

The logo for Vancouver Public Schools features a large white circle with a thin light blue border, centered on a solid blue background. The text "Vancouver Public Schools" is written in a bold, black, sans-serif font, centered within the white circle.

Vancouver Public Schools



STUDENT VOICE
HOW DO WE BUILD BELONGING?

VANCOUVER PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Vancouver Public Schools



21,904

Students Enrolled
2021-22 School Year

44.0%

Met ELA
Standards

25.8%

Met Math
Standards

50.5%

Met Science
Standard

Fall 2021



87%

Graduated in 4 Years
2020-21 School Year



32.7% **30.6%**

High Math
Growth

High ELA
Growth

2018-19 School Year



74.5%

Students Regularly Attend
2020-21 School Year



\$14,712

Per-pupil Expenditure
2019-20 School Year



1,415

Number of Classroom
Teachers
2020-21 School Year



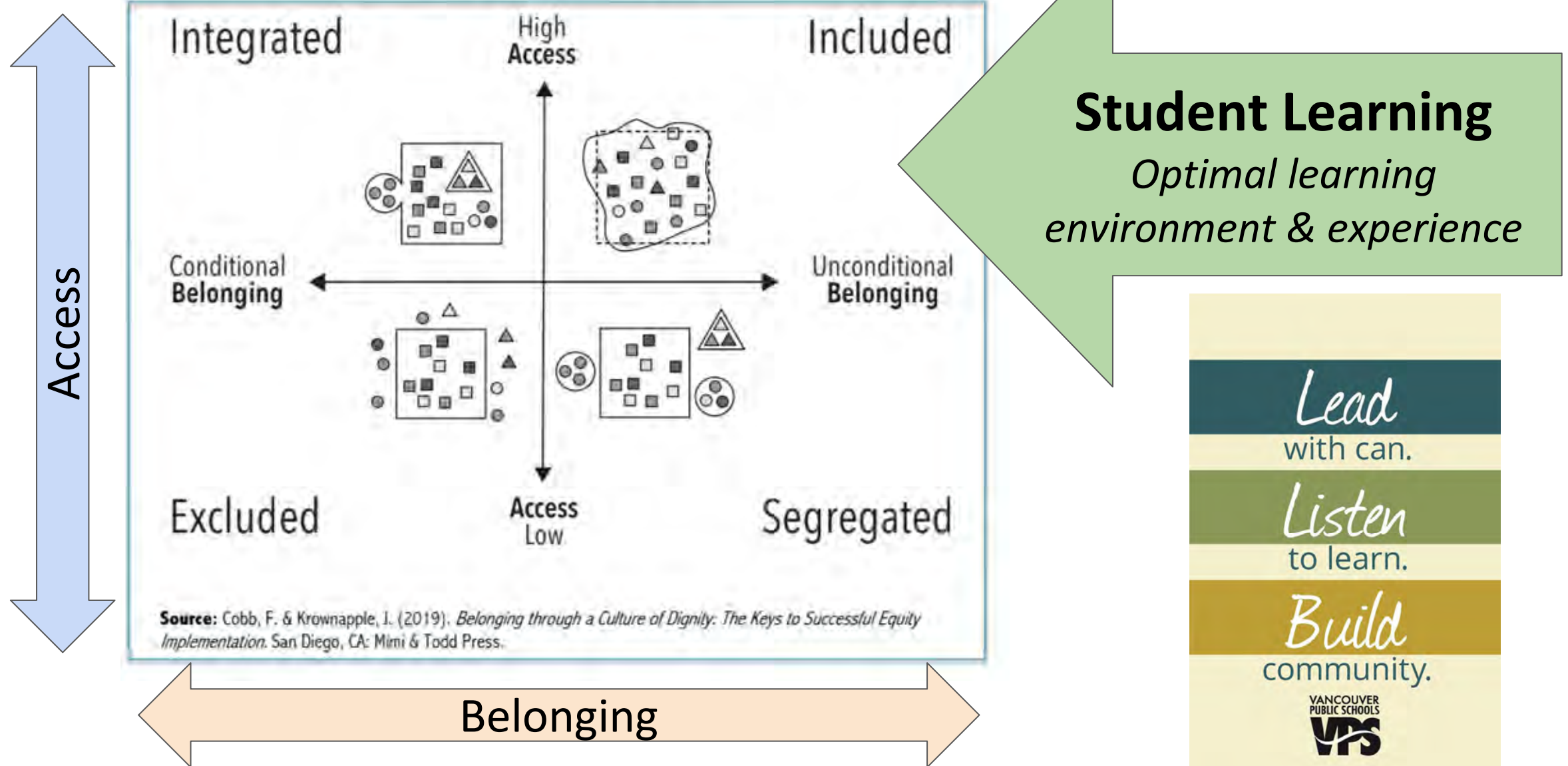
12.7

Average Years of Teaching
Experience
2019-20 School Year

Data is collected on different timelines throughout the year. To provide the most current data possible, each measure is updated as data becomes available.



Four Diverse Environments & Experiences



Structures and Systems

- Student-centered equity teams at each school site (36)
- Student Advisory (30+ students representing 7+ high schools)
- Our Own Words
- Seats at the table - Superintendent Transition Team
- Senior Exit Interviews



Leveraging Student Voice

- Incorporating student voice into professional learning
- Engaging students with survey information related to student wellness - joint school board/student advisory research project on belonging
- Engaging student advisory as part of strategic plan leadership team.



What are students saying?

- Many students said that wished there was a required class for Seniors that went over real-life skills like how to do taxes, banking, budgets, taking out loans, etc - they wanted "more classes that involve real life"
- Sports and Clubs came up multiple times as the way that students felt connected and gave them a sense of belonging at school. "Clubs like Mecha are a great opportunity"
- There is room for growth in the school for being culturally responsive and diverse. One student said, "This school celebrates diversity well even though the school is not that diverse". But another said, "I hear homophobic slurs or negative comments about marginalized groups of people from students and staff on a regular basis".
- Mental health needs to be not just taught in a clinical way but discussed with actual resources in more than one class
- Friendly, engaging teachers make better teachers. Quote: "Hire and keep teachers who love their job."

Strengthening Voice

“You do not rise to the level of your goals. You fall to the level of your systems. Your goal is your desired outcome. Your system is the collection of daily habits that will get you there.”

James Clear, author *Atomic Habits*



Lessons Learned

“You don’t just have a year with your students, you have an eternity with them if you can help them build their minds and help them think for themselves.”

Moises (class of 2022)



National Video on Student Voice and Reaction

Insert video here

Pause and Integrate

- What systemic and structural strategies did you hear?
- What is resonating?
- 5 minutes