

THE EQUITY LENS

"Belonging, or being fully human, means more than having access.

Belonging entails being respected at the basic level that includes the right to both co-create and make demands on society."

- john a. powell, Othering & Belonging Institute, University of CA, Berkeley



DR. ALLYSON MIZOGUCHI (HS PRINCIPAL), INGRIDE FRANCOEUR (MS TEACHER ASSISTANT) AND DR. TONY LAING (METCO DIRECTOR) SMILE FOR THE CAMERAS AT THE STAFF OF COLOR RETREAT AT THE WESTON ART AND INNOVATION CENTER (JUNE 18, 2021). READ MORE ABOUT THE RETREAT ON P2.

To the Point

ULTIMATELY, WE FOUND THAT ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT FACTORS TO RETAINING TEACHERS OF COLOR IS TO CREATE AN ENVIRONMENT THAT IS INTENSELY FOCUSED ON THE BEST INTERESTS OF STUDENTS.

SOURCE: IF YOU LISTEN, WE WILL STAY | THE EDUCATION TRUST • TEACH PLUS | SEPTEMBER 2019

STAFF OF COLOR RETREAT

JUNE 18, 2021
WESTON ART& INNOVATION CENTER

Hiring educators of color is just the first step. For staff of color to stay, schools need to be places that affirm the racial identities of staff *and students* of color so they can be their authentic selves. The same can be said for staff who have marginalized identities other than race.

In Wayland, monthly staff of color affinity group meetings and the spring retreat (photos below) offer opportunities to connect with colleagues in a trusted community where stories and experiences are shared and held.

High School & Society | XQ

“There’s a growing body of research on the qualitative end that suggests that teachers of color actually understand the lived experiences of their students of color better, **because they have lived them**—or similar ones—themselves.”

—Travis Bristol
 Assistant Professor, University of California,
 Berkeley’s Graduate School of Education



Clockwise from top right: Marcia Dawkins (CH), Mark Liddell (HS) & Magaly Kaczmarczyk (LO) (photo 1); Ingrid Francoeur (MS) & Donasheed Philippe (HS) (photo 2); Marcia, Mark & Caroline Han (K-12) (photo 3); Jackie Colon (HH), Toshi Lam (HH), Martin Valiton (MS), Ruth Rojas (MS), Latoya Downes (HS) (photo 4), Dalia Stewart (MS), Priscilla Velasco (LO) & Pauline Chin (LO) (photo 5). Also in attendance: Emeliza Ciavarró (LO), Allyson Mizoguchi (HS) and Shauna Townsend (HH).



BELONGING & ACHIEVEMENT

How would our classrooms and spaces look, sound and feel different if every student felt a sense of belonging? How might students behave and learn differently? Which *groups* of students do you predict might be the most positively affected if they felt a sense of belonging to their school community?

The images below reflect school-based adaptations of Maslow's hierarchy of needs. Please look closely at each visual: Does a student come to mind (i.e., a different student for 1-3)?

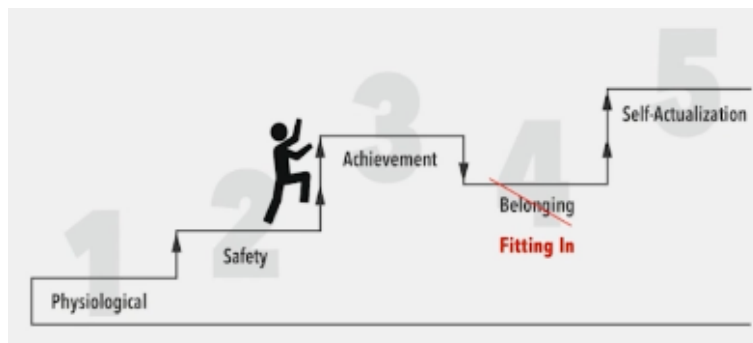
Keeping your students in mind: what systems, policies, and daily routines may have contributed to the "belonging gaps" (images 1 & 2)? Which factors may have fostered a sense of belonging for your student (image 3)?

What is one daily, easy habit that could help every student in your sphere of influence to feel a sense of belonging? You're invited to share your stories with a colleague, family member or friend. I'd love to hear them too at caroline_han@waylandps.org. Wishing everyone a great back to school!

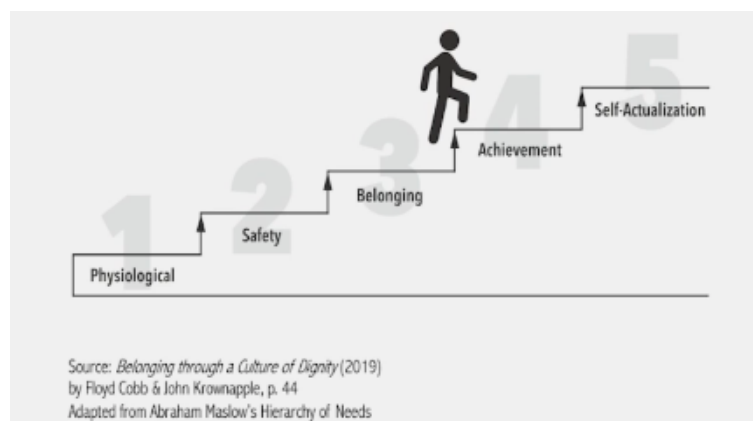
1



2



3



Source: *Belonging through a Culture of Dignity* (2019) by Floyd Cobb & John Krownapple, p. 44
Adapted from Abraham Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs

NEWS FROM TONY LAING, PH.D.

Greetings, everyone!

I am excited to close out the fiscal year 2021 school year with news from our Wayland METCO Program and all the amazing accomplishments of our outstanding students. I'd also like to give a special welcome to our new students who are entering Wayland METCO Fall 2021.

Claypit, Loker, and Happy Hollow Elementary Schools

I am sharing the names of our students who have graduated from the 5th grade. They are all moving onto the Wayland METCO school. It has been my pleasure to watch these students make the transition from elementary to middle school. Congratulations to the following students on their academic accomplishments:

- Carma Aime
- Micah Anglin
- Samuela Anyanwu
- Nabrey Bonds
- Jeruska Boval
- Kaedin Burnett
- Malai Dupont
- Quincy Farrow
- Ariana Irvin
- Nathaniel Nigus
- Adajah Saint-Fort



Wayland Middle School

Congratulations also go to the following 8th grade Class of 2021. They met all of the academic requirements to move onto high school. It is my pleasure to extend congratulations to the following students:

- Jewel Abalaka
- Daymonté Brewster
- Joel Cabral
- Guiliardo Centeio
- Bianca Crosby
- Kai Drayton
- Jahdaya Franklyn
- Nyla Hamilton
- Nadya Montrond
- Isaiah Peters
- Mia Pesantes
- Kiarra Shouder
- Karinah Syllien
- Kylih Syllien



Middle School (cont.)

Special recognition goes to Wayland Middle School students of the month for being recognized for this distinction by staff:

- Jewel Abalaka- Academic Growth Award
- Daymonté Brewster- Academic Growth Award
- Braylen Jenkins- BERT Award
- Sophia Nguyen- BERT Award
- Jayda Ortega- BERT Award
- Kordell Shouder- BERT Award
- Carlene DosSantos- Grit Award
- Max Curbelo- Grit Award

After a rigorous nomination process at the middle school and in consultation with myself, I am proud to announce that Joah Bigord and Yoel Shear-Yashuv have been selected to participate in The Calculus Project (TCP) this summer. TCP is a grassroots-style initiative to dramatically increase the number of students of color and low-income students who complete AP Calculus in high school. TCP is defined by its comprehensiveness, very high expectations, cultural sensitivity, and commitment to sustainability. TCP offers preparatory courses in the summer and tutoring during the school year. This supportive environment provides students with mathematics instruction from grade 8 through grade 12.

I'd like to give special recognition and congratulations to Cartell Aime who was awarded a certificate by IXL on May 26, 2021, for outstanding completion of 30 hours of math practice through ACLC tutoring. Finally, I'd like to congratulate Zuriya Lopes who was awarded a certificate by IXL on May 26, 2021, for outstanding completion of 500 Spanish questions through ACLC tutoring.

Wayland High School

Now, I'd like to transition to news from Wayland High School. A huge congratulations go to the Wayland Class of 2021 and on their graduation. Below I list each graduate and their postgraduate plans.

- Dahlak Amanuel - Worcester State University
- Muriel Daneijah Franklyn- University of Massachusetts-Dartmouth
- Jade Gabriel – Taking a GAP year
- Khalia Hamilton- University of Massachusetts-Amherst
- Miolany Martinez- University of Massachusetts-Boston
- Raseed Parham- Temple University
- Trevon Phillips- Johnson & Wales University
- Odyssey Reyes- Massachusetts College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences
- Jayden Saint-Felix- University of Massachusetts-Lowell
- Cassandra Silva Cardoso- Wheaton College
- Kayla Simpson- University of Massachusetts-Boston
- Jaison Tucker- East Coast Prep
- Elyz'sa Weathers- Johnson & Wales University

MORE NEWS...

High School (cont.)

Inclusive Excellence Cultural Bus Tour for Middle and High School Students

Despite the school interruptions, due to the Covid-19, the Wayland METCO Program was still able to run the Inclusive Boston Cultural Youth Bus Tour. This event took place on May 8, 2021, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. (see photo on bottom right). A diverse group of 60 Wayland METCO students, resident students, parents, and staff stopped by historic cultural sites in Boston such as Malcolm X's home and The Freedom House. Other stops along the tour included: Bethel AME Church, Fowler Clark Epstein Farm, Jubilee Christian Church, the original site of METCO headquarters, National Center for Afro-American Artists, Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Rise/Gateway to Boston, Roxbury Community School Roxbury Community College, Roxbury Heritage State Park, and William Monroe Trotter House.

The event was funded by the [Boston Bridges Initiative](#), a recently-formed organization that supports cross-racial social engagement across the Greater Boston area. Special thanks go to our Wayland METCO senior student tour guides, Miolany Martinez, Raseed Parham, and Kayla Simpson.

To learn more about the tour from the local news coverage, I encourage you to visit [this website](#).

Alumni News

I am elated to share that Wayland High School alumnus Gloria Harrison and alumnus Carrie Clifford have graciously decided to give back to our students. They approached Mr. Liddell with a plan to offer scholarships to our seniors. They used their influential communities, including social circles and their [Hard Candy & Fruit Snacks podcast](#) to raise awareness and donations for the cause, namely scholarships. They generously awarded scholarships to five seniors. We had two Social Justice Award recipients, Raseed Parham and Cassandra Silva Cardoso receiving a whopping \$10,000.00 each!

Additionally, Muriel Daneijah Franklyn, Khalia Hamilton, and Kayla Simpson each received a \$2000 scholarship. Miolany Martinez and Dahlak Amanuel won the Boston Parent Council book awards.

Wayland METCO Speakers at Wayland High School (WHS) 2021 Commencement

Kayla Simpson addressed the graduates, faculty, and other guests at the 2021 Wayland High School commencement. Her passionate delivery and timely message highlighted Wayland High School's lofty state rank with regard to academics. She also emphasized that the school and the district left much room for improvement in the areas of inclusion and equity.

Wayland High schoolers selected to participate in 2021 [The Calculus Project](#), include Brandon Jenkins and Mohamed Siidi. They were nominated by staff members at the high school for their outstanding math potential.

Welcome New Families

On behalf of the Wayland METCO Admissions Team, I am pleased to welcome 26 new students into the Wayland METCO family for Fall 2021.

Save the Date!

The annual Back to School Meeting with Boston resident families will take place on August 30, 2021, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. This event will take place online.

Have a great summer!

Best regards,

Dr. Tony Laing



PODCAST CO-HOSTS GLORIA HARRISON (L) & CARRIE CLIFFORD (R) 3RD GRADE (WAYLAND, MA)

