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EDFS 355
Professor Tammy Kolbe
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Your work this week focused on manipulating and analyzing data. Please reflect on how you might use these tools in your day-to-day work, or future work as an educational leader. In addition, please reflect on what you found most useful about this exercise, and where you feel you still have gaps in your understanding of the tools (e.g., Excel) and concepts (e.g., measures of central tendency).

Before this assignment, I was confident in my excel abilities. I have experience working in Excel for both academic assignments, my undergraduate thesis, and previous professional data analysis. While I am still confident in the skills I had previously, the seminar materials have provided additional insight and context for the correct usage of different statistics. Additionally through the seminars, I am discovering some fantastic misconceptions that I had around my own data literacy. I had always contextualized p values connected to values of correlation, but it was an important realization to understand that p values can be attributed to multiple statistics. In this week's seminar, I also gained a deeper understanding of the language utilized around measures of center and variability. A gap in my understanding may be on how best to combine all of the tools with a data set that is imperfect (like most real-world data sets are). If a data set is imperfect or poorly collected, I know from experience that a single data point can skew the measures of center for an entire school/grade/classroom.

This class content is incredibly applicable to my future career. In a classroom or school setting, the understanding of student data is important when making decisions about curriculum or technology. Data literacy is crucial when deciding what interventions to try, or additional staff to hire. This class is giving me a framework in which to evaluate data and educate peers in

data-literacy strategies. In a position when I am organizing programming, this data is helpful for making decisions around program attendance, demographics or usage, and can be utilized for both internal decision making and external funding factors.