

Micromessaging to Reach and Teach Every StudentTM

National Alliance for Partnerships in Equity Education Foundation

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Welcoming Awareness

Introduce yourself to the class

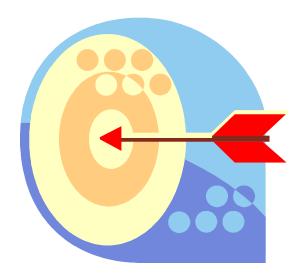
- Name
- Title
- Organization/unit





Goal

Apply knowledge of implicit bias and micromessaging to create strategies that improve access and equity for all students.



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Objectives

After completing this unit, you will be able to:

- define micromessages, micro-inequities, and microaffirmations
- recognize implicit bias that underlies the micromessages
- evaluate and address negative biases in your teaching practices
- create action plans to minimize micro-inequities and maximize micro-affirmations.

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Professional Development for Educators: STEM (including CTE) Access, Equity, Diversity

STEM Equity Pipeline™

PIPESTEM[™] Project

Working with institutional leaders (administrators, dept heads, etc.) to improve enrollment, retention & completion of girls & underrepresented populations in STEM courses

STEM Equity Teacher Training

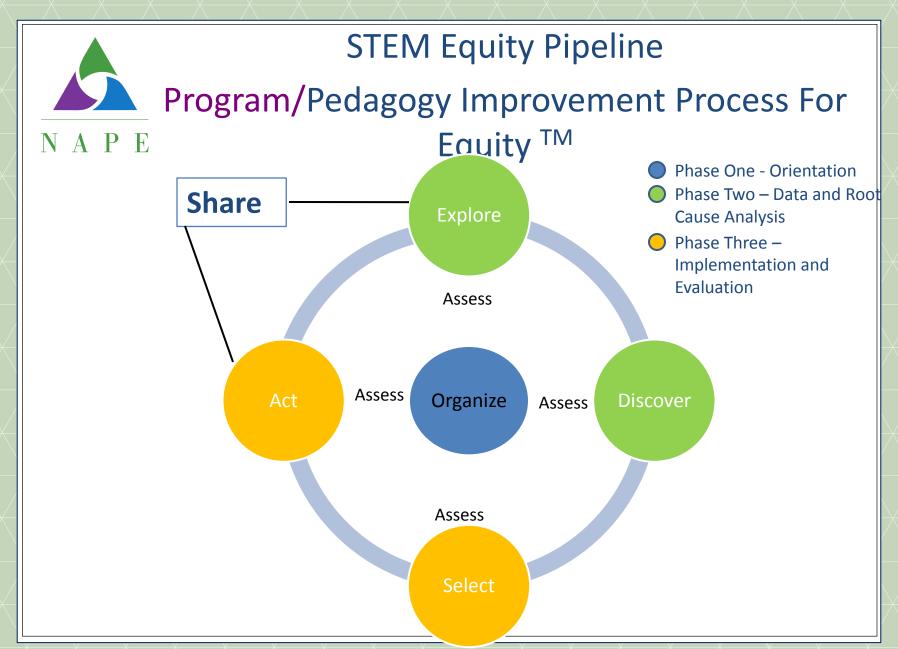
Training teachers to use pedagogy that improves enrollment, retention & completion of girls & underrepresented populations in STEM courses

STEM Equity Counselor Training

Coaching counselors to encourage girls and under-represented populations in STEM careers

Tools & Resources

Tools to support teachers' & counselors' learning and assist their students, e.g., camps, partner orgs, books





The Program Foundation



Micromessaging

Micromessages

 Small, subtle, semiconscious messages we send and receive when we interact with others

Micro-inequities

 Negative micromessages we send other people that cause them to feel devalued, slighted, discouraged or excluded

Microaffirmations

 Positive micromessages that cause people to feel valued, included, or encouraged









Teacher Professional Development

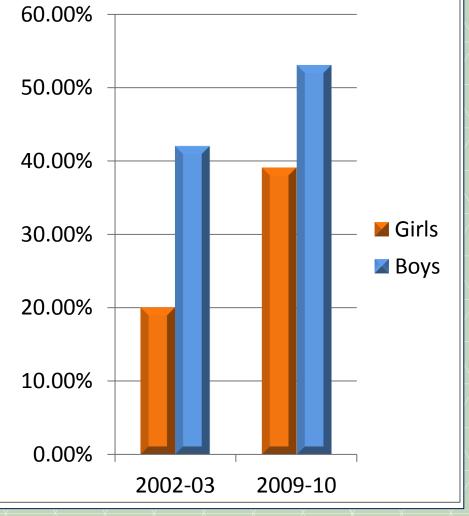
N A P E

Since implementation in 2003,

AP Physics test pass rates improved for both girls and boys:

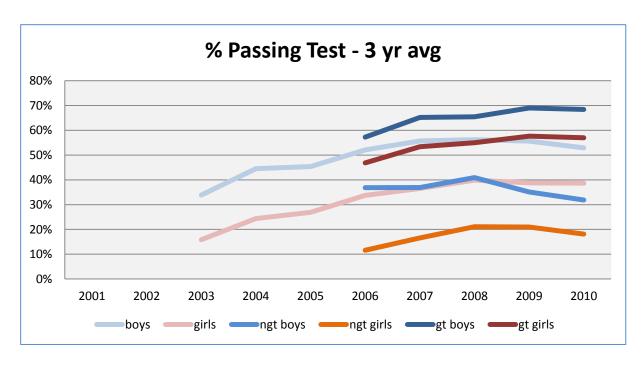
- -4x tests passed by girls
- -4x tests by African Americans
- −6x tests passed by Hispanics







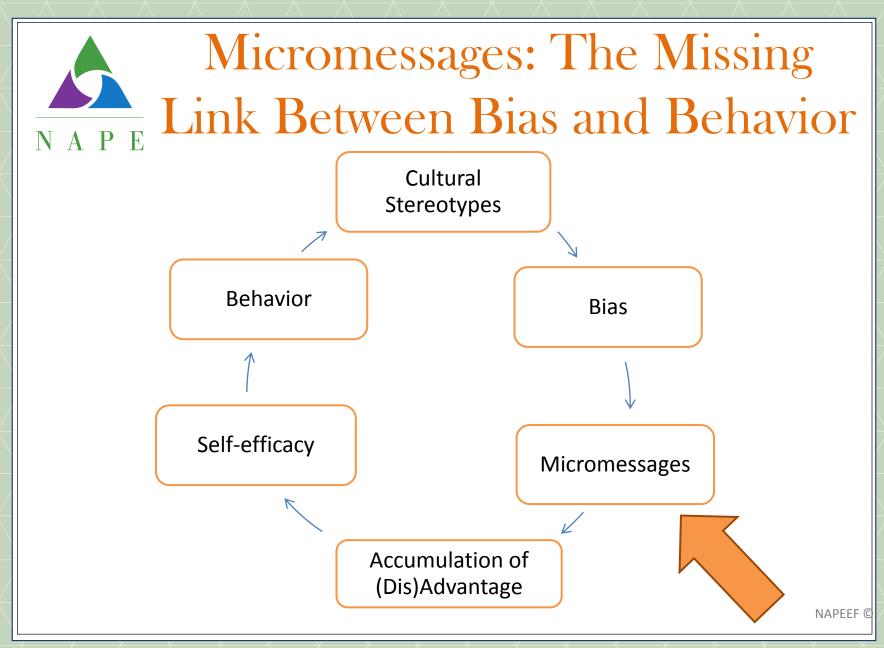
Gender Equity Training



Both boys and girls of the teachers that had Gender Equity training are passing at 20-30% points higher than students of teachers without the training



Exercise





Lands End Catalog 2012





Lands End Catalog 2012



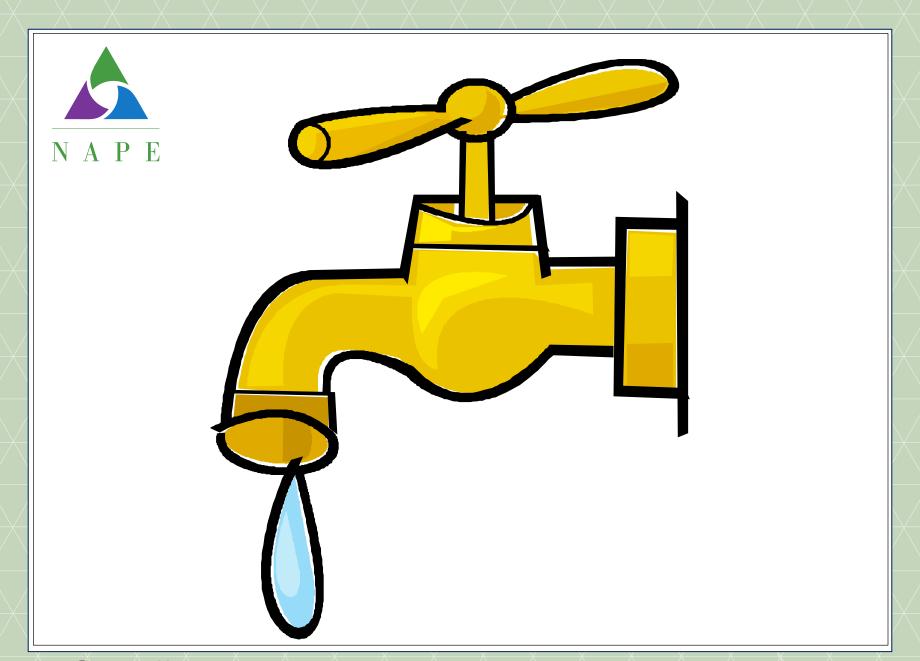


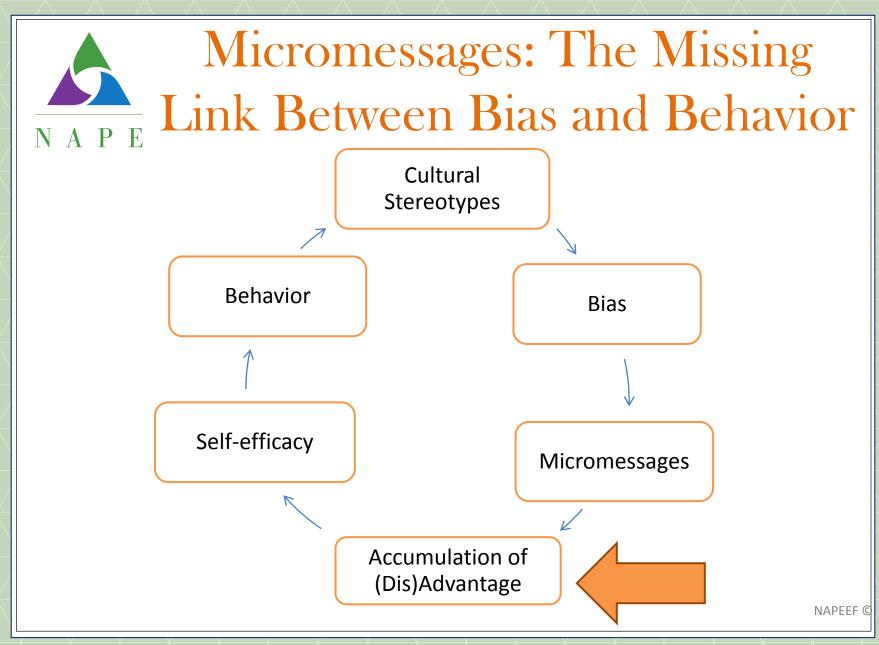
Tech Alert October 27, 2011

Dear Members and Readers,

Please accept our sincere apologies for the headline in today's Tech Alert: "With the Arduino, Now Even Your Mom Can Program." The actual title of the article is "The Making of Arduino."

IEEE Spectrum



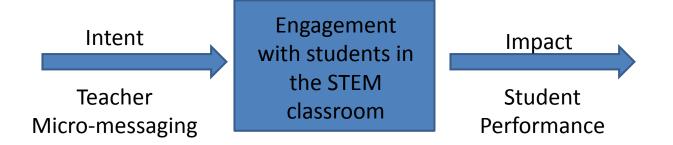




Gender Bias = Micro-Inequities





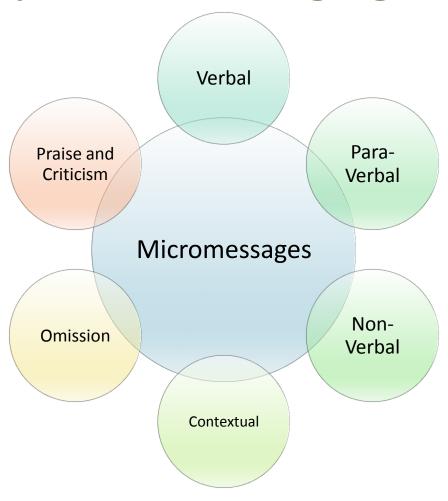


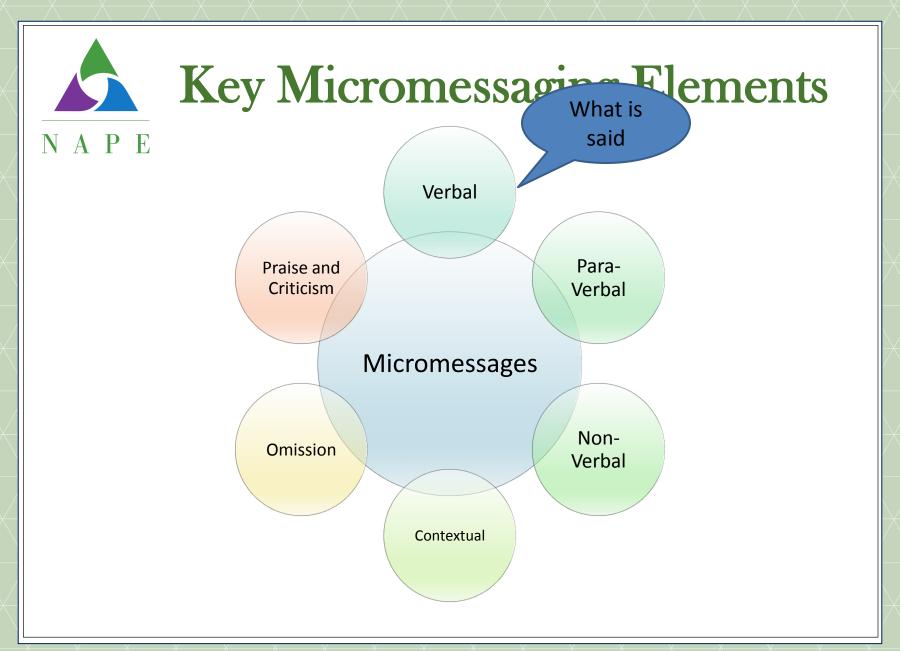
Small and seemingly insignificant behaviors may result in unfavorable learning outcomes.

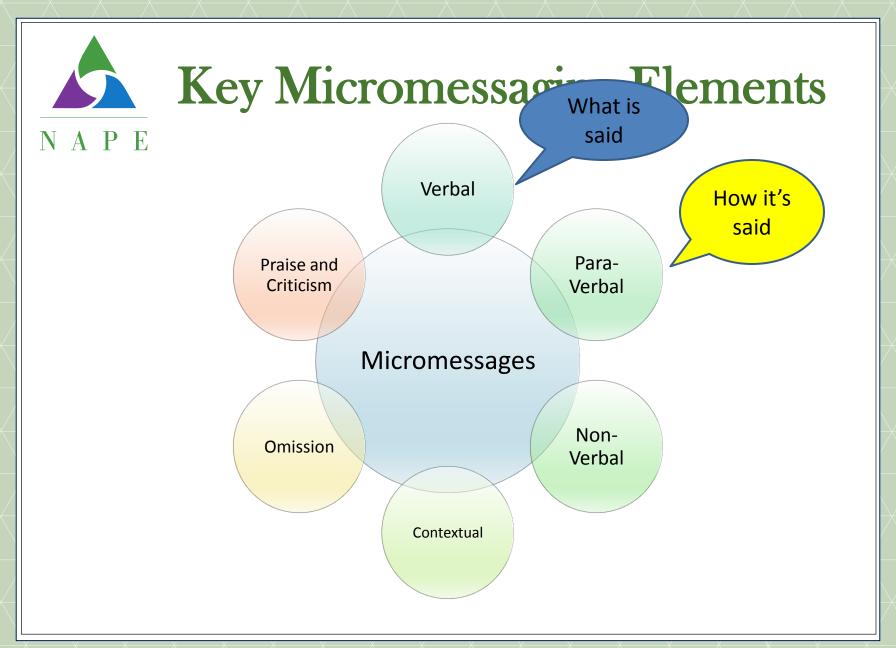
Impact is More Important Than Intent!

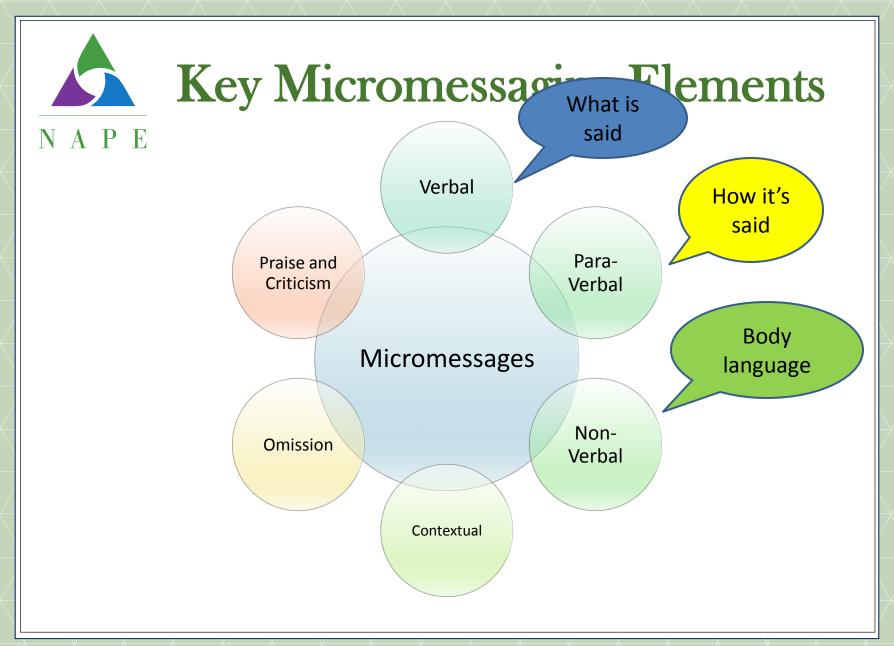


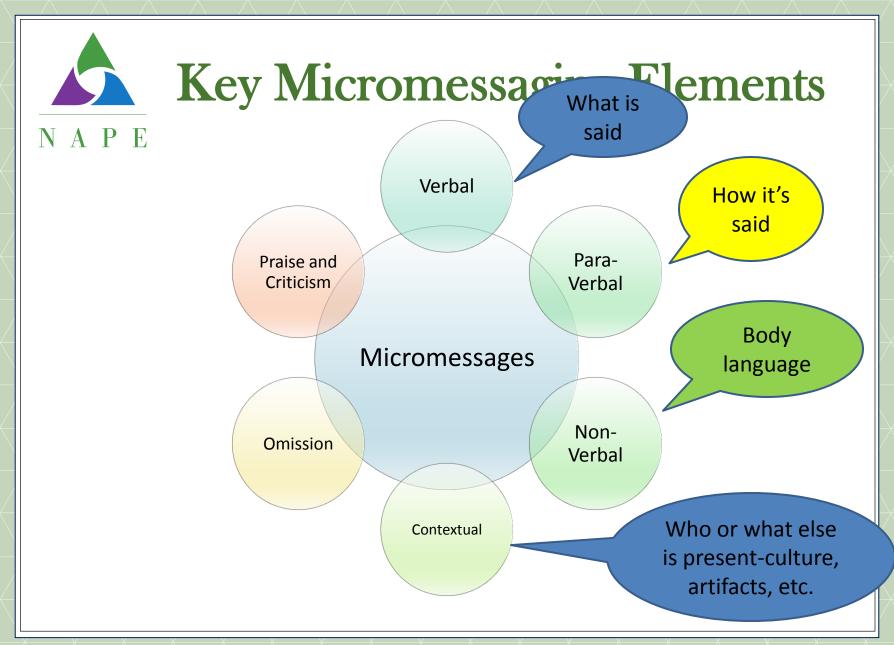
Key Micromessaging Elements

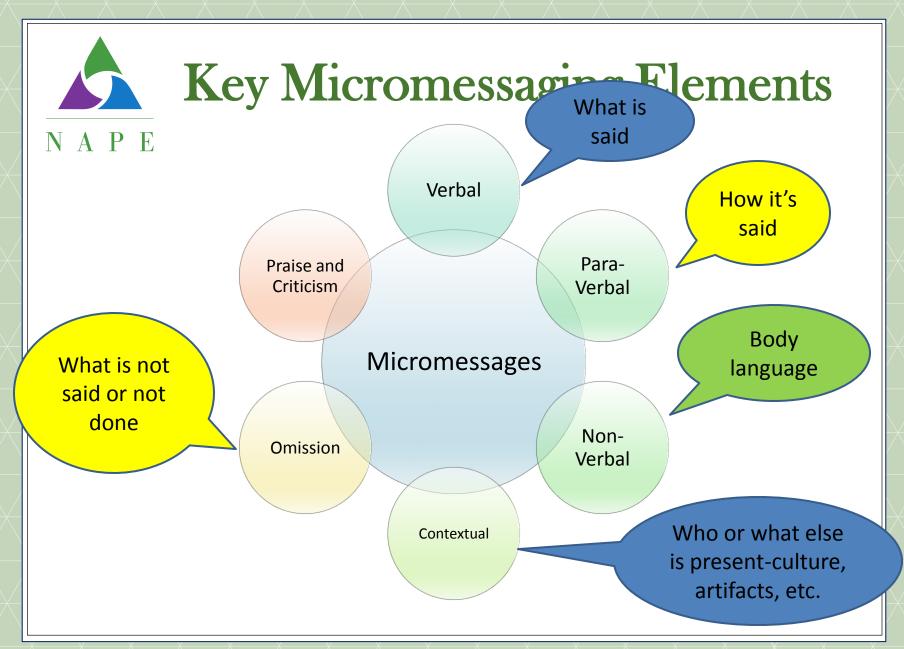


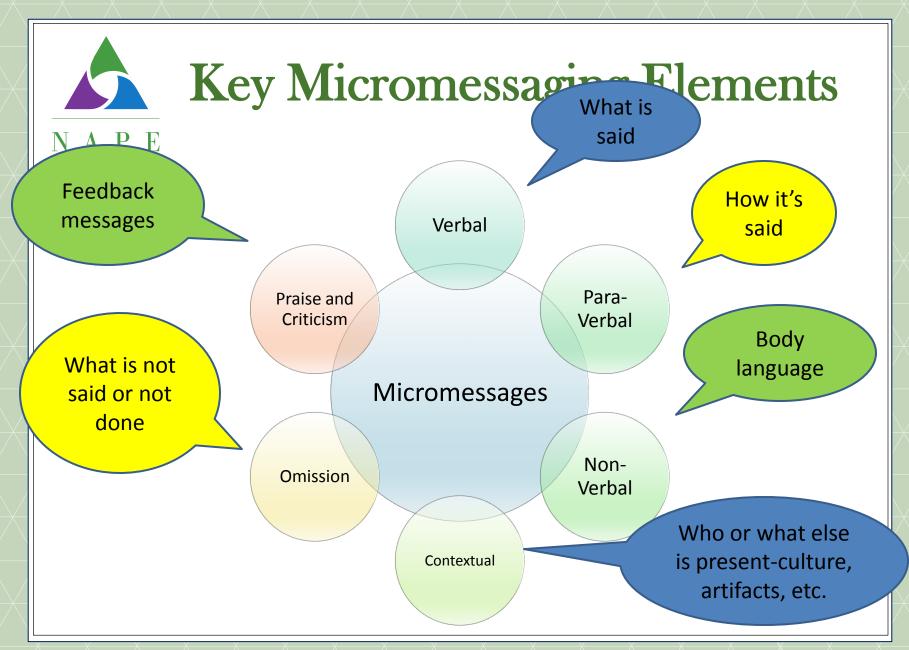














Activity: Guess the Element

Cue	Туре
Wait longer for boys' answers than those of girls	
Discipline boys more than girls for similar behavior	
Avoid eye contact with female/male student; only look at male/female students	
Consistent use of generic "he" or "man" to represent both men and women	
Only use males as examples of scientists	
Do not tolerate girls calling out answers but tolerates that behavior from boys	

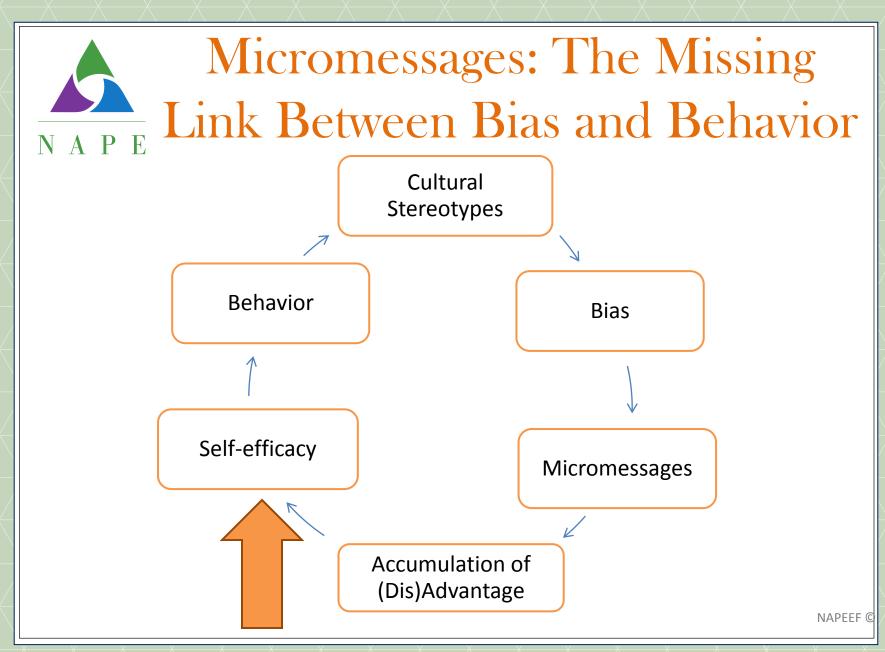
27



Examining the Small

On a piece of paper write a specific incident when you were being...

- unintentionally discouraged or hurt by something SMALL someone said or did
- deeply valued by your colleague or family member in a SMALL yet powerful way.
- How did you know? What did that person do to communicate your value?





Positive Micromessages

Micro-affirmations are micromessages we send that validate and recognize other people in positive and supportive ways.

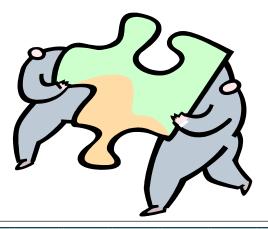




Inoculate and Be Affirmative!

Make a concerted over-effort to become affirmative:

- It takes time (a year or more!)
- It takes effort (a conscious plan)
- It takes support (peers and a learning community)





Exercise

Impact of Micro-Affirmations on Women in STEM

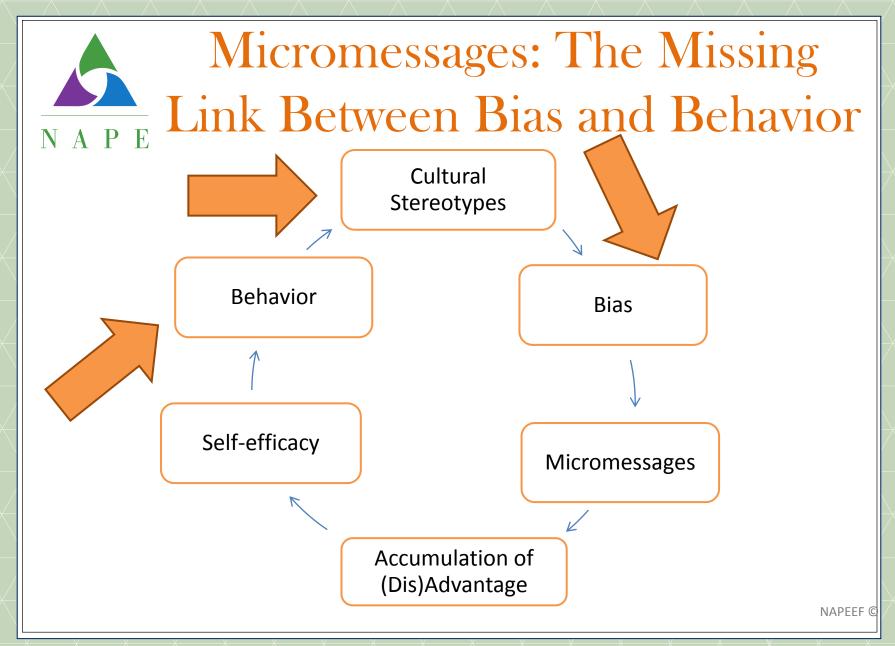
- Enhanced creativity and innovation and willingness to take risks
- Increased engagement in complex tasks and openended thinking
- Improved caring about learning
- Increased interest in STEM and development of girls' STEM-identity





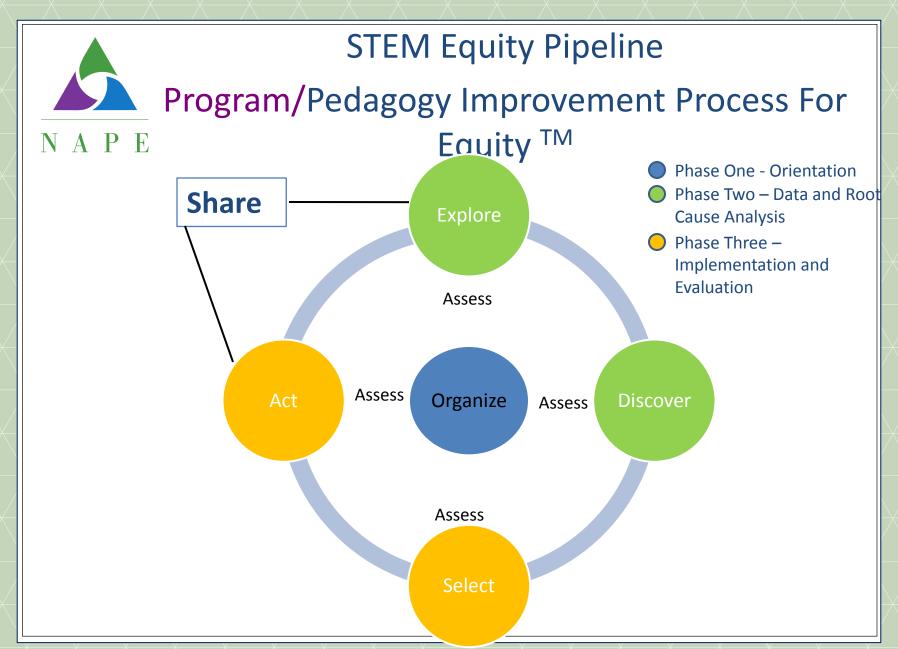
Teachers want strategies that:

- Are based on solid data collection and analysis
- Lead to an equitable classroom environment
- Consider and integrate research-based social and cultural issues
- Counteract micro-inequities by building microaffirmations
- Be based on observations, reflection, and data





Applications in the Classroom





Activity 4: Sphere of Influence

3.

4.

6.

7.

9.

10.

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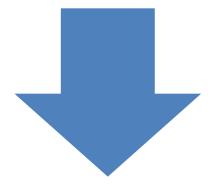
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10.

Student access & opportunity: What I can control

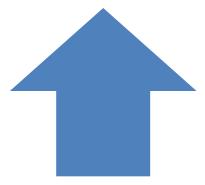
Student access & opportunity: What I can't control



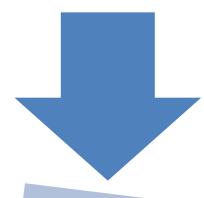


What
Students
Bring to the
Classroom

What We Bring to the Classroom

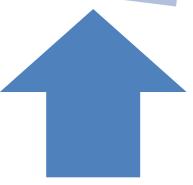






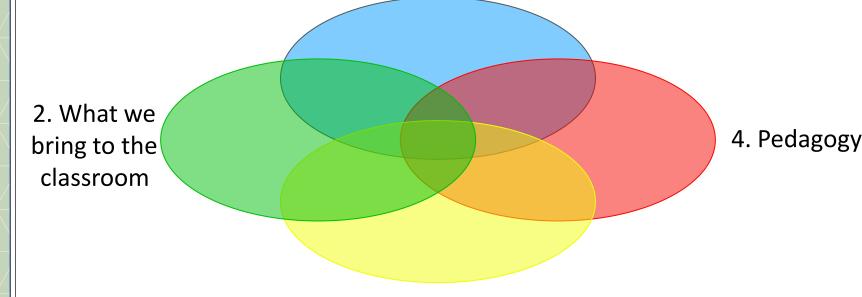
What
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What We Bring to the Classroom





1. What our students bring to the classroom

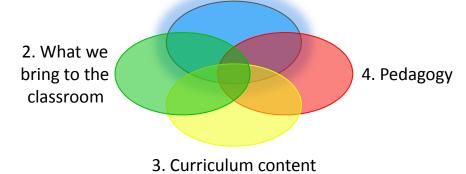


3. Curriculum content

Adapted from the work of Maurianne Adams and Barbara J. Love (2006).



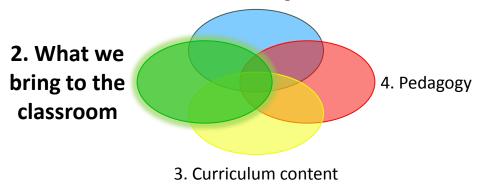
1. What our students bring to the classroom



- Past educational experiences (it's not always all about us)
- Complex identities, prejudices, biases
- Expectations about the roles of students and teachers

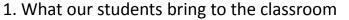


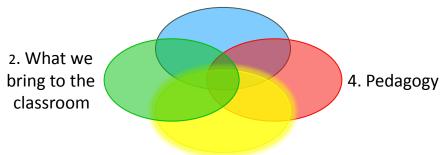
1. What our students bring to the classroom



- Complex socializations, identities, biases, and prejudices
- Notions about the purposes of education and our roles as teachers





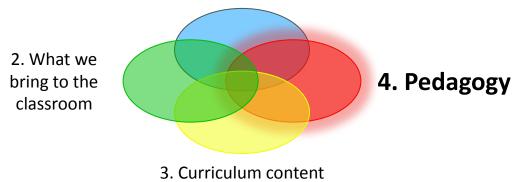


3. Curriculum content

- Course materials: Who is represented in readings, examples, illustrations?
- Perspective and worldview: Whose voices are centered?
 Whose are "other"ed?
- Is content, whenever possible, made relevant to the lives of the students?
- What is the "hidden curriculum" (more later!)?



1. What our students bring to the classroom



- Paying attention to inequity in classroom *processes*
- Attending to sociopolitical relationships (power and privilege) in the classroom
- Rejecting deficit ideology



An Additional Dimension...

While it may not always be in our sphere of influence, there are administrative frameworks at our schools that may also impact equity:

- Class size
- Scheduling
- Classroom environment



Critical Reflection

- The basis for any approach to equity is critical reflection.
- This means that we have to learn to imagine and ask these questions, often against our own socializations.



Exercise

- 1. Step forward or backward if you feel the prompt relates to you.
- 2. Reflect on this question:

How do you feel about what you learned from the Dance of Structural Inequality? How can we represent that experience in an on-line environment?



- Practice positive affirmation's
- Work with peers to identify unintended biases to improve your instruction
- Help the student identify someone in their life who
 recognizes the student's potential, connects the
 student's strengths to characteristics of a profession,
 and teaches them how to enter that field.
- Intervene in students 'conflicts and teach them to use inoculations and affirmations when communicating.
- Be diverse in the examples used in the classroom to illustrate concepts and ideas.

Pedagogy Points

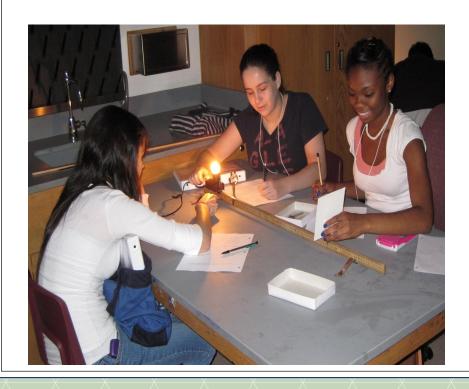
A diversity of learners will benefit from the diversity of strategies for conveying information in the classroom. For instance, consider how you might deliver a lesson using the following:

- Direct instruction
- Inquiry training
- Non-directive (facilitative) teaching and self-esteem building
- Synectics or creative thought whereby students "break boundaries" in problem solving and writing
- Collaborative learning
- Group investigation
- Role playing





Questions and Comments?



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