



**SYMPOSIUM BREAKOUT SESSION**  
**MONDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2021 | 2:30-3:30 PM ET**

# **Elevating Student Experiences to Build Equitable Learning Environments and Outcomes Together: Learn How to Utilize a Free Research-Based Survey to Highlight and Support 6th-12th Grade Student Voices**

## **PRESENTERS:**

- Mitzi Iniguez, PERTS (Project for Education Research That Scales)



# Introductions

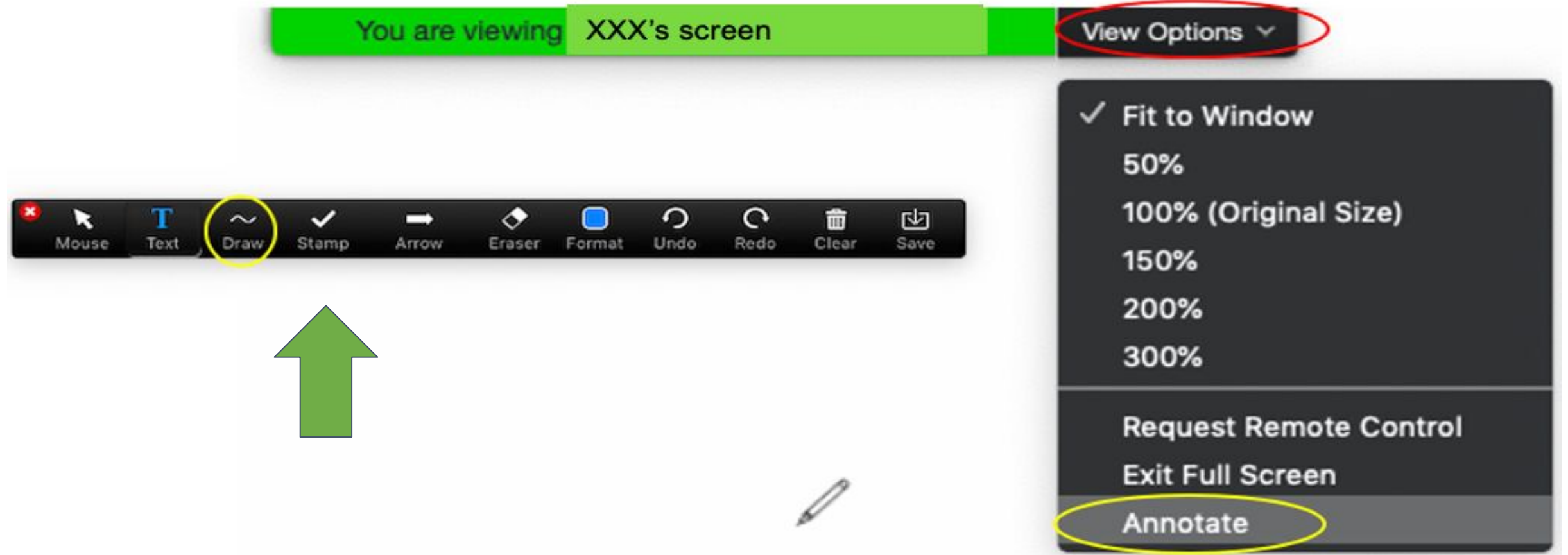


Mitzi Iniguez  
Partner Success Manager  
Oakland, CA

Please share in the chat:

- Name
- Role & School, District or Org
- Location

# Zoom Annotation



# Experience with Receiving Student Feedback

I have not utilized a student feedback survey before



I have used a survey I created or was created at my school



I have received feedback focused on academics rather than student experience



Most of the feedback I receive is verbal and am looking for confidential feedback



- Reflect: What was your *favorite* class as a student?
- Reflect: What made it your favorite?
- Share: How did you *feel* in that class?
  - Visit: [menti.com](https://menti.com) and use code 6757 5068
- Share: What did educators do to make you feel that way?



# How did you feel in your favorite class?





PERTS is a nonprofit institute that helps educators apply insights from the learning sciences to support equitable student engagement and success.



BALTIMORE CITY  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS



# Critical Student Experiences



## Affirming Identities

Students feel more connected to and motivated in classes that affirm their background.



## Meaningful Work

Students need to understand how schoolwork is relevant to their own lives and goals.



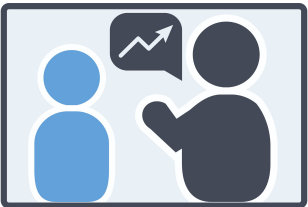
## Classroom Community

Students need to feel a sense of community, mutual support among peers, and affirmation to feel safe and connected.



## Student Voice

Students take ownership of their learning through sharing their knowledge and perspectives in the classroom.



## Feedback for Growth

Students need supportive feedback that helps them recognize their own potential to grow.



## Teacher Caring

Students need to feel valued and respected in the learning environment.



# Why do Learning Conditions Matter?

Students are more engaged, and learning outcomes are more equitable when every student has affirming learning experiences—when they experience psychological safety, caring relationships, personally relevant content, and agency.



# Student Experience

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I wish all my teachers knew that I never had anyone to go to, to share the guilt and shame I felt for being different than everyone in my school.

Xiao “Lin” Mei  
East Asian American Student Leader  
NEP Midwest District Network

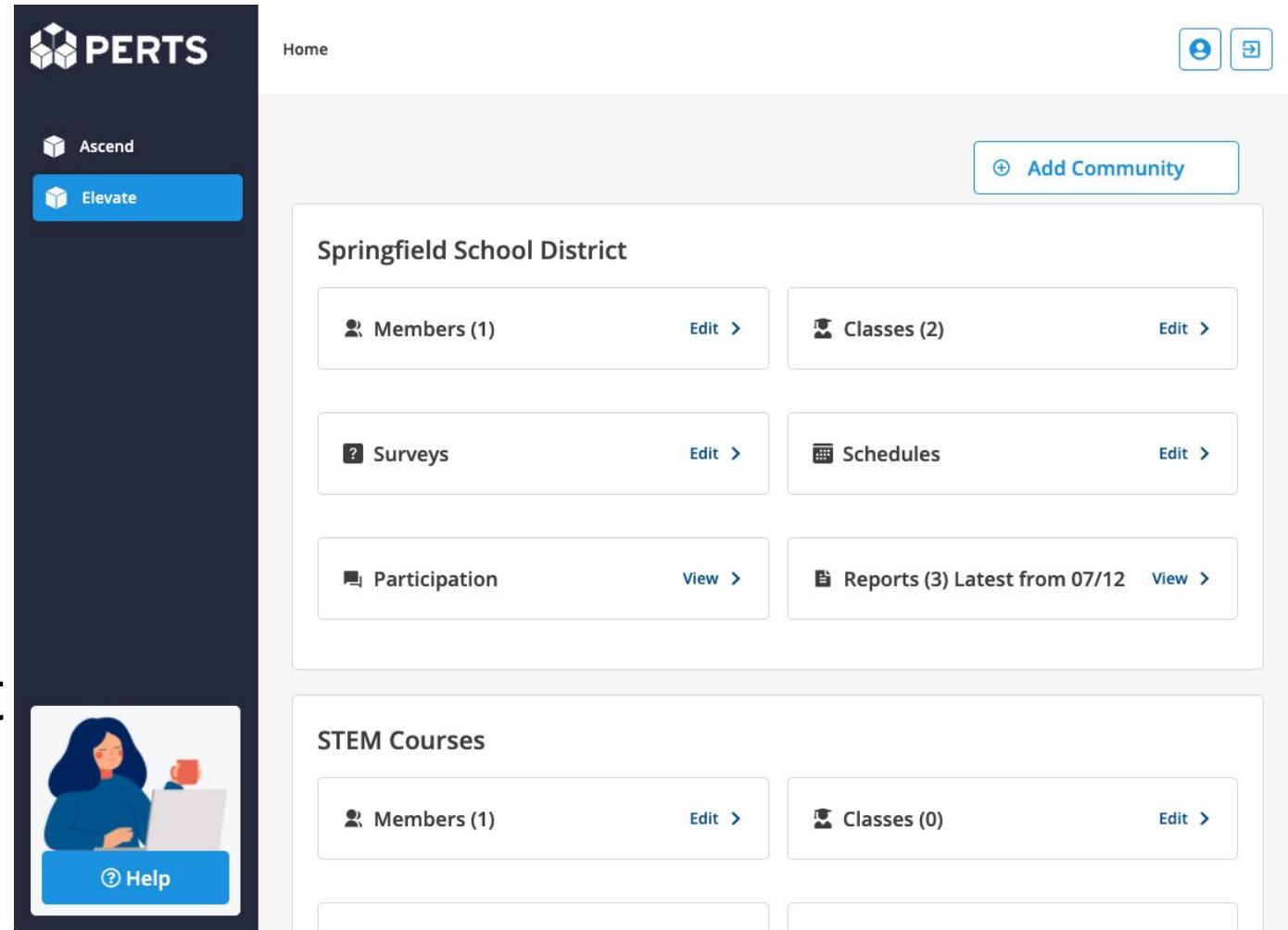
# Design Considerations for Teachers

- **Feedback:** Rapid, *actionable* feedback (not evaluative!)
- **Research-based Practices:** Concrete, research-based strategies for improving students' learning environments
- **Collaboration:**  
Collaborative professional learning opportunities
- **Trust & Support**



# What is Elevate?

A professional learning program that elevates students voice to help educators create engaging and equitable experiences that support academic *and* social-emotional learning.



# What can you measure & improve with Elevate?



## Affirming Identities

"I see positive examples of people like me in the things we learn in this class."



## Meaningful Work

"What we learn in this class is connected to real-life"



## Classroom Community

"I feel comfortable sharing my thoughts and opinions in this class"



## Student Voice

"In this class, my ideas are taken seriously"



## Feedback for Growth

"In this class, it is okay to make mistakes because we can learn from them."



## Teacher Caring

"I feel like this teacher is glad that I am in their class."



# Four Simple Steps



## 1. Elevate Student Voice

A 5-10 minute, customizable [survey](#) sheds light on the way students are experiencing each class.



## 2. Review Feedback

A confidential [report](#) shows how students' experiences are promoting or hindering equitable learning.



## 3. Learn & Apply New Practices

A [practice guide](#) provides teacher-tested strategies and activities that can be applied right away.



## 4. Make Improvements

Repeat the survey to see how students experience new practices. Repeat steps 1-3 to [keep improving](#).

# Surveys: Student View

Text-to-Speech On



✓ English  
Español



This teacher accepts me for who I am as a person.

☐ Strongly Disagree



☐ Disagree



☐ Slightly Disagree



☐ Slightly Agree



☐ Agree



☐ Strongly Agree



Student s

Please enter  
the person w

e not sure, ask



# Access the Survey

- Visit [perts.me](https://perts.me)
- Participation Code: P49
- Roster ID: your email address

# Elevate 2020-2021 participation at a glance

- Over 600 teachers at over 50 schools used Elevate to collect actionable feedback from their students, and those teachers taught over 35,000 students this year (over 27k were surveyed).
- 79% of teachers improved student experience when they used Elevate over multiple cycles of inquiry and action.
- Some educator teams shifted experience dramatically, e.g.,
  - 56% growth in affirming cultural identity in science classes
  - 36% growth in computer science being seen as meaningful
  - Black & Latinx students 2x more likely to feel belonging.

# What can you measure & improve with Elevate?



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# Reviewing Reports - Breakout Rooms

<https://perts.net/elevate/report>

# Reports Reflection

- What surprised you?
- What excited you?
- What community of students are feeling supported based on that Learning Condition?
- What is a community of students you would like to focus on?
- What are some strategies to support these students?
- What next?

<https://perts.net/elevate/report>

The background is a dense collage of various photographs from the Aurora Institute Symposium 2019. The images show people in various settings: some are speaking at podiums, others are in group discussions, and some are posing for photos. The collage is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue filter. The Aurora Institute logo, featuring a stylized star and the word 'AURORA', is visible in the top left corner of the collage.

# AURORA INSTITUTE *Symposium*

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OCTOBER 25-27, 2021 | VIRTUAL

*“Leading Competency-Based Education Redesign”*

Thank you for joining us!

**Share Your Thoughts.**

Participate in our one-minute poll (link in chat box).