

Student Surveys

At-a-Glance



Student Perceptions

Student success depends on positive and effective experiences with teachers. The Tripod student perception survey gives teachers reliable information about how their practices related to content knowledge, instruction and relationship building are experienced by students. Research confirms that these day-to-day instructional practices and behaviors predict student engagement, success mindsets and achievement. Along with other measures of teaching and learning, the survey results help to create a more comprehensive picture of the classroom. The results are vital to professional reflection and continuous improvement.

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About Tripod

The Tripod student survey was developed by Dr. Ronald F. Ferguson of Harvard University in collaboration with Ohio teachers in 2001 and refined over more than a decade. Since 2011, the surveys have been completed by:

- 4,580,314 students across
- 226,953 K-12 classrooms across
- 9,579 schools across
- 29 states

National research shows that student surveys are the most reliable assessment of teacher effectiveness and highly predictive of student achievement growth.

Impact on Students



Surveys are not just reliable feedback tools; they are also highly predictive of teachers' impact on student achievement growth. Peer reviewed research has repeatedly shown that a teacher's survey performance with one class of students is highly correlated with the academic growth of all the students the teacher teaches. This means that teachers can use feedback from their survey reports to confirm their success and adjust their practices to improve student learning in all the classes they teach.

The Measures of Effective Teaching study of 2010¹ showed that students taught by higher-scoring teachers on the survey dramatically out-performed students taught by lower-scoring teachers—amounting to **3.7 - 4.8 more months of learning per year in Math and 2.3 - 2.9 more months in English Language Arts.**

How We Use Surveys

The primary purpose of the survey is to help students achieve more and become more engaged in school by providing valuable information to teachers for professional reflection and growth. Data can also be analyzed to study the learning climate in school teams, grades or the building as a whole. Because the survey framework communicates fundamental expectations of teacher performance and is such a reliable assessment of teacher effectiveness, it is also one of the three teacher effectiveness components reported on teachers' evaluation documents.

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For additional information about the Tripod student survey, go to TPS website's Teacher and Leader Effectiveness page or call 918-746-6223.

¹ Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, "Learning about Teaching: Initial findings from the Measures of Effective Teaching Project." Table 9. p.26. December 2010.

The 7Cs and the Survey Items

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The 7Cs are constructs for measuring teaching practices: Care, Classroom Management, Clarify, Challenge, Captivate, Confer and Consolidate— aspects of teaching supported by decades of research and peer reviewed publications.

1. Care –show concern and support
 - *My teacher seems to know if something is bothering me.*
2. Classroom Management (formerly Control)– sustain order, respect and focus
 - *My classmates behave the way my teacher wants them to.*
3. Clarify –cultivate understanding & overcome confusion
 - *My teacher explains difficult things clearly.*
4. Challenge –press for rigor and persistence
 - *My teacher doesn't let people give up when the work gets hard.*
5. Captivate –inspire curiosity and interest
 - *My teacher makes lessons interesting.*
6. Confer –invite ideas and promote discussion
 - *My teacher gives us time to explain our ideas.*
7. Consolidate –integrate ideas and summarize key points
 - *My teacher takes time to summarize what we learn each day.*