WAYFINDER

Digital Citizenship Begins with Belonging

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Former Vice Principal

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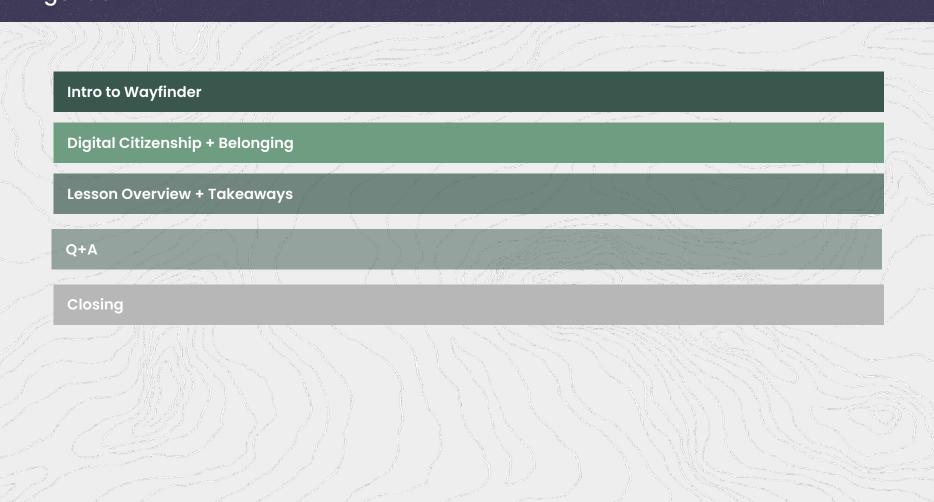Curriculum + Training Designer

Burden Backpack

We all showed up today carry a backpack. What burdens did you bring with you today? What if we could lay those down just while we're together right now?

Agenda

Intro to Wayfinder

Digital Citizenship + Belonging

Lesson Overview + Takeaways

Q+A

Closing

Introduction to Wayfinder

The biggest problem growing up today
is not actually stress –

it's meaninglessness.

Dr. Bill Damon, Professor of Education, Stanford University

"I **don't know why** I'm learning any of this"

"I've **lost hope** that school can be fun"

"I don't know who I want to be vs. who I'm **supposed to be**"
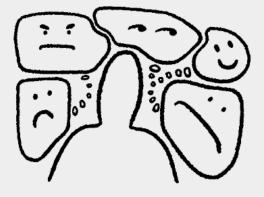
"I'm **overwhelmed**"

"I don't feel like I can be **authentically me**"

"**I don't want to go to school 'cause I have a zit on my face and I'll get teased**"

"I DON'T KNOW WHO I GO TO WHEN I'M **STRUGGLING**"

"I got **bullied** 'cause I have a Samsung phone and not an iPhone"

"You know like in **factories** where it's just the same thing all day, every day? That's what it's like"

"I don't feel connected to **my teachers**"

"My parents and teachers put so much **pressure** on me"

"I **don't feel connected** to my peers"

"MY FRIENDS COME TO ME WHEN THEY'RE FEELING SUICIDAL. I'M **NOT A THERAPIST**!"

What comes to mind when you think of Digital Citizenship?

Designed by Educators

Brandy Arnold
Chief Customer Officer
Former Teacher

Debi Talukdar
Curriculum + Training Designer
*Former Instructor & Program
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Alie Kelley
Director of School Success
Former Teacher

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Partner Success Manager
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1 Don't Assume Students Are Natives

2 Citizenship Starts With Belonging

Citizenship Starts with Belonging

➤ Start with defining what it means for your students to be their true authentic selves, and explore how that shifts based on the indicators of belonging present...what if kids knew how to manufacture those indicators for themselves and for others?

Don't Assume Students Are Natives...

➤ Despite growing up with these devices, our Kiddos are not inherently proficient at navigating online environments (i.e., knowing what is right, wrong, healthy, unhealthy, etc.).

➤ Assumptions are not super helpful in teaching a skill more generally BUT in this context they can be particularly misleading given a key barrier for this work is conditional belonging, which is often fueled by assumptions.

DIGITAL CONNECTIONS

How do we belong in digital communities?

WAYFINDER

JENNIFER LOPEZ

" "

I only do what my gut tells me to. I think it's smart to listen to other people's advice, but at the end of the day, you're the only one who can tell you what's right for you.

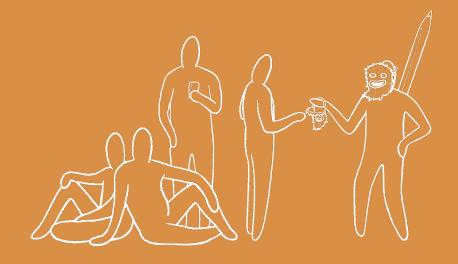Jennifer Lopez (born 1969) is an American singer, actress, and dancer.

OPENING
RITUAL

CAN'T UNSEE IT

DEFINING DIGITAL MEDIA

WHAT IS DIGITAL MEDIA?

DEFINITION: Information that comes to us through the internet, often through a tablet, smartphone, or laptop (Common Sense Media, 2020).

DIGITAL COMMUNITY BRAINSTORM

THE POWER OF DIGITAL MEDIA

QUICK REFLECTION

BRAINSTORM

+ When I say the phrase digital community, what comes to mind?

+ Where are the digital communities that you are a part of? For example, tell me the places you spend time online.

SMALL GROUP SHARE

QUICK REFLECTION

+ What are the best parts of this digital community?
+ What are the potentially negative parts of this digital community?
+ Do you feel like you belong? If so, why? If not, why?
+ What advice or suggestions would you give to a younger peer who is just joining this digital community?

DEBRIEF + WRAP UP

DEBRIEF

JOURNAL

+ What's the smallest step you could take with any of your digital communities that would have the largest impact on your well-being and sense of belonging?

WRAP UP

+   An aspect of belonging is knowing the types of communities you want to be connected to.

+   All of our digital and physical spaces, whether we know it or not, shape who we are and who we become (like a frog in boiling water who doesn't realize the water temperature is rising!).

+   So, applying a level of intentionality and awareness to our digital communities can help us better see how we're being shaped, how we feel about it, and how we belong.

Let's Talk More About The Connection to Belonging

Belonging: A Definition

Building a **meaningful foundation** through **connection**

Practicing belonging means accepting, including,
and valuing ourselves and others.

Belonging: The Research

STUDENTS WHO FEEL THEY BELONG...

+ greater levels self-esteem + self-efficacy
+ greater satisfaction, happiness + optimism
+ high levels of motivation + achievement

STUDENTS WHO FEEL THEY _DON'T_ BELONG...

+ poor physical + mental health
+ more psychological distress
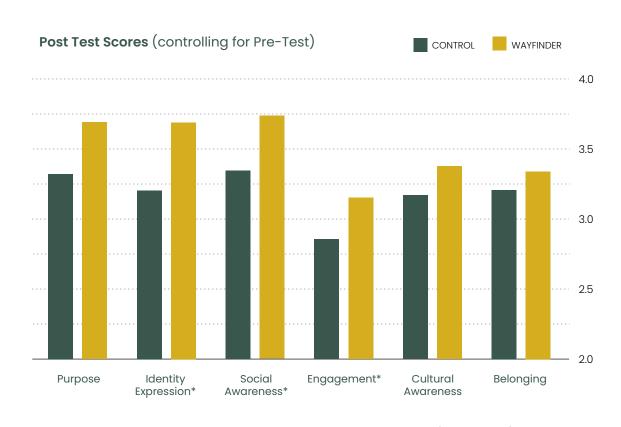+ greater prevalence of suicide

Fall 2021 Analysis of Wayfinder Curriculum

"It's unusual and highly encouraging to see such unambiguously positive growth in measures of students' purposefulness."

Heather Malin, Ph.D
Director of the Stanford Center on Adolescence

Stanford University

Post Test Scores (controlling for Pre-Test)

CONTROL   WAYFINDER

Purpose   Identity Expression*   Social Awareness*   Engagement*   Cultural Awareness   Belonging

Adjusted Post-test scores of Wayfinder and Control Groups (*significant)

Big Takeaways

Digital Citizenship + Belonging

– DISCUSSION –

Q+A

A Better Backpack

Imagine that you can take something with you from our time together today. Something useful you've heard or shared. Imagine that by adding this to your backpack, it actually makes the load you carry a little easier to bear. What are you taking with you?

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THANK YOU!

www.withwayfinder.com