Sense of Belonging to School Membership

**Instrument:** Psychological Sense of School Membership (PSSM) scale

**Subscale Name:** Sense of School Membership


**Developers:** Goodenow C.

**Year:** 1993

**Language other than English available:** Spanish

**Target Audience(s):** Students in grades 6 through 8.

**Type of instrument:** Attitudes

**Data collected:** Quantitative

**Data collection format:** Self report - Pre/post

**Reading Level:** Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level: 5.9

**Supporting materials available (manuals, etc…):** Full scale is available at [http://www.cdc.gov/ncipc/pub-res/measure.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/ncipc/pub-res/measure.htm)

**Level of training necessary for administration:** No formal training necessary.

**Widespread Use/Professional Endorsements:** The scale is endorsed by the CDC for use in evaluating violence prevention programs.

**Cost of use:** No cost associated with use of the instrument.

**Description:**
- 5 items that measure an individual’s sense of belonging to his/her middle school.

**Psychometrics:**
*Information on reliability and validity are provided below. If information on a particular psychometric was not found, it is indicated as “no information provided.” It should be noted that this is not necessarily an indication of a lack of reliability or validity within a particular scale/instrument, but rather a lack of rigorous testing, for various reasons, by the developers or other researchers.*
Reliability: A correlation of at least .80 is suggested for at least one type of reliability as evidence; however, standards range from .5 to .9 depending on the intended use and context for the instrument

- Test-Retest: No information provided.
- Internal Consistency: Cronbach alpha=.77 to .88
- Inter-rater reliability: No information provided.

Validity: The extent a measure captures what it is intended to measure.

- Content/Face Validity: No information provided.
- Criterion Validity: No information provided.
- Construct Validity: The quality of psychological membership in school was significantly correlated with self-reported school motivation, grades, and teacher-rated effort.
Construct: Sense of Belonging to School - Membership

Subscale Name: Sense of School Membership

Developers: Goodenow C.

Rating Scale:
Strongly disagree = 1
Disagree = 2
Neither = 3
Agree = 4
Strongly agree = 5

Items:
How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

1. I feel proud of belonging to my middle school.
2. I am treated with as much respect as other students.
3. I feel very different from most other students here. (R)
4. The teachers here respect me.
5. There’s at least one teacher or other adult in this school I can talk to if I have a problem.

Scoring:
- Reverse scoring (5=strongly disagree to 1=strongly agree) for items indicated with a (R).
- Sum all item ratings together and subtract by 5. Range of scores= 0 to 20.
- Higher scores indicate greater sense of school belonging.