

Student: School Culture Audit

Directions / Description

This audit is designed to help you evaluate how your **school community builds belonging**. We recommend printing out this document so that you can carry it around your school with you as you fill it out. The goal is to discuss your findings with others and create an action plan to build belonging where you think it is needed most. For anonymity, we also recommend not putting your or anyone else's name on the document. As you engage with each question, try to consider how other students "like you" and "different from you" might answer. It is up to you to determine who you consider to be "like you" and "different from you"!

Note: Whenever you see a blank space like this " _____," it is an invitation to fill in your own option!

Self-Reflection

What identities are you most aware of when in school?

- ❖ Either circle the identities you feel most aware of or, for more privacy, just keep them in mind as you complete the rest of this audit.

Potential identities:

- | | |
|---------------|-----------------------------------|
| ● Ethnicity | ● Country of Origin |
| ● Race | ● Interest(s) |
| ● Religion | ● Activity |
| ● Gender | ● Specific Physical Appearance(s) |
| ● Orientation | ● _____ |

Consider:

- How the identities you are most aware of change based on location: classroom, hallway, lunch, auditorium, after-school,
- How the identities you're most aware of in these spaces influence your responses to the audit questions.

1. Do you see people with your identities celebrated:

	Rarely	Sometimes	Often
In the hallway	☐	☐	☐
During whole school meetings/assemblies	☐	☐	☐
In school newspapers or school publications	☐	☐	☐
In audio announcements	☐	☐	☐
On bulletins	☐	☐	☐
Anywhere else? ----- -----			

2. Do you feel invited to join/participate in school:

❖ Specify if you wish, for example, if you feel welcome in one club but not another

	Rarely	Sometimes	Often
Performances:----- -----	☐	☐	☐
Clubs:----- -----	☐	☐	☐
Teams:----- -----	☐	☐	☐

School Elections	☐	☐	☐
Activities: _____ _____ _____	☐	☐	☐
Anywhere else? _____ _____ _____			

If you selected, rarely, or sometimes, what is it about these organizations/events that make you feel uninvited? Do you think other students feel the same?

3. Do you feel like you have an ☐ adult or ☐ several adults in the school that make you feel invited/encouraged to join:

- ☐ In classroom discussions
- ☐ In learning challenging academic material
- ☐ In multiple school activities, such as _____
- ☐ In leadership roles inside and outside of school

Classroom

1. When you learn about people who you consider to be “like you”* in class ...

○ *In total for the year, how much time is dedicated:*

- ☐ No time is dedicated to people “like me”
- ☐ Part of a lesson/day
- ☐ A whole lesson/day
- ☐ Multiple days
- ☐ More than one week
- ☐ A quarter
- ☐ A semester
- ☐ More than half of the year
- ☐ People “like me” are involved in some part of every lesson throughout the year

○ *The majority of the lesson(s) are from*

- ☐ Multiple perspectives
- ☐ One perspective that
 - Paints people “like you” mostly as:
 - ☐ Passive Victims
 - ☐ Active Villans
 - ☐ Bystanders
 - ☐ Positive Agents of Social Change

○ *During discussions that involve people “like you”*

- Does your teacher ask you to speak for or represent all people “like you”? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Do your peers? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Does your teacher ☐ ask or ☐ expect you to educate your peers?
 - *If you selected yes to any of the boxes above,*

How does this make you feel? How might you communicate your feelings to an adult? What would your desired outcome of that conversation be?

2. In classroom settings, how do you feel about sharing your ideas:

Circle the boxes that feel most accurate

Adults and Peers:			
Often deny your participation	Occasionally value your participation	Often value your participation	Actively requested your participation
Your insights and perspectives are often questioned or rejected	Sometimes your insights and perspectives are respected	Your insights and perspectives are often respected	Make an effort to seek out your insights and perspective

3. Do you feel like your school community supports each other?

- Do you feel like you have a ☐ teacher or ☐ several teachers who seem to support students "like you" by

- ☐ Setting high expectations for all of you and your peers
- ☐ Showing interest in you and your peer's dreams for the future
- ☐ Showing care for you and your peers' families' wellbeing

- Do students support each other?

- With Academics:**

- ☐ Share notes with absent students
- ☐ Study together / share appropriate study materials
- ☐ Remind each other about upcoming quizzes/tests
- ☐ Encourage each other to try new challenges
- ☐ _____

- In Social Spaces:**

- ☐ Include people who express a desire for community:
 - ☐ In the lunchroom
 - ☐ During whole school moments
 - ☐ After-school
- ☐ Invite new people to join:
 - ☐ Clubs
 - ☐ Teams
 - ☐ Activities

- ☐ Create accessible spaces where everyone can access joy:
 - ☐ *Safety*: ☐ supervised and ☐ welcoming to all
 - ☐ *Financially*: ☐ free or ☐ accessibly priced
 - ☐ *Location*: ☐ ADA Accessible (ex: wheelchair ramp or elevator) ☐ easily found by all
 - ☐ *Transportation*: ☐ public or ☐ private transport
 - ☐ *Communication*: ☐ promotional /information materials are in all needed languages ☐ language access/translation options are present
- **With Resources:**
 - ☐ Connect peers in need to resources: food/clothing/technology/school supply shares and/or drives
 - ☐ Connect peers in need to organizations in the community

School Community

1. What is the social environment like in community spaces?

- Evaluate on a scale of 1 to 5, where;
 - 1 is not at all, and 5 is extremely

	1	2	3	4	5
In The Hallway					
Welcomed	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Joyful	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Engaged	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Safe	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Stressed	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Lonely	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
In The Lunchroom					
Welcomed	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Joyful	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Engaged	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Safe	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Stressed	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Lonely	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
In The Auditorium					
Welcomed	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Joyful	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Engaged	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Safe	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Stressed	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Lonely	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
In The Gym					
Welcomed	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Joyful	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Engaged	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Safe	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Stressed	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Lonely	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
What do you notice about your school community spaces based on your answers above?					

2. What languages are materials translated in?

In the Hallways:	
In your Classrooms:	
In Extra Curricular Activities:	

3. What different types of celebrations are there at your school?

- ☐ Academic Achievements
- ☐ Sports Team Achievements
- ☐ Artistic Performance Showcases
- ☐ Town Historic Event
- ☐ Seasonal / Weather Related Event
- ☐ Diverse Heritage History Months
- ☐ Culturally Specific Holidays

○ **If so, which ones**

4. How does your school celebrate stories of migration and immigration?

New Students

1. How do you know when you have a new student in your class?

--

2. How are new students treated?

By other students:	
By school staff:	

3. Are they easily welcomed into:

- ☐ Friend Groups
- ☐ Activities
- ☐ Clubs
- ☐ Teams
- ☐ -----

4. How long do you think it would take for a new student to feel like they belong?

--

Why do you think that it takes that length of time?

5. How does the way new students are treated highlight the culture of belonging at your school?

6. What is one thing/action/initiative you can do/start/or support to help make new students feel like they belong in your school community?

❖ **Consider:** What is one thing/action/initiative you would want done for you if you were a new student at your school?