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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
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| 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
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| 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
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| 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
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| 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
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| **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
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| 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
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| 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
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| 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
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| 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
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| **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
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| Smile or laugh often?  | * Student combinations might prevent a good attitude
* Teachers talk about students
* No friends or sense of humor
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| 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
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| 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
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