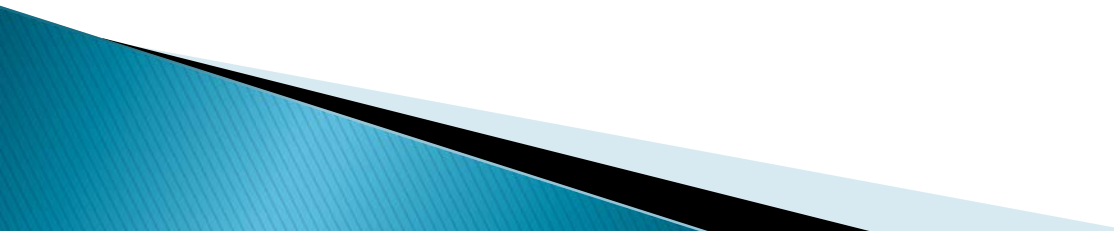


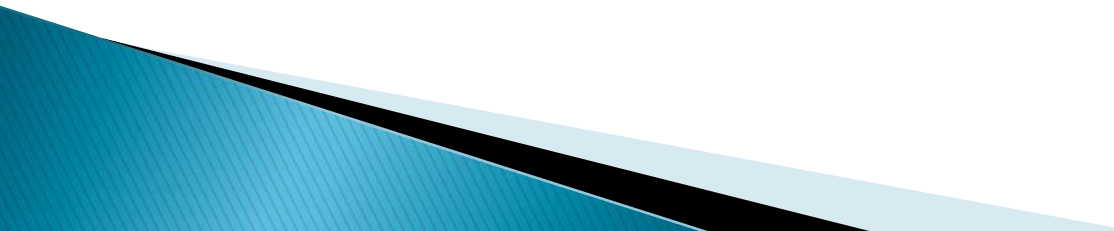
Flexible Minds
Flexible Seats
Flexible Classrooms



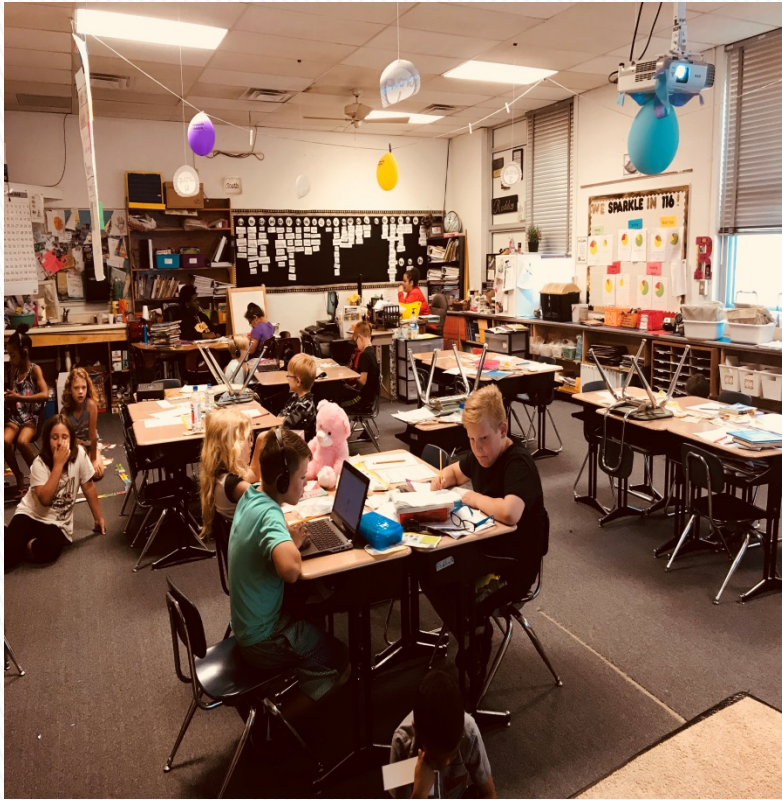
Outcomes

- ▶ Leave here with easy, affordable flexible seating ideas.
 - ▶ Gain classroom management ideas for a flexible seating classroom.
 - ▶ Have a plan of action to move towards a flexible seating classroom.
- 

The New Thing...

- ▶ Consensegram
 - ▶ Thoughts and Feelings
 - ▶ “Just a fad”
 - ▶ Your classroom now
- 

Typical Classroom



Pods, reading table,
library



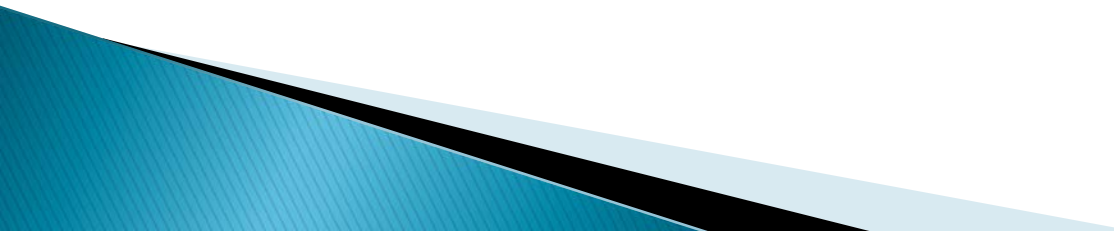
Rows, reading table,
library

Mind over Materials

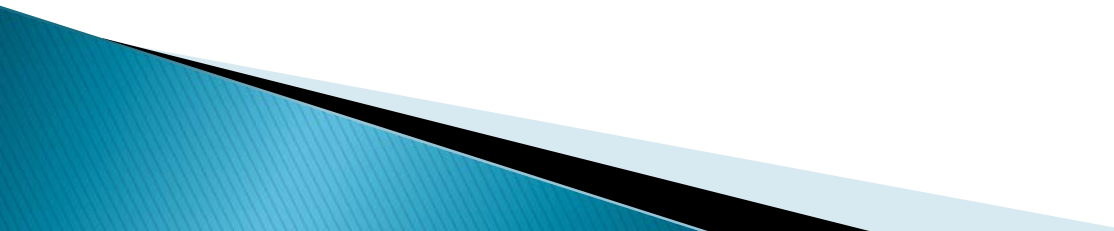
- ▶ Flexible seating is a mind set.



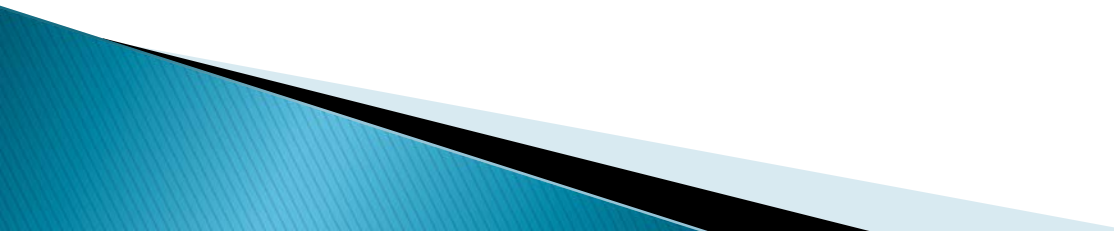
Why should I...

- ▶ Students have options for where they learn best
 - ▶ Decrease in behaviors
 - ▶ More flexibility in the classroom
 - ▶ Increase in academics
- 

Students have options for where they learn best

- ▶ Different students need different things when learning.
 - ▶ Differentiating your classroom is the same as differentiating your lessons.
 - ▶ You're giving students what they need.
- 

Decrease in behaviors

- ▶ My first year at Mexico Public Schools I had a total of 57 minor office referrals and 22 major referrals.
 - ▶ This year I have had 33 minor office referrals and 10 majors major office referrals
- 

Flexibility

- ▶ Areas for group projects
- ▶ Quiet focus areas
- ▶ Small group activities
- ▶ Room to move

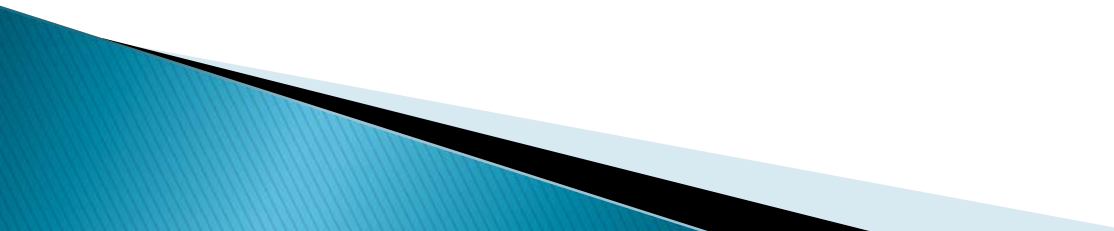


Increase in academics

- ▶ “I feel like I have see an increase in academics. 73% of my students have already met their end of the year reading goal. It appears students function through stressful tests like timed tests better with seating than chairs. Some students still prefer desks. Some know that they can do better in reading with seating but use a desk for math.”

5th grade teacher in Mexico.

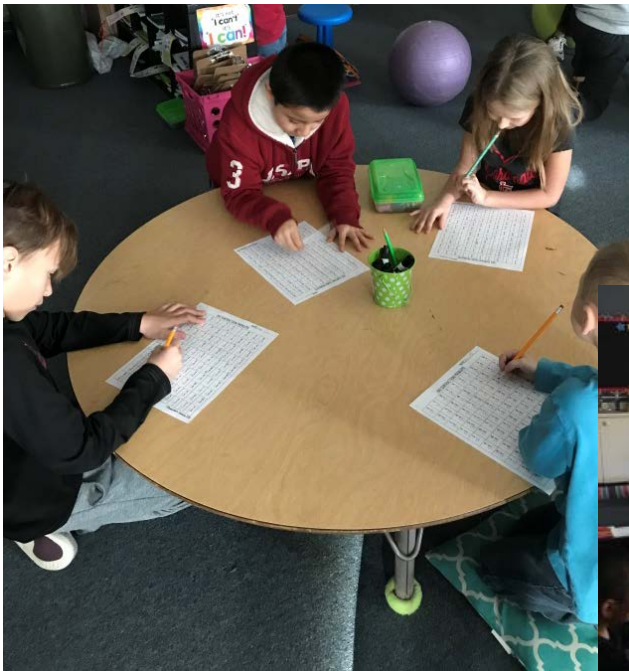
Misconceptions

- ▶ Substitutes
 - ▶ Home Spots
 - ▶ Parent concerns
 - ▶ Money
 - ▶ Students from other classrooms
- 

Kindergarten



2nd grade



3rd grade



5th Grade



High School English



Teacher Reactions

- ▶ Why did you decide to go to a flexible seating classroom?
- ▶ “I find myself as a teacher sitting on desks, leaning on tables, etc. because I can't stand just sitting in a hard chair or standing to teacher. I myself prefer different seating, so why wouldn't students? I have also had a few previous students that could have had a much better school year had they had simple accommodations such as different seating options. ”
– 5th grade teacher

Teacher Reactions

- ▶ What behavioral successes did you see?
- ▶ “I would say for a majority yes. There are certain students who consistently push against expectations and I have assigned them a space for X amount of time (half day into "until further notice". I specifically have a student who was super frigid at the beginning of the year who was assigned to a desk in a personal space for peer conflict issues. After Christmas when we got the bouncy ball seats he has been so on task and wonderful and jumped 4 reading levels in a little over a month.”

– 2ND grade teacher

Teacher Reactions

- ▶ What academic success did you see?
- ▶ “73% of my students have already met their end of the year reading goal. It appears students function through stressful tests like timed tests better with seating than chairs. Some students still prefer desks. Some know that they can do better in reading with seating but use a desk for math.”
 - 3rd grade teacher

Teacher Reactions

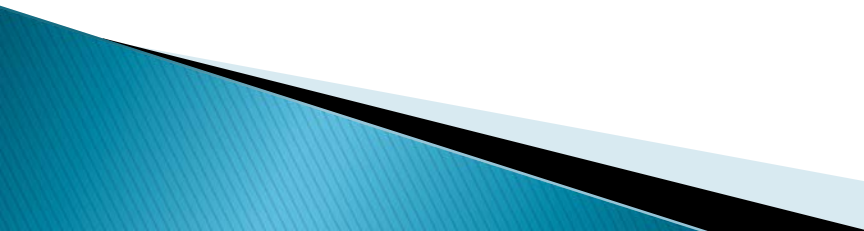
- ▶ What is a Negative thing you can think of?
 - They are so into them they can be a distraction. We had to make new rules about coming to the carpet for whole group because they always try and bring seating with them. Seating can be expensive!
 - High school English Teacher

Teacher Reactions

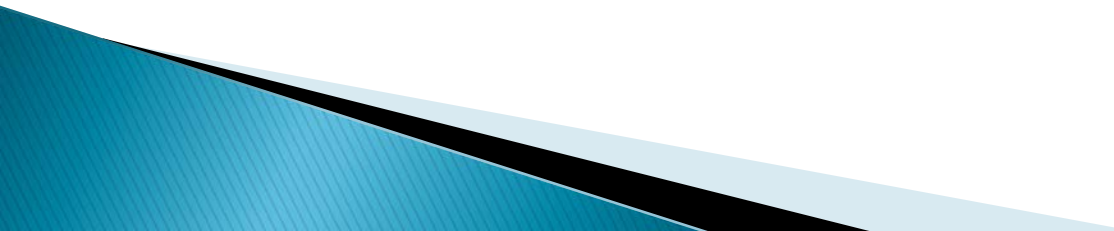
- ▶ What was the hardest things to consider?
- ▶ “Basic supplies. It seems like a simple process to find homes for supplies that would typically be in a desk, but it isn't! Only so much fits in a book box, especially if they have trouble being organized. Homes for supplies have changed throughout the year as we have realized things do not work smoothly. Now we have baskets for things such as math journals, reader's response notebooks.”

– Kindergarten Teacher

Seating Choices

- ▶ Bar stool table
 - ▶ Floor table with pillows/yoga mats
 - ▶ Yoga Ball table– 5 Below/Amazon
 - ▶ Regular desks
 - ▶ Yoga mats– 5 Below/Amazon
 - ▶ Exercise bands on chairs
 - ▶ Wobble stools
 - ▶ Crate seats
 - ▶ Bean bag chairs
 - ▶ Crate benches
 - ▶ Lap Desks
 - ▶ Standing areas
 - ▶ Scoop Rockers– \$50 for 6 on Amazon
- 

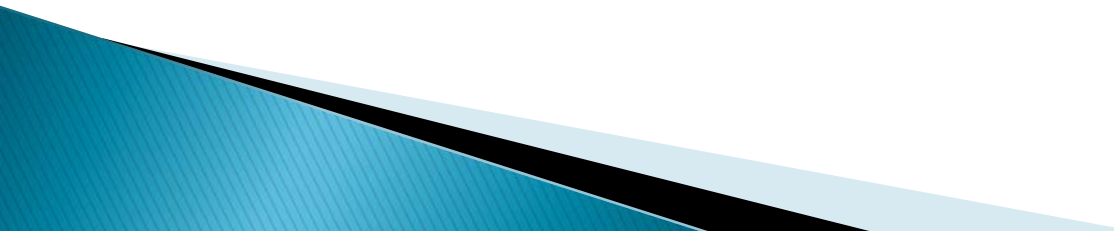
What about our stuff?

- ▶ Community supplies
 - ▶ Personal Pencil boxes
 - ▶ Own/partner cubbies
 - ▶ Baskets for journals/notebooks
 - ▶ Name tags on pencil boxes
 - ▶ Name tags that move around with them
 - ▶ Personal magazine boxes
- 

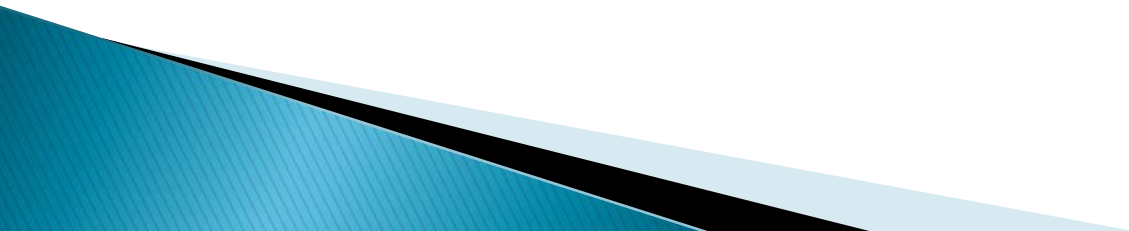
Student Survey

- ▶ <https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B3WHSs-ZUbsUSVYxakZVSzZIRFVqalF1SINZTmRjanpJUmJz/view?usp=sharing>
- ▶ <https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B3WHSs-ZUbsUbktfTFRKUnJBWXFReINFd1U2bTF2T0xEaUhr/view?usp=sharing>

Round Table Discussion

- ▶ Would you use this in your class?
 - ▶ What would you try?
 - ▶ What's stopping you?
- 

Planning time...



Contact Information

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