

The EMPOWER Academy



The Empower Academy



**Taylor
Wilmas**
Math



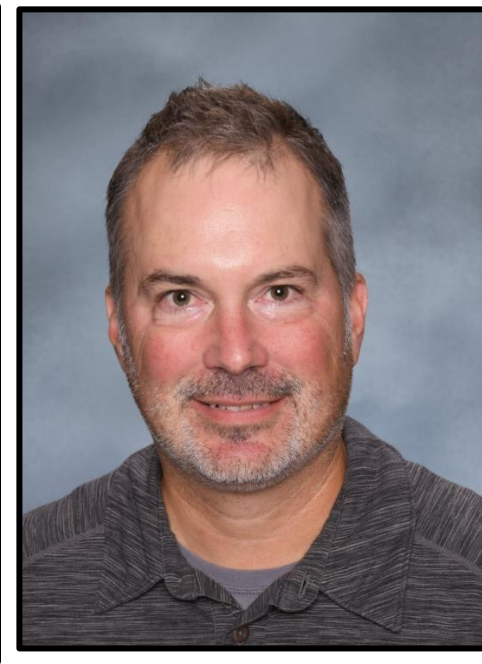
**Melanie
Lundt**
ELA



**Courtney
Varner**
ELA



**Diane
Coffey**
Science



**Bill
Coats**
SS

The EMPOWER Mission

Students in the EMPOWER Academy will become increasingly self-directed in their learning while becoming more actively involved in decisions pertaining to their education.

EMPOWER at a Glance

The Empower Academy is designed to:

- empower students to know themselves as learners.
- gradually increase student ownership of their own learning.
- provide opportunities for student voice and choice.
- grow student independence and active participation in academic and social decisions.
- increase student engagement through authentic, real world connections.

Key Idea 1: Learner Profiles

Students are empowered to learn how to be their best by understanding strengths and areas of growth as a learner.



What Do Students Say?

Learner profiles are great because I learn about myself as a learner. I have terms for how I learn best and more tactics and ways to approach my learning.



Valyn Lutz

Key Idea 2: Student Goal Setting

Students are empowered to set and achieve high academic and social goals.



What Do Students Say?

*“Goal setting **helps me stay on top of the things** that are important. I think of it like basketball...you'll never get better if you don't set a goal to become better.”*



Dominick Parker, Jr.

Key Idea 3: Real World Connections

Students are empowered to demonstrate learning through real world problem solving and applications.



What Do Students Say?

“It makes sense that I need to learn about new things when I use it to solve real world problems. It’s fun to create and build things to help prevent problems.”



Roan Davis

Key Idea 4: Gradual Release of Ownership and Increased Voice and Choice

Students are empowered to take a steadily increasing amount of control over their learning



What Do Students Say?

“Voice and choice makes the classroom a more enjoyable learning environment! When we can pick what we want to focus on, learning is made so much easier and much more fun!”



Nox Petty

What Do Students Say?

*“Setting goals helped me academically stay on track because logging my goal daily reminded me and helped me continue to keep working towards **my goal.**”*



Ilse Krakos

What Do Students Say?

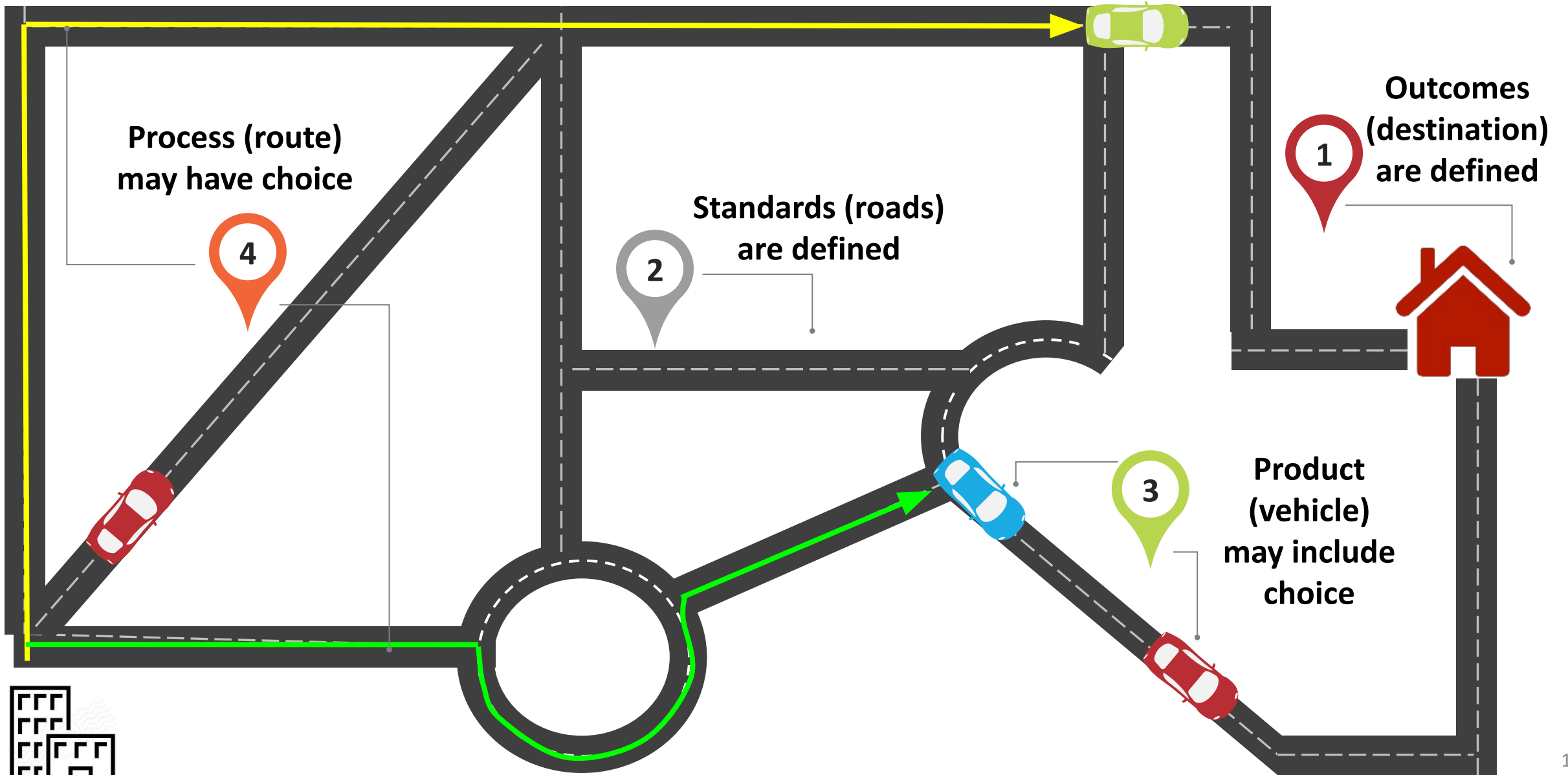
*“Goal setting is helpful because it makes sure that **you are on track** and helps get a vision of **your plan for the future.**”*



Amelia Mihai

EMPOWER is...	Empower is not...
aligned with Parkway and MO State curriculum standards	<i>Curriculum</i> based entirely on student interests
guided by educators	all self-paced/online
rigorous	“easier” than traditional school
intentional about authentic cross-curricular connections	thematic, forced connections between curricular areas
focused on meeting and challenging students at their individual levels	tracking students in “advanced,” “average,” “low” levels

The EMPOWER Learning Highway



Life in the Empower Academy

“Jackson” is in 6th Grade

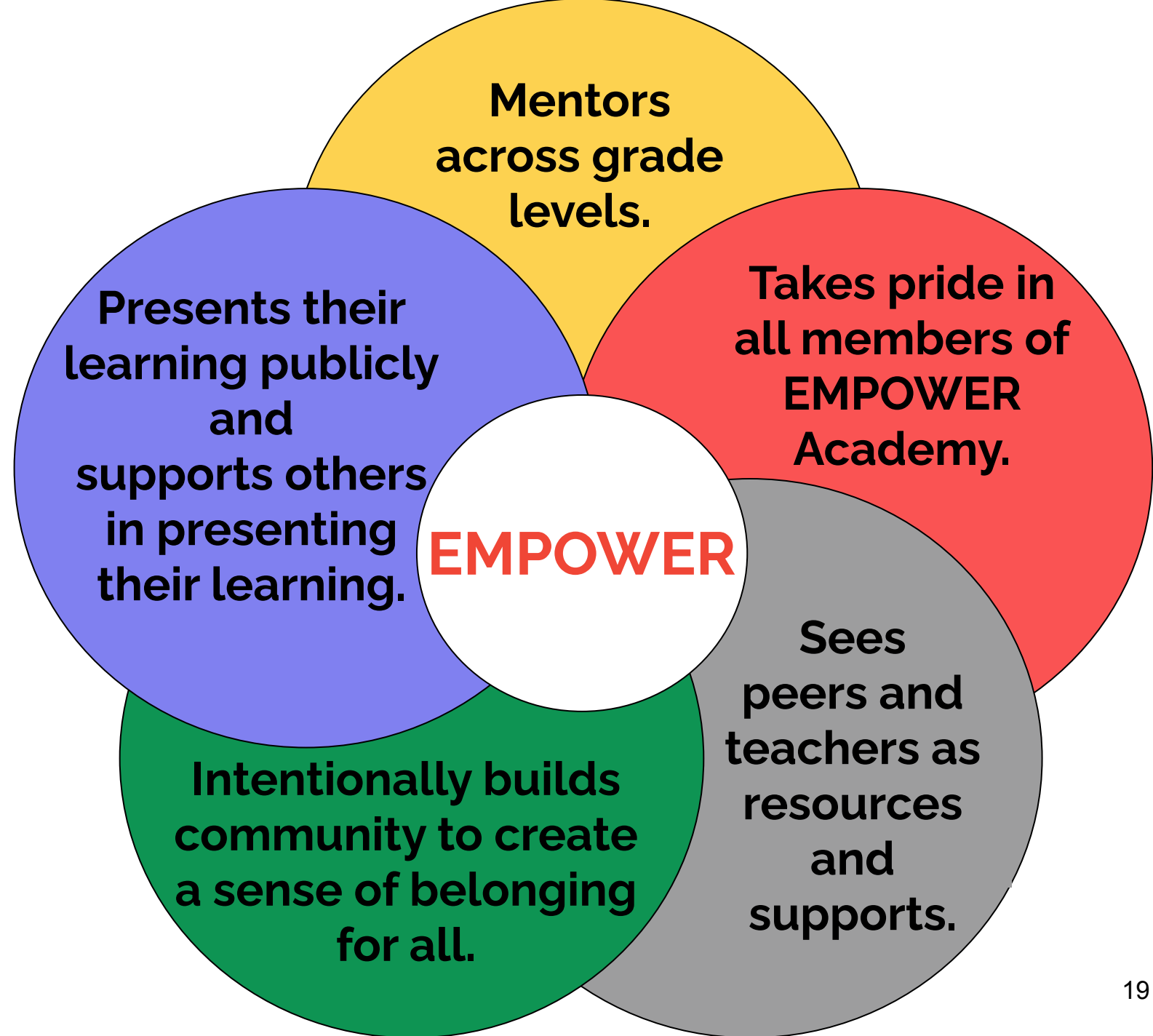
Empower Hour (same teacher for 3 years)	Learner Profile Conferences, Teacher Help, Project Time, Etc.
1st/2nd Hour	Math Block/PE Block
3rd/4th Hour	Band/Technology Innovation
5th/6th Hour	ELA Block
Lunch	
7th/8th Hour	Science Block/Social Studies Block

Life in the Empower Academy

“Addie” is in 8th Grade

Empower Hour (same teacher for 3 years)	Learner Profile Conferences, Teacher Help, Project Time, Choice Activities, Etc.
1st/2nd Hour	Empower Create Time (7th & 8th Graders)
3rd/4th Hour	World Language/Orchestra
5th/6th Hour	Algebra or Science/History Rotations
Lunch	
7th/8th Hour	ELA Rotations or PE

The EMPOWER Community:





5 Questions That *COULD* Describe An EMPOWER Student

#1



Do you see yourself becoming increasingly self-directed as a learner?

#2



**Do you wish to gain
increased ownership over
how you learn?**

#3



**Do you want to know
yourself better as a
learner?**

#4



**Do you want to find
authentic ways to connect
your learning to real-world
situations?**

#5



**Do you wish to have
increased voice and choice
in your learning?**

Thank you!

