

Student Focus Group Protocol

Facilitator: _____ School: _____

Welcome! Thank you for taking the time to discuss your experience as a student at this school. I am _____. I am collaborating with your school to gather feedback from various members of the school community to inform the school's improvement plan for next year.

This focus group is part of a larger process to learn about stakeholders' experiences in this school. We gathered a lot of valuable feedback from the student survey that you completed a few weeks ago. Today, we hope to dig a little deeper into a few targeted areas to better understand what it is like to be a student at this school.

There are no "wrong" answers to any of these questions. We are interested in hearing your perspectives as students.

We value confidentiality. We will not associate any feedback that comes out of this focus group with a particular individual. We will host several student focus groups today. In reporting what we learn through multiple student focus groups, we will only report general themes – highlighting areas of consistency and inconsistency.

QUESTION		ESSENTIAL PRACTICE CONNECTIONS:
1	Do you think your school has high expectations for your learning? How do you know?	6, 11, 4
2	Do students get to talk to the principals and teachers about how the school is run and what programs or activities are offered at this school? (Prompt for examples like the structures below) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Student government <input type="radio"/> PBIS team <input type="radio"/> Student mentoring program 	7, 6, 12
3	What are your school's goals? How do you know if your school is achieving those goals?	6, 7, 10
4	Do all students have access to the programs and services they need? Is there anything you need that isn't offered to you?	4, 12, 13
5	How do you know what skills you need to learn this year? Besides report cards, how do your teachers let you know how you are doing in learning these skills? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Rubrics <input type="radio"/> Scoring guides <input type="radio"/> Examples of other student work 	6, 4

QUESTION**ESSENTIAL PRACTICE CONNECTIONS:**

6	How do you get to show your teachers what you have learned? (prompt for a variety of examples like the list below) <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Tests○ Homework○ Projects	3
7	Do you track your own data? What tools do you use? How does this help your learning?	3, 12, 13, 4, 6
8	What are your school rules? Do your teachers teach what the school rules look like in different spaces throughout the school building (for example, in the hallway, in the classroom, in the gym, in the lunch room)? Do you earn rewards for demonstrating appropriate behaviors?	12
9	Do students feel like they belong at this school? Do students treat each other with respect? Do students care about and help each other?	11
10	Do your teachers talk with your parents/guardians about how you are doing in school? Do your parents/guardians attend school events or help at school?	14
11	How do community members or organizations work with your school?	15