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| **Area of Concern** | **Comment from students on high negatives** |
| **HOPE** |  |
| Get good grades? | * Maybe someone is telling them they are stupid * Pressure from parents who want them to get good grades * They don’t want to show off * Homework is too hard * Thinks they are going too fast in math * Don’t really care about what they’re doing * If they get a B instead of A they don’t think it is good * They think other students are smarter * They don’t do assignments or homework so leads to not good grades * They set a goal for themselves and did not reach it * They may think their grade was unfair * Student procrastinates * Not studying * Poor attitude * Attendance issue * Students are nervous, have low self esteem * Student has disability * Easy to get behind and not be able to get caught back up * Not listening – not interested in the first place * Grades are only one indicator of who I am * Fear that one bad grade ruins the entire grade * Tested over material they are not completely comfortable with * Students don’t believe in themselves * Other kids see their grades and make fun * Friends get higher grades * Classes are hard * Students struggling, but don’t want to go to tutoring * Students are afraid of asking questions in class for fear that classmates will make fun of them for not understanding * parents do not understand their homework and are unable to help them, or they attempt to show them a different way than their teacher has instructed * students sometimes rush through work or show lack of effort because they don’t think they can do it * Teacher doesn’t cover the subject well |
| Have goals? | * Maybe they think they don’t need goals * They make a goal, but don’t achieve it, so they drop it. * Think about NOW, not tomorrow. No reason to set goal now for later in life. * They want them, but don’t set them. * Some kids may not have set goals or achieved those goals yet * Some kids might not think they have the potential to do what they want in future -- unrealistic goals * Kids are afraid to set goals in case they don’t accomplish * Student does not know how-not sure of what a good goal is for them * Student is not taking time to plan * Student may just want to get through high school * School goals don’t fit with who I am * Students don’t believe in themselves/Don’t believe in having goals * Students are not mature enough to set good goals for themselves * Not pushed to have goals * Teachers just go over things, don’t talk about how it will benefit the students in the future * Talked down by parents so they quit goal * Depressed at the time so goals didn’t matter * Gave up because no one cares. * People make them feel like there is a one in a million chance of them achieving their goals and dreams and that they should be more realistic * Thinking about quitting school * It’s not important to set goals * Might have to do something they don’t like to do * Won’t be able to do what they want to do * Think they will just have a job at McDonalds |
| Have ways around problems? | * Teachers are going too fast. * Not being able to understand it * Out-going people will ask/shy people are scared and won’t ask. * Some are slow learners. * Sometimes slow/sometimes can’t “nail things” the first time * if they don’t solve their problem right away they may give up * May be bullied and nothing seems to stop it * Situations at home may be bad and they don’t know what to do * Student has had particular problems all of their lives * Actions of myself/others block my solutions * Student thinks in “worst case scenario” about situations * Student does not want to deal with the problem * (At home) student will not talk to parent or parent will not listen * We don’t take time to think first * Students just don’t care * Students don’t believe in themselves * Too much drama, don’t know how to avoid it * Parents don’t have time to ask kids about their day * Some students just don’t know how to problem solve * I guess they don’t have someone they trust * Maybe they don’t know which way to go * No friends to discuss it with * They asked but are not being helped * If you are poor, you can’t help it * Kids don’t always share their problems with their parents, because parents have problems of their own * They think it will just go away * Feel they might be set up to fail |
| Feel they will get a good job? | * Discouraged – not all they do is right * Grades aren’t good enough to get the job they want. * They don’t care. * These kids may not feel like there is a job for their skill set. * If they don’t succeed in school, then they won’t succeed in life. * Student is not aware of good jobs available * The job is viewed too hard to achieve * They follow in parents’ footsteps * Do not want to work hard * My prior actions/grades prevent me * No forgiveness in the community/school/classroom * Criminal records/poor grades * Scared we won’t be able to go to college because of money * Students not motivated to be successful * Grades aren’t good enough to go to college * Students don’t believe in themselves * Students struggling in class so they can’t see themselves getting a good job * Don’t want to work after they graduate * Other people tell them they won’t succeed |
| Believe they will graduate? | * Negative attitudes * Fifth grade is too challenging * Older siblings discussing how difficult school is once out of elementary * Graduation is too far away and not important * Too much time to graduate * Graduation is only for those who are good/looking for it * People only see bad so why try * Labeled as bad so kids give up/won’t be successful anyway * My family didn’t graduate so I probably won’t either * Maybe I’m not smart enough * Being bullied so they just don’t care * Maybe others are smarter than me |
| **ENGAGEMENT** |  |
| Opportunity to do their best? | * If they get a question wrong, they won’t try. * They get down on themselves really easily. * You’re spirit gets dropped, if you miss a problem, so teachers should motivate before the test---teachers need to tell them ahead of time that they will miss one, it’s ok….. * May not achieve as well as others * May have lost their confidence * Won’t help in the future * Taking notes is only memory technique and that doesn’t fit me * Keeping up with school work is too difficult * Don’t care about school * Other situations in life that are more important/bad * Feel rushed to complete work and tests * Timers make us feel pressure * Classmates put others down/ People make fun of them for being a nerd * We are told to make a good guess if we don’t know * Too much pressure * Family responsibilities take up homework time * Other stuff gets in the way like trips, visits, family stuff. * Went to visit and forgot work stuff, like to Dad’s * Too much work is assigned * It is up to each individual student to decide whether or not they would try their best * Someone distracts them in class and they can’t pay attention * They are to far behind and can’t catch up * If they did too good they might pass their friends up that don’t try |
| They get recognition? | * Teachers don’t say enough of “good job” * Kids are hard on themselves * Some try to get recognized; others don’t * Don’t get recognized because they don’t try. * Because they don’t meet their goals (AR, Map) * Because they don’t pay attention, or do school work * Teachers have favorites-- teachers aren’t fair to everyone * Aren’t enough opportunities * Report cards focus on the negative * Teachers remember the negatives and don’t give breaks * Quiet kids get looked over * People don’t pay attention to when kids to well * Aren’t a part of a club (smart students club, honor society) so they feel left out. * May do things when no adult is around to notice * May be too shy to be recognized * Students who do well do not receive as much/if any recognition as students who do very well * The students who get in trouble get the attention * Only popular kids get recognized * Same kids over and over get recognized—they are the best * Too many kids in one classroom * Students work hard but never feel like it is good enough * Parents don’t brag on them * Don’t get recognized even though they just did their best ever * Brothers and sisters get all the recognition * Feel bad about themselves instead of just feeling good for the other person * Not getting called on by the teacher |
| Feel safe? | * Bullied by someone/ Fear of bullying * Intimidated by school shootings --- we need metal detectors. * School shooting --- every school should upgrade to buzzer system/cameras * Schools aren’t safe because anyone could walk in * Bullied kids react in bad ways * Fear of getting made fun of-being picked on by others * Fear that teachers won’t take care of things * Promises made by adults that never happen * Other kids are mean, kids make threats * Kids bring home issues to school * Bad language used at school by other students makes me feel uncomfortable * Too many fights * Scared of some of the substitutes * Feel unsafe after a fight thinking it might happen again * Things that have happened in the past to make them not trust adults |
| Feel schoolwork is important? | * Don’t feel like they have to do it to succeed/ you can get by without doing it * Most feel they can get a big job anyway, so why do the work. * Scared of failure/ Scared that I can’t do it, so I don’t do it. * If you want to be a football player or fashion designer --- they may not feel work is important to what they want to be. * Same with being a hairdresser --- what does math have to do with that? * Only behavior counts * Participation grades are lies * Don’t see the connection between the grade and what is given in class * Teachers threaten using schoolwork as consequence * Kids don’t see relevance of school/ Schoolwork does not relate to real world * Work is irrelevant * Don’t care about future or reality of future * Teachers need to put more fun into the work being done in the class work * Already did the work in another grade * Too much writing |
| Have a best friend? | * Hard to make friends that will not stab you in the back or create more drama in your life * People are only friends with you if they feel sorry for you * Bad label and don’t have real friends |
| **WELLBEING** |  |
| Feel treated with respect? | * Labeling * Teachers calling names, playing favorites * Teachers set up situation of us v. them * Isolate problem students so they don’t feel like their work is valued * Too much gossip * Bullying * Kids are left out * Kids get away with being mean * Constantly being judged by peers (clothes, looks, race, parents) * Rumors and name calling * Too much boyfriend/girlfriend drama * Teachers have attitudes / teachers don’t give respect to students * Got into trouble with a teacher and so teacher doesn’t like them * Because of their size, is smaller than everyone * Teachers treat unpopular kids “lower” * Teachers aren’t listening to why you can't get work done * You try to express your feelings to a teacher and they think you are being disrespectful so they get disrespectful back |
| Smile or laugh often? | * Student combinations might prevent a good attitude * Teachers talk about students * No friends or sense of humor |
| Learn or do something often? | * Teachers give book assignments too much * No explanation * Don’t like the subject or don’t teach it the way it fits learning style * Classroom management is inadequate/none * Don’t pay attention |
| Have enough energy? | * Family issues * Need more sugar in diet * More activity in room * Desks are too small or broken down/uncomfortable * Stay up late playing video games * Medication issues * Smoke too much |