



# WOODBRIDGE SCHOOL DISTRICT

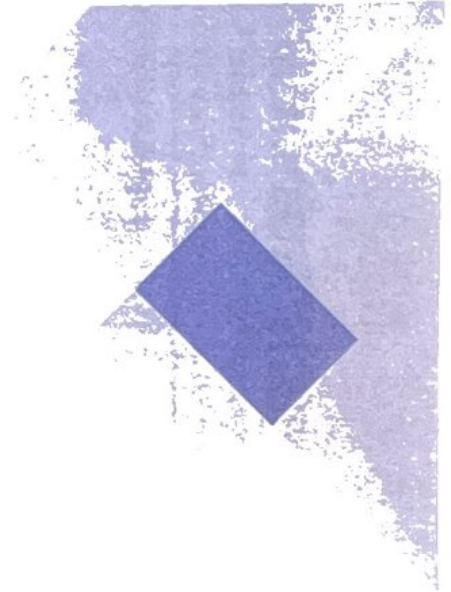
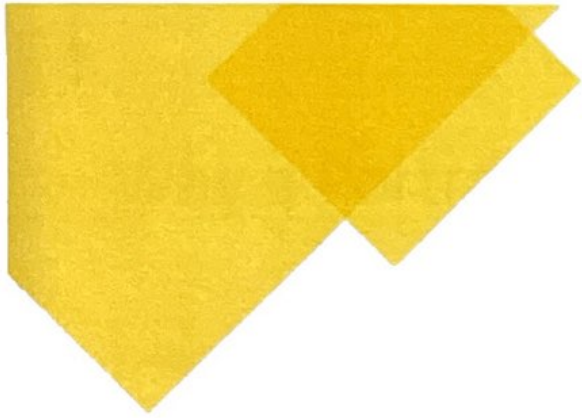
40 Beecher Road - South  
Woodbridge, Connecticut 06525

Jonathan S. Budd, Ph.D. – Superintendent

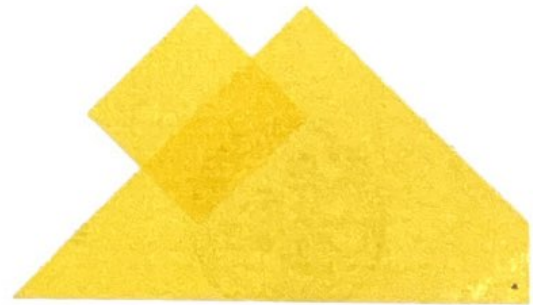
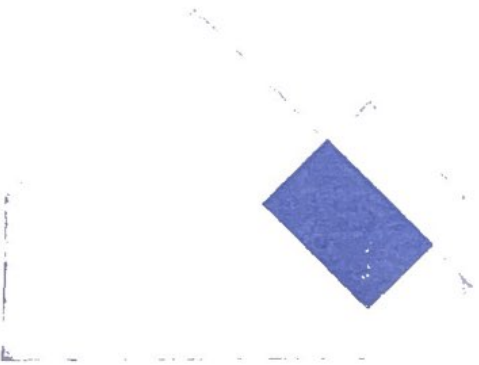
## MEMORANDUM

TO: Woodbridge Board of Education  
FROM: Jonathan S. Budd, Ph.D., Superintendent  
DATE: November 11, 2021  
RE: BOWA Portrait of the Graduate

The Amity Regional School District No. 5 has undertaken a process to develop a "Portrait of the Graduate." This month, the Bethany, Orange, and Woodbridge Superintendents have been asked to present the attached to our respective Boards of Education and to receive feedback to be shared with the Amity District to consider as its process continues.



# BOWA Portrait of the Graduate




# Why a Portrait of the Graduate

- Outlines the skills, knowledge, and dispositions that students across all grade levels should have in order to be ready for the world beyond.
- It is a promise that we make to ALL our students.
- Reflects what the community values for our graduates.






## Both a **Beginning** and an End

- Helps with strategic planning
  - Clarify Vision and Mission Statements
  - Assist in developing district and school goals
  - Drives curricular and pedagogical decision-making
  - Guide budget priorities and decisions
  - Create a cohesive K-12 instructional framework
- 



## Both a Beginning and an **End**

- Aspiration we have for all our learners - ultimately it is the end product that we nurture and develop in our students and for our students.
  - We want to measure benchmarks along the way by identifying when, where, and how we deliberately support students in attaining the Portrait of the Graduate.
  - When our students graduate, we want to know that that have the skills, knowledge, and dispositions of our POG.
- 

# Initial Steps

## **POG EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

- Identified an Executive POG Committee
  - 2 MS
  - 2 ARHS
  - Amity Superintendent
- Participated in NEASC Training
- Set Timeline
- Planned Process

## **COMMITMENT OF BOWA SUPERINTENDENTS**

- Presented to BOW Superintendents
- Commitment of BOW parents
- Commitment of BOW staff

# Thank You

*Andrea Drewry*

*Kathy Burke*

*Anna Mahon*

*Miguel Pickering*

*Colleen Murray*

*Dr. Vince Scarpetti*

*Dr. Jonathan Budd*

# Community Surveys

- Administered & received 2,340 surveys and ~14,000 responses
  - ARHS Teachers
  - AMS Teachers
  - Elementary Teachers (BOW)
  - Parents (BOWA)
  - High School Students
  - Middle School Students
  - Business Leaders (Career Day contacts)
  - Post-Secondary Leaders (CT College Contacts)





# Survey Design – Closed & Open Questions; Academic & Social/Emotional Prompts

## Section 2 of 3

What 3 academic skills do you feel students need to be prepared for success when they graduate from high school?

Your response should be a different word or short phrase in each box below

Write one academic skill in the space below \*

Short answer text

Write a second academic skill in the space below. \*

Long answer text

Write a third academic skill in the space below. \*

Long answer text

If you were able to talk to your students when they start their senior year of high school, what are three lasting impacts you would hope they would identify from their time at Amity Middle School?

Description (optional)

Write one lasting impact in the box below \*

Short answer text

Write a second lasting impact in the box below. \*

Long answer text

Write a third lasting impact in the box below. \*

Long answer text

# POG Committee

- Teachers and Administrators
  - From all 4 Districts
- Parents
  - Represented all 3 Towns
  - Represented Elementary, Middle, High Students
- Career and College Contacts
- Board of Education Rep

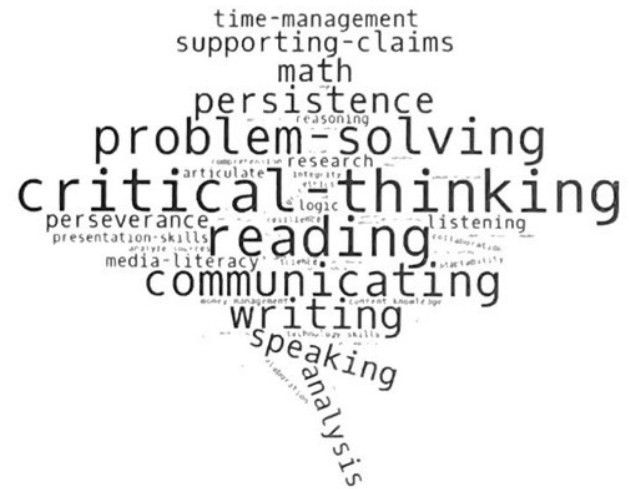


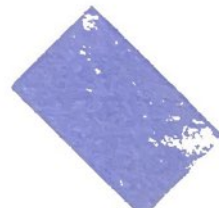
# Wordles – Closed Questions

ACADEMIC 4





ACADEMIC 1





## LOTS of Data Analysis, Discussion, & Revision

**Based on survey results – not  
our own opinions or  
interpretation of the  
categories identified**



# Identify & Define Categories

## ORIGINAL CATEGORIES

PROBLEM SOLVING

ORGANIZATION

INDEPENDENCE

COMMUNICATION

COLLABORATOR

EMPATHY

CHARACTER

SELF-REGULATION

ACADEMIC\*

- Used Open Responses to Clarify & Define the Categories
  - Based on survey results – not our own interpretation of the category
- Reduced the number of categories into 5 characteristics

# Thank You

- Angela Mordecai – Bethany/Elementary Parent Rep
- Ann Spoerndle – Orange/Middle School Parent Rep
- Amy McGonagle – Woodbridge/High School Parent Rep
- James Bruni – Bethany Staff Rep
- Evelyn Russo – Orange Staff Rep
- Andrea Drewry – AMSB Staff Rep
- Matt Williams - AMSO Staff Rep
- Bryan Nesteriak – Career/Business Partner Rep
- Maria Mongillo – College/Post-Secondary Rep
- Reidun Wallin – ARHS Staff Rep
- Xia Feng – ARHS Staff Rep
- Wendy Carafiello – ARHS Staff Rep
- Steve DeMaio – BOE Rep
- Jason Tracy – AMSB Administrator
- Jill LaPlante – Amity Director of Counseling

# PORTRAIT OF THE GRADUATE

The BOWA Portrait of the Graduate illustrates a self-aware citizen who, through a determined course of scholastic experiences, displays the following characteristics...



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## COLLABORATOR

A collaborator is a learner who is an active contributor and works inclusively with others toward a goal while being aware of their presence on the world and the world's impact on them.

- Listens openly to various perspectives
- Self-advocates respectfully for one's own ideas
- Establishes meaningful and appropriate connections
- Recognizes themselves as a steward of a greater community
- Demonstrates humility



## COMMUNICATOR

A communicator is a learner who is able to clearly, confidently and effectively read, write, speak and listen across various formats and contexts.

- Connects and understands their own thoughts, needs, and perspectives as well as those of others
- Engages and empowers others
- Takes an active role when listening and in expressing thoughts and opinions
- Takes risks to have difficult and courageous conversations to communicate divergent perspectives
- Understands their audience and adjusts the message



## EMPATHIZER

An empathizer is a learner who continuously grows their capacity to understand multiple perspectives.

- Acknowledges the feelings of others
- Demonstrates compassion
- Respects differences
- Helps and supports others



## PROBLEM SOLVER

A problem solver is a learner who embraces challenges with curiosity, passion, and creativity while thinking critically to arrive at a variety of possible solutions.

- Observes and ask questions willingly
- Analyzes and synthesizes information
- Perseveres through adversity
- Acknowledges limitations



## PLANNER

A planner is a learner who is able to independently balance demands, responsibilities, and priorities to fulfill their goals, obligations, and aspirations.

- Manages time
- Makes choices that promote their own wellness
- Engages in reflection for individual improvement
- Understands financial responsibility
- Seeks joy and contentment



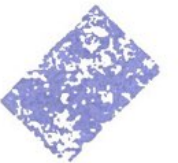


Thank You

*Lisa Lassen – Data Organization*

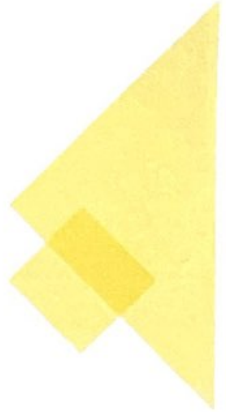
*Jessica Zamachaj – Graphic Design Artist*

*Matt Stanley – Graphic Design Artist*



# Next Steps

- Presentation to BOWA Boards of Education
- Presentation to Stakeholder Focus Groups for feedback
  - Elementary, Middle, High Staff
  - Elementary, Middle, High Parents
  - Middle and High School Students
  - Surveys to Post-Secondary Education and Business Leaders
- Refine & Revise based on feedback
- Edit for final draft
- K-12 Vertical Alignment (What does it look like and When do we teach it?)
- Integration into Curriculum (How do we teach it?)
- Assessment (How do we know when students attain it?)



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