



Portrait of an Oak Park 8th Grade Graduate

**COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT UPDATE**

June 11, 2024
D97 Board of Education Meeting



Meet the Portrait Design Team

June 2024

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Chief Learning Innovation Officer

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Director, Superintendent's Office

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Communications and Engagement Manager



Portrait Design Team Acknowledgements

The following D97 administrators and educators provided essential supports to ensure a successful community engagement process:

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Patrick Robinson
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Michaela Ruff
Dr. Felicia Starks-Turner
Cheryl Sullivan
Arnetta Thompson
Katie Trathen
Rasheedah Williams

We are also grateful for the participation and support of community members who participated in our affinity group sessions in Fall 2023. Many of these individuals also participated in our data review process and provided valuable perspectives that directly impacted our Portrait design.



Portrait Update

June 2024

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TIMELINE CHECK-IN

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**LOOKING BACK: PORTRAIT
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D97 PORTRAIT DIMENSIONS

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NEXT STEPS

Portrait Timeline Check-In





Portrait Timeline

October 2023

- ✓ Review digital toolkit
- ✓ Plan staff engagement
- ✓ Plan affinity-based listening sessions
- ✓ Provide community update

February and March 2024

- ✓ Community-wide engagement process to get feedback on the Portrait

November 2023

- ✓ Hold staff design sessions
- ✓ Hold affinity-based listening sessions (Black families, multilingual, students with disabilities, elders)

Spring 2024

- ✓ Data/feedback analysis by senior leadership, teacher design team and affinity groups
- ✓ Develop final recommendations for updates
- ✓ Share draft Portrait of an 8th Grade Graduate with the Board and community

Ongoing updates during Board business meetings



Looking Back: Portrait Design Process





Planning Objectives

Priorities for the Portrait Planning Team *(Shared in September 2023)*



Inclusive Engagement

Design multiple pathways for feedback.

Prioritize affinity-based groups (Black families, multilingual, students with disabilities, LGBTQ+, elders).



Proximity

Utilize the strong connections between staff/families and schools by creating site-based engagement opportunities.



Marketing/ Engagement Tools

Develop a digital engagement toolkit for our schools.

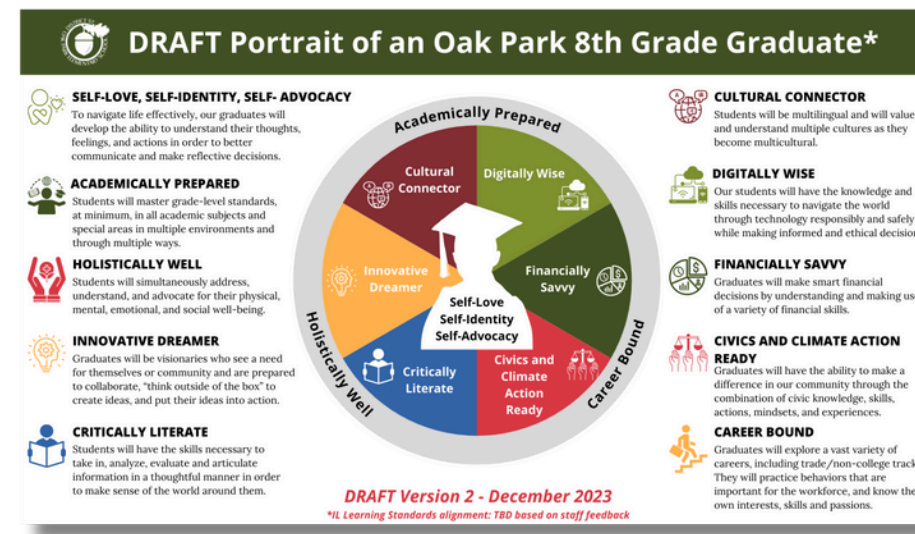


D97 Portrait Story: How We Got Here



VERSION 1

In Fall 2023, D97 educators developed a “Version 1” of our draft Portrait that reflects initial thinking around core competencies and learning standards that we believe will be critical to student success. These draft dimensions were then used to generate conversations and feedback during our first round of listening sessions with affinity groups.



VERSION 2

The conversations from our affinity sessions shaped how we moved forward with our Portrait this winter. “Version 2” of the Portrait reflects key feedback and was expanded by our teacher design team to include learning goals and standards across all grade levels.

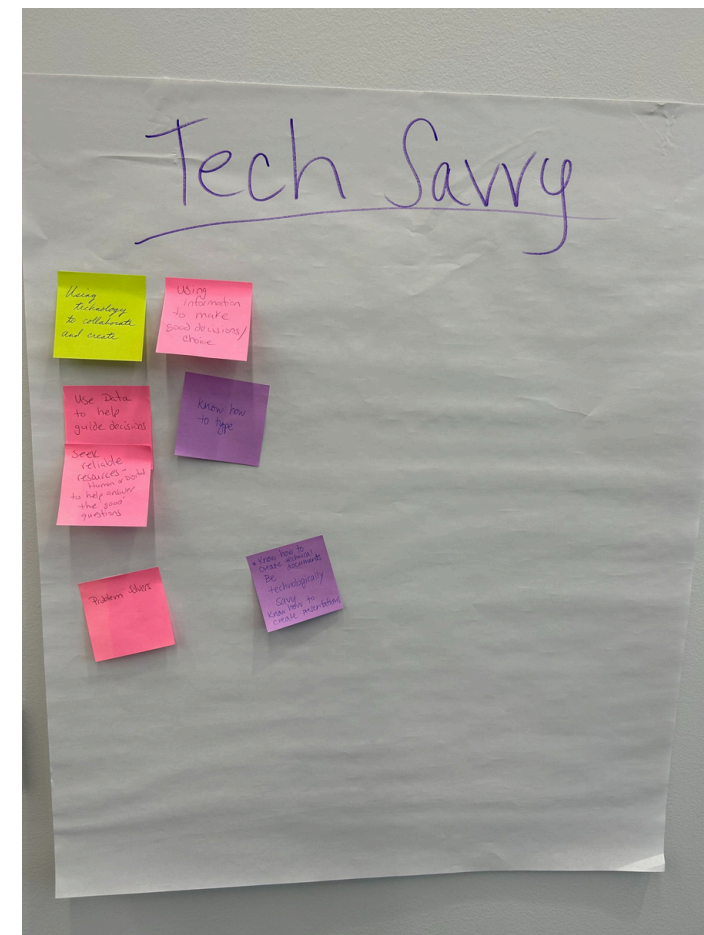
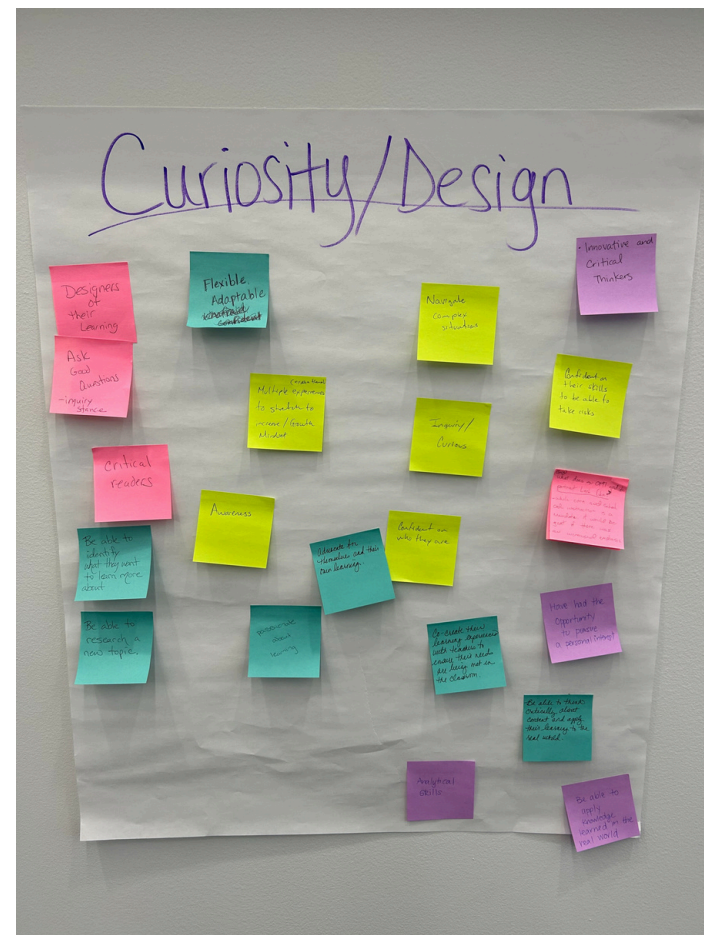
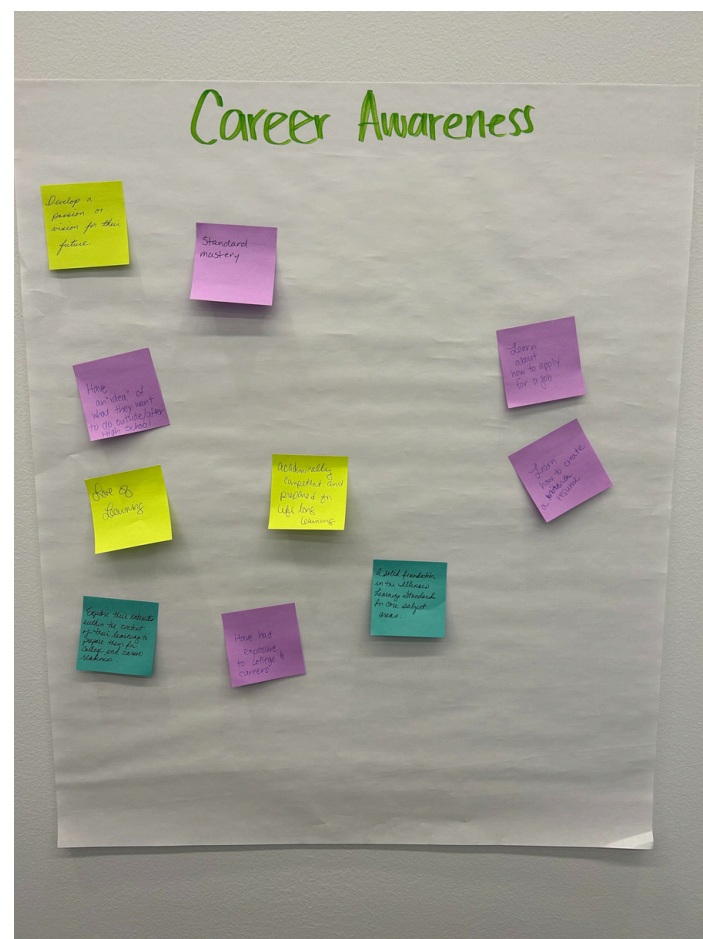
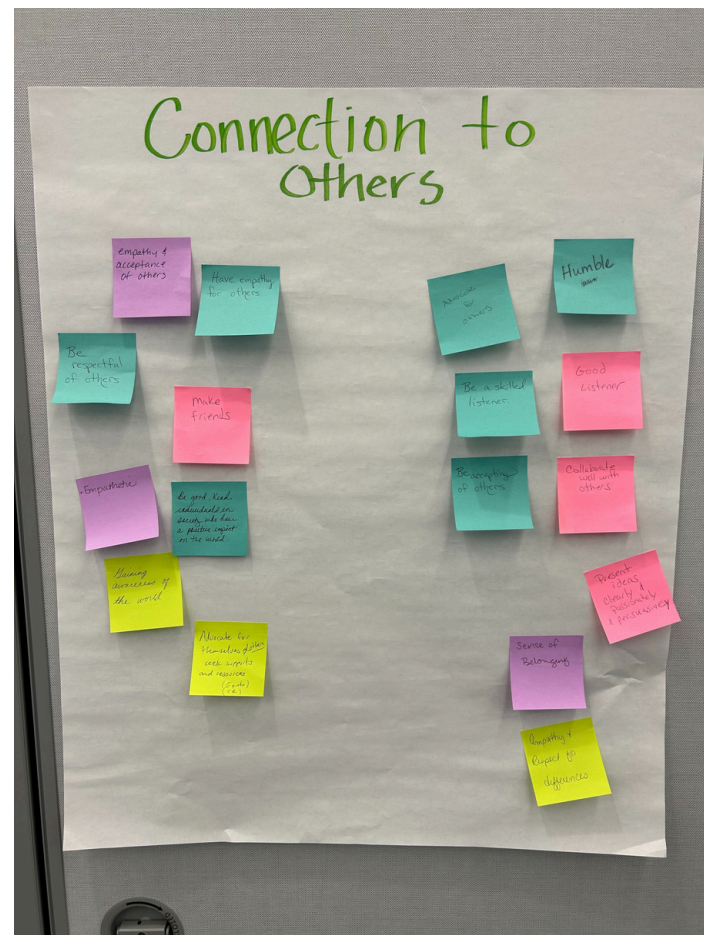


VERSION 3

Our winter engagement events provided the entire community with opportunities to weigh in on the draft Portrait. We’re excited to share the outcome of this collaborative work tonight!



Portrait Version 1 (Summer 2023): Brainstorm with District Senior Leadership





Portrait Version 1 (October 2023): Design Session with Core Instruction Team



- Members of the D97 Core Instruction Team met to craft family-friendly definitions of our “Version 1” Portrait dimensions.
- Draft Version 1 dimensions and definitions were then used to generate conversation and feedback in our affinity-based listening sessions.



Portrait Version 1 (November 2023): Community Engagement Design Session



- A group of 30+ District 97 educators (teachers, administrators) came together for a community engagement design session with Greater Good Studio.
- Work was used to develop a process plan for inclusive community engagement, rooted in human-centered design.



Portrait Version 1 (Fall 2023): Draft Dimensions Shared with Affinity Groups

 **VERSION 1 DRAFT DIMENSIONS:**
Portrait of an Oak Park 8th Grade Graduate

 **SELF-AWARE**
To navigate life effectively, our graduates will develop the ability to understand their thoughts, feelings, and actions in order to better communicate and make reflective decisions.

 **INNOVATOR/DREAMER**
Our graduates will be visionaries who see a need for themselves or community and are prepared to collaborate, "think outside of the box" to create ideas, and put their ideas into action.

 **DIGITALLY WISE**
Our students will have the knowledge and skills necessary to navigate the world through technology responsibly and safely while making informed and ethical decisions.

 **STEWARD OF THE EARTH**
Students will make better environmental choices and advocate for helping our planet.

 **FINANCIALLY SAVVY**
Graduates will make smart financial decisions by understanding and making use of a variety of financial skills.

 **CIVICS-READY**
Graduates will have the ability to make a difference in our community through the combination of civic knowledge, skills, actions, mindsets, and experiences.

 **HOLISTICALLY WELL**
Students will simultaneously address, understand, and advocate for their physical, mental, emotional, and social well-being.

 **CAREER-BOUND**
Graduates will explore a vast variety of careers, including trade/non-college track. They will practice behaviors that are important for the workforce, and know their own interests, skills and passions.

 **CRITICALLY LITERATE**
Students will have the skills necessary to take in, analyze, evaluate and articulate information in a thoughtful manner in order to make sense of the world around them.

 **MULTILINGUAL**
District 97 graduates will be multilingual and will value and accept different cultures.

 **VERSIÓN 1 DE BORRADOR DIMENSIONES:**
Retrato de un graduado de octavo grado de Oak Park

 **AUTOCONSCIENTE**
Para navegar la vida de manera efectiva, nuestros graduados desarrollarán la capacidad de comprender sus pensamientos, sentimientos y acciones para comunicarse mejor y tomar decisiones reflexivas.

 **INNOVADOR/SOÑADOR**
Nuestros graduados serán visionarios que ven una necesidad para ellos mismos o para la comunidad y están preparados para colaborar, "pensar fuera de lo común" para crear ideas y ponerlas en acción.

 **DIGITAL SABIO**
Nuestros estudiantes tendrán el conocimiento y las habilidades necesarias para navegar por el mundo a través de la tecnología de manera responsable y segura mientras toman decisiones informadas y éticas.

 **MAYORDOMO DE LA TIERRA**
Los estudiantes tomarán mejores decisiones ambientales y abogarán por ayudar a nuestro planeta.

 **CONOCIMIENTOS FINANCIEROS**
Los graduados tomarán decisiones financieras inteligentes al comprender y utilizar una variedad de habilidades financieras.

 **LISTO PARA LA CIUDAD**
Los graduados tendrán la capacidad de marcar la diferencia en nuestra comunidad a través de la combinación de conocimientos, habilidades, acciones, mentalidades y experiencias cívicas.

 **HOLISTICAMENTE BIEN**
Los estudiantes abordarán, comprenderán y defenderán simultáneamente su bienestar físico, mental, emocional y social.

 **OBLIGADO A LA CARRERA**
Los graduados explorarán una amplia variedad de carreras, incluidas las profesionales comerciales. Practicarán comportamientos que son importantes para la fuerza laboral y conocerán sus propios intereses, habilidades y pasiones.

 **ALFABETIZACIÓN CRÍTICA**
Los estudiantes tendrán las habilidades necesarias para asimilar, analizar, evaluar y articular información de manera reflexiva para darle sentido al mundo que los rodea.

 **PLURILINGÜE**
Los graduados del Distrito 97 serán multilingües y valorarán y aceptarán diferentes culturas.



Affinity Listening Sessions: November 2023



- ✔ **Multilingual Families**
Tuesday, Nov. 7 - 6 p.m.
- ✔ **Families of Students with Disabilities**
Thursday, Nov. 9 - 6 p.m.
- ✔ **Black Families**
Monday, Nov. 13 - 6 p.m.
- ✔ **Oak Park Senior Citizens**
Wednesday, Nov. 15 - 12 p.m.
- ✔ **LGBTQ+ Families**
Tuesday, Nov. 28 - 6 p.m.



DRAFT Portrait of an Oak Park 8th Grade Graduate*



SELF-LOVE, SELF-IDENTITY, SELF-ADVOCACY

To navigate life effectively, our graduates will develop the ability to understand their thoughts, feelings, and actions in order to better communicate and make reflective decisions.



ACADEMICALLY PREPARED

Students will master grade-level standards, at minimum, in all academic subjects and special areas in multiple environments and through multiple ways.



HOLISTICALLY WELL

Students will simultaneously address, understand, and advocate for their physical, mental, emotional, and social well-being.



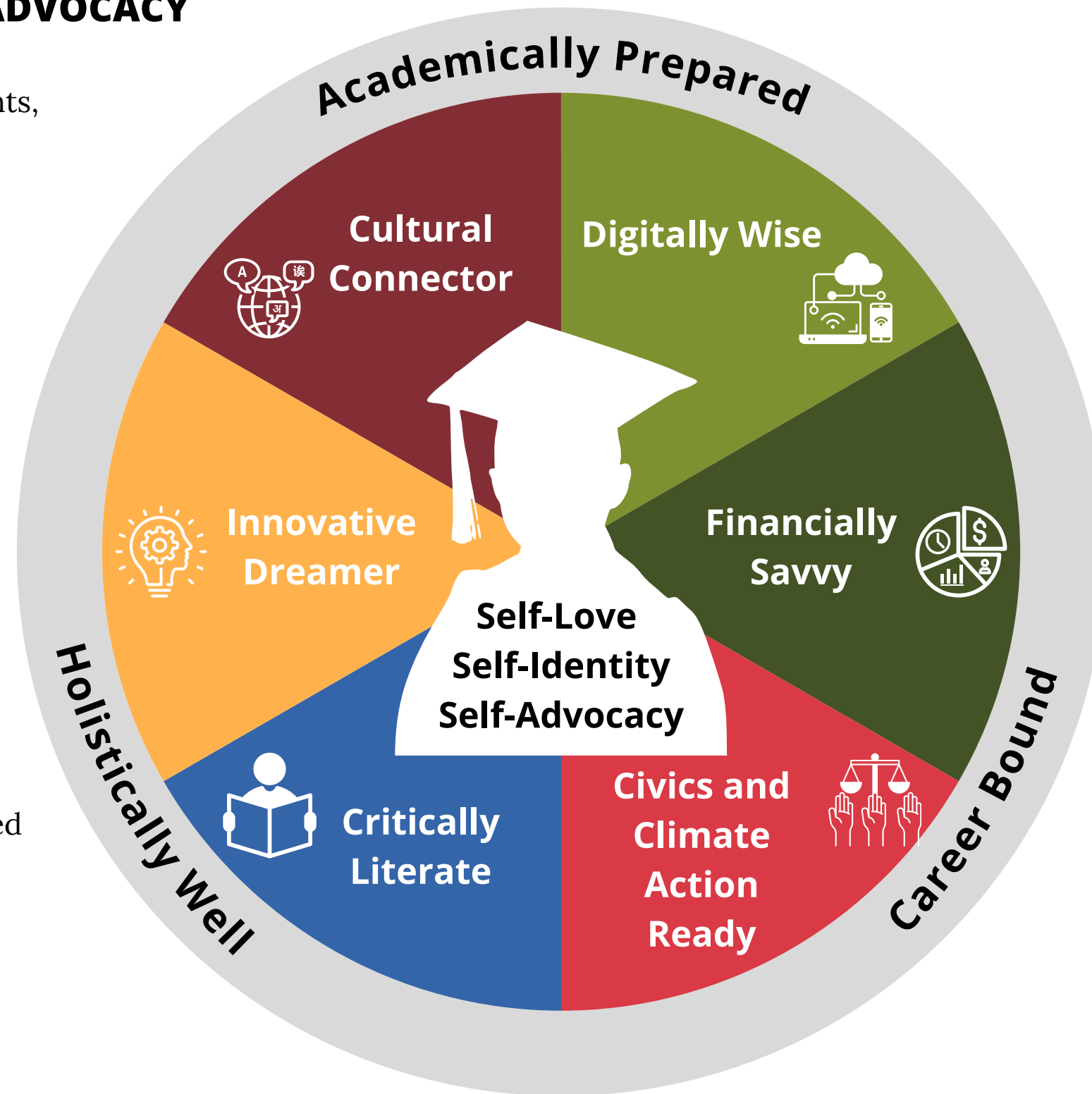
INNOVATIVE DREAMER

Graduates will be visionaries who see a need for themselves or community and are prepared to collaborate, “think outside of the box” to create ideas, and put their ideas into action.



CRITICALLY LITERATE

Students will have the skills necessary to take in, analyze, evaluate and articulate information in a thoughtful manner in order to make sense of the world around them.



CULTURAL CONNECTOR

Students will be multilingual and will value, and understand multiple cultures as they become multicultural.



DIGITALLY WISE

Our students will have the knowledge and skills necessary to navigate the world through technology responsibly and safely while making informed and ethical decisions.



FINANCIALLY SAVVY

Graduates will make smart financial decisions by understanding and making use of a variety of financial skills.



CIVICS AND CLIMATE ACTION READY

Graduates will have the ability to make a difference in our community through the combination of civic knowledge, skills, actions, mindsets, and experiences.



CAREER BOUND

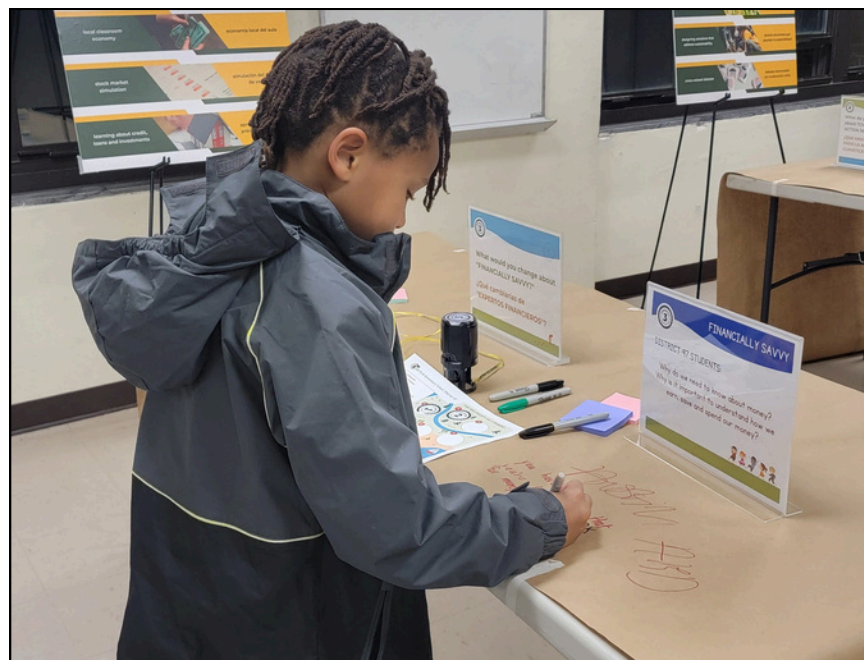
Graduates will explore a vast variety of careers, including trade/non-college track. They will practice behaviors that are important for the workforce, and know their own interests, skills and passions.

DRAFT Version 2 - December 2023

**IL Learning Standards alignment: TBD based on staff feedback*



Community-Wide Engagement: February and March 2024



Design Sessions

- 16 sessions total
 - 10 schools
 - 3 virtual
 - PTO Council
 - Affinity groups
 - D97 alumni/CRC



Online Feedback

Dozens of comments were submitted through our Let's Talk feedback form



Oak Park Middle School Student Survey

Our school district is working on its "Portrait of a Graduate." The Portrait of a Graduate is a set of skills that we want all graduating 8th graders to have. It goes beyond just things like reading and math, to talk about the full set of capabilities that make a successful, well-rounded person. Once we decide what those critical skills are, we will create experiences for kids from pre-K all the way through middle school that support students in learning and practicing those skills.

We are getting input from parents, teachers, and members of our community. Now it's your turn! Please consider what skills and experiences are most important to you, and share your thoughts honestly through this survey. We will read and consider every single response, so make yours count!

Middle School Survey

Brooks and Julian students had the opportunity to share their thoughts through a survey

Portrait Community Engagement Sessions: February and March 2024

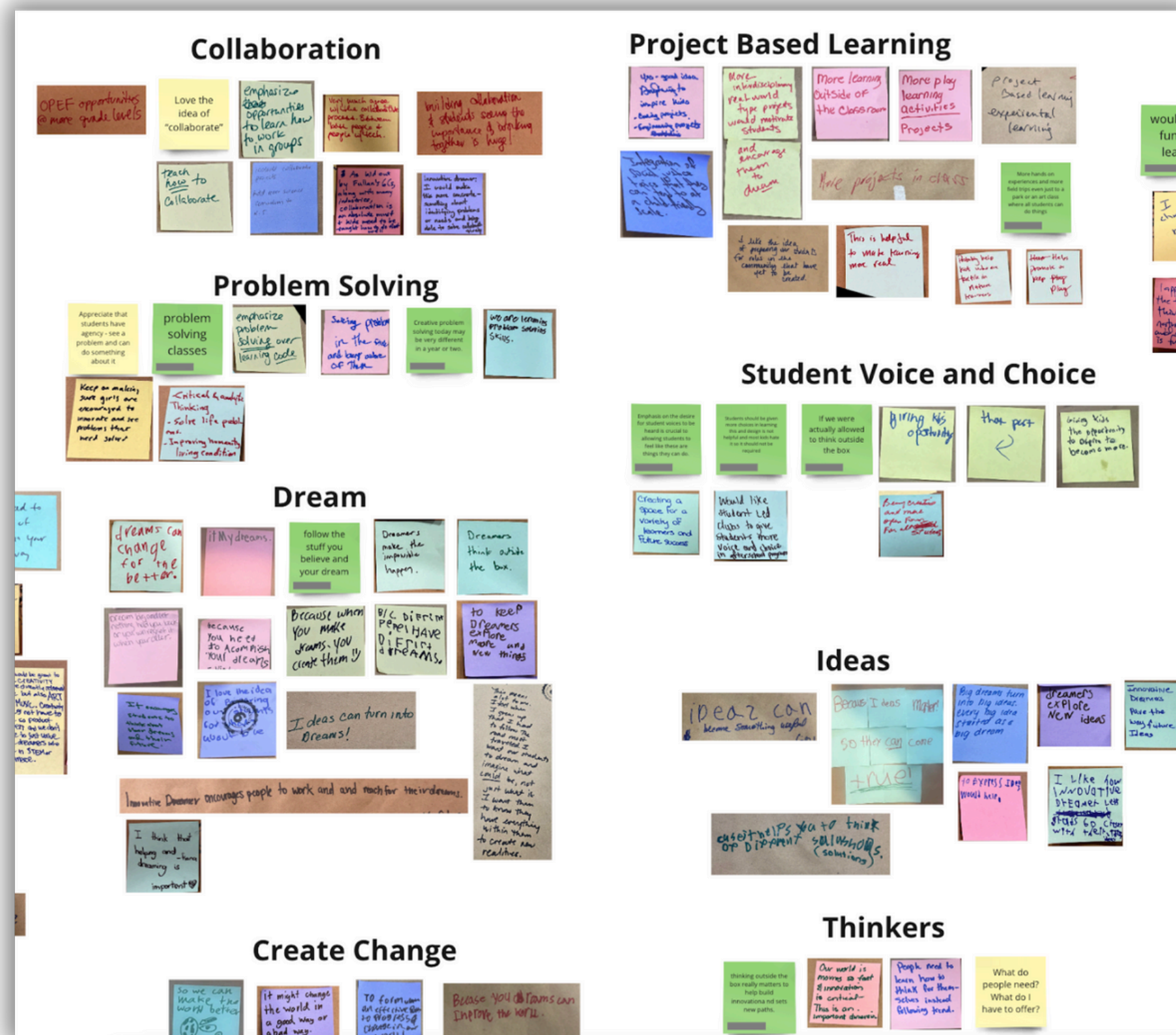




Portrait Feedback Review (April 2024)

In this final phase, D97 teachers and administrators collaborated with affinity group participants to review an enormous amount of data (**more than 2,600 unique data points!**) in small teams focused on each of the dimensions.

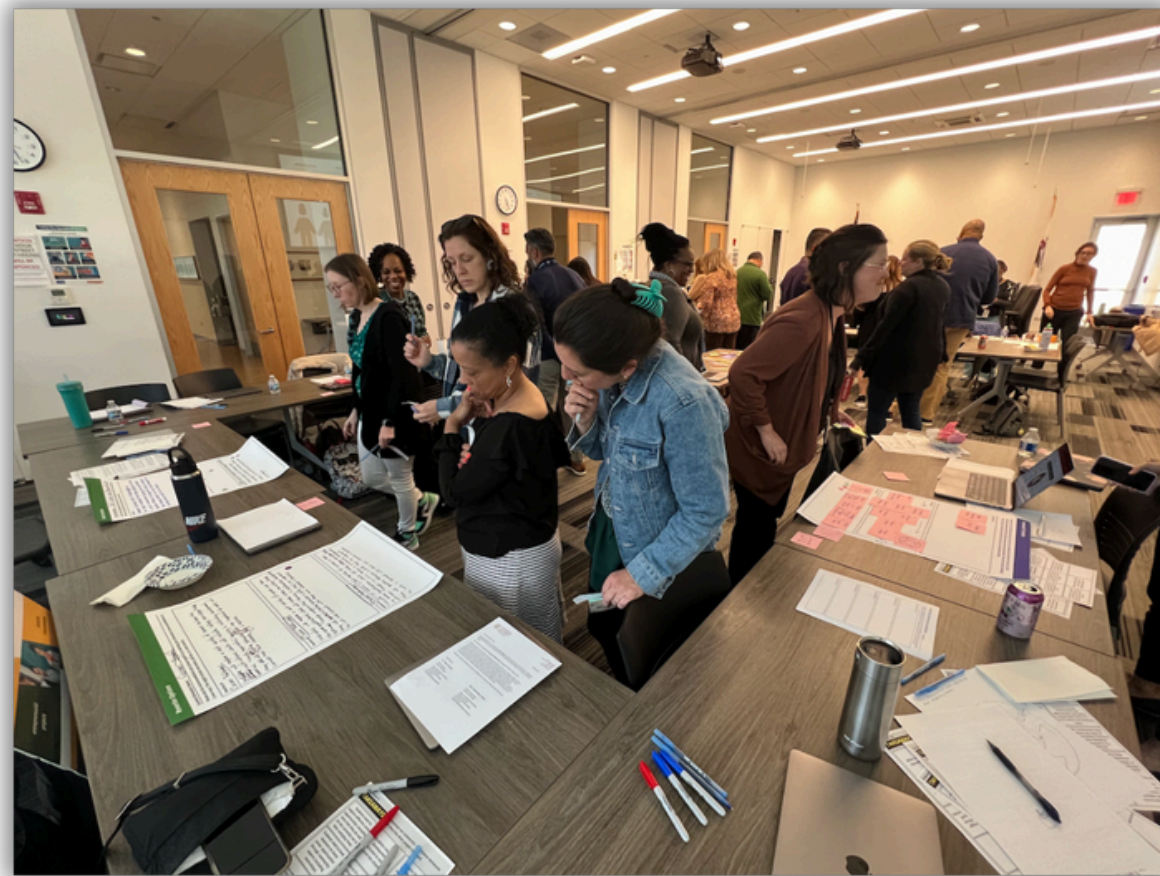
They clustered the data into themes, patterns of common topics, and wrote takeaways, or summaries of what they understood the community to be saying.





Portrait Feedback Review (April 2024)

D97 teachers and administrators gathered April 25, 2024, to analyze key takeaways from the data sorting and develop final recommendations.



Those recommendations were summarized in a final community engagement report by Greater Good Studio, and we're excited to share our dimensions with the community!

Portrait Dimensions





Portrait Dimensions

The following 8 dimensions represent the culmination of this community engagement process. Each word was carefully chosen by the Teacher Design Team to reflect both their educational expertise and the priorities and preferences of community members.



Global Connector



Powered by Literacy



Creative Dreamer



Holistically Well



Digital Navigator



Financially Savvy



Career Explorer



Change Agent



D97 Portrait of an 8th Grade Graduate

Recommended Dimension 1:



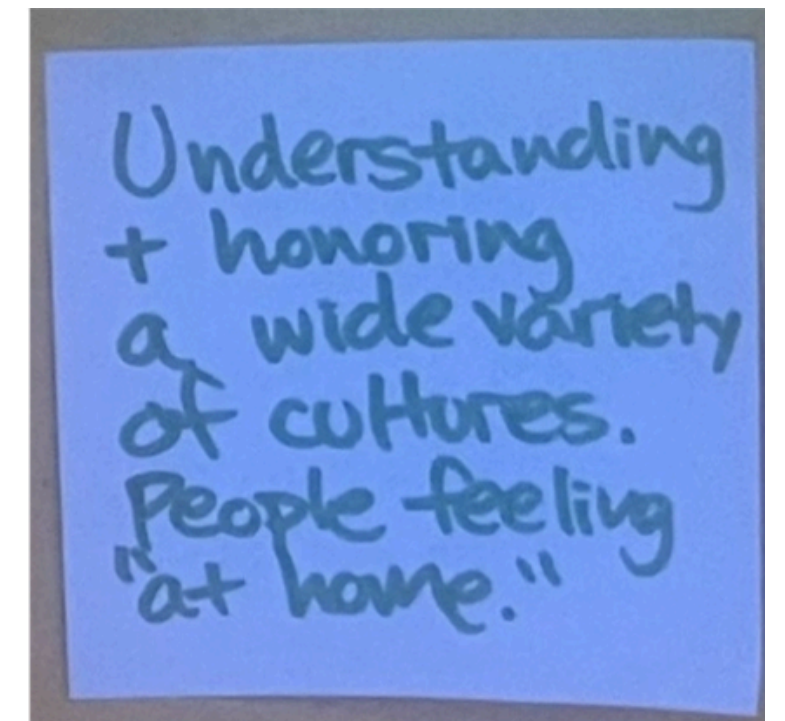
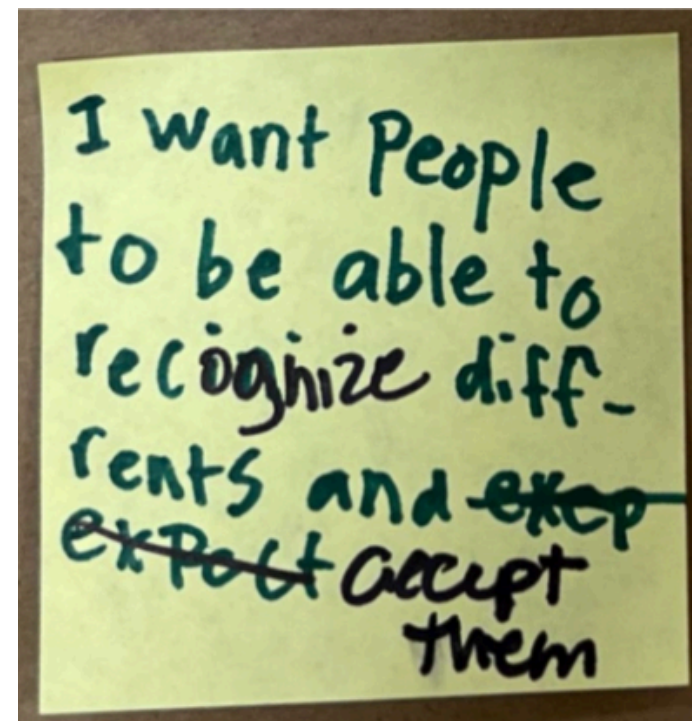
Global Connector

Students will be knowledgeable about world languages and global issues, will value and understand their own and other cultures, and will develop attitudes and values that help them live respectfully with others around the world.

Original:

Cultural Connector

Students will be multilingual and will value, and understand, multiple cultures as they become multicultural.





D97 Portrait of an 8th Grade Graduate

Recommended Dimension 2:



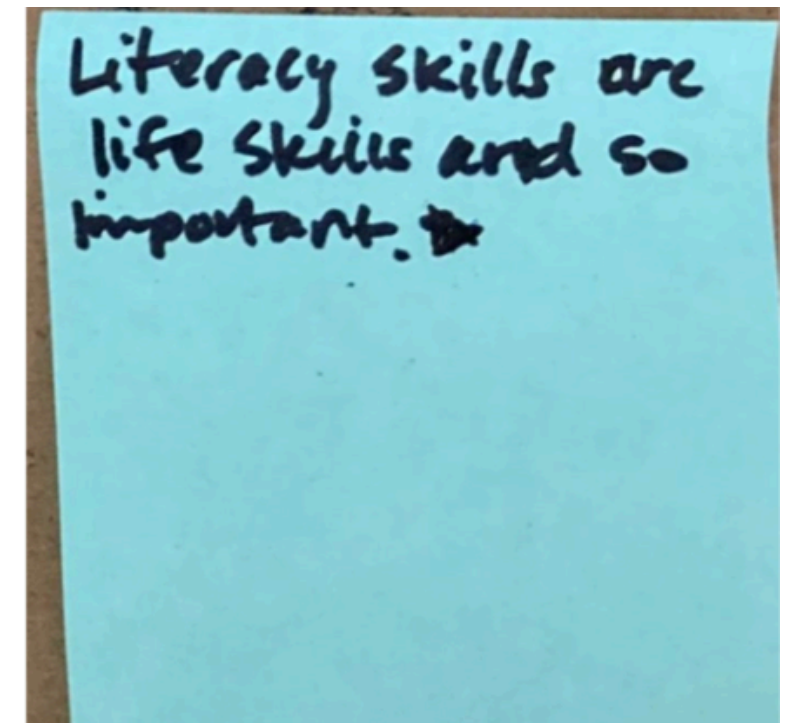
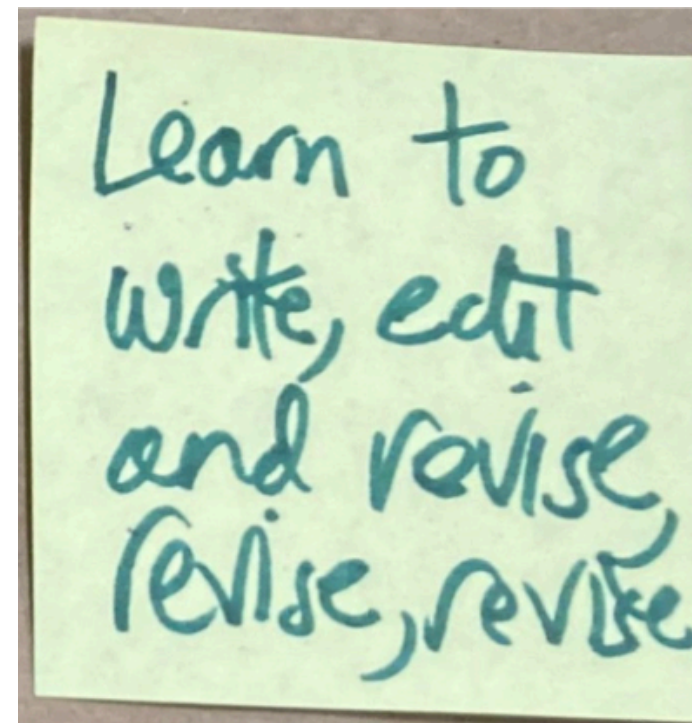
Powered by Literacy

Graduates will apply research-based practices to read, analyze, evaluate and articulate information in order to make sense of, question and challenge the world around them.

Original:

Critically Literate

Students will have the skills necessary to read, analyze, evaluate and articulate information in order to make sense of, question and challenge the world around them.





D97 Portrait of an 8th Grade Graduate

Recommended Dimension 3:



Creative Dreamer

Graduates will be innovators who collaborate with their community to “think outside of the box” and turn their dreams into action.

Original:

Innovative Dreamer

Graduates will be visionaries who see a need for themselves or community and are prepared to collaborate, “think outside of the box” to create ideas, and put their ideas into action.

emphasize
~~that~~
opportunities
to learn how
to work
in groups

I appreciate
the forward
thinking
nature / innovation
and creation
is future currency



D97 Portrait of an 8th Grade Graduate

Recommended Dimension 4:



Holistically Well

Students will develop skills to self-advocate for their physical, mental and social well-being. Students will understand their changing identities and develop skills to love themselves for who they are, and others for who they are.

Original:

Self-Love, Self-Identity, Self-Advocacy

To navigate life effectively, our graduates will develop the ability to understand their thoughts, feelings, and actions in order to better communicate and make reflective decisions.

Holistically Well

Students will simultaneously address, understand, and advocate for their physical, mental, emotional, and social well-being.

We can't expect
students to
be mentally present
for academics if
we don't prioritize
emotional health

journaling
for self-
discovery



D97 Portrait of an 8th Grade Graduate

Recommended Dimension 5:



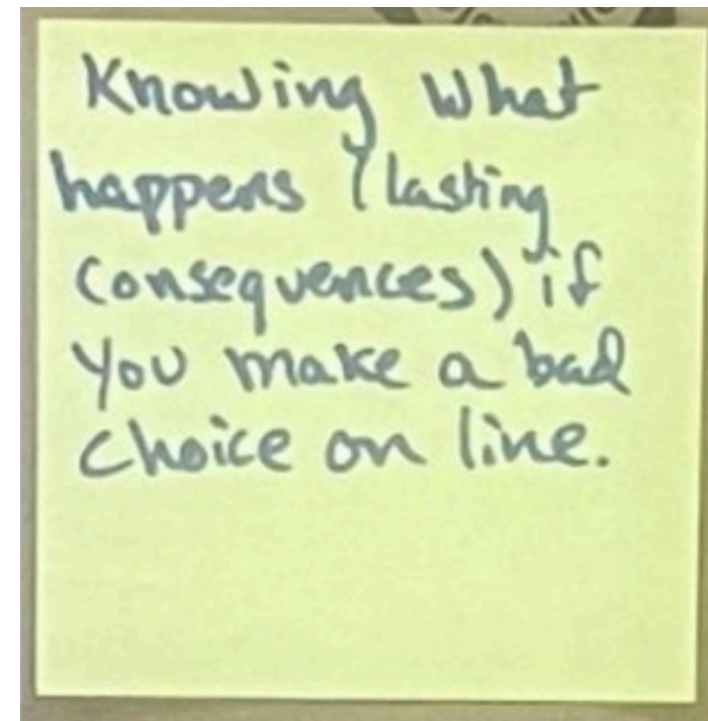
Digital Navigator

Our community will have the knowledge and skills necessary to navigate the world by using technology responsibly and safely, while making informed and respectful decisions.

Original:

Digitally Wise

Our students will have the knowledge and skills necessary to navigate the world through technology responsibly and safely while making informed and ethical decisions.



In favor of children being tech savvy, but electronics have many distractions

Digitally Wise



D97 Portrait of an 8th Grade Graduate

Recommended Dimension 6:



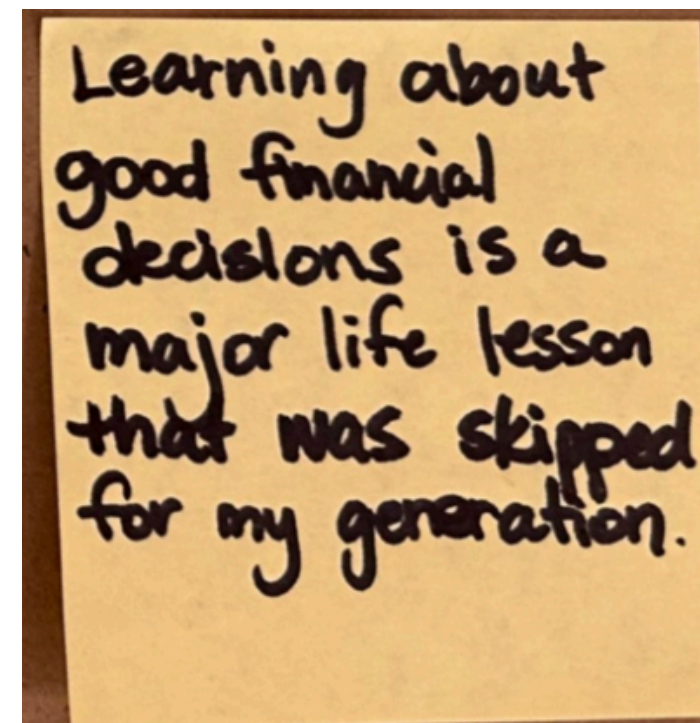
Financially Savvy

By practicing day-to-day financial life skills, graduates will make responsible and ethical decisions for the future.

Original:

Financially Savvy

Graduates will make smart financial decisions by understanding and making use of a variety of financial skills.



Wondering if there is a way for this to address income inequality and how expensive it can be to be poor

Financially Savvy



D97 Portrait of an 8th Grade Graduate

Recommended Dimension 7:



Career Explorer

Graduates will explore a wide range of careers and their qualifications, including college and non-college/trade pathways. Through experiential learning and relationship development, they will practice behaviors and skills that are important for work, and connect with their own interests and passions.

Original:

Career Bound

Graduates will explore a vast variety of careers, including trade/non-college track. They will practice behaviors that are important for the workforce, and know their own interests, skills and passions.

Kids tend to only know the jobs they are exposed to in their own family, so this increases their exposure

Can we tap into our community to showcase diverse careers & pathways?



D97 Portrait of an 8th Grade Graduate

Recommended Dimension 8:



Change Agent

Graduates will make a positive impact locally and globally through civic engagement and sustainability practices.

Original:

Civics and Climate Action Ready

Graduates will have the ability to make a difference in our community through the combination of civic knowledge, skills, actions, mindsets, and experiences.

Because
we have no
other place to
live and Earth
is wonderful
why not save it

Encourage
students to
participate
in their
community

Next Steps





What's Next

Designing an inclusive community engagement plan for our Portrait

- ✔ Share Portrait dimensions with the D97 community
- ✔ Align learning standards and experiences to the final Portrait dimensions
- ✔ Branding the Portrait
- ✔ Implementation planning
- ✔ Ongoing updates
 - School and district newsletters
 - Board meetings



DISCUSSION

Questions

