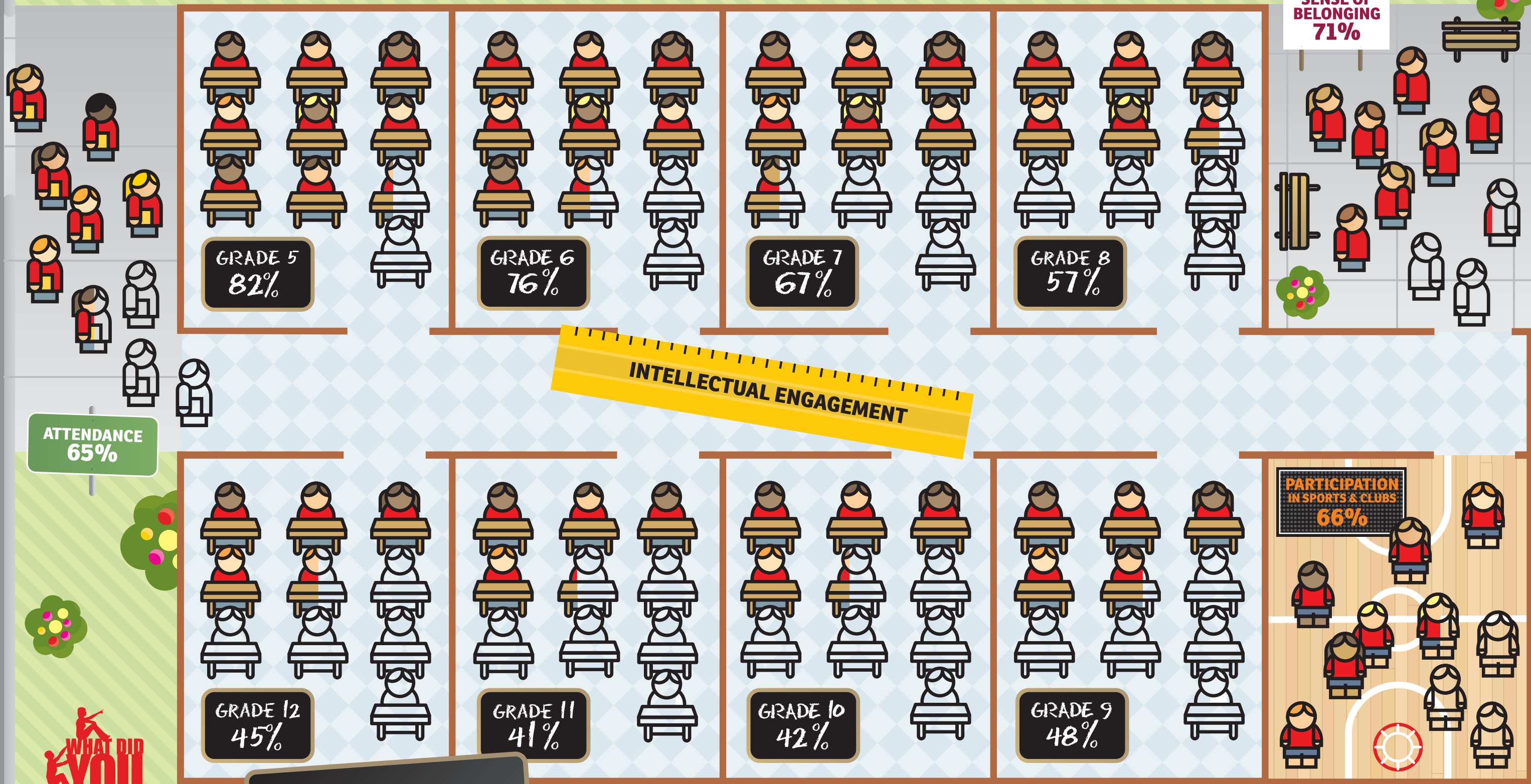


# Are Canadian Students Engaged?

Percentage of 67,248 Grade 5 - 12 Students Engaged in Their Learning and School



ATTENDANCE  
65%

SENSE OF BELONGING  
71%

PARTICIPATION IN SPORTS & CLUBS  
66%

INTELLECTUAL ENGAGEMENT

WHAT DID YOU DO IN SCHOOL TODAY?

[www.edcan.ca/engagement](http://www.edcan.ca/engagement)

ENGAGED DISENGAGED

# What is this image telling us?

## Many Canadian students are tuned in to school, but tuned out of learning

About 7 in 10 students are socially engaged in school: they have a positive sense of belonging and participate in one or more sports or clubs. About the same number of students attend school regularly and get to their classes on time.

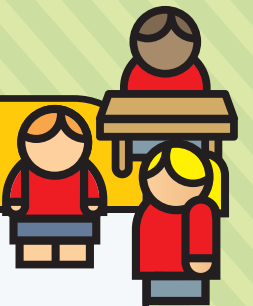
As you look into the classrooms, you see that most Grade 5 and 6 students are engaged in their learning. However, intellectual engagement begins to fall by Grade 7, and by Grade 9 fewer than 50 percent of students are engaged. Although not shown in the image, students' efforts to do well in school remain high in middle and secondary schools – what falls dramatically is their level of interest in and motivation to do their schoolwork.

## A multidimensional framework of student engagement

The image illustrates highlights from the *Tell Them From Me 2.0 Student Survey*. Through this survey, students at schools participating in *What did you do in school today?* shared their experiences of engagement in school and in classrooms. The survey results allow teachers and students to understand three different dimensions of student engagement: social, institutional, and intellectual. The table below describes the dimensions and students' levels of engagement.

The **bold categories** in the table's third column correspond to the categories in the image. (Note that the third column shows percentages of all students surveyed; for intellectual engagement, the **image** shows the percentages by grade.)

DIMENSION	DEFINITION	PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS WHO ARE ENGAGED
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Social Engagement</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>meaningful participation in the life of the school</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>participation in sports and clubs</b> (66%), <b>sense of belonging</b> (71%), and positive friendships at school (75%)</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Institutional Engagement</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>active participation in the requirements for school success</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>self-reported <b>attendance</b> (65%) and homework behaviour (47%), and the value students place on the outcomes of schooling (71%)</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Intellectual Engagement</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a serious emotional and cognitive investment in learning</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>intellectual engagement</b> (a composite of interest and motivation (31%), effort (70%), effective learning time (68%), relevance (52%), rigour (59%)), and instructional challenge (data not available)</li> </ul>



Jodene Dunleavy (Canadian Education Association) and J. Douglas Willms (Canadian Research Institute for Social Policy, University of New Brunswick), May 2011.

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To learn more about *What did you do in school today?* visit [www.edcan.ca/engagement](http://www.edcan.ca/engagement)