

# Innovations in School Redesign: Keeping Student Voices at the Center

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# Presenters

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2025)



# Historical Context

- School demographics
- Member of CY NSI
- Survey Results
- SEL work on smaller scale → Schoolwide initiative
- Student involvement opportunities – announcements, starting SGA

# Our Approach to the Design Process

- Set out with focus on student agency, belonging and connectedness
- Challenges with data correlation initially...how did we redesign metrics that were relevant?
- Focus on Student Voice was always a part of the main thing, but not the main thing initially, rather organically through feedback and the initial success of involving students...this IS the main thing!
- Share design process and artifacts



### DEFINE

Students need increased opportunities to develop and demonstrate agency, belonging and connectedness to improve outcomes for students including attendance.



### CREATE

Established a prototype of a schoolwide homeroom class called "Knight Time" and the daily themes for each day's schedule and thematic lesson implementation.



### IMPROVE

Redefined our implementation, feedback mechanisms, and opportunities for student-driven improvements to the "Knight Time" experience. Improvement is ongoing.

1



### EMPATHIZE

Developed the best possible understanding of our school needs related to student agency, belonging and connectedness through adult and student feedback.

2



### IMAGINE

How can we strategically and systematically create more opportunities to elevate student agency, belonging, and connectedness within our school parameters?

3

4

5

6



### TEST

Implemented "Knight Time" classes from the start of the school year and utilized multiple process measures including student and adult observer and participant feedback to measure outcomes.

## Southside Middle Design Process 2024-2025









# Southside Middle Design Process Artifacts



## Bell & Lunch Schedule 2024-2025

Period	Time	Period	Time
Knight Time	9:25 - 9:55	1/6	11:06 - 11:03
1/6	9:58 - 11:03	LUNCH	2/7
2/7	11:06 - 11:58	3/8	12:53 - 1:58
3/8	2:02 - 3:07	4/9	3:10 - 4:15
4/9	3:10 - 4:15	5/10	4:15 - 4:25
5/10	4:15 - 4:25	Dismissal	

4

## Knight Time

You Matter Mondays	Turn & Talk Tuesdays	Wellness Wednesdays	Thoughtful Thursdays	Focused Fridays
"You Matter Mondays" will focus on improving student agency, belonging, and connections as well as amplifying student voice by exploring topics centered on IDENTITIES, ACTIVATIONS, SELF-ADVOCACY, and TRIBE and related MEETING discussions.	"Turn and Talk Tuesdays" will focus on improving student agency, belonging, and connections as well as amplifying student voice by exploring topics centered on COMMUNICATION and CULTURAL DIVERSITY with a focus on the Week to practice.	"Wellness Wednesdays" will focus on improving student agency, belonging, and connections as well as amplifying student voice by exploring topics centered on PHYSICAL, MENTAL, and EMOTIONAL HEALTH in our journey on SOCIAL ACADMIC DEVELOPMENT.	"Thoughtful Thursdays" will focus on improving student agency, belonging, and connections as well as amplifying student voice by exploring topics centered on CHARACTER TRAITS, INQUIRY, BEHAVIORS, and LEADERSHIP. TRAITS and what these look like and sound like in action.	"Focused Fridays" will focus on improving student agency, belonging, and connections as well as amplifying student voice by exploring topics centered on REFLECTION, CELEBRATION of the week and GOAL SETTING for the following week. We will incorporate a "You Matter" discussion and what these look like and sound like in action.

### Keep In Mind...

Knight Time will happen every day Monday through Friday from 9:25-9:58am. We will do morning announcements including the pledge led by a 507th, all daily reminders needed, and lead a Calm Classroom practice in English and Spanish.



## LET'S PRACTICE

What is your name? ما اسمك ما اسمك? ¿Cuál es tu nombre?  
 My name is ..... اسمي هو ..... asmi hu ..... Mi nombre es .....  
 What is your favorite hobby? هوايتك المفضلة ما هي هوايتك المفضلة? ¿Cuál es tu pasatiempo favorito?  
 My favorite hobby is ..... هوايتي المفضلة هي ..... hiwayati almuafadati hi tu pasatiempo favorito  
 Are you trying? C'mon...you can do it!

SPANISH



6



## Knight Time Student Participant Feedback



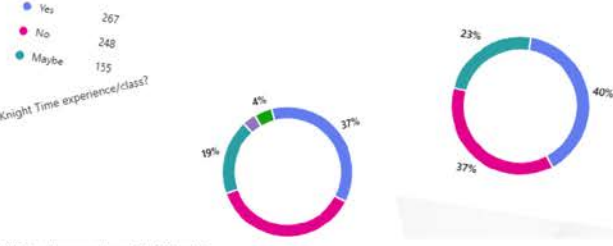
## Knight Time Fidelity Implementation Tool

9. The teacher provides opportunities for student involvement in implementation of KT lesson.

Yes: 102  
No: 21

13. Is there anything about your Knight Time class you wish you could change?

Yes: 267  
No: 248  
Maybe: 155



### Knight Time Classroom Observation Notecatcher

Observer: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Knight Time Teacher/Room #: \_\_\_\_\_

Category	Observations
What Students See	Look around the classroom. What do you notice? Are there posters, charts, or other learning materials including the visual display Are students working together or sitting quietly? Is the room organized or messy?
What Students Hear	Pay attention to the sounds in the room. What is the teacher saying? Are students asking questions or talking about their work? Is there background noise that makes it hard to focus? What are students saying about?
What Students Feel	Think about how the classroom is a welcoming and positive place. Does the teacher encourage them? Is the room a welcoming and positive place?
What Students Appreciate	Notice the things that make the room a welcoming and positive place. Are there activities that students appreciate?
Questions Students Have	What kinds of questions are students encouraged to ask questions?
What Students Did Not Like	Look for things that might be distractions making it hard to focus. Are there activities that students do not like?
Suggestions for Improvement	Think of ways to make the classroom more enjoyable? What suggestions do you have?



A	B	D	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	
Grade	Cohort	Total Observations	Teacher Present				KT for Designated Day on Display				Presentation Begins Promptly				Student Involvement			
			None (0%)	Some (1-49%)	Most (50-99%)	All (100%)	None (0%)	Some (1-49%)	Most (50-99%)	All (100%)	None (0%)	Some (1-49%)	Most (50-99%)	All (100%)	None (0%)	Some (1-49%)	Most (50-99%)	All (100%)
6 A		4				X			X					X				X
6 B		2				X				X				X				X
6 C		2				X				X				X				X
6 D		0																
6 E		2			X				X					X				X
6 F		5				X				X				X				X
6 G		2				X				X				X				X
6 H		1				X	X				X				X			
6 I		2				X				X				X				X
6 J		2				X				X				X				X
6 K		2				X			X		X						X	
7 A		4			X					X				X				X
7 B		2				X				X				X	X			
7 C		2				X				X				X				X
7 D		1 X					X				X				X			
7 E		2			X					X				X				X
7 F		3				X				X		X						X
7 G		3				X				X				X				X
7 H		2 X					X				X				X			
7 I		2			X					X	X							X
7 J		3				X				X				X				X
7 K		2				X				X				X				X
8 A		6				X			X				X				X	
8 B		5				X				X				X				X
8 C		6				X				X				X				X
8 D		7				X				X				X				X



## Knight Time Classroom Observation Notecatcher

Observer: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Knight Time Teacher/Room #: \_\_\_\_\_

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Category	Observations
What Students See	Look around the classroom. What do you notice? Are there posters, charts, or other learning materials including the visual display? Are students working together or sitting quietly? Is the room organized or messy?
What Students Hear	Pay attention to the sounds in the room. What is the teacher saying? Are students asking questions or talking about their work? Is there background noise that makes it hard to focus? What are students talking about?
What Students Feel	Think about how the classroom feels. Do students seem happy, excited, or frustrated? Does the teacher encourage them? Is the room a welcoming and positive place?
What Students Appreciate	Notice the things that make the classroom enjoyable. Are the lessons fun and engaging? Does the teacher help students when needed? Are there activities that make learning interesting? What stands out to you in this classroom that you appreciate?
Questions Students Have	What kinds of questions are students asking? Are they curious about the lesson? Do they need more explanations? Are they encouraged to ask questions? What questions do YOU have as the observer?
What Students Did Not Like	Look for things that might be frustrating for students. Are instructions unclear? Are students struggling to stay engaged? Are there distractions making it hard to learn? What don't you like about this Knight Time experience?
Suggestions for Improvement	Think of ways to make the classroom better. Could the teacher explain things differently? Are there changes that could make learning more enjoyable? What could improve this Knight Time experience?

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### Guide for Using This Notecatcher:

1. **Before You Observe:** Look over the categories so you know what to focus on. Bring this notecatcher and something to write with.
2. **While Observing:**
  - o Write down details as you notice them.
  - o Be fair and focus on what's happening, not just your opinions.
  - o Try not to interrupt or change how the classroom normally runs.
3. **After Observing:**
  - o Look over your notes and make sure they make sense. Add to them if necessary.
  - o Think about patterns—what stood out the most?
  - o Use your notes to give helpful feedback if needed. What did you not capture that you would like to discuss?

						
<b>What Students See</b>	<b>What Students Hear</b>	<b>What Students Feel</b>	<b>What Students Appreciate</b>	<b>Questions Students Have</b>	<b>What Students Did Not Like</b>	<b>Suggestions for Improvement</b>



Handwritten student feedback forms with icons for eyes, ears, heart, smiley face, question mark, and a clipboard.

What Students See	What Students Hear	What Students Feel	What Students Appreciate	Questions Students Have	What Students Did Not Like	Suggestions for Improvement
<p>Lots of boys' pants</p> <p>They are doing it all the time</p> <p>There is a lot of mess</p>	<p>They were quiet</p>	<p>they were loving and they were happy because in the face 1 sec and the face</p>	<p>the students appreciate that the teacher was over time</p> <p>what students appreciate because the teacher was speaking about night time.</p>	<p>the students have questions about who was his hero.</p>	<p>there were a lot of night time because some classes that don't have but the class they have night time.</p> <p>student</p>	<p>to explain the things more differently learning more enjoyable</p>



# Participation in the 2025 National School Redesign Showcase

- Student voice on display; taking ownership...our WHY!!!
- Impact
- Lessons Learned
- Student opportunities & experiences
- Insert slides with pics

# Transition & Next Steps

- End of year Student Feedback
- CHANGE! - School Leadership, CY NSI & scheduling format
- Knight Time lesson creation hurdles
- Incorporation of student voice (Knight Time Student Feedback & Ideas Survey)
- Future plans for student voice (Students helping lead/plan Knight Time Lessons)
- Hopes for JHU Showcase for 2026

	D	F	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O
Email	Language	Name of Knight Time	What is your grade?	What Knight Time is it?	Which lesson or activity?	What new topics, activities?	Would you like to help?	What makes a Knight?	Any other ideas or comments?	
s20149207@students.d. English (United States)	Sooha	8th	Thanksgiving because I'm African American because the new trends been going	Yes, I'd like to help	Interesting					
s20119223@students.d. English (United States)	Ms sphone	8th	None I just don't pay my	None of them because I	Some interesting like col	Yes, I'd like to help	That I have time for me	Nope		
s20148363@students.d. English (United States)	ms. janota	8th	think and reflect	active listening	think and reflect	No, not right now	questions	no		
s20086257@students.d. Español (España, alfabetización)	Ms. Janota	8th	Hispanic ones	None	No	No, not right now	I don't know	No		
s20045520@students.d. English (United States)	Ms Schien	7th	The heritage month	9-11	About Recycling	Maybe, I'd like more info	Meditation	Clubs and Early release		
s20046211@students.d. English (United States)	Mr Parker	7th	Wellness Wednesday	Native American	Acknowledging mental health	Maybe, I'd like more info	When they recognize religion	None		
s20049738@students.d. English (United States)	Ms. Schieben	7th	Culture and heritage it's	Turn and talk tuesdays	Competitive activity's	Yes, I'd like to help	Action	No		
s20023509@students.d. English (United States)	Ms greenwell	8th	The brain break	The bizi	I don't know	Maybe, I'd like more info	The things I get to learn	Nope		
s20049531@students.d. English (United States)	Ms. Schieben	7th	Red Ribbon Week	Because I don't like then	To have the admin princ	Yes, I'd like to help	Something creative	Make more fun like movies		
s20070354@students.d. English (United States)	Ms. Schieben	7th	Red ribbon	Native American probably	Probably about sports	Yes, I'd like to help	If it's something about it	No		
s20003655@students.d. English (United States)	Robertson	8th	Tuesday, the game thing	Monday, it's Monday	Resources for us	Yes, I'd like to help	Interactive parts	No		
s20104142@students.d. English (United States)	Mr. Parker	7th	None of them because I	All of them it's too early	No knight time lesson	No, not right now	Having no knight time	No knight time		
s20156818@students.d. English (United States)	Mr. Parker	7th	When we research on it	The one where why have	Hey, I want more this or	Yes, I'd like to help	If we can be ourselves	MORE THIS OR THATS		
s20254667@students.d. English (United States)	James Parker	7th	The mental health one	The Native American on	Another mental health class	No, not right now	When we don't have to	No Thank You		
s20267513@students.d. Español (España, alfabetización)	alfabetización sponers joseph	8th	ninguna	todas	una que sea con el tele	No, not right now	divertida	no		
s20076381@students.d. English (United States)	Ms. Jones	7th	Calm classroom because	Morning announcement	I don't think we need any	No, not right now	They don't think they're	no		
s20258218@students.d. English (United States)	mr. sponers	8th	native american	none	something is fun	No, not right now	none	none		
s20114743@students.d. English (United States)	jones themal	7th	none of them waste of	none of them	cars cars cars cars cars	Yes, I'd like to help	cars	cars		
s20250361@students.d. Español (España, alfabetización)	Sponers Joseph	8th	ninguna	todas	una actividad que sea de	No, not right now	Una que se use de tele	no ninguna		
s20263004@students.d. English (United States)	mr. sponers	8th	native american	none	none	No, not right now	none	none		
s20045409@students.d. English (United States)	Thelma Jones	7th	idk	idk	the school	No, not right now	idk	no		
s20266392@students.d. Español (España, alfabetización)	Ms. Esconiers jhosep	8th	nose	nose	que nos den un tiempo	Maybe, I'd like more info	divertida	nose cuh		
s20140271@students.d. English (United States)	Mrs Jones	7th	neither because it's a little	spanish month because it	more activities that are fun	No, not right now	when we get to talk to	we want to be in mr sponers		
s20267589@students.d. Español (España, alfabetización)	Mr. Sponers	8th	Native Americans	No one	Teamworks	Yes, I'd like to help	We work together and	no		
s20233237@students.d. Español (España, alfabetización)	alfabetización mr m	7th	semana hispana, me gusta la semana americana, no sobre formula 1		Maybe, I'd like more info	que tenga buenos temas	creo que sería buena idea			

# December Knight Time

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b> Culture of CAREacter: Perseverance	<b>2</b> Student Voice: What motivates you?	<b>3</b> Calm Classroom Remix: Breathing + Grounding Exercises	<b>4</b> Teamwork Challenge: Team-Building Activity	<b>5</b> Attendance Push: More This or That	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Culture of CAREacter: Perseverance	<b>9</b> Sports Talk Tuesday	<b>10</b> Wellness Wednesday: Seeking Help	<b>11</b> School Culture: What makes SMS unique?	<b>12</b> KT Attendance Streak Challenge: How's it Going	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Culture of CAREacter: Perseverance	<b>16</b> How to Make Money as a Middle School Student Safety	<b>17</b> Spirit Week Healthy Break Habits: Food, Sleep, Screen time	<b>18</b> Cultural Pride: Holidays and Traditions Around the World	<b>19</b> KT Attendance Streak Challenge: And the Winner Is	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> NO SCHOOL	<b>23</b> NO SCHOOL	<b>24</b> NO SCHOOL	<b>25</b> NO SCHOOL	<b>26</b> NO SCHOOL	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> NO SCHOOL	<b>30</b> NO SCHOOL	<b>31</b> NO SCHOOL			