



# PTA General Meeting

September 12, 2018

# Our focus for today...



# Diversity





60 Countries  
30 Languages  
One great school!

“

*The diversity of our children is  
recognized as a source of strength and  
a reflection of our world.*

# What do we mean when we talk about diversity at Julian Curtiss?

- Color
- Race
- Ethnicity
- Language
- Gender
- Socio-economic Status
- Students from other parts of Greenwich
- Learning Differences
- ...and more!

317

Total Student Enrollment for 2018-2019

75

Magnet Students

9

Sponsored/Out of District Students

26%

Students Enrolled at Julian Curtiss by Choice

13

Magnet Students Accepted for 2018-2019

4

Magnet Students Accepted in Grades 1 -5

9

Magnet Students Accepted in Kindergarten

24%

Students in Kindergarten Enrolled at Julian Curtiss by Choice



25 (8%)

Students who identify as African American or African American/Caucasian

33 (10%)

Students who identify as Asian or Asian/Caucasian

105 (33%)

Students who identify as Hispanic or Latino



38 (12%)

Students who receive Special Education Services

47 (15%)

Students who receive ESOL Services - from 12 different countries

33 (10%)

Students who participate in the Advanced Learning Program

# Benefits of Attending Diverse Schools

- Students in integrated schools are more likely to attend college
- Integrated classrooms encourage critical thinking, problem solving, and creativity
- Attending a diverse school can help reduce racial bias and counter stereotypes
- Learning in integrated settings can help to enhance students' leadership skills

# Benefits of Attending Diverse Schools

- Diverse classrooms prepare students to succeed in an increasingly racially and ethnically diverse global economy
- Research demonstrates the important *educational benefits*—cognitive, social, and emotional—for *all* students who interact with classmates from different backgrounds, cultures, and orientations to the world.

The Century Foundation, 2016

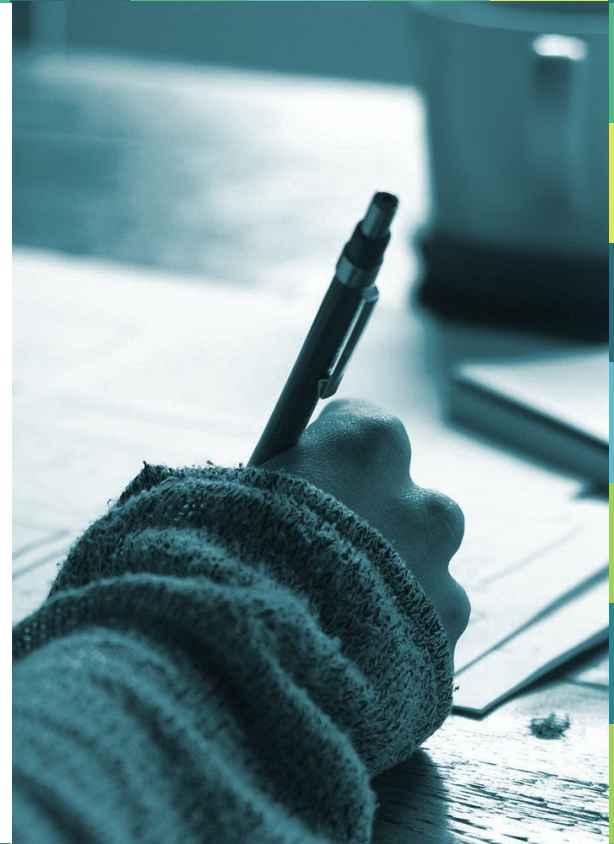
# Personalized Learning





*Personalized Learning is a teacher facilitated process that provides each student with meaningful choice, guided by a standards based curriculum, in what, where, how and at what pace and appropriate depth, they learn, based on individual strengths, needs, motivations, interests, goals, and cultural backgrounds.*

Each person in the Greenwich Public Schools has a role in personalizing student learning, so that each student can demonstrate the capacities of the Vision of the Graduate through increased choice and voice...



# The role of the parent...

- ▶ Collaborate as partners with teachers and administrators in the education of their child
- ▶ Provide feedback to the administrators and teachers as to their learner's experience, progress, and growth.
- ▶ Engage students in self reflection of their learning





# Personalized Learning Continues at Julian Curtiss...

## 2017-2018

Two classes took part in the district Math Pilot program. Several classes experimented with flexible seating and other elements of Personalized Learning.

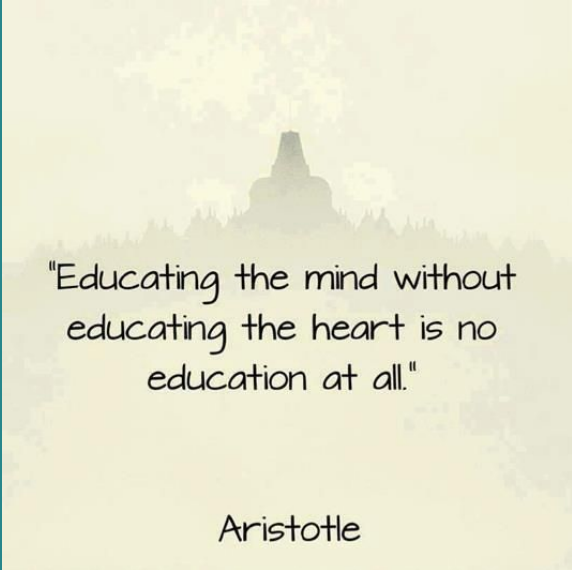
## 2018-2019

Participation in the 2nd wave of the Personalized Learning pilot continues with 2nd grade, 4th grade, 5th grade, ALP, Art, and the Library Learning Commons.

# After School Academic Conversation Starters...

- Tell me about/teach me something you learned in class today.
- What is something you heard today that made you think?
- What is something you heard today that surprised you?
- What challenged you today?

# Teaching the Whole Child



"Educating the mind without  
educating the heart is no  
education at all."

Aristotle

# SEL/PBIS

- Students with social-emotional competence are more able to participate in and benefit from classroom instruction.
- Systematic SEL instruction results in significant decreases in challenging behaviors, and increases in academic achievement.

# SEL/PBIS

- Up to 18 years later, students exposed to SEL in school continue to do better than their peers on a number of indicators: positive social behaviors and attitudes, skills such as empathy and teamwork, and academics. And they have fewer conduct problems, less emotional distress, and lower drug use, among many other benefits.

## Second Step

- Universal, classroom-based program designed to increase school success and decrease problem behaviors
- Promotes social-emotional competence and self-regulation
- Several classes piloted the program last year, this year implementation is district-wide in Grades K-5

## Second Step

- Designed to promote school success, school connectedness, and a safe, respectful school climate and to prevent problem behaviors.
- Addresses bullying prevention including differences between bullying and mean/unsafe behaviors
- Sequential and developmentally appropriate, with skills being reviewed and expanded on each year
- Our school psychologists have aligned the program with district norms

# Units 1 and 2

## Skills for Learning

- Focusing attention
- Listening
- Using self-talk
- Being assertive

## Empathy

- Identifying emotions in themselves and others
- Labeling emotions
- Considering situations from others' perspectives



# Units 3 and 4

## Managing Emotions

- Identifying feelings and emotions and using calm-down strategies such as:
  - Deep, centered (belly)breathing
  - Positive self-talk

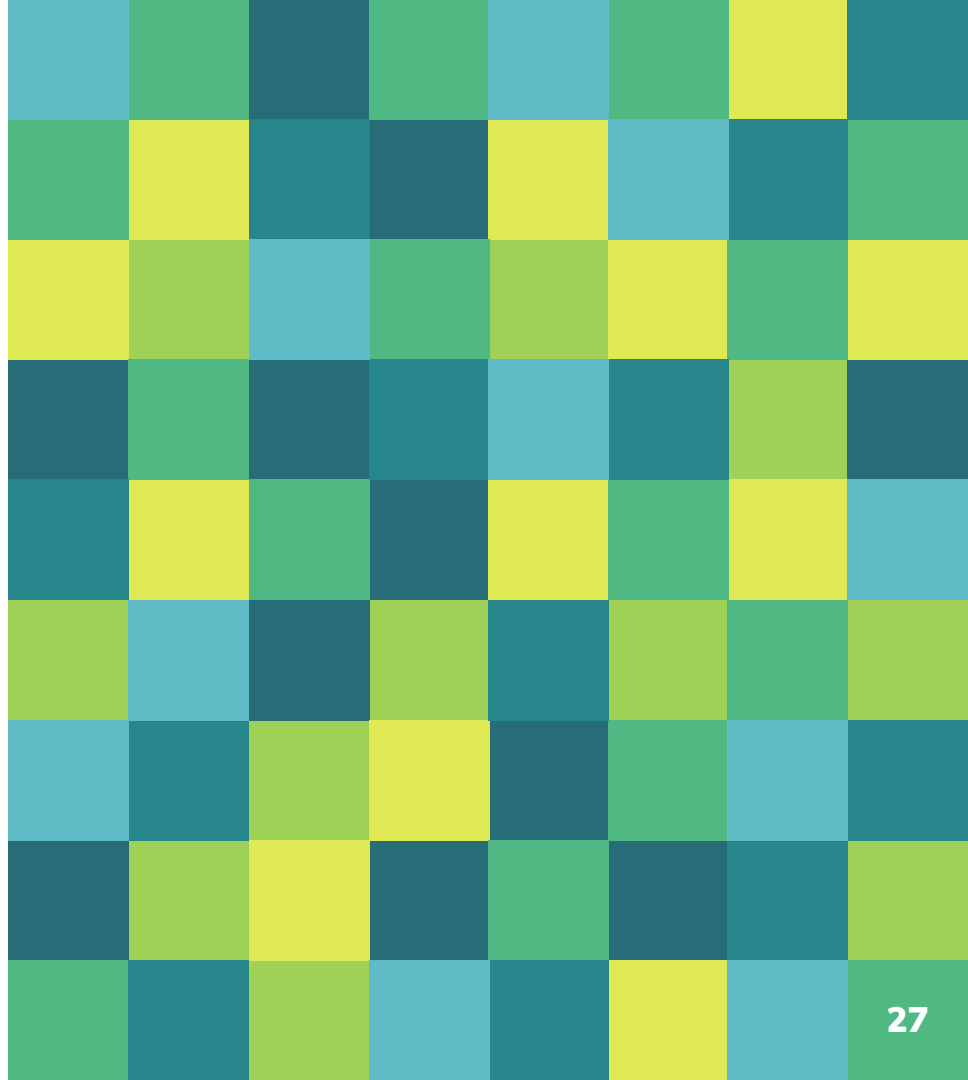
## Solving Problems

- **S** - Say the problem
- **T** - Think of solutions
- **E** - Explore consequences
- **P** - Pick the best solution

# Kindergarten Learner Song



# Sample 1st Grade Problem Solving



# Parent Communication

- Prior to each unit, parents will be informed through the grade level Smore newsletter about what students are learning, why it is important, and how they can support learning at home.

# After School SEL Conversation Starters...

- How were you brave today?
- What was the hardest rule/expectation to follow today?
- If you could change one thing about your day, what would it be?
- Can you tell me about an example of kindness you showed today?
- What made you feel proud today?

**You can find this presentation and other important school information on our website:**

[www.greenwichschools.org/jcs](http://www.greenwichschools.org/jcs)

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