




BREAKING DOWN THE BARRIERS OF SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Dr. Julie K. Dill, Assistant Superintendent
Camdenton R-III School District



Session Objective:
Understanding Homelessness In Rural
Schools including the Trauma
Students are Carrying With Them in
Order to Best Support them to School
Success!

Breaking Down Barriers !

Camdenton R-III Lake Of The Ozarks





MCKINNEY-VENTO HOMELESS ASSISTANCE ACT⁵

- Originally passed in 1987.
- Reauthorized in 2015 by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).
 - Amendments take effect October 1, 2016.
- Works hand-in-hand with Title IA and other federal education programs.



McKinney Vento Federal Definition

“individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence”



McKinney Vento Federal Law

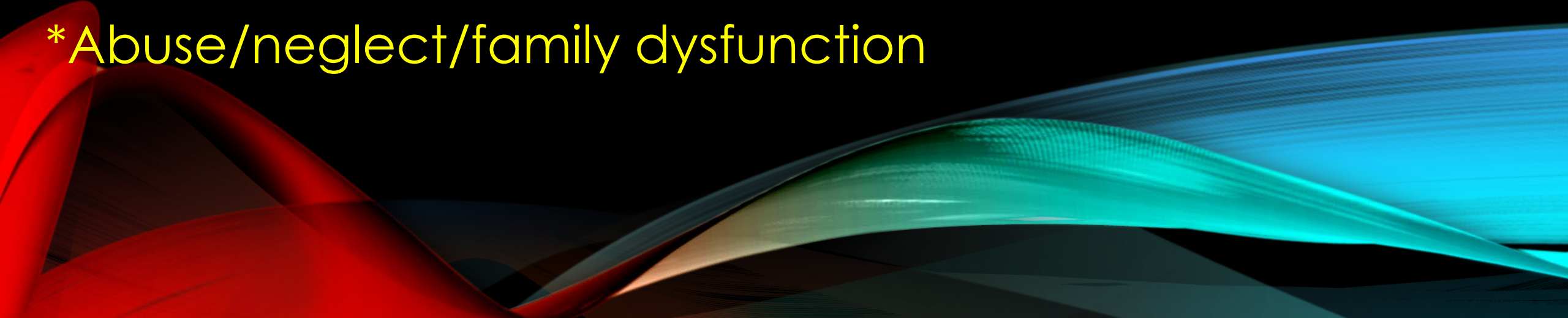
“ensures immediate enrollment and educational stability for homeless children and youth”



MCKINNEY-VENTO HOMELESS ASSISTANCE ACT

- Main themes:
 - Identification.
 - School stability.
 - School enrollment.
 - Support for academic success.
 - Child-centered, best interest decision making.

Causes of Homelessness

- *Lack of affordable housing
 - *Poverty (increase in low v. middle wage employment)
 - *Health Problems
 - *Domestic violence
 - *Natural and other disasters
 - *Abuse/neglect/family dysfunction
- 

Student Statistics- National

- *1.3 million student PK-12
- *10% increase nationally over previous year
- *76% identified doubled up



Student Statistics- Missouri

*Student Average Age in MO – 9 years old

*33,757 Total Homeless Students in MO (2016-17)

83% Doubled Up



Camdenton Student Statistics

2014-2015 449 McKinney Vento Students

2015-16 438 McKinney Vento Students

2017-18 472 McKinney Vento Students

2018-19 441 McKinney Vento Students

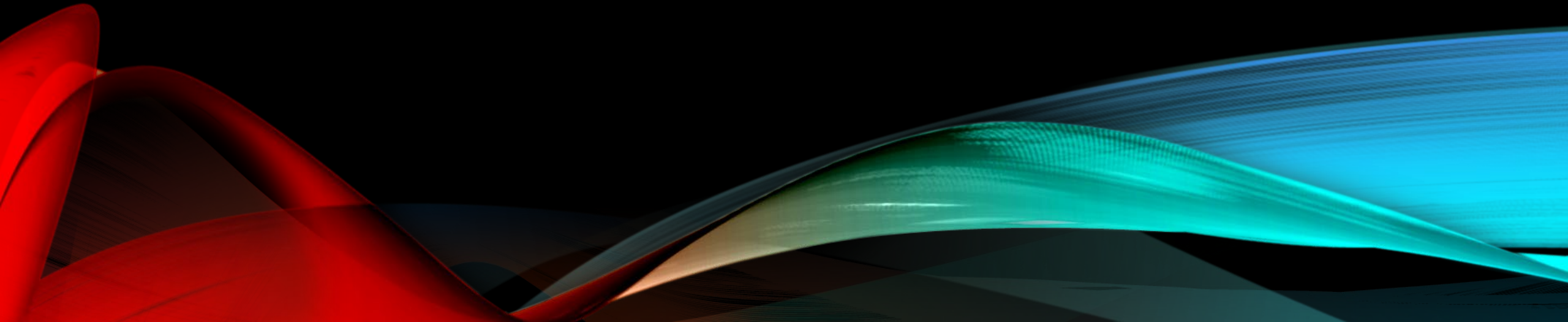


UNACCOMPANIED HOMELESS YOUTH

- Definition: child or youth who meets the McKinney-Vento definition and is not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian. 11434a(6)
 - Many youth become separated from parents due to lack of space in living situations or shelter policies.
 - Many flee abuse: 17-25% sexual; 40-60% physical.
 - Many flee family dysfunction: Over 2/3 Hotline callers report at least one parent abuses drugs or alcohol.
 - Roughly 1/3 homeless youth identify as LGBTQ.
 - 10% of currently homeless female teens are pregnant.
 - Many are not enrolled in school.

McKinney Vento Sample Living Situations

- *Shared housing due to loss of housing, economic hardship, a similar reason
- *Hotels, motels, trailer parks, or camp grounds
- *Emergency or transitional shelters
- *Abandoned
- *Park benches, cars, public areas, or substandard housing



Potential Barriers to Education

- *High mobility resulting in lack of school stability
- *Enrollment Requirements (school records, health records, proof of residence, guardianship)
- *Poor health, fatigue, and hunger
- *Emotional trauma, depression, anxiety
- *Lack of transportation
- *Lack of school supplies, clothing etc.

Camdenton R-III Lake Of The Ozarks



THINKING OUTSIDE THE BOX



IDENTIFICATION

- *Community Partnerships
- *Enrollment / Front Office / Nurse/ Bus Driver/Cafe / Counselor Training
- *Public Notice/Out Reach Posters @Community Hot Spots
- *Home Visits/ Assessments
- *Parents As Teachers
- *Social Work Services
- *Bus Drivers
- *Nurses



BUS DRIVERS

- First and last to see our students
- Have pretty good idea where kids are coming from (cars, sheds, etc)



SCHOOL ENROLLMENT

- *School Supplies
- *Laker Closet
- *Cinderella Closet
- *Transportation



Sometimes it's
so much more
than a
pencil...if
teachers only
knew...



The Learning Station

November 7, 2015 · 🌐

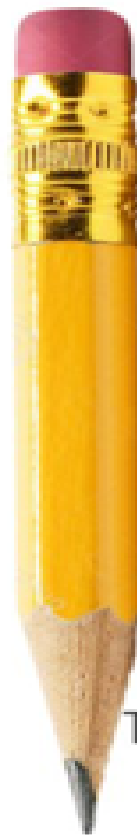


A Child's Struggle: Sometimes it's so much more than just a pencil.

Cause I Ain't Got a Pencil

by Joshua T. Dickerson

I woke myself up
Because we ain't got an alarm clock
Dug in the dirty clothes basket,
Cause ain't nobody washed my uniform
Brushed my hair and teeth in the dark,
Cause the lights ain't on
Even got my baby sister ready,
Cause my mama wasn't home.
Got us both to school on time,
To eat us a good breakfast.
Then when I got to class the teacher fussed
Cause I ain't got a pencil.



SCHOOL STABILITY



- *School Based Mentoring
- *Whole Child Health Support (dental, medical, social, emotional)
- *Morning Check-In's / Attendance Club (Baby Wipes/Tooth Brushes)
- *Sleeping Bag Drive
- *Alarm Clocks (battery operated)
- *Hair Dryer Rally/ Parent & Student Support w/ Head Lice
- *Free School Breakfast/Lunch
- *Buddy Backpacks
- *School of Origin
- *School Based Certified Therapy Dog

Attendance Matters





Make a Difference: Front Line Daily School Interactions

<https://youtu.be/VxyxywShewI>

WHAT IS CHILDHOOD TRAUMA?



HOMELESS STUDENTS ARE ...

2 TIMES AS LIKELY AS THEIR HOUSED PEERS TO SCORE POORLY ON STANDARDIZED TESTS IN MATH AND READING.

3 TIMES MORE LIKELY TO BE PLACED IN SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS.

4 TIMES MORE LIKELY TO DROP OUT OF SCHOOL.

8 TO 9 TIMES MORE LIKELY TO REPEAT GRADES.

SOURCES

Homes for the Homeless,
Access to Success:
Educational Needs of Homeless
Children and Families, 1993,
and
National Center on Family Homelessness,
"Homeless Children: America's
Now Outcasts," 1999.

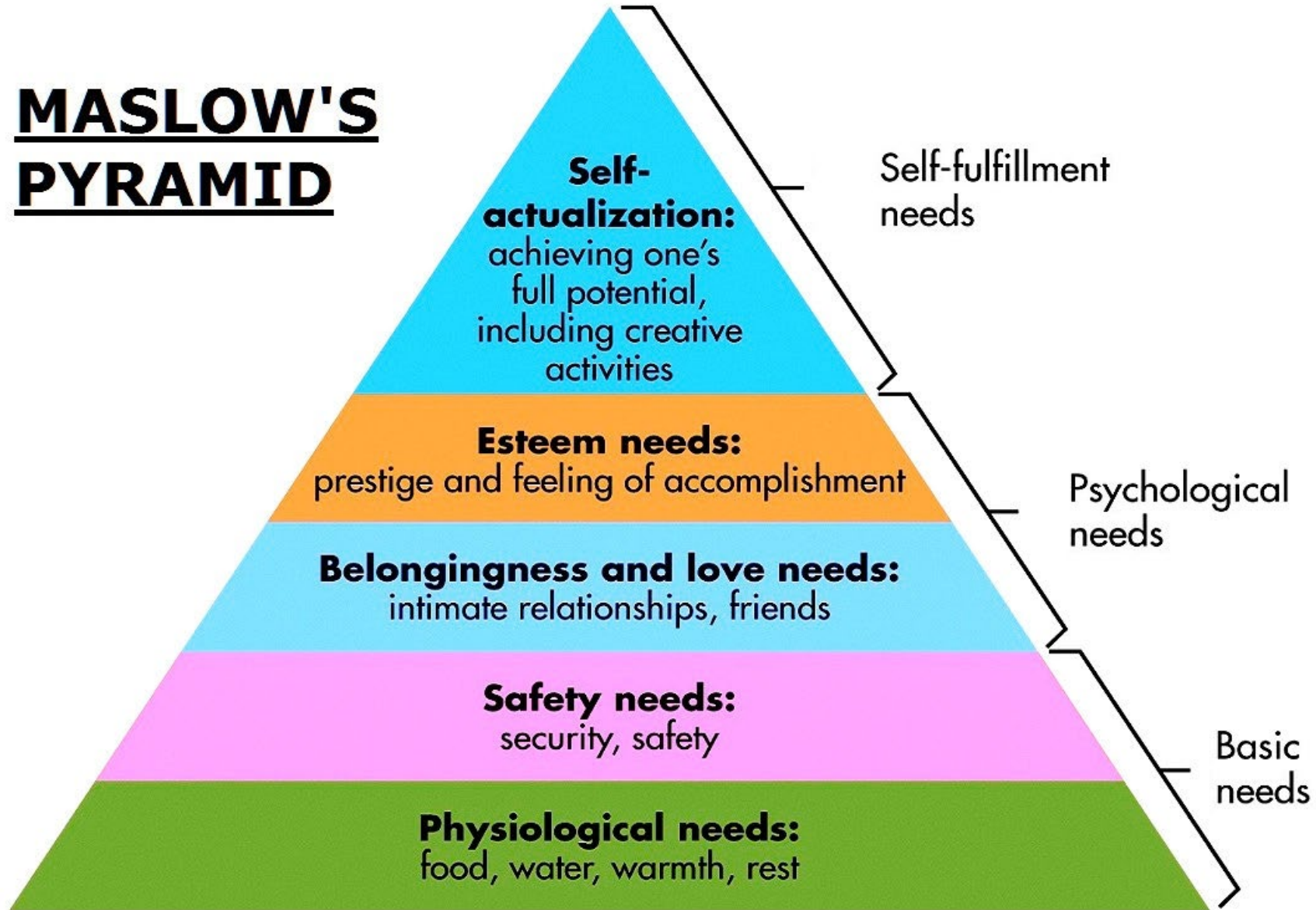


Nine times out of 10,
the story behind the
misbehavior won't
make you angry;
it will break your
heart.

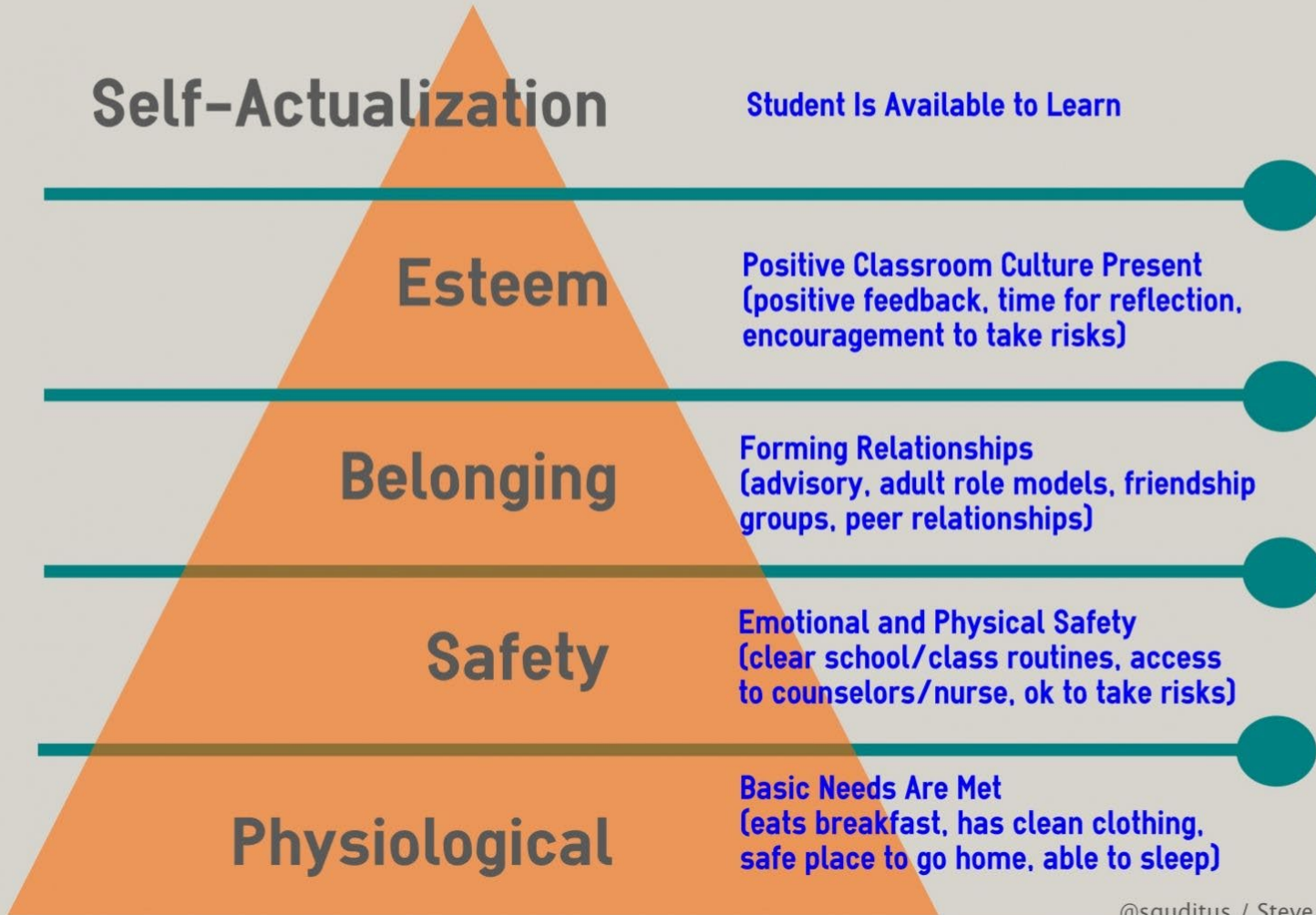
-Annette Breaux



MASLOW'S PYRAMID



Maslow's Hierarchy of School Needs



Thinking Outside the Box

https://youtu.be/KQs9WBtN_J4

SUPPORT FOR ACADEMIC SUCCESS

(ACADEMIC AND EXTRACURRICULAR)

- *Afterschool Tutoring (PASS)
- *School Based Tutoring/ Interventions
- *Credit Recovery/ Retention Support
- *One to One Technology
- *Athletics- Activities
- *IB, AP, Dual Credit, ACT test fees paid



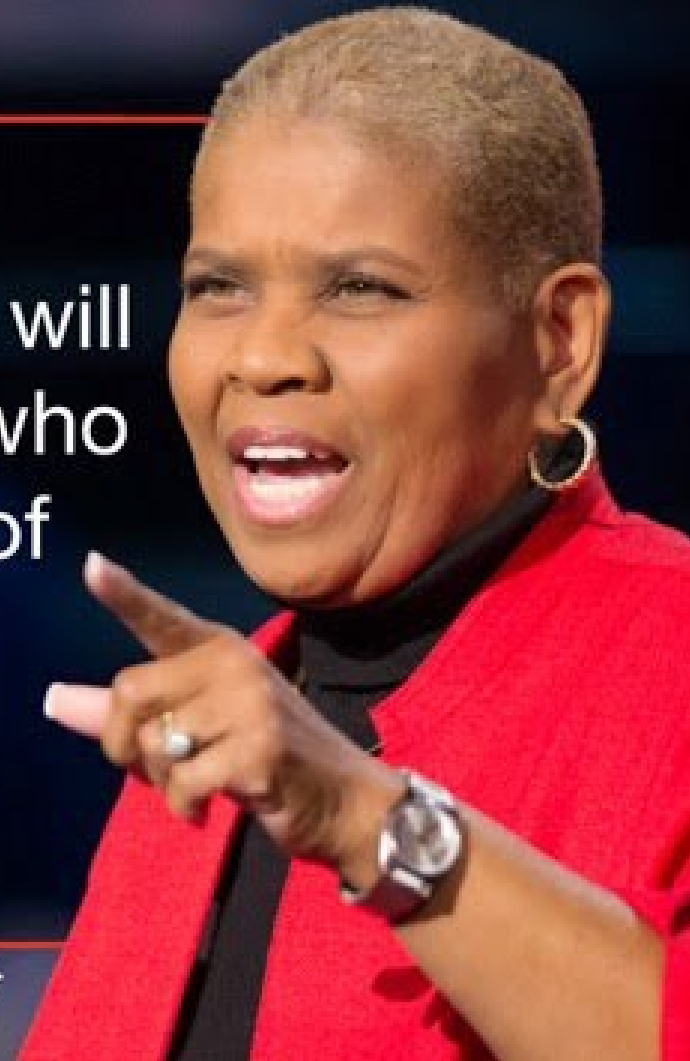
CHILD CENTERED, BEST INTEREST DECISION MAKING



School of Origin
Safety
Future Forward

"Every child deserves a champion: an adult who will never give up on them, who understands the power of connection and insists they become the best they can possibly be."

- Rita Pierson, Educator





“To the world you may be
one person...

but to one person you may
be the world.”

Dr. Seuss



Thank you for your work to ensure we
are meeting the needs of all of our
students!

Your work is building **HOPE** for our
students who are just trying to survive!



If you have any questions, please contact your building counselor, building administrator, or me!

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