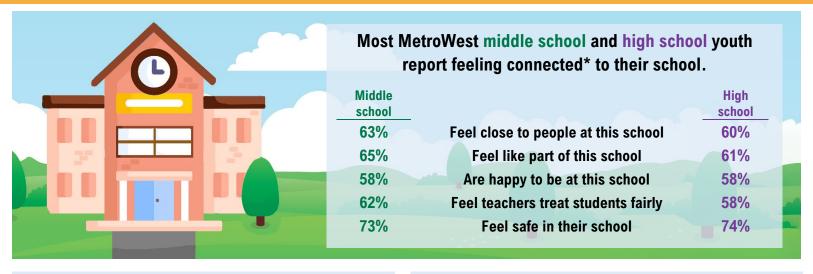
## **School Connectedness Among MetroWest Adolescents**

Highlights from the 2021 MetroWest Adolescent Health Survey (Grades 7-12)



## School connectedness is lower among female youth. For example:



report feeling like part of this school.

## School connectedness is lower among LGBTQ youth. For example:

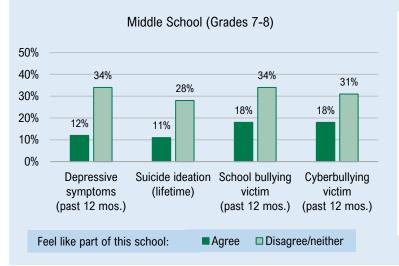


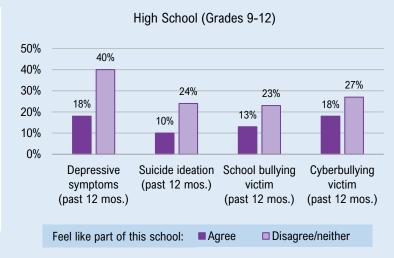
of middle school LGBTQ youth report feeling close to people at school (vs. 67% of non-LGBTQ youth).



of high school LGBTQ youth report feeling close to people at school (vs. 64% of non-LGBTQ youth).

## School connectedness\* in MetroWest is associated with lower reports of mental health problems and bullying victimization.<sup>‡</sup>







The MetroWest Adolescent Health Survey (MWAHS) is conducted by Education Development Center, Inc. with funding from the MetroWest Health Foundation. The MWAHS is an anonymous survey of youth in 25 communities. One of the largest student surveys in the nation, its goal is to inform local policies and programs. In 2021, 39,293 students in grades 6-12 took surveys, representing 86% of students in the region.

