MIDDLE YEARS DEVELOPMENT INSTRUMENT (MDI)

A Quick Users' Guide for Understanding and Using your MDI Results to Make Positive Change for Your Students

STEP 1: Before working with your MDI results, what are your thoughts, based on what you know about the MDI?

1. **Your Context** – what has been happening in your school and community in the last few years AND, what have you been working on that may have an impact on the MDI results you will see? Areas to consider include: the overall well-being of your students, dimensions of their social and emotional development (e.g., optimism, empathy, happiness, self-regulation, worries), their assets with regard to adult relationships, peer relationships, sleep and nutrition, constructive use of after school time.

2. What strengths do you anticipate to see in your students?

3. What "stretches" or "challenges" do you anticipate to see in your students?

4. What are you most curious about?

STEP 2: Spend some time reading through your MDI Results. For example, what percentage of your students are thriving? What are their highest and lowest assets? What areas of social and emotional development are the highest? The lowest? What percentage of your students indicate they have 2 or more adults who are important to them at school? How connected are they to adults at school? Adults in the neighbourhood? Adults at home?

5. What jumps out at you? Are there any surprises? Confirmations of your hunches?

6. Which results resonate the most with you?

7. Which of the assets would you (and your staff) prioritize?

8. Which MDI dimensions align with current priorities and goals?

9. Which assets in your school/community are strengths? Which are stretches?

STEP 3: Engage Others

10. **Who** will you share this information with? **When** will you do it? **How** will you share the information?

11. If you could choose one or two dimensions of the MDI to focus on, what would they be?

EXAMPLE INQUIRY QUESTIONS TO ENGAGE YOUR SCHOOL STAFF?
- ✓ What beliefs are confirmed from the data?

- ✓ Why is   stretch or a challenge?

- ✓ Why is   a strength?

- ✓ What new questions arise?

- ✓ How do existing goals connect with or explain this data?

- ✓ How might this data impact practices in your school and community?

- ✓ List your theories about what the data suggests

- ✓ List additional data needed to help verify or confirm your ideas

- ✓ What resources do we have to engage in work in your school?

- ✓ How do we support our partners in this area?