

TOOL 5: PERSONAL CIRCLE MAP

How I want my educational ecosystem to feel for myself, the students we serve, and my colleagues.

The circle map is used for brainstorming ideas and showing prior knowledge of a topic, idea, or concept. For this exercise, you need three different colored pens or pencils.

1. In the center of a blank sheet of paper, write “Emotions at School.”
2. Draw a circle around “Emotions at School.”
3. Select one colored pen or pencil. Using this color in the area surrounding “Emotions at School,” identify the emotions you want to feel when engaged in your work.
4. Select a second colored pen or pencil. Using this color in the area surrounding “Emotions at School,” identify the emotions you want the students you serve to feel when engaged in learning and other activities at school.
5. Select the final colored pen or pencil. Using this color in the area surrounding “Emotions at School,” identify the emotions you want your colleagues to feel when engaged in their work.
6. Identify themes across the emotions you identify for yourself, your students, and your colleagues.

After you have completed your circle map, respond to the following reflection questions.

7. What beliefs support these emotions in your classroom, school, or district?
8. What strategies can you identify to amplify these beliefs in your classroom, school, or district culture?
9. What beliefs inhibit these emotions in your classroom, school, or district?
10. What strategies can you identify to eliminate these beliefs in your classroom, school, or district culture?