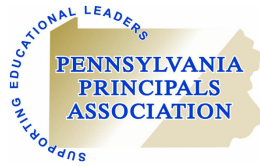


Sent: Monday, July 15, 2024 9:52 AM

Subject: "The Main Idea" – What if you made BELONGING the theme of this year?



THE MAIN IDEA

current education book summaries

Member Benefit

Dear PA Principals Association Member,

Having a sense of belonging in school does wonders for students.

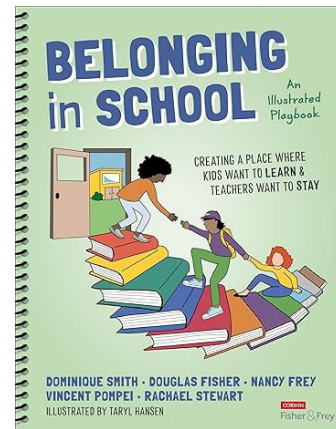
Research shows that it helps them both learn and grow. Unfortunately, many students feel disconnected and disengaged in school.

Luckily, we don't have to just hope that our students feel a sense of belonging in school. There is a lot we can do as educators to actively *build it*.

This just might be the year to make **BELONGING** your school's theme.

To help, I've summarized a book that shows teachers how to build belonging in their classrooms.

Belonging in School does a fantastic job of breaking down "belonging" into 11 research-based components. This gave me a much clearer idea of what belonging actually is and how to build it. I also created a short 1-page overview of these 11 parts of belonging (see *below*).



And I've also written a **BookBit (just 2 pages)** of a book to help deepen the connections among the **adults** at your school, too. ***How to Know a Person: The Art of Seeing Others Deeply and Being Deeply Seen*** by David Brooks is a wonderful summer read.

Plus, I even have a simple **3-step PD activity** for you to use with staff for the return to school to help them connect better (**details in the BookBit**):

- Introduce the importance of the adult relationships (see the BookBit for ideas).
- Do a live read. Take my 1-pager, (part of the BookBit) make copies, and give everyone 5 minutes to read it on the spot.
- Discuss and practice. Discuss the ideas in the 1-pager and practice a conversation using the tips for connecting.

Here are my resources this month:

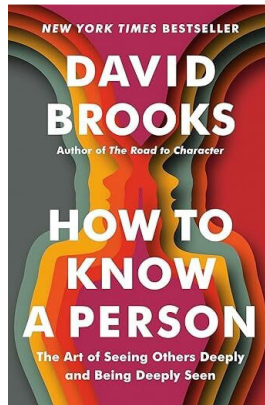
- ***Belonging in School: Creating a Place Where Kids Want to Learn and Teachers Want to Stay*** — [full book summary](#), [1-page overview of the 11 parts of belonging](#), and [podcast](#) with one author about the book
- ***How to Know a Person: The Art of Seeing Others Deeply and Being Deeply Seen*** — [2-page BookBit with PD for staff](#)

Whatever you're doing this summer, I hope you're finding your own ways to connect and recharge.

Be well, and I'll be back next month.

Jenn

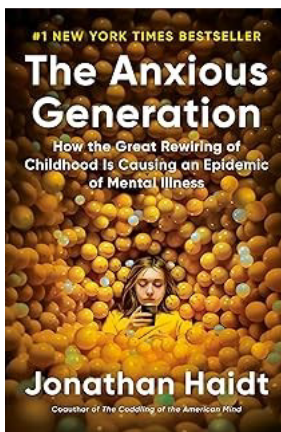
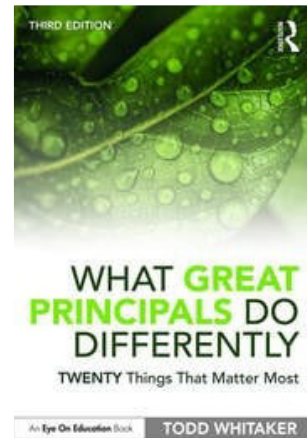
PS — To learn more or get copies of *Belonging in School*, click here: [Corwin Press](#)



What's coming up?

What Great Principals Do Differently — Summary of a classic book

I decided to dive in and summarize an updated edition of a classic (originally published in 2002!) so look for next month's book summary of ***What Great Principals Do Differently*** by the acclaimed Todd Whitaker.



The Anxious Generation — Save the Date (Sept 24 at 4pm EST) and join me for a free, live virtual session with author Jonathan Haidt.

Many of us are seeing unprecedented numbers of students struggling with mental health challenges. There ARE things we can do in schools to help. Save the date and join me for a FREE, live session with author

Jonathan Haidt of the *New York Times* bestselling book, ***The Anxious Generation***.

September 24 at 4pm Eastern Time. Details coming soon.

You may contact me at jenn@themainidea.net
*** **PASSWORD** to access over 170 previous book
summaries: **readtolead** (you must use lowercase letters).

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