Learner Variability and Culturally Responsive Practices

An AACTE & Digital Promise Webinar Series

November 10, 2022

Housekeeping

- **This webinar is being recorded.** All those who registered will receive a follow up email with a link to access the recording, slides, and any other resources the panel may want to share.

- **This webinar has closed captioning (cc).** You can set your preference of cc at the bottom in the zoom toolbar at the bottom of your screen.

- **Engage with @AACTE** and our members during today's webinar

- For **technical issues** during this webinar, chat or email Brooke Evans (bevans@aacte.org)

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Today's Moderators

Alexandra Merritt Johnson
Inclusive Innovation Researcher

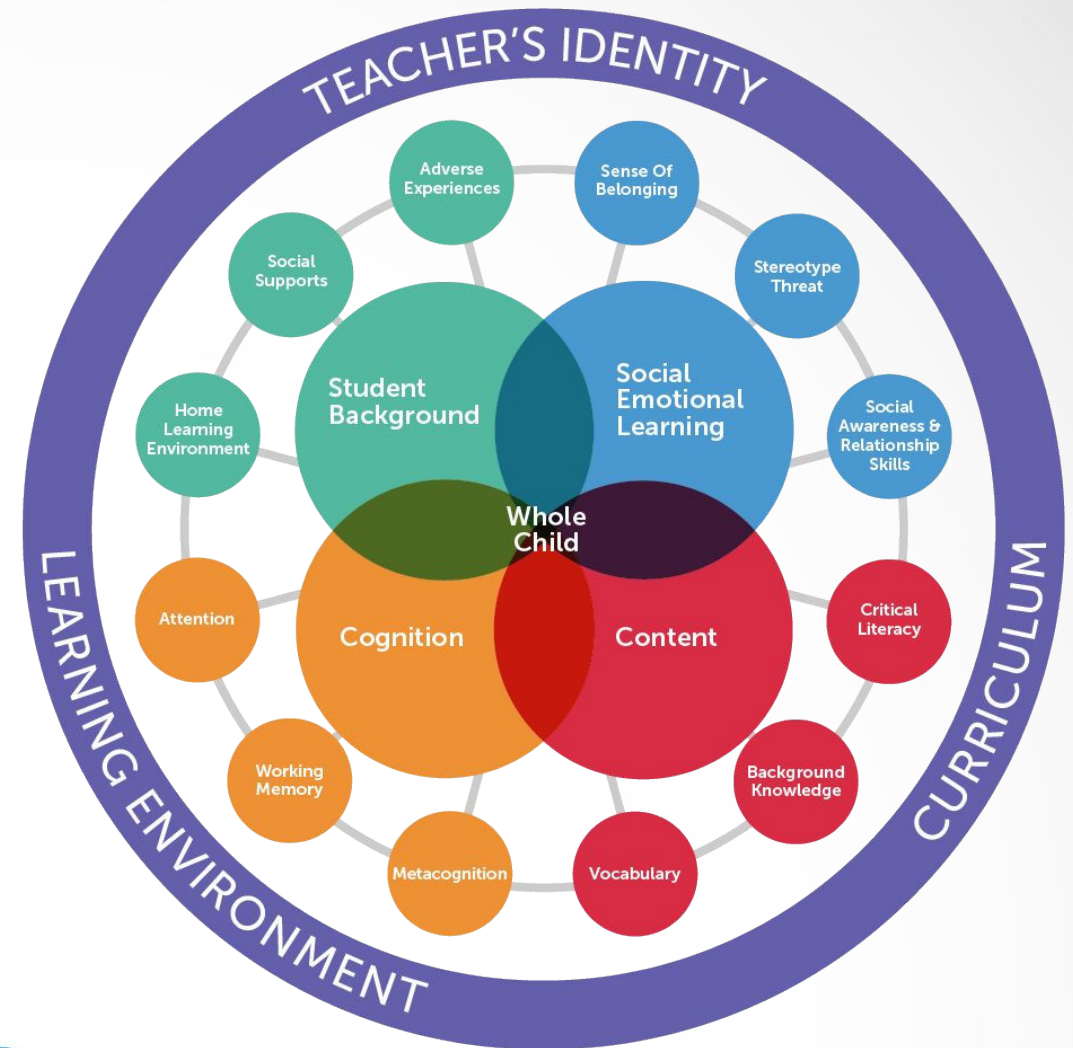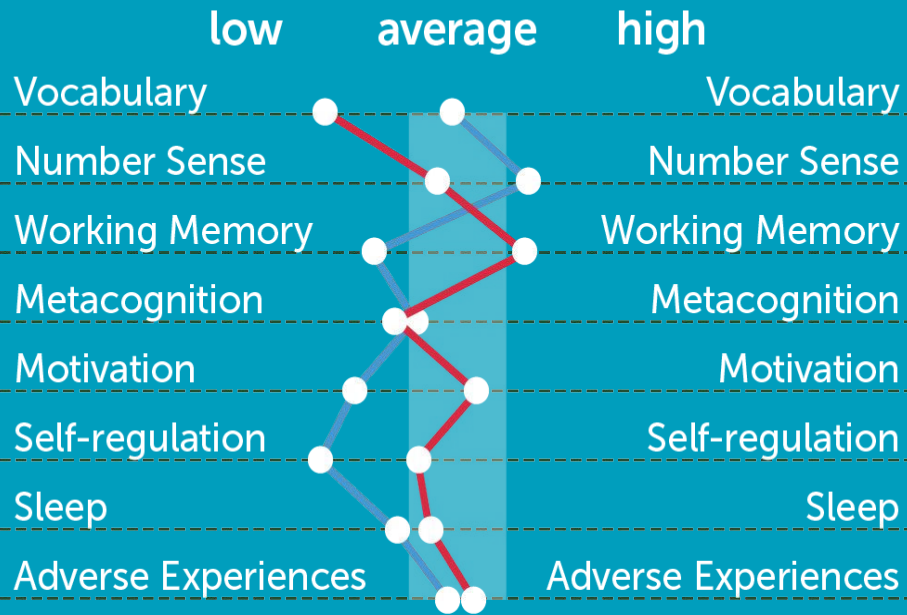**Jessica Jackson**
Director of Professional Learning

Powered by

The Learner Variability Project

at Digital Promise

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About Digital Promise

Digital Promise is a global nonprofit working to expand opportunity for every learner. We work with educators, researchers, technology leaders, and communities to design, investigate, and scale innovations that support learners, especially those who've been historically and systematically excluded.

Today's Discussion

Each learner is unique

	low	average	high	
Vocabulary				Vocabulary
Number Sense				Number Sense
Working Memory				Working Memory
Metacognition				Metacognition
Motivation				Motivation
Self-regulation				Self-regulation
Sleep				Sleep
Adverse Experiences				Adverse Experiences

TEACHER'S IDENTITY

CURRICULUM

LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

Adverse Experiences

Sense Of Belonging

Social Supports

Stereotype Threat

Home Learning Environment

Student Background

Social Emotional Learning

Social Awareness & Relationship Skills

Whole Child

Attention

Cognition

Content

Critical Literacy

Working Memory

Background Knowledge

Metacognition

Vocabulary

Today's Panel

Angela Elkordy, PhD
Assistant Professor, Educational
Leadership, at the National College of
Education, National Louis University,
Chicago, IL

Leigh Ann Erikson
Educator, activist, and author of *What is
White Privilege,* has taught in NYC,
Chicago, rural Ohio, and Mt. Vernon
Iowa

Courtney Teague, PhD
Deputy Director Internal
Professional Learning and
Coaching, author of "How to
Win Students and Inspire
Them" and "The Uncommon
Coach."

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Culturally Responsive Practice

At Digital Promise, we define culturally responsive practice as a research-based approach that connects students' cultures, languages, and life experiences to what they learn in school and pushes back on dominant narratives about historically marginalized people. Culturally responsive practice **builds cognitive capacity** and **academic mindset**. It does this by **helping teachers develop their own awareness for how to connect students' funds of knowledge to content and academic experiences**.

Research has shown that even brief professional development for educators on the science of learning and memory, and how it connects to classroom practices, can have vast benefits for teachers' confidence and understanding of instructional approaches, including showing an increase in student-centered approaches and improvements to lesson plans

(Howard-Jones et al., 2020; Schwartz et al., 2019).

Impact on Practice

Culturally Responsive Teaching
"We have made a huge effort to work on our **anti-bias** and anti racist practices in our school and instruction. The learner variability [navigator] was another tool we can use to make sure that our instruction is as culturally relevant as possible."- Elementary school teacher (Beaverton, OR, teaching virtually)
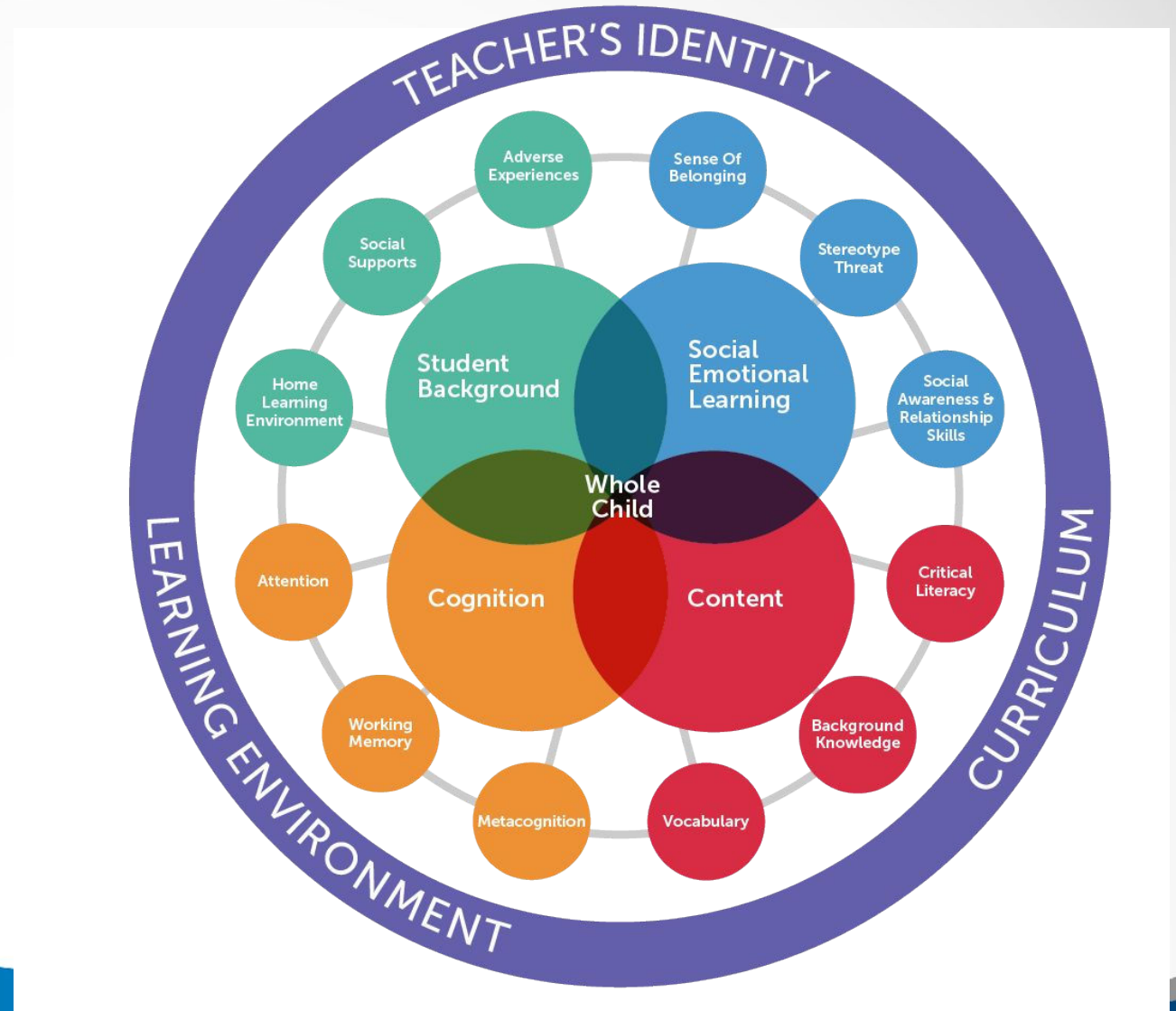
Meet the Learner Variability Navigator

Get an easily digestible summary of each learner factor and explore how they are connected across a whole child framework

lvp.digitalpromiseglobal.org
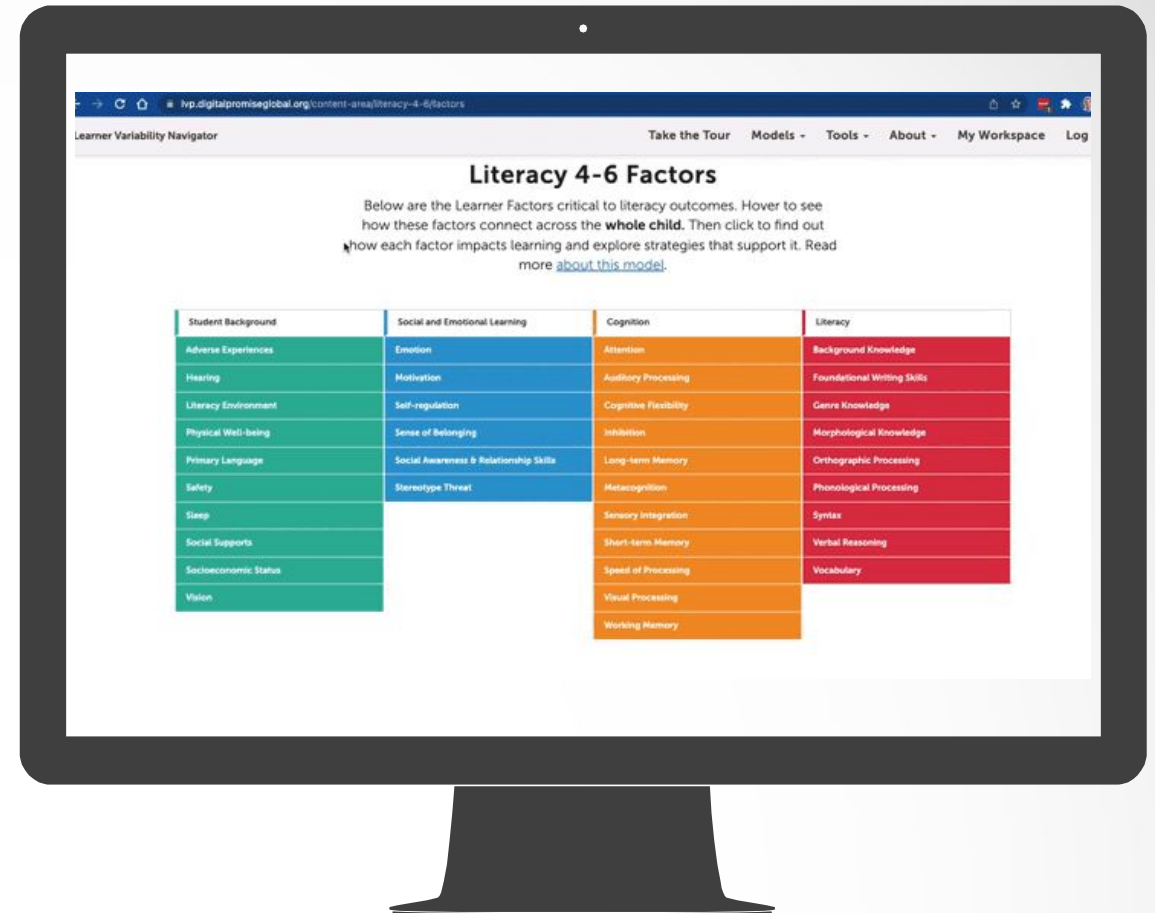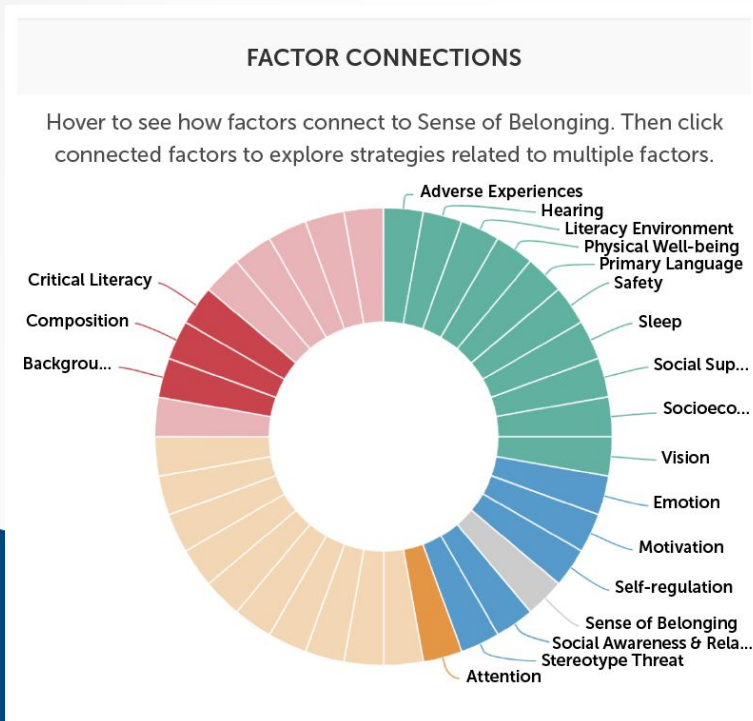
Join Our Pilot

- Seeking professors in teacher education programs (graduate and undergraduate) to share impact of integrating LVN into courses

Participation includes:

- – Share a survey on learner variability with students at the beginning and end of course
- – Integrate the LVN in your course; share syllabus or sample activities with us
- – Participate in a focus group
- – Free consultation for participants as needed
- – Honorarium $500
- Information Session Dec 6th 4:00 pm EST

https://bit.ly/lvedpilot

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Contact Us

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Resources

[The Learner Variability Navigator](#)

[The Culturally Responsive Topic Page](#)

[The Culturally Responsive Guide](#)

[Our Research Process FAQ](#)

[Join our Pilot](#)

Thank you for joining us!

*You will receive an email with a webinar recording and resources
Share your thoughts with @AACTE and @DigitalPromise*

Citations

Howard-Jones, P. A., Jay, T., & Galeano, L. (2020). Professional Development on the Science of Learning and teachers' Performative Thinking—A Pilot Study. *Mind, Brain, and Education*, *14*(3), 267–278.

Pape, B. (2018). Learner Variability is the Rule, Not the Exception

Rose, Todd & Rouhani, Parisa & Fischer, Kurt. (2013). The Science of the Individual. Mind, Brain, and Education. 7. 10.1111/mbe.12021.

Schwartz, M. S., Hinesley, V., Chang, Z., & Dubinsky, J. M. (2019). Neuroscience knowledge enriches pedagogical choices. *Teaching and Teacher Education*, *83*, 87–98.

Tare, M., Shell. A. R., & Jackson, J. (2022, June). Shifting mindsets: Designing lessons for learner variability. Digital Promise.