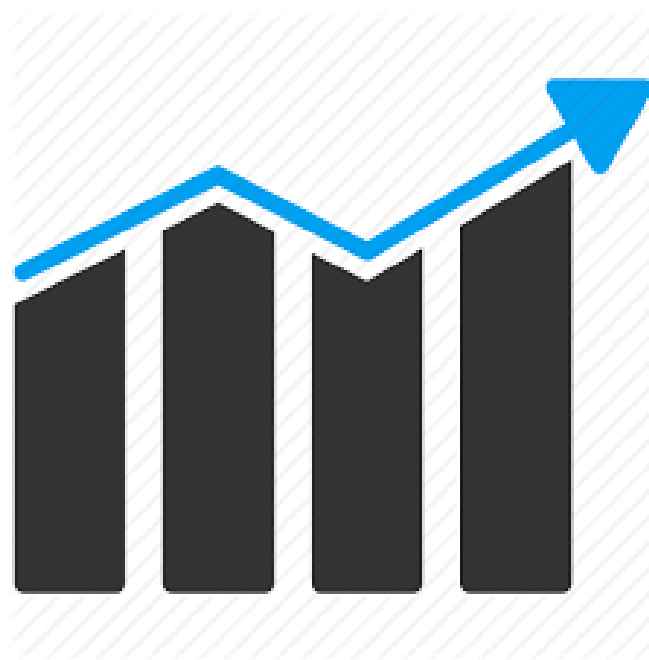
What do you think students tend to score **highest?**

- *student engagement
- *academic rigor
- *relationships with teachers
- *belonging & peer collaboration
- *school culture (respect & fairness)

Key Measure Average Ratings by Grade Level 1-5 Scale



YOUTH TRUTH'S STUDENT EXPERIENCE SURVEY

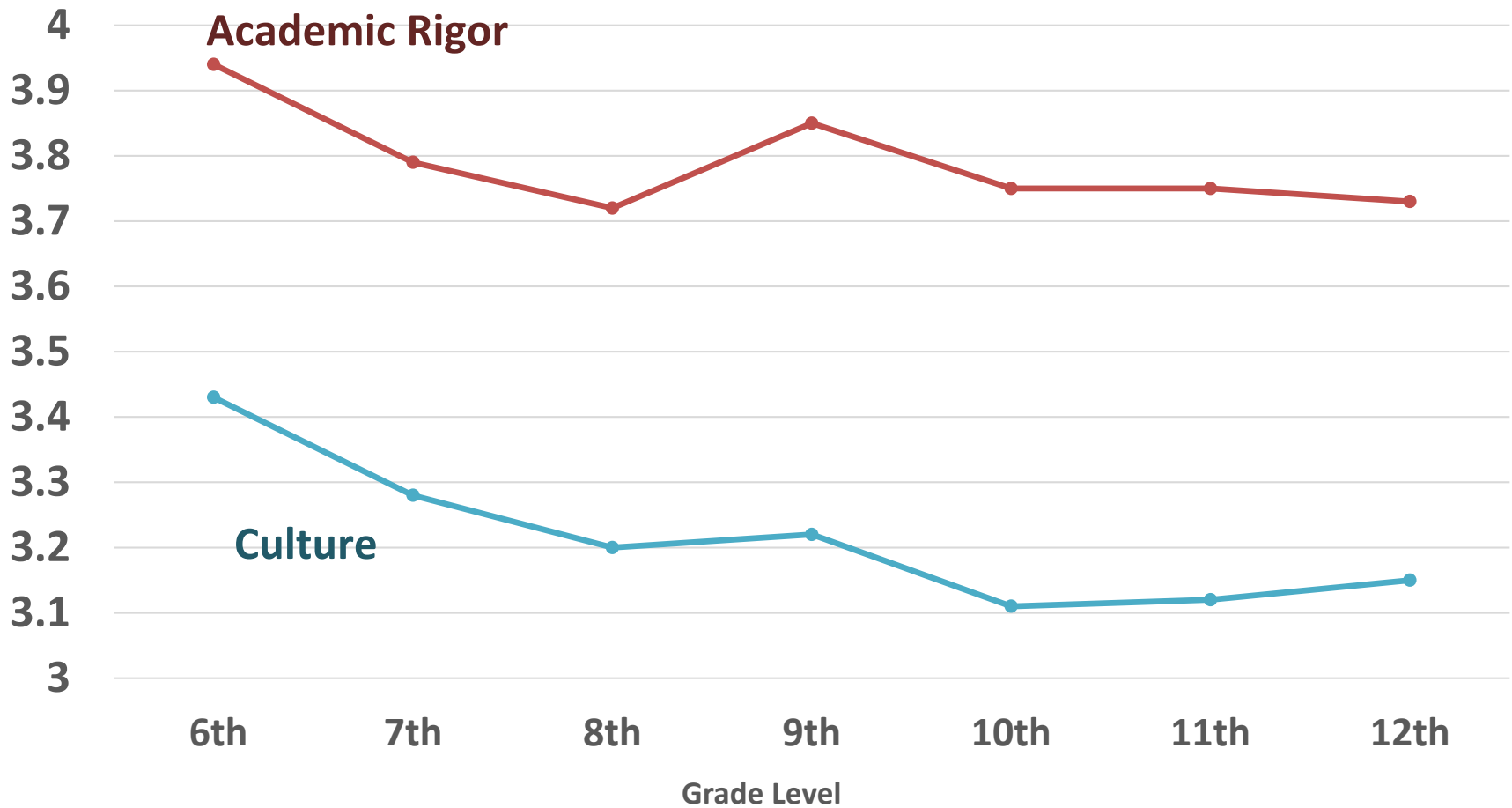


What do you think the 6-12 grade-level averages are?
How do you think that they trend?

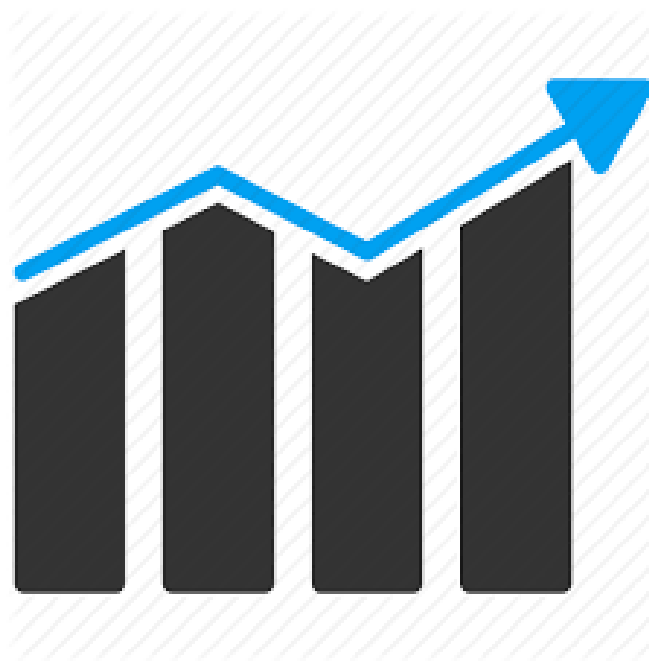
What do you think students tend to score **Lowest?**

- *student engagement
- *academic rigor
- *relationships with teachers
- *belonging & peer collaboration
- *school culture (respect & fairness)

Key Measure Average Ratings by Grade Level 1-5 Scale



YOUTH TRUTH'S STUDENT EXPERIENCE SURVEY

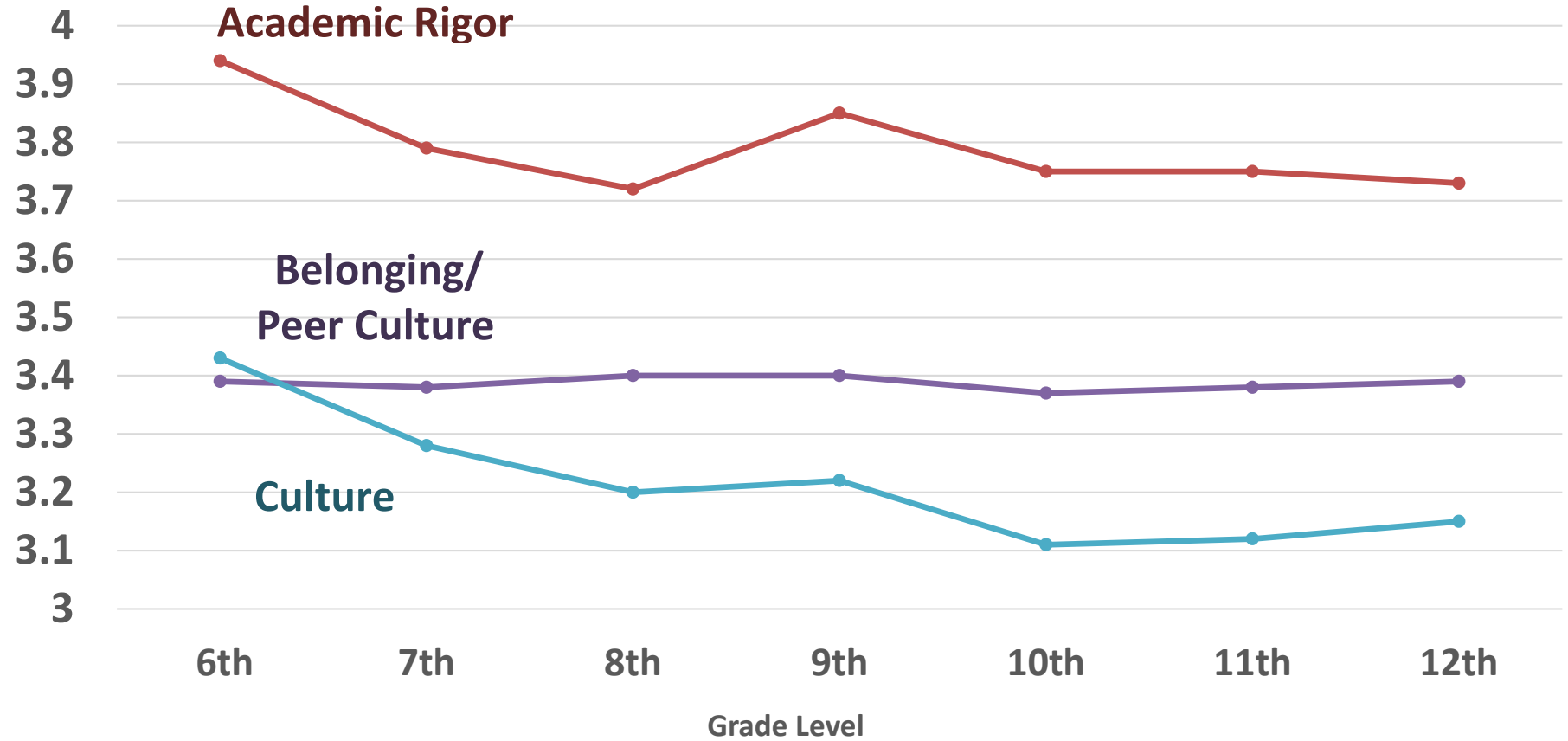


What do you think the 6-12 grade-level averages are?
How do you think that they trend?

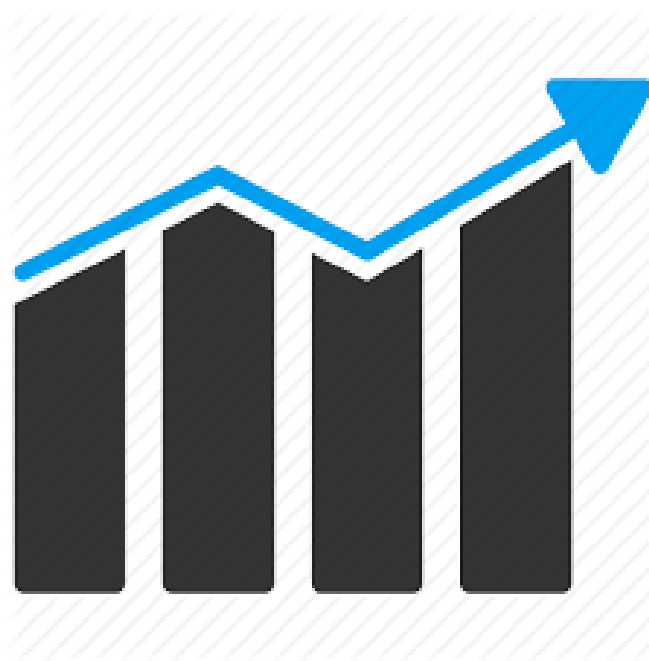
What factor do you think changes the least?

- *student engagement
- *academic rigor
- *relationships with teachers
- *belonging & peer collaboration
- *school culture (respect & fairness)

Key Measure Average Ratings by Grade Level 1-5 Scale



YOUTH TRUTH'S STUDENT EXPERIENCE SURVEY

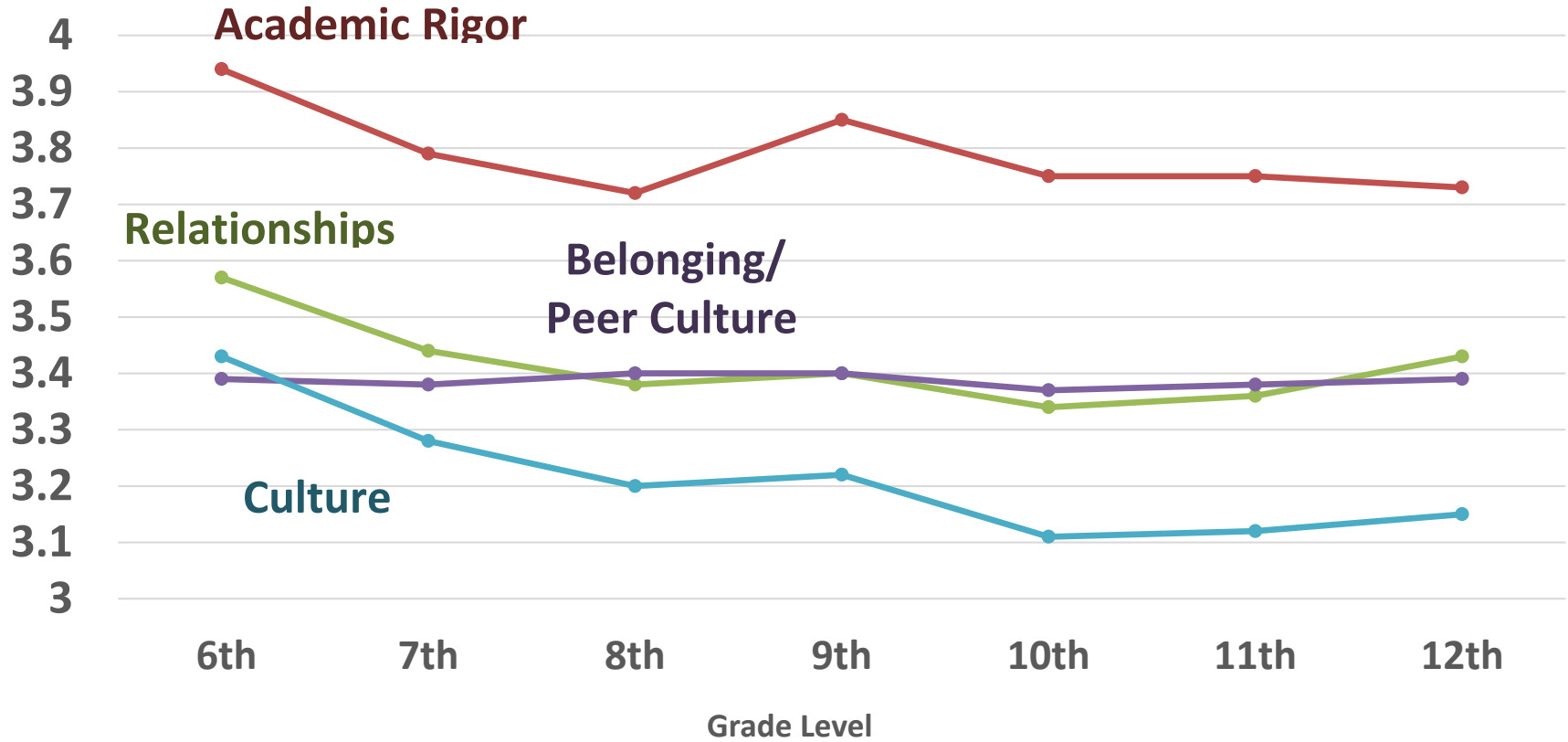


What do you think the 6-12 grade-level averages are?
How do you think that they trend?

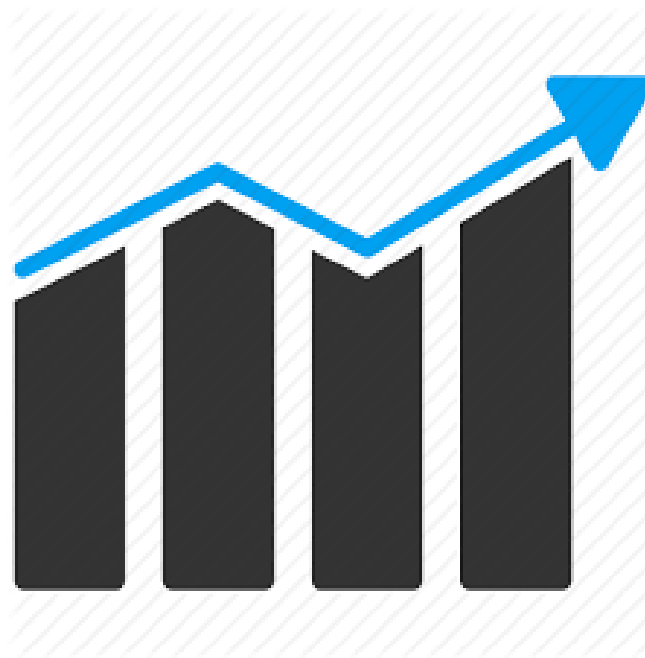
How will relationships with teachers trend?

- *student engagement**
- *academic rigor**
- *relationships with teachers**
- *belonging & peer collaboration**
- *school culture (respect & fairness)**

Key Measure Average Ratings by Grade Level 1-5 Scale



YOUTH TRUTH'S STUDENT EXPERIENCE SURVEY

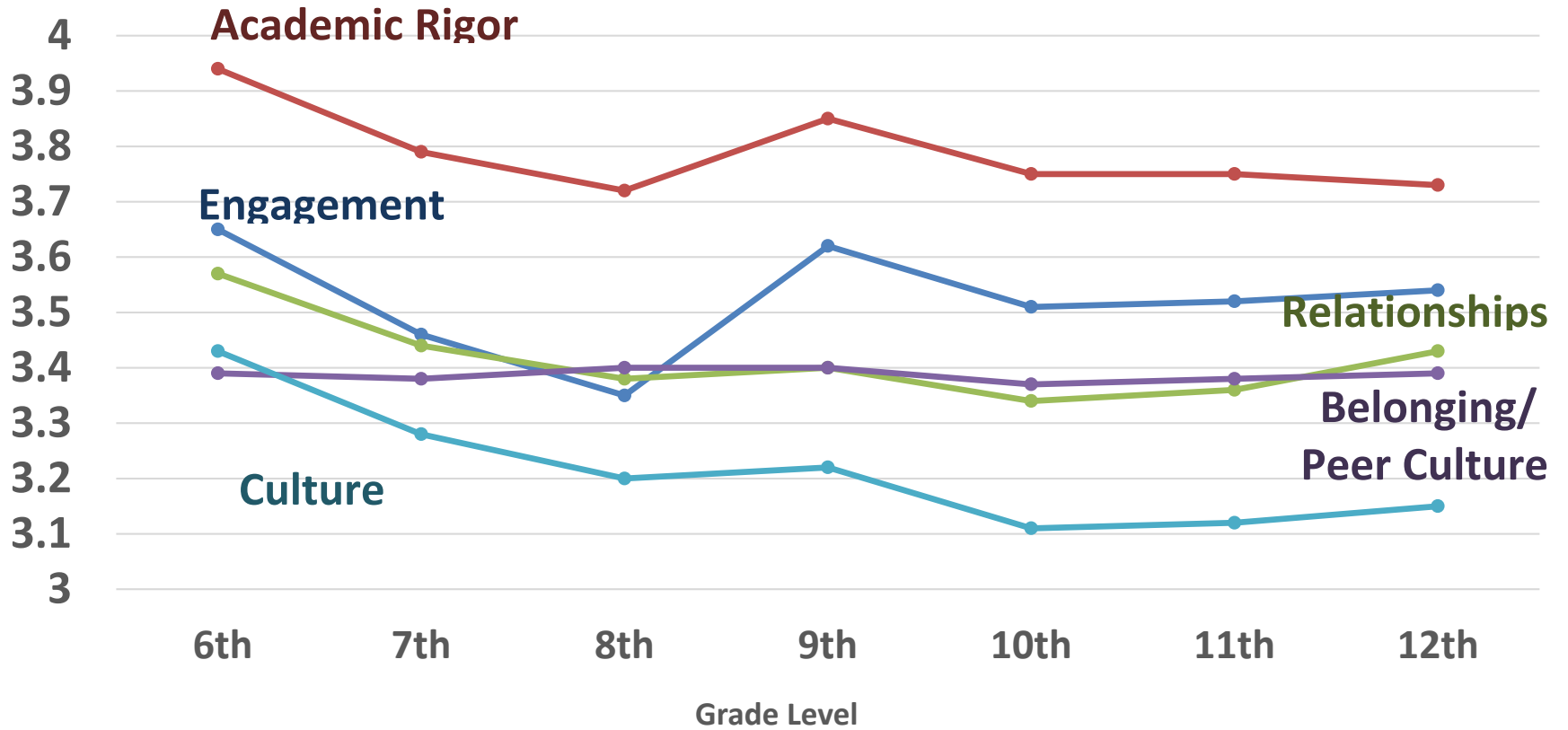


What do you think the 6-12 grade-level averages are?
How do you think that they trend?

What about **engagement**?

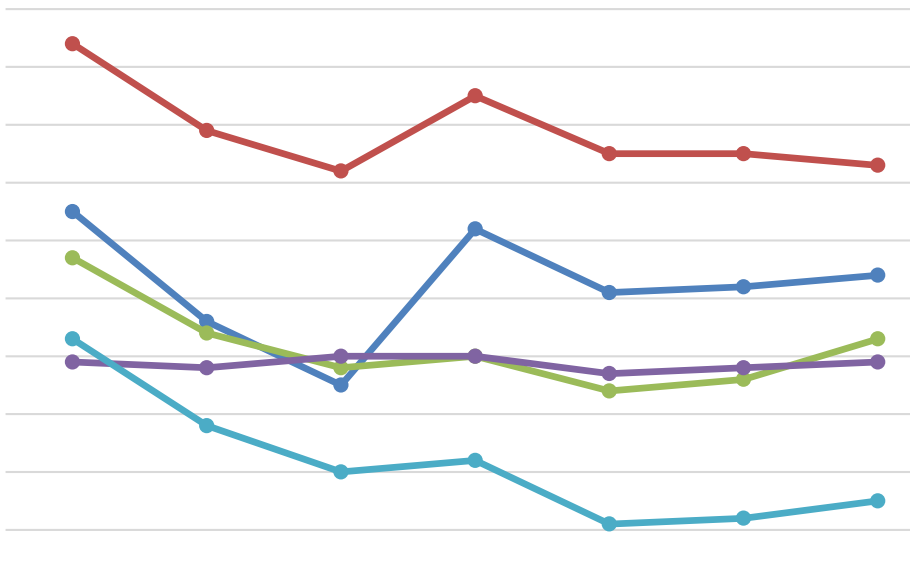
- *student engagement
- *academic rigor
- *relationships with teachers
- *belonging & peer collaboration
- *school culture (respect & fairness)

Key Measure Average Ratings by Grade Level 1-5 Scale



What are the patterns in your association? How do you know?

Imagine that this is your school(s)?
What would you want to know?



Amplify Learning through Networks!
Imagine, e.g., a Cohort of Catholic
Schools, Lutheran Schools,
Montessori Schools, or Girls Schools

Chart Options

Cohort

CA schools ✓

High poverty schools

Rural schools

Suburban schools

Small city schools

Large city schools

Small size schools

Large size schools

Charter schools

PBL schools

STEM schools

None

Subgroup

School ✓

School Masked

Grade Level

Free-Reduced Priced Lunch

Gender

Race/Ethnicity

Self-Reported Grades

English Language Learners

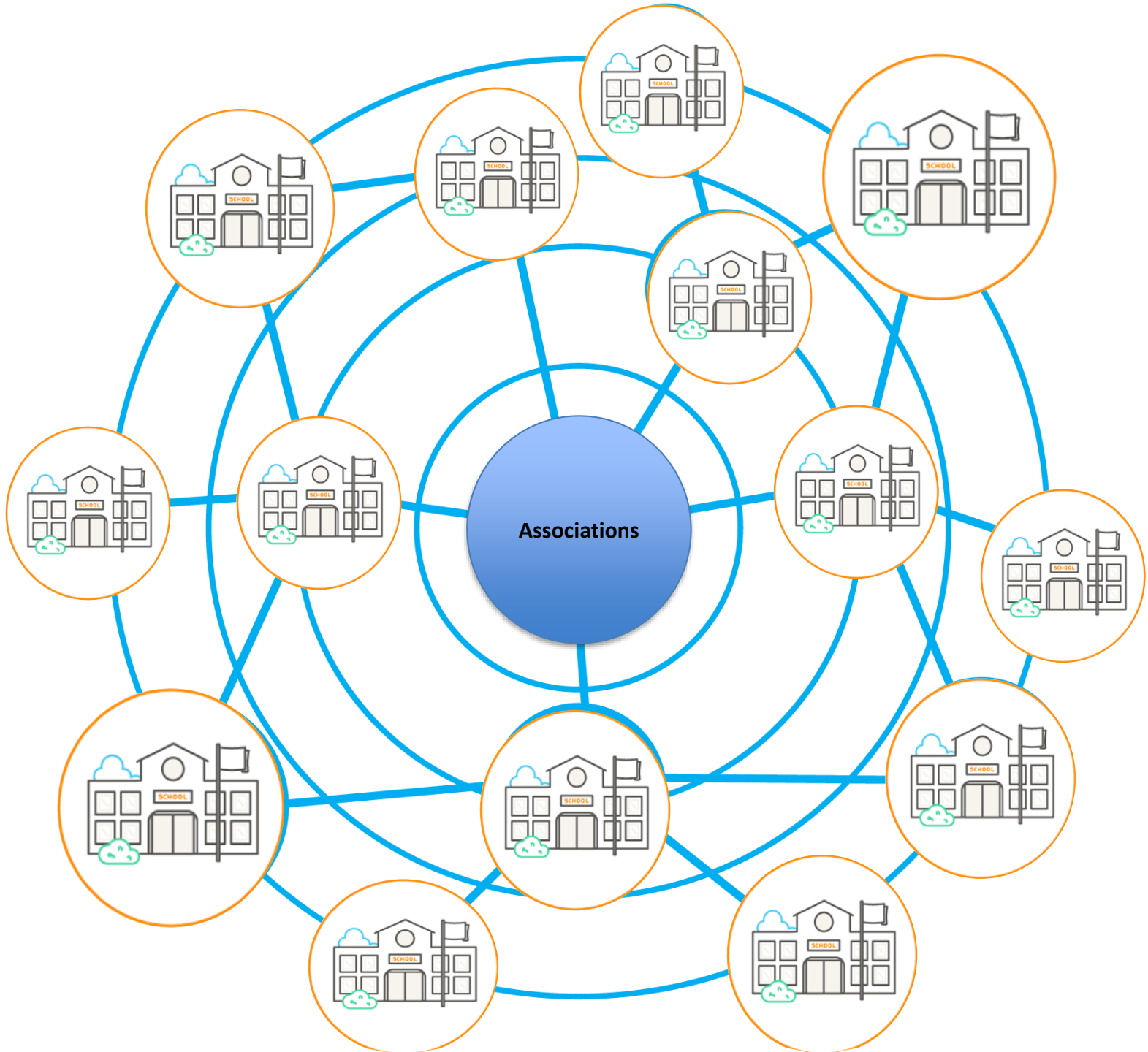
Special Education

None

Past Results

On

Close



Final Friendly Provocations! Thoughts?

- Accrediting Associations should challenge and support members to continuously improve – to get better at getting better!
- Listening to students is a good, smart, and strategic way to improve
- Research tells us that student voice is a critical ingredient in school improvement
- Student voice should be a key ingredient in the Accreditation Process
- Also: Markets are demanding more than a “secret sauce” description of a school’s valued add.
- Serving as a network improvement hub is good, smart, and strategic for Associations!
- 21st Century Schools Need 21st Century Associations

Next Steps? Questions?

- ✓ **Spread the word! Invite us to speak at an in-person meeting of academic leaders or on a webinar**
- ✓ **Make your association a hub of continuous improvement: Build a data-rich network of schools to do the work together!**

Thank you!

Dr. Jennifer de Forest
Partnership Lead
YouthTruth
jend@youthtruthsurvey.org

Pricing

At a Glance		Student Survey	Add the Family Survey	Add the Staff Survey	Survey All School Stakeholders
Survey & Project Management	Survey Administration, Analysis, Reporting, & Project Management	\$1,400 or \$1,200 with 3-year package	\$500	\$300	\$2,200 or \$2,000 with 3-year package
per school per round	Add Additional Topics	\$50 per topic			

Other Possible Offerings

- ✓ A custom comparison group
- ✓ Group-Specific set of custom questions
- ✓ Webinar or in-person data inquiry trainings for participants
- ✓ Student voice workshops
- ✓ Research and presentation on aggregate findings