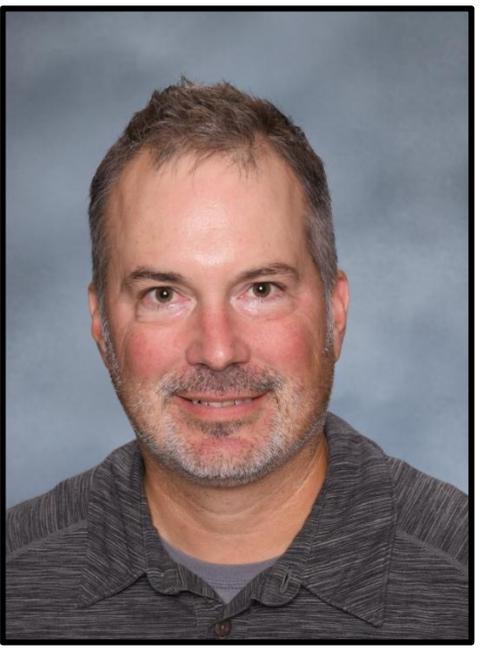


# The EMPOWER Academy



# 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**

***Curriculum* based entirely on student interests**

**guided by educators**

**all self-paced/online**

**rigorous**

**“easier” than traditional school**

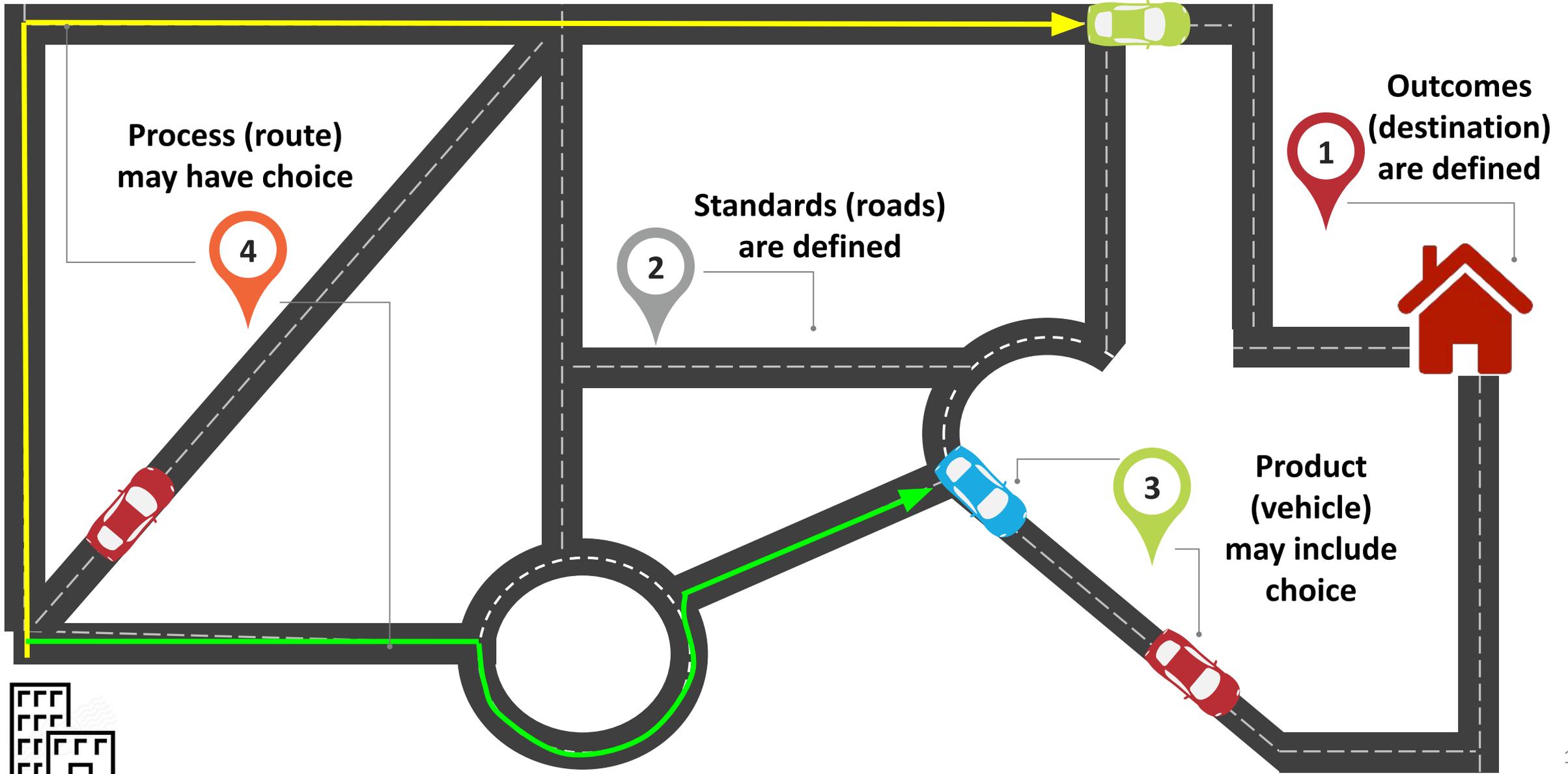
**intentional about authentic cross-curricular connections**

**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

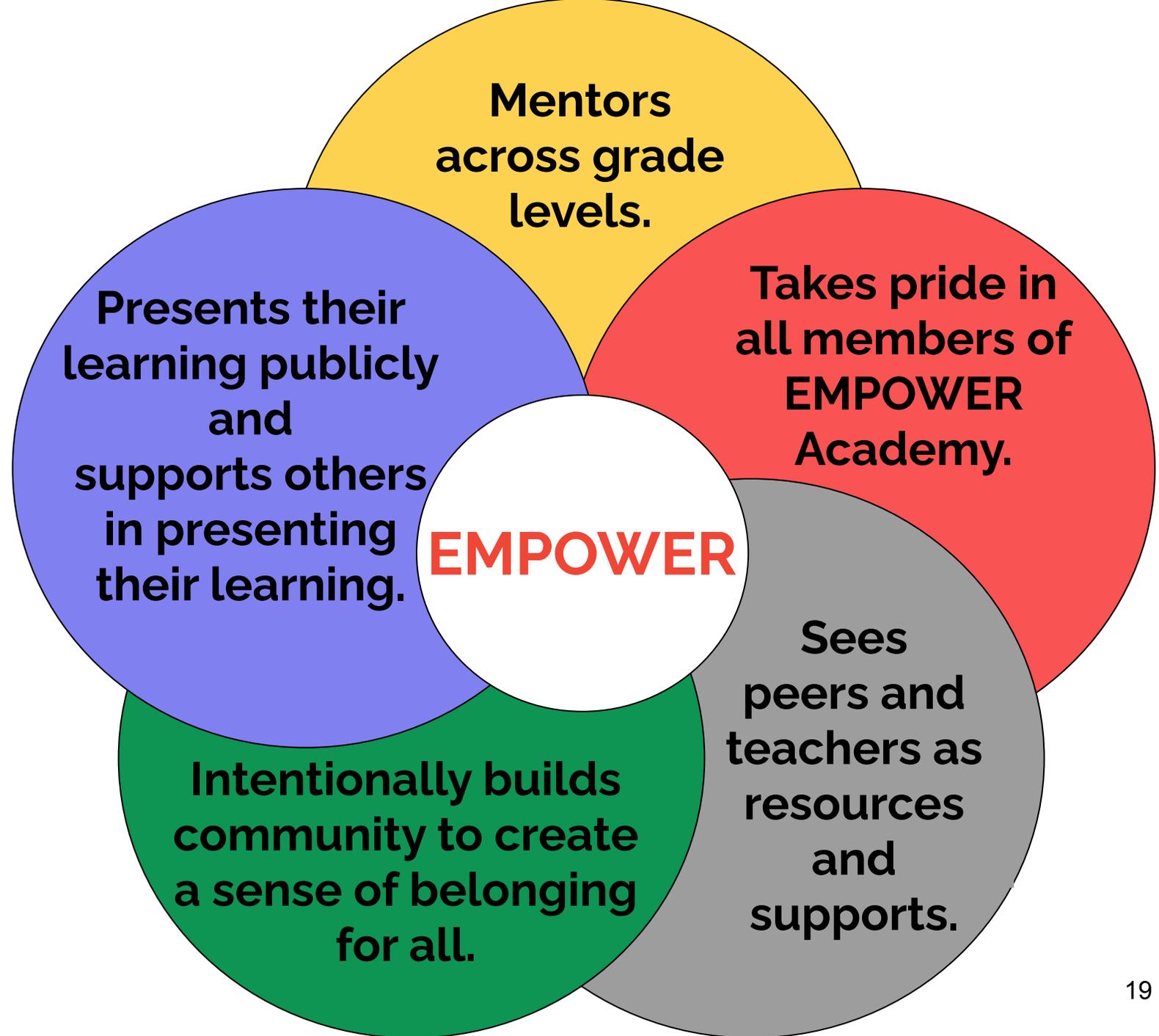
<b>Empower Hour (same teacher for 3 years)</b>	Learner Profile Conferences, Teacher Help, Project Time, Etc.
<b>1st/2nd Hour</b>	Math Block/PE Block
<b>3rd/4th Hour</b>	Band/Technology Innovation
<b>5th/6th Hour</b>	ELA Block
<b>Lunch</b>	
<b>7th/8th Hour</b>	Science Block/Social Studies Block

# Life in the Empower Academy

## “Addie” is in 8th Grade

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

