



# Guiding Circles In Action:

**Using Guiding Circles in the Secondary Classroom**

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# Adapting the Guiding Circles Philosophy

## Things to Consider:

- Curricular Connections
- The Needs of Students
- Personal Goals and Philosophy



# Making Curricular Connections

## **GLS10, Grade 9, General Learning Strategies**

- Literacy and numeracy skills
- Personal management skills
- Interpersonal and teamwork skills
- Tools for success at school, in the workplace and in the community

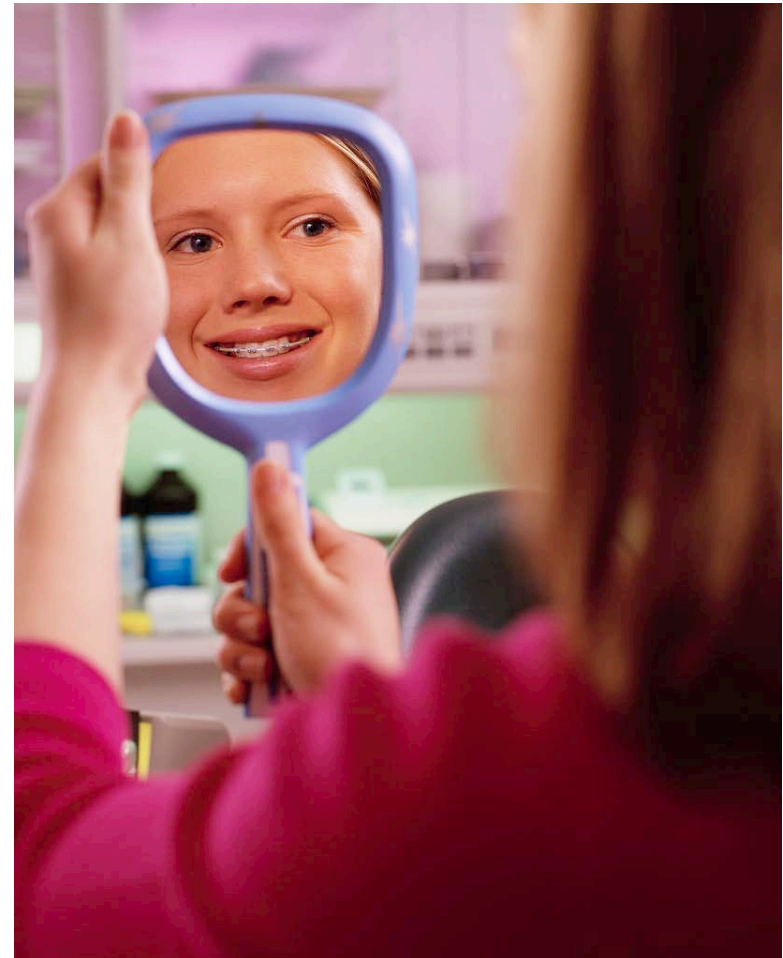
# Meeting the Needs of Students



- Multicultural
- Large “at-risk” population
- High suspension rate
- 70% male
- 75% have been identified as having special needs
- Largely disengaged

# Personal Goals and Philosophy

- Engage students
- Encourage cooperation and community
- Encourage self-reflection and discovery
- Encourage career awareness



# The Power of Story Telling

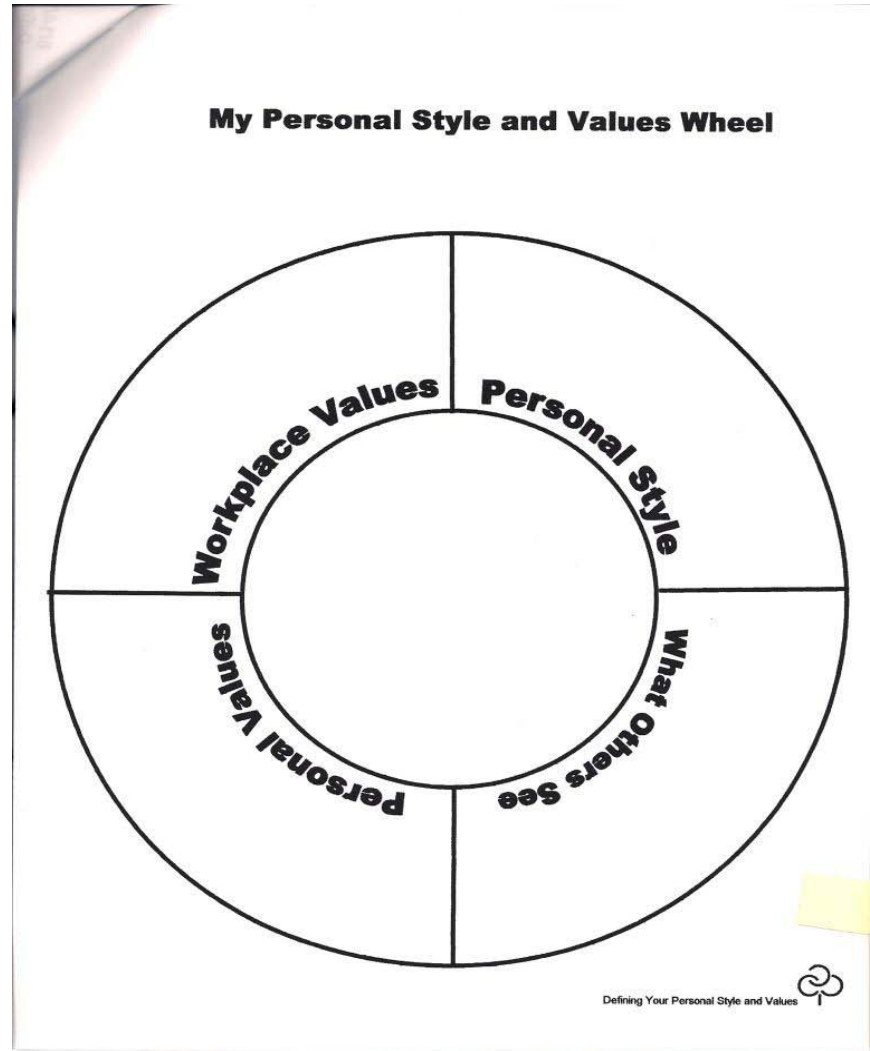


- Fosters community
- Encourages introspection
- Builds confidence
- Connects skills and talents to the world of work

# Defining Personal Style



- Interactive, visual and kinesthetic activities
- Identify positive and negative character traits
- Identify skills and talents

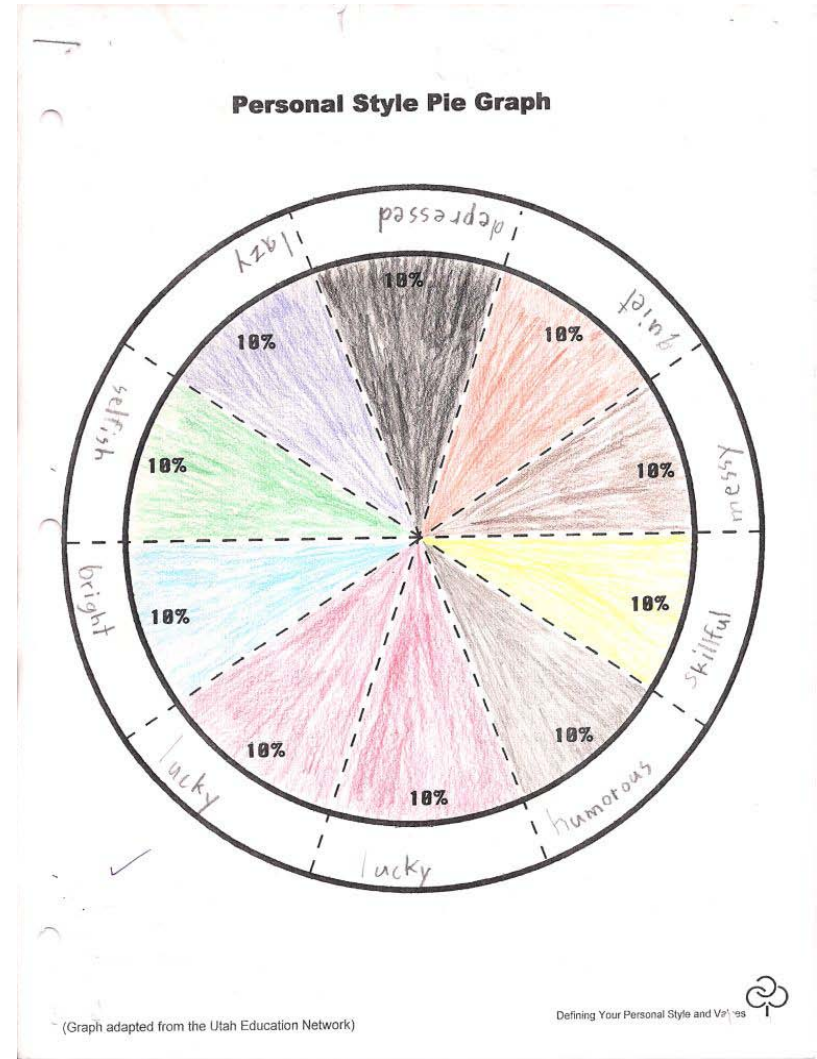


# Defining Personal Style

Jan P.

Video games  
 Action games  
 Strategy  
 brain  
 make plans  
 be at next level  
 patience

fast  
 get done  
 play with  
 prefers playing  
 fighting go  
 beat up oth  
 read sequ  
 guides  
 button ma  
 learn  
 motor sk



# Expanding the Circle



- Positive and constructive feedback from family, friends, community members and employers
- Enables students to “see” themselves more completely

# Uncovering Values



- **Identify and rank common social values**

What do you care about and consider important?

How do our families, friends, and community shape our values?

- **Outline personal connections and values**

Which connections are strong?

Which connections can be strengthened for success?

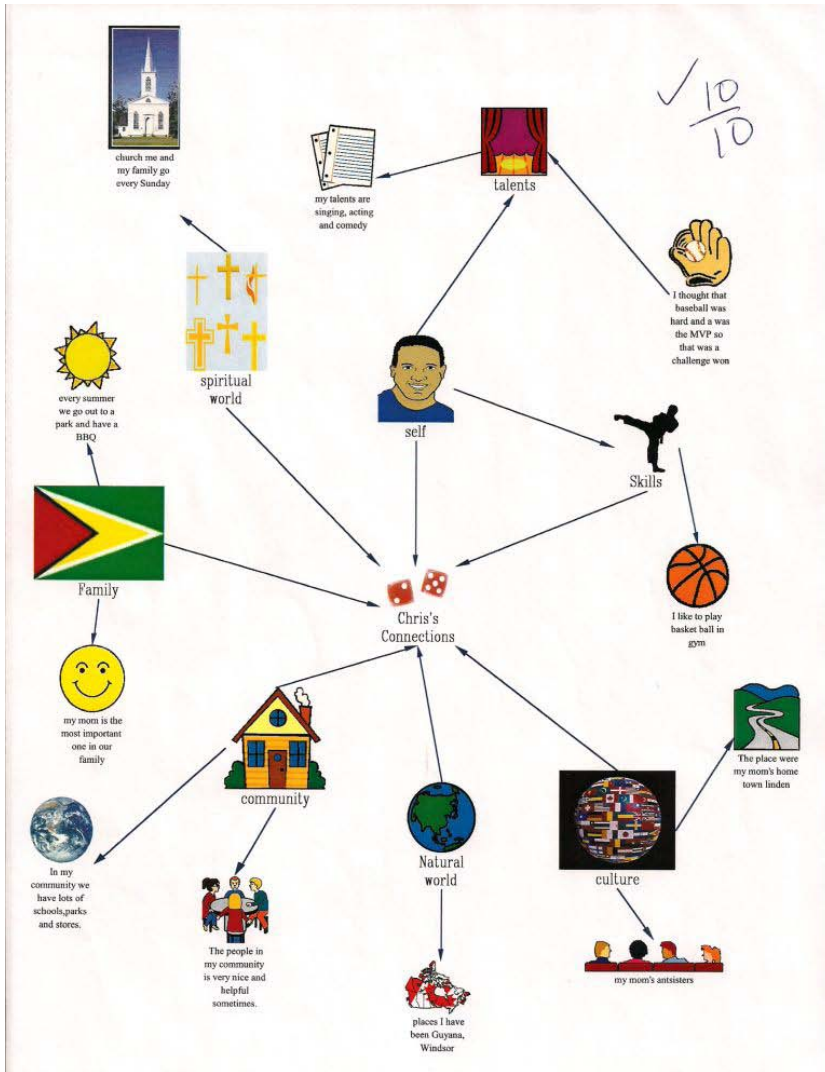
- **Compare personal and workplace values**

What do employers value?

What is the relationship between values and career happiness?

How important is work/life balance?

# Uncovering Values

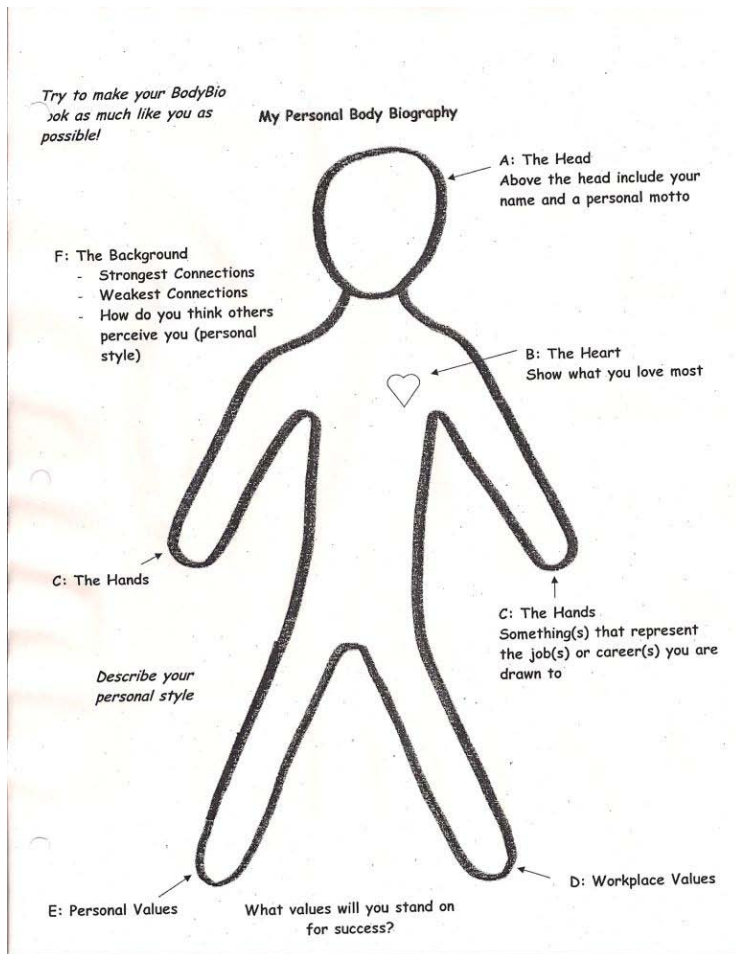


## VALUES CARD SORT

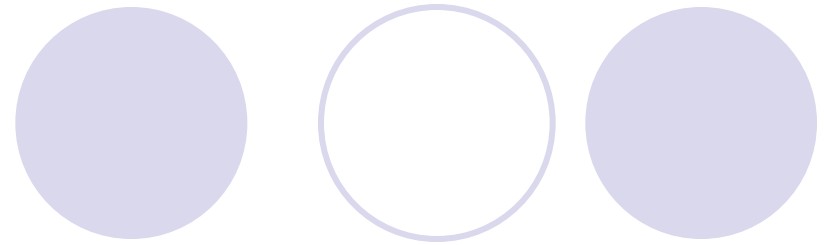
- Sort cards ... IMPORTANT TO ME and ... NOT IMPORTANT TO ME
- Sort IMPORTANT TO ME cards ... CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT and ... IMPORTANT BUT NEGOTIABLE
- Take CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT ... Keep FIVE (5) only

I want to help others	I want a job that matches my religious beliefs	I want to work with others
I want a job that others think is important	I want to stay in or near my community	I want to be able to spend time with my family
I want to be able to take part in cultural activities	I want a job where everyone is respected equally	I want a job where sharing is encouraged
I want a job that encourages cooperation not competition	I want to be friends with my co-workers	I want a job where sense of is appreciated
I want mental, physical, emotional, and spiritual balance	I want my work to be meaningful	I want to be creative
I want to be able to pursue my hobbies	I want variety in my work	I want to make my own decisions at work
I want a powerful role at work	I want to make as much money as I can	I want work that is mentally challenging
I want to be sure that I can keep my job	I want status	I want vacation time

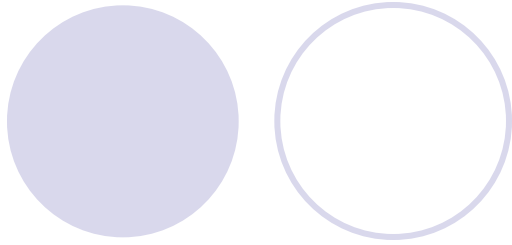
# Culminating Activity: Personal Body Biography



- Students create a life-size, verbal-visual summary of their learning
- Reflect on their personal style, values, interests, career goals
- Compare and contrast how they are seen by others
- Draw conclusions about how personal style and values relate to success in life
- Articulate an action plan for success



- **Motto:** “Work like you don’t need the money. Dance like nobody’s watching.”
- **Heart:** family, dancing, shopping, drawing.
- **Hands:** fashion designer, event planner, dancer.
- **Workplace Values:** “I want a job with flexible hours and vacations. I want to spend time with my family and friends, make as much money as I can and feel successful at my job.”



- **Motto:** “Only the strongest can survive.”
- **Heart:** video games, family, friends.
- **Hands:** basket ball
- **Personal and Workplace Values:**  
“I think it is important to get my education. I want a job with flexible hours and to make as much money as possible. I really want to make sure I can keep my job.”



# Guiding Circles in Action: Guiding Circles in the Secondary Classroom

*“Life is just a mirror, and what you see out there,  
you must first see inside you.”*

~Wally Amos

Author and Entrepreneur