

Neutralizing **Implicit Bias** in School Discipline

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#### Acknowledgements



#### PBIS Center Disproportionality Workgroup

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- Aaron Barnes
- □ Kimberly Bunch-Crump
- Alondra Canizal Delabra
- Yolanda Cargile
- Erin Chaparro
- Soraya Coccimiglio
- Tai Collins
- Bert Eliason
- Erik Girvan
- Steve Goodman
- Clynita Grafenreed
- Ambra Green
- Beth Hill
- Rob Horner

- Don Kincaid
- Milaney Leverson
- Tim Lewis
- Stephanie Martinez
- Kent McIntosh
- Rhonda Nese
- Vicki Nishioka
- Heidi von Ravensberg
- Ruthie Payno-Simmons
- Jennifer Rose
- Therese Sandomierski
- Russ Skiba
- Kent Smith
- Keith Smolkowski

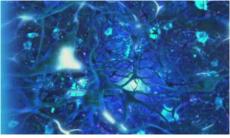
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### Overview of Today's Session

- Complete some activities to explore disproportionality in school discipline
- 2. Share an intervention approach for enhancing equity in school discipline
- Guide you through a data driven process for: 3.
  - Identify causes and solutions 1.
  - Change environments to prevent challenges 2.
  - Build skills in responding to challenges 3.

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON Stroop Task: A test of automatic associations

- Our brains are wired to look for patterns
- When we are forced to make quick decisions, we use our automatic associations to respond



### What is implicit bias?

- Unconscious, automatic
- Generally not an indication of our beliefs and values
- We all have it (even those affected by it)
- Based on stereotypes
- More likely to influence:
  - □Snap decisions
  - Decisions that are ambiguous

### Implicit Attractiveness Bias

(Salter, Mixon, & King, 2012)

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### Implicit Height Bias

(Judge & Cable, 2004)

One inch of height is worth \$789 per year in salary



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#### Implicit Bias in Refereeing (Carlson, 2014)



### Implicit Bias in Refereeing

(Carlson, 2014)

Team	Home game differential	Away game differential
Boston College	3	-14
Clemson	6	4
Duke	12	-27
Florida State	4	14
Georgia Tech	4	-13
Maryland	41	-41
Miami	-11	6
North Carolina	24	-24
N.C. State	б	6
Notre Dame	-8	-18
Pittsburgh	2	9
Syracuse	29	0
Virginia	22	17
Virginia Tech	0	-1
Wake Forest	9	-3

## So...are all referees terrible people?



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### **Implicit Bias and Race**

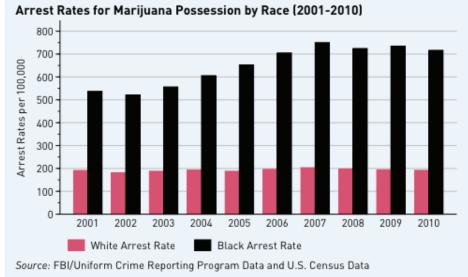
"the challenge is not a small number of twisted white supremacists but something infinitely more subtle and complex: People who believe in equality but who act in ways that perpetuate bias and inequality."

-Nicholas Kristof, The New York Times



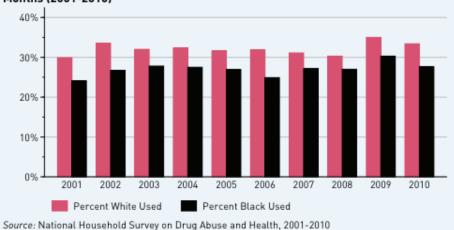
MAHZARIN R. BANAJI ANTHONY G. GREENWALD

#### **FIGURE 10**



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#### FIGURE 22



#### Marijuana Use Among 18- to 25-Year-Olds by Race: Used Marijuana in Past 12 Months (2001-2010)

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#### Implicit Bias in Early Learning (Gilliam et al., 2016)



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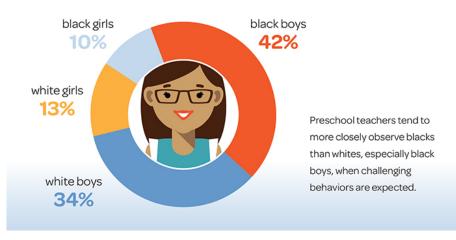
#### Implicit Bias in Early Learning (Gilliam et al., 2016)



### Implicit Bias in Early Learning

(Gilliam et al., 2016)

#### Track the eyes: Which students are teachers watching?



### Disproportionality in Preschool Discipline (OCR, 2016)

- Black children represent 19% of preschool enrollment, but 47% of preschool suspensions
- White children represent 41% of preschool enrollment, but 28% of preschool suspensions

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# Implicit Bias predicts the extent to which...



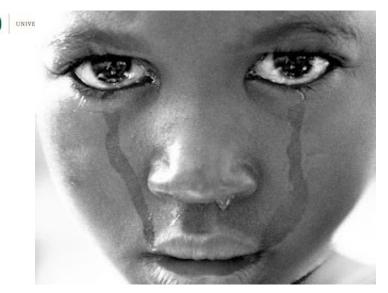
 Arbitrators decide labor grievances in favor of women over men (Girvan, Deason, & Borgida, 2015)



 Teachers of students with ASD experience anxiety, depression, and professional burnout (Kelly & Barnes-Holmes, 2013)



 Police Officers use force when arresting Black children as opposed to White children (Goff et al., 2014)



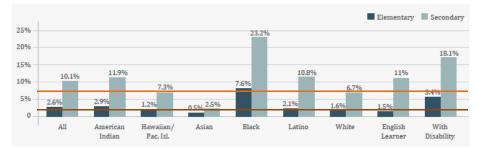
 Pediatricians recommend less pain medication for Black children than White children with identical symptoms (Cooper et al., 2012; Sabin & Greenwald, 2012) UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

# Where do implicit biases come from?

### **Pop Quiz:** What % of the Black population is incarcerated?

#### UNIVERSITY OF OREGON **Disproportionality in School** Discipline (Losen et al., 2015)

Figure 1. Elementary and Secondary Out-of-school Suspension Rates by Subgroup, 2011-12



http://civilrightsproject.ucla.edu/resources/projects/center-for-civil-rights-remedies/school-toprison-folder/federal-reports/are-we-closing-the-school-discipline-gap

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### If you're aware...



...you're halfway there.

A 5-point Intervention Approach to Enhance Equity in School Discipline

#### BIS Patta Retained

August 7, 2014

#### **Recommendations for Addressing Discipline Disproportionality** in Education

Kent McIntosh, Erik J. Girvan, Robert H. Horner, Keith Smolkowski, & George Sugai

ents one of the most significant problems in education today (Gregory Skiba & Noqueta 2010 U.S. Government Accountability Office 2013) The results of decades of research consistently show that students of color, particularly African American students (and even more so for those with disabilities), are at significantly increased risk for exposure to exclusionary discipline practices, including office discipline referrals and suspensions (e.g., Fabelo et al., 2011; Losen & Gillespie, 2012; Shaw & Braden, 1990). These differences have been found consistently across geographic region and cannot be adequately explained by the correlation between race and poverty (Noltemever & Mcloughlin, 2010). Given the well-documented negative effects of exclusionary discipline on a range of student outcomes (American Academy of Pediatrics Council on School Health, 2013), educators must address this issue by identifying rates of discipline disproportionality, taking steps to reduce it, and monitoring the effects of intervention or disproportionality. Disproportionality in exclusionary discipline blocks us from the overal objective of promoting positive outcomes for all students

components of Effective here a 5-point mil portionality in schools. ntervention to Prevent and Reduce Disproj Use Effective In he existing research is clear that that no single strates the Achievement Gan vill be sufficient to produce substantive and sustainal

Positive Behavioral Interventions & Supports (PBIS)

#### Because of the well-do

ed on next pay

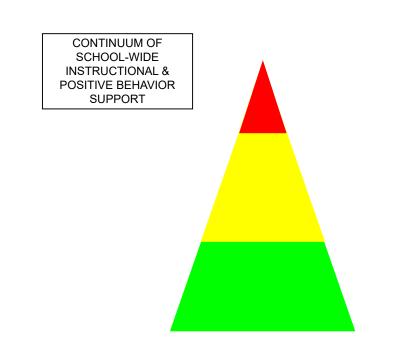
### 5-point Intervention Approach

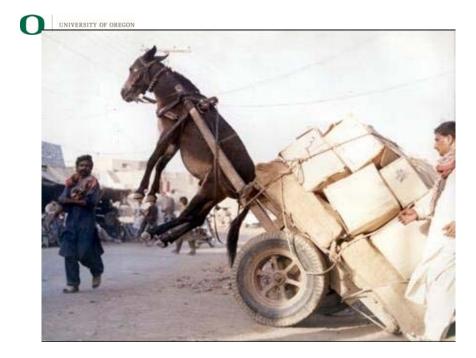
- 1. Use engaging **academic instruction** to reduce the opportunity (achievement) gap
- 2. Implement a behavior framework that is preventive, multi-tiered, and culturally responsive
- 3. Collect, use, and report disaggregated discipline data
- 4. Develop **policies** with accountability for disciplinary equity
- Teach strategies to neutralize implicit bias 5.

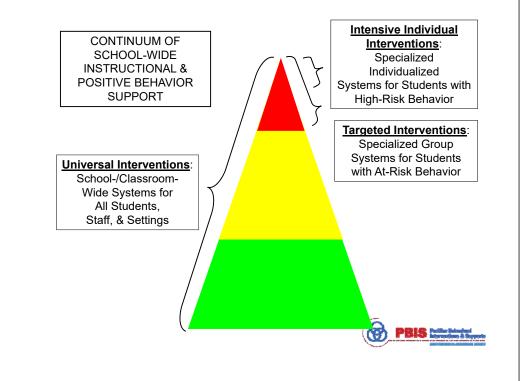
http://www.pbis.org/school/equity-pbis

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON 2. How do we make schools more inviting for all students?









# Why start with a foundation of PBIS?

- 1. Proactive, instructional approach *may* prevent unwanted behavior and exposure to biased responses to unwanted behavior
- 2. Increasing positive student-teacher interactions *may* enhance relationships to prevent challenges
- 3. More objective referral and discipline procedures *may* reduce subjectivity and influence of cultural bias
- 4. Professional development *may* provide teachers with more instructional responses

(Greflund et al., 2014)

### Effects of PBIS on Discipline Disproportionality

#### Vincent et al., 2011

- Statistically significantly lower Black-White ODR disproportionality in 72 schools implementing SWPBIS than in 81 schools not implementing SWPBIS
- Vincent et al., 2009
  - Decreases in ODRs seen across racial/ethnic groups in 69 schools implementing SWPBIS
- Scott, 2001
  - Larger decreases in suspensions for Black students when SWPBIS implemented
- McIntosh et al., 2014
  - Sustained decrease in suspensions over eight years of SWPBIS implementation in an Indigenous school

### Culturally Responsive PBIS Implementation

 Develop and revise school-wide systems with active involvement of families, students, and the community

#### **TEACHING MATRIX** C. Alton Lindsay Middle School rrival & Dismissal Hallway & Transitions Bathroom Cafeteria Classroom Walk directly to my Walk directly to my Keep hands, feet, Enter and exit with a Listen and belongings to designated area designated area pass or my teacher Follow directions the Stay in my area myself Throw away my trash first time given

afety First	<ul> <li>Talk softly</li> <li>Keep hands, feet, and belongings to myself</li> </ul>		Allow for the privacy     of others	and tray <ul> <li>Clean up after myself</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Ask appropriately for help</li> <li>Clean up after myself</li> <li>Follow lab rules and procedures</li> </ul>
ork Together Respectfully	Respect the space     of others	<ul> <li>Walk quietly in a single, straight, and silent line so that others can continue learning and working</li> <li>Walk to the right side of the hallway</li> </ul>	Conserve supplies:         2 squirts of soap         2 pushes/turns on         the paper towel         dispenser         Dispose of trash in         the trash can	Move away from conflict or distractions     Ask for help when needed     Be patient     Stay in line	Accept feedback and discipline from staff by listening, asking questions, and following directions the first time.     Be ready to learn     Be present and focused     Encourage others
ccept	• Keep to your own business	Remain quiet in QUIET ZONES     Carry my own belongings     Keep lockers locked     Walk directly to my designated area	Flush     Wash my hands     Use appropriate fixtures     Go	Maintain a clean space and conversation     Keep food on my tray or in my mouth	Attend class daily and on time     Clean up after myself     Be prepared for instruction with all necessary materials
Guide Me	Teachers will supervise groups of students at all times     Teachers will ensure that they know the location of all students	<ul> <li>Teachers will enforce safety</li> <li>Teachers will monitor students by being at their doors and in the hallways</li> </ul>	Teachers will <b>stand by bathrooms</b> to monitor     the noise and behavior     from the hallway	Teachers will <b>arrive on</b> time and pick up students on time Teachers will walk students directly into the cafeteria	Teachers will supervise groups of students at all times Teachers will be prepared for class - Lesson plans posted - Engaged and present - Observable outcomes

Culturally Responsive Adaptation: Personal Matrix

- Aka "behavior dictionary"
- Tool to assist in "code-switching"
- The tweak:

□ Take school expectations and...

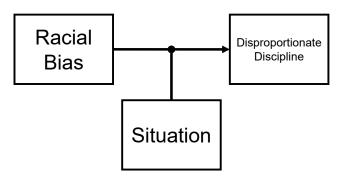
- Add differences at home
- Add differences in community

Expectation	At SCHOOL it looks like	At HOME it looks like…	In my NEIGHBORHOOD it looks like
	<ul> <li>Keep hands and feet to self</li> </ul>		
Be Safe	<ul> <li>Tell an adult if there is a problem</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>Treat others how you want to be treated</li> </ul>		
Be Respectful	Include others		
	Listen to adults		
	Do my own work		
Be Responsible	Personal best		
	<ul> <li>Follow directions</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>Clean up messes</li> </ul>		

Expectation	At SCHOOL it looks like	At HOME it looks like…	In my NEIGHBORHOOD it looks like
Be Safe	<ul> <li>Keep hands and feet to self</li> <li>Tell an adult if there is a problem</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Protect your friends and family</li> <li>Don't talk back</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Stick up for your friends</li> <li>Don't back down</li> <li>Look the other way</li> </ul>
Be Respectful	<ul> <li>Treat others how you want to be treated</li> <li>Include others</li> <li>Listen to adults</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Do exactly what adults tell you to do</li> <li>Don't stand out</li> <li>Don't bring shame</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Text back within 30 seconds</li> <li>Be nice to friends' parents</li> <li>Share food</li> </ul>
Be Responsible	<ul> <li>Do my own work</li> <li>Personal best</li> <li>Follow directions</li> <li>Clean up messes</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Help your family out first</li> <li>Own your mistakes</li> <li>Share credit for successes</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Have each other's backs</li> <li>Own your mistakes</li> <li>Check in about what to do</li> </ul>

O UNIVERSITY OF DRECON Culturally Responsive PBIS Implementation	UNIVERSITY OF OREGON	Stakeholder Input and Satisfaction Survey – Student MIDDLE/HIGH (SISS MIDDLE/HIGH)         Verwould like to hear from you about how you feel about your school. This survey asks what you think about behavior at school and what should be done to enhance how we treat and relate to each other. You do not have to answer all of the questions.         This survey is anonymous – nobody will know that your answers came from you.         What grade are you in?         Please answer these questions by circling one answer:         What is your ethnicity?         Hispanic/Latino/a       Not Hispanic/Latino/a
<ul> <li>Develop and revise school-wide systems with active involvement of families, students, and the community</li> <li>Use regular student and family surveys to assess acceptability and fit</li> </ul>	Stakeholder Input & Satisfaction Surveys	What is your race (please circle all that apply)?         American Indian/Alaska Native       Asian       Black/African American         Pacific Islander/Native Hawaiian       White       I prefer not to answer         Beyond that, is there another ethnic group you identify with?         What is your gender or gender identify?         Male       Female       Transgender       I prefer not to answer         Whot of the following best describes you?         Heterosexual (straight)       Gay or Lesbian       Bisexual       I prefer not to answer         Please pick an answer or fill in the blanks for the following questions:       EXPECTATIONS (how your teachers want you to behave at school)         Do you know how your teachers want you to behave at school?       YES / NO         What are the school-wide behavior expectations meaningful or important to you?       YES / NO         If not, what do you think the expectations should be?
UNIVERSITY OF OREGON		Inoroble Decision

5. How can we reduce implicit bias in our decision making?



What is a Vulnerable Decision Point (VDP)?

- A specific decision that is more vulnerable to effects of implicit bias
- Two parts:

□ Elements of the situation

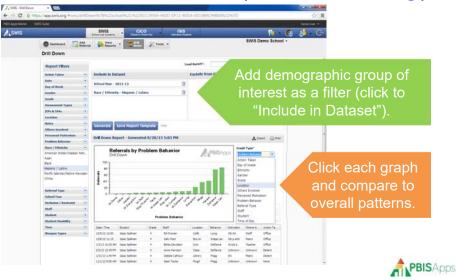
□ The person's decision state (internal state)

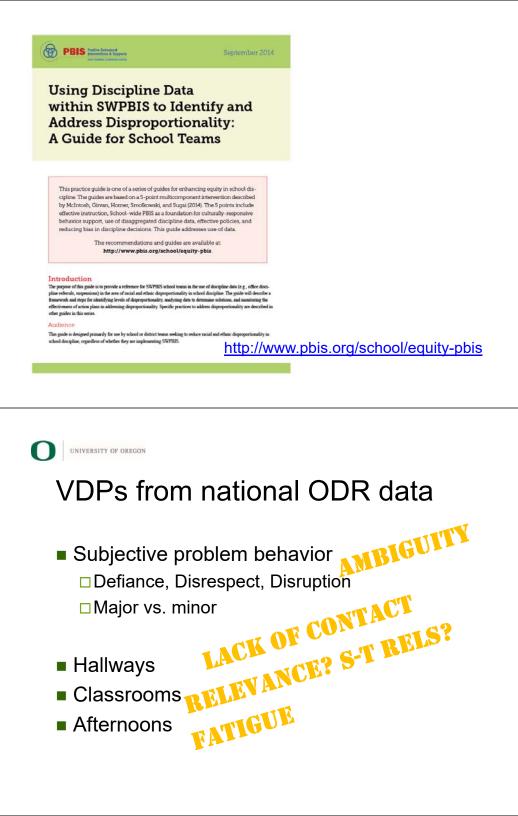
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### **Options for Identifying VDPs**

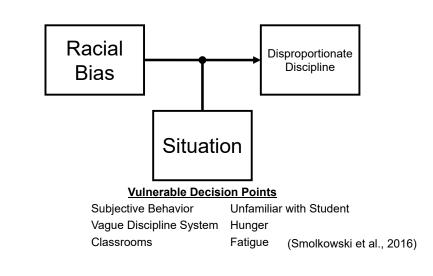
- 1. All ODR/suspension decisions (general self-instruction routine)
- 2. Identify specific VDPs
  - a) Through national data
  - b) Your own school or district data
  - c) Your own personal VDPs







### **Multidimensional View of Bias**



#### O UNIVERSITY OF DREGON Decision States:

### **Resource Depletion**

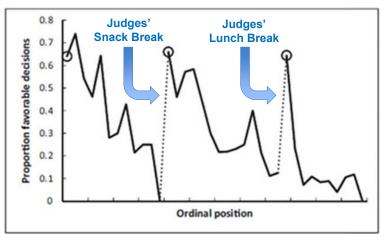
(Girvan et al., 2014)

- As we become fatigued, our filters for appropriate behavior can be affected
- Effects of hunger (Gailliot et al., 2009)
- Decreases in willpower later in day
   "The Morning Morality Effect" (Kouchaki & Smith, 2014)
   Examples...

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### **Resource Depletion in Action**

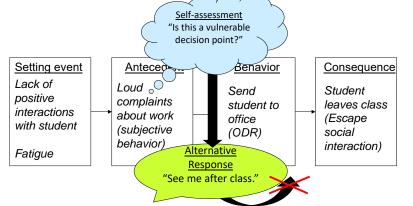
Outcomes of parole hearings (Danziger et al., 2011)



# Two-step Neutralizing Routine for **Staff**:

- When you see unwanted behavior, stop and ask yourself:
- 1. Is this a VDP?
  - □ Situation
  - Decision state
- 2. If so, use an agreed-upon alternative response

### Neutralizing Routines for Reducing Effects of Implicit Bias



What makes for a good neutralizing routine?

- 1. If-then statement
- 2. Brief
- 3. Clear steps
- 4. Doable
- 5. Interrupts the chain of events

### **Neutralizing Routine Examples**

If this is a VDP...,

#### □ Delay decision until I can think clearly

- "See me after class/at the next break"
- ask the student to reflect on their feelings/behavior
- am I acting in line with my values?

#### □ Reframe the situation

- "I love you, but that behavior is not ok"
- "How do we do that at school?"
- picture this student as a future doctor/lawyer
- assume student's best effort at getting needs met
- respond as if the student was physically injured

#### □ Take care of yourself

- take two deep breaths
- recognize my upset feelings and let them go
- model classwide cool-down strategy



### Sample Neutralizing Routine

YIELD,

#### **TRY**

STOP

- □ **T**ake a deep breath
- Reflect on your emotions
- □ Youth's best interest
  - "Let's TRY that again."
  - "Let's *TRY* it a different way."
  - "Let's **TRY** it how we do it at school."

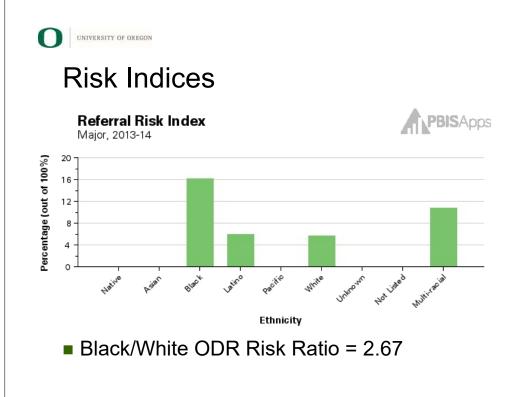
### Classwide "Reset" Routine

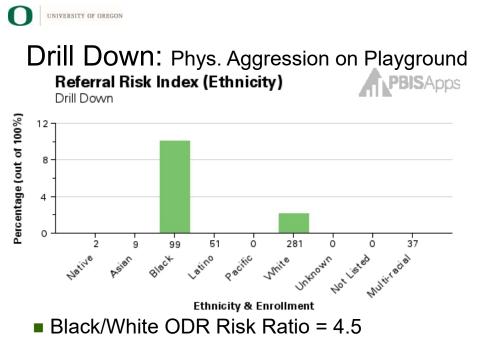
- TRY for students
  - □ *T*ake three deep breaths
  - □ Reflect on your emotions
  - □ You got this!
- Social-emotional Theme
  - □ Mistakes are part of the learning process

YIELD

- □We won't always do it right the first time
- □We can't succeed unless we **TRY**







# The School PBIS Team's Intervention

- ODRs and observations indicated differences in perceived basketball rules
- Team clarified rules for staff and students
   Aka "code-switching"
- Additional teaching, practice, and acknowledgement
- Monitor with ODRs and Black-White RRs

#### UNIVERSITY OF OREGON **Progress over Time Office Discipline Referrals Per Day** Per 100 Students (McIntosh, Ellwood, McCall, & Girvan, in press) 0.50 0.40 National Mediar 0.30 White 0.20 Black 0.10 0.00 2012-13 2013-14 2014-15



Big Ideas

- Thinking about and discussing solutions is the first step
- Pick a neutralizing routine and try it out
- Use your data to assess and monitor
   If you don't have the data you need at hand, advocate for it
- This is hard work but you know how to do it!

### Please complete this anonymous evaluation to help improve it!

http://bit.ly/2qoNIWI



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### **Contact Information**

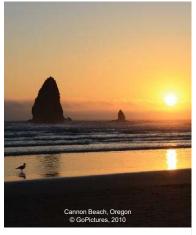
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Handouts: http://www.pbis.org



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