

TOOL 7: BELIEF ASSESSMENT TOOL

Use the belief assessment tool to assess the evidence of each belief in operation in your classroom, school, or district. In the “Evidence” column, include information from the Pause and Process sections included in this chapter. In the “Growth” column, include areas where your ecosystem can grow in each belief area. In the “Strategy” column, identify at least one strategy to develop the opportunities you recorded for each belief area.

| BELIEF | | EVIDENCE | GROWTH | STRATEGY |
|--------------------|--|----------|--------|----------|
| Black Lives Matter | Black Lives Matter is the unambiguous belief in the humanity, dignity, intelligence, beauty, and worth of Black people to our society and the planet. It is the belief that Black people, Black history, Black culture(s), Black experiences, and Black sensibilities are vital to the past, present, and future branches of the human family. It is the belief that Black people have the right to be everywhere and be vibrantly, joyfully, creatively, largely, and abundantly alive wherever we are. | | | |
| Belonging | “Belonging is the spiritual practice of believing in and belonging to yourself so deeply that you can share your most authentic self with the world and find sacredness in both being a part of something and standing alone in the wilderness” (Brown, 2019). | | | |
| Interdependence | Interdependence is the belief that people share social and emotional bonds with each other that support our individual and collective well-being and, at the same time, are allowed to hold a solid sense of self within these bonds. | | | |
| Empowerment | Empowerment is a multi-dimensional social process that helps people gain control over their own lives. It is a process that fosters power (that is, the capacity to implement) in people, for use in their own lives, their communities, and in their society, by acting on issues that they define as important. | | | |

Retrieved from the companion website for *There Are No Deficits Here: Disrupting Anti-Blackness in Education* by Lauren M. Wells. Thousand Oaks, CA: Corwin, www.corwin.com. Copyright © 2024 by Corwin Press, Inc. All rights reserved. Reproduction authorized for educational use by educators, local school sites, and/or noncommercial or nonprofit entities that have purchased the book.