**Leadership and Connection**

**/30**

**Preamble**

As you know, connections and authentic relationships are key to successful success in leadership. To understand this more deeply, today you have been given the time to explore your own ‘***circles of connection***’ and you have some space to think about where you are well-connected and where your connections could be deeper.

Keep in mind the purpose of this is not just to think about where your connections are, but also who your ***influences*** are. Are they positive or negative influences? You need to decide. If they are a negative influence (or they give you a negative feeling), why is that? You have some time and space today to think about this and figure out what you can do about it, if you want to. (As an aside: If you have ‘negatives’ in your life and you don’t want to do something about it, that’s a whole other line of thinking, eh?)

**Attachment theory** is a concept that states we all need to ‘attach’ to feel connection and it is critical in human development. If students do not have adults to attach to, who do you think they will attach to? Whether the person is a positive or negative influence, children will necessarily attach to someone. (If this interests you, check out <http://neufeldinstitute.org/> and research Gordon Neufeld, PhD.)

**Assignment**

You have one block to complete this assignment. Please do the prework below and then complete the visual on the back. The most successful visuals will be put up at the back of the room, so please only share what you are comfortable to share.

It is important not only to show your understanding of all of your connections but to do the following:

1. Map the connections
2. Show the interconnection between the connections
3. Demonstrate somehow if the connections are mostly positive, negative or both at times
4. Demonstrate where you think connections are missing. Why do you think that is? What can you do about it?

**Assessment**

Thoughtfulness/Depth /10

Creativity/Neatness /10

Complete/Accurate /10

Brainstorm here!

