## **A Crisis of Student Belonging**

**Belonging is a fundamental human need,** yet American youth face an acute crisis of belonging that jeopardizes:

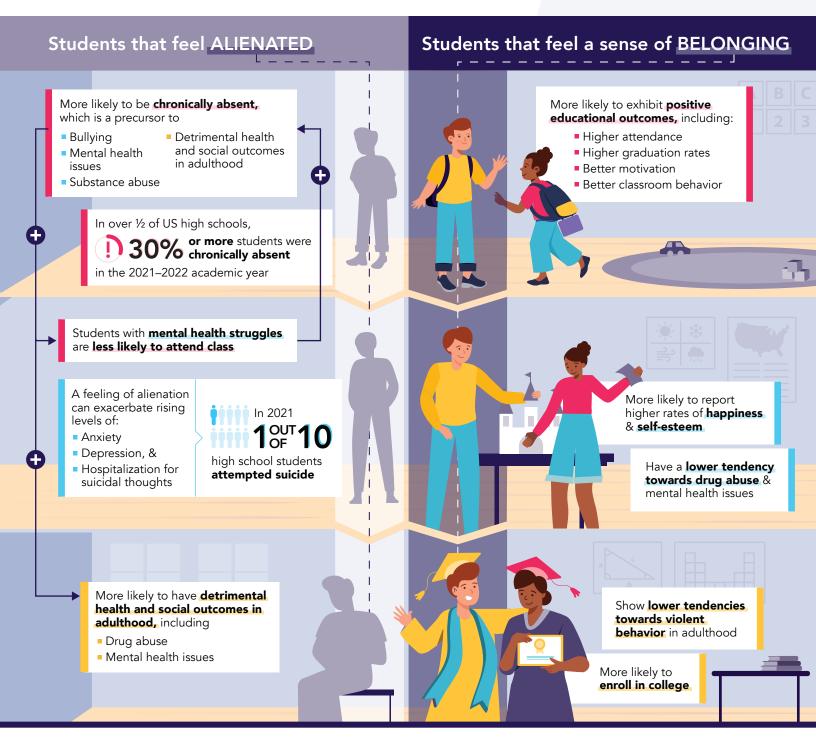
Educational experiences

! Mental health

**Future success** 



40% of US night school students do not feel connected to school



## Schools Have a Duty to Help all Students Feel that They Belong

Research-backed practices include:



Building a sense of connectedness where students feel they are cared for by adults and peers



**Building curricula** that reflects student's diverse identities and teaches children how to manage their emotions

**Continually assessing students' sense of belonging**, then acting on opportunities to improve

Source: A Crisis of Student Belonging by Dr. Francesca López, Ross Wiener, and Dr. Lorén Cox