We've released our new research brief on Relationship Centered Schools.

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English Language Learners, low income and foster care youth are the students most often left behind. When I was a foster youth, I was alone. I couldn’t control anything at school or at home. There wasn’t any support available and I didn’t trust anyone enough to talk about what I was going through. I felt disconnected from school and found myself constantly distracted during class.

In middle school that changed. I met Ms. Reyes, my English teacher. She took the time to talk to students and get to know them. She encouraged us to write about was important to us, not just follow the prompts. More importantly, she believed in me. I remember having a hard time writing about a time in my life where I showed determination. At first, I felt stuck. But then I realized that just being who I am took determination to get this far in life.

Ms. Reyes helped me learn that about myself - that I have a story to tell. And it is my story, who I am, that has led me to plan a career in medicine where I am helping people, like Ms. Reyes did for me.

Diana Cruz, 11th Grade, McBride High School

We all know school is a place of learning, but for it to be the most effective, students need to feel valued, motivated, and cared for by staff and other students. But unlike Diana, too many of our students lack caring adults who can help them get back on track.

That solution is Relationship Centered Schools. Support our Relationship Centered Schools work by sharing our brief on social media.
For those students who were unnoticed or forgotten, they also found what works: meaningful relationships between students and staff.

**Relationship Centered Schools**

breaks down walls, and brings people together so that every student can reach their full potential regardless of race or zip code. Relationship Centered Schools value student voice, invest in staff, and create spaces for relationship building.

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