Colorado’s Student Perception Survey - Grades 6-12

Colorado’s Student Perception Survey is a 34 question instrument that measures elements of student experience that have been demonstrated to correlate most closely to a teacher’s ability to positively impact student growth. Students are asked to indicate how frequently they experience each item with a response scale of always, most of the time, some of the time, and never. The survey is organized by four elements:

- **Student Learning**: How teachers use content and pedagogical knowledge to help students learn, understand, and improve.
  - My teacher makes learning enjoyable.
  - What I learn in this class is useful to me in my real life.
  - My teacher teaches things that are important to me.
  - My teacher knows the things that make me excited about learning.
  - In this class, we learn a lot every day.
  - In this class, it is more important to understand the lesson than to memorize the answers.
  - When the work is too hard, my teacher helps me keep trying.
  - My teacher accepts nothing less than my best effort.
  - My teacher knows when we understand the lesson and when we do not.
  - If I don't understand something, my teacher explains it a different way.
  - My teacher explains difficult things clearly.
  - In this class, we have a say in what we learn and do.
  - My teacher talks to me about my work to help me understand my mistakes.
  - My teacher writes notes on my work that help me improve.
  - When we study a topic, my teacher makes connections to other subjects or classes.

- **Student-Centered Environment**: How teachers create an environment that responds to individual students’ backgrounds, strengths, and interests.

- **Classroom Community**: How teachers cultivate a classroom learning community where student differences are valued.

- **Classroom Management**: How teachers foster a respectful and predictable learning environment.

There are two versions of Colorado’s Student Perception Survey: one for grades 3 - 5 and another for grades 6 - 12. The survey items for grades 6 - 12 are listed below and the version for use with grades 3 - 5 can be found on our website.

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1 A number of items on the Colorado SPS were adapted from items made available for non-commercial use through the Measures of Effective Teaching (MET) Project, funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

2 For administration purposes, survey items should be in the order that is outlined in our administration materials, not by survey element.
**Student-Centered Environment:** How teachers create an environment that responds to individual students' backgrounds, strengths, and interests.

- My classroom is organized and I know where to find what I need.
- Students feel comfortable sharing their ideas in this class.
- My teacher respects my opinions and suggestions.
- My teacher cares about me.
- My teacher pays attention to what all students are thinking and feeling.
- My teacher respects my cultural background.
- My teacher respects me as an individual.

**Classroom Community:** How teachers cultivate a classroom learning community where student differences are valued.

- My teacher would notice if something was bothering me.
- Our classroom materials (books, articles, videos, art, music, posters, etc.) reflect my cultural background.
- In this class, I feel like I fit in.
- I feel like an important part of this classroom community.
- My teacher knows what my life is like outside of school.
- My teacher knows what is important to me.
- I ask for help when I need it.
- I feel like I do a good job in this class.

**Classroom Management:** How teachers foster a respectful and predictable learning environment.

- Our class stays busy and does not waste time.
- Students in this class treat the teacher with respect.
- The students behave the way my teacher wants them to.
- Students in this class respect each other’s differences.