

# Establishing a Positive Social Culture

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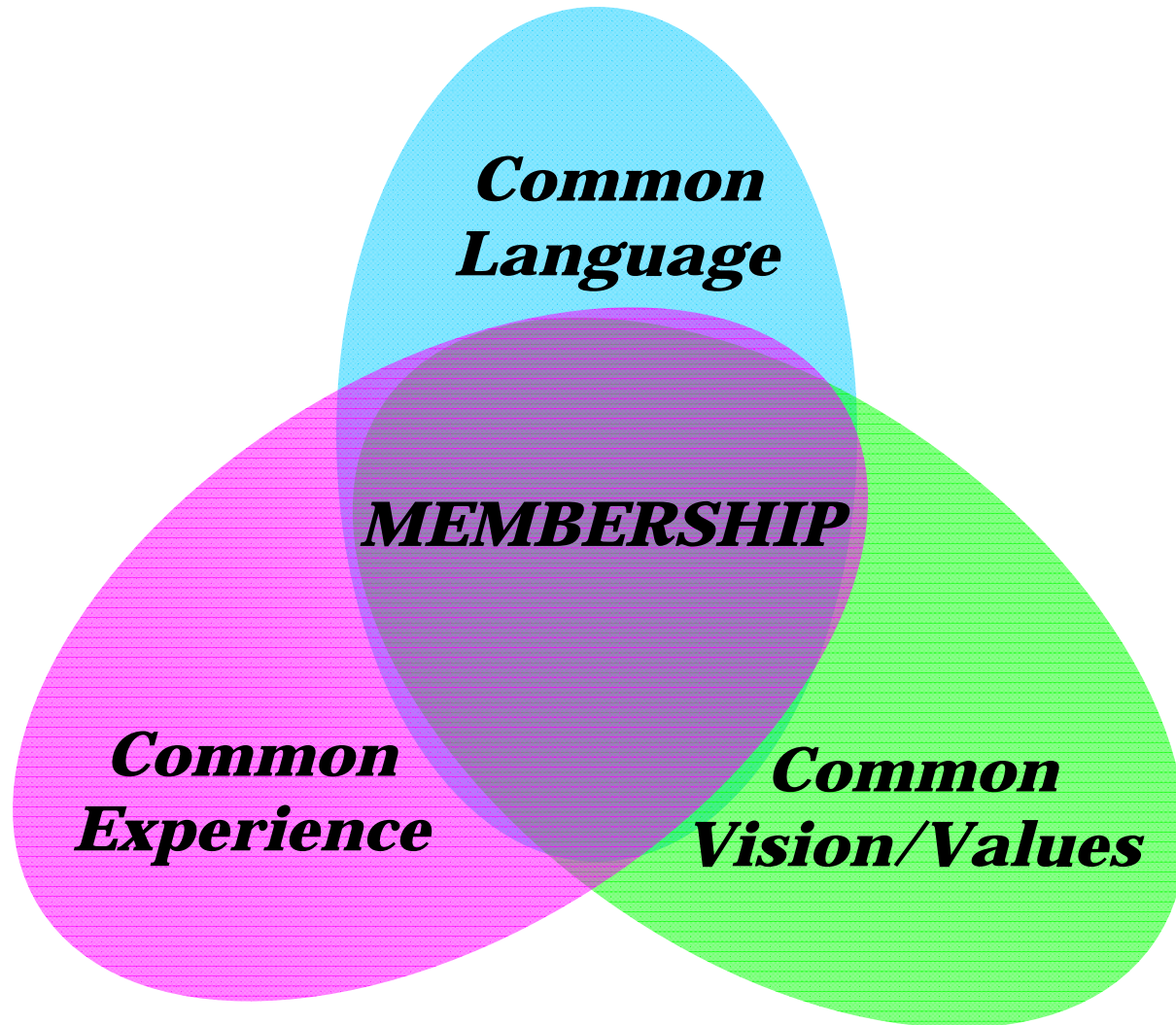
# Goals

- Define Social Culture
- The role of Social Culture within SWPBS
- Provide research demonstrating the impact of investing in development of a positive social culture

# Social Culture

- The standards used to identify acceptable and unacceptable behavior
  - For Individuals:        Ethics
  - For Groups:            Social Culture

# Establishing a Social Culture



# Main Messages

- Students learn as much or more from each other as they do from us
- Establishing a positive social culture changes how students interact with each other
- The impact of peer contingencies increases with grade level.

# What is School-wide Positive Behavior Support?

- School-wide PBS is:
  - A systems approach for establishing the **social culture** and individualized behavioral supports needed for schools to be effective learning environments for all students.
- Evidence-based features of SW-PBS
  - Prevention
  - Define and teach positive social expectations
  - Acknowledge positive behavior
  - Arrange consistent consequences for problem behavior
  - On-going collection and use of data for decision-making
  - Continuum of intensive, individual interventions.
  - Administrative leadership – Team-based implementation (Systems that support effective practices)

# Examples

- Be Safe (2<sup>nd</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> grade) Go down the slide the right way
- Wall ball (4<sup>th</sup> grade) Derrick, there **are** rules!”
- Class reward (7<sup>th</sup> grade) “Be there - be ready”
- Hallway (3<sup>rd</sup> grade) “Being responsible in the hallway means walking quietly”
- **Teach school-wide behavioral expectations to empower students.**

# Empirical Analyses

- Lisa Cushing: [Assessing Social Culture](#)
  - Patterns of social feedback from peers
- Jennifer Jeffery: [Social Culture in Cafeteria](#)
  - Changing social contingencies
- Scott Ross: [Bully Prevention](#)
  - Implications for bully prevention
- Russ Skiba: [Disproportionality](#)
  - Implications for Disproportionality

# Summary

- Social Culture Matters
- Invest in building a positive social culture
  - Change adult behavior
  - Change how students interact with each other
- A positive social culture will improve
  - Social behavior
  - Effectiveness of other behavioral interventions
  - The quality of the school as a learning environment