

MY VOICE DATA SURVEY 2013 GRADES 3-5

GALLATIN GATEWAY SCHOOL Feb. 2013

My Voice Survey

The purpose of this survey is:

- to explore the students' views of their experiences at Gallatin Gateway School
- to provide GGS staff with an understanding of the conditions that affect student aspirations

Montana OPI Reminds Us

- The data represents student perceptions of reality.
- Data are numbers. It is dangerous to jump to conclusions about what the data means.
- The survey completion is the beginning point and not the end. What happens after the survey is collected is what brings value to the process.
- Digging deeper through discussion with randomly selected student focus groups is an essential part of the process.
- It is better to not give the survey than to give it and do nothing with the data.

National Survey Results:

Grades 3-5

- 96% of students want to do well in school
- More than 50% of 3-5 grade students identify bullying as a problem in schools
- 2 out of 3 students feel their teachers care if they are absent from school
- 36% of students responded 'yes' to seeing themselves as a leader
- 45% of students responded that they feel important in their classroom

State of Montana Survey Results

- Most students are confident and optimistic about their future, but lack skill in implementing strategies to reach their dreams.
- Montana students display a stronger sense of pride in their school when compared to students nationally.
- 3 out of 4 can identify a teacher as a positive role model, but only 2 out of 4 feel teachers care about them as an individual
- 81% indicate they push themselves academically while 84% state they want to do their best in school. Montana's 2009-10 completion rate was 83%.
- 60% perceive they have no voice in decision making at school

Gallatin Gateway School Mission

“The Gallatin Gateway School community is dedicated to enabling our students to be lifelong learners and productive citizens by meeting their needs in a positive atmosphere in which diversity is valued.”

GGG Academic Goals 2012-2013:

In preparation for middle school, the staff goals for grades 3-5 include:

- Memorization skills at each grade level
- Study skills across the curriculum
- Writing across the curriculum
- Student opinions for continued improvement

GGS “My Voice” Survey

- 46 Gallatin Gateway students in grades 3-5 participated in this survey during February 2013
- Students completed this survey independently online
- Staff will use data for future goal setting

8 Conditions for Making a Difference

1. Belonging
2. Heroes
3. Sense of Accomplishment
4. Fun and Excitement
5. Curiosity and Creativity
6. Spirit of Adventure
7. Leadership and Responsibility
8. Confidence to Take Action

Belonging

- Is a valued member of the school community, while still maintaining his or her own uniqueness
- Student maintain a sense of connection or support through relationships



Belonging

- 78% of students like their school
- 38% of students think bullying is a problem at school

Belonging

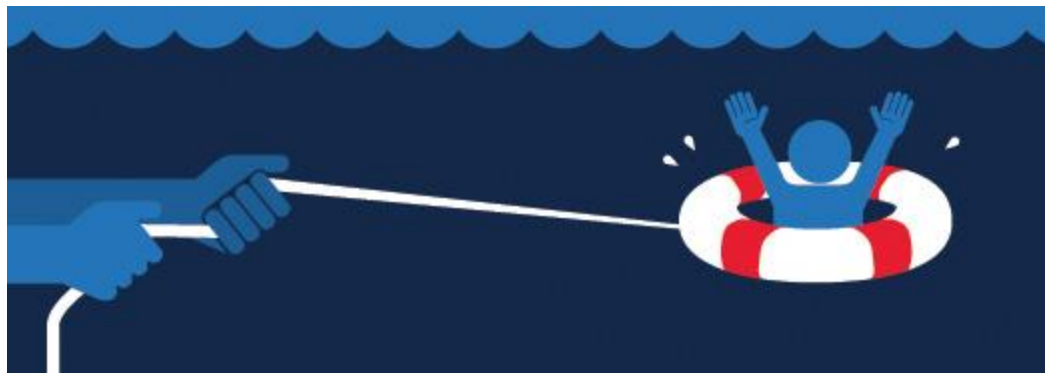
- 98% of students feel the principal knows their name
- 61% of students feel important in their classroom

Belonging

- 72% of students feel other students like them
- 66% of students feel other students are kind to them
- 64% of students feel they have friends they can be with at lunch

Heroes

- People who inspire the students to excel and make positive changes in attitude and lifestyle.
- Building trust in others and belief in one's self.
- Builds and encourages confidence in academic, personal, and social growth.



Heroes

- 57% of students respect their teachers
- 89% of students feel their teachers respect them

Heroes

- 57% of students feel they help each other at school
- 59% of students feel they respect each other

Heroes

- 89% of students feel their teacher cares about them
- 58% of students feel teachers care if they are absent from school

Heroes

- ❑ 53% of students feel when they are upset, they can tell a teacher why
- ❑ 76% of students feel they can talk to an adult when they have a problem

Sense of Accomplishment

- Student success recognizes effort, perseverance, citizenship, and academic achievement.
- Personal growth and effort



Sense of Accomplishment

- 63% of students feel they are recognized for being helpful and kind at school
- 51% of students feel their teacher displays their work

Sense of Accomplishment

- 93% of students do not give up when their homework is difficult
- 96% of students feel that getting good grades is important to them

Sense of Accomplishment

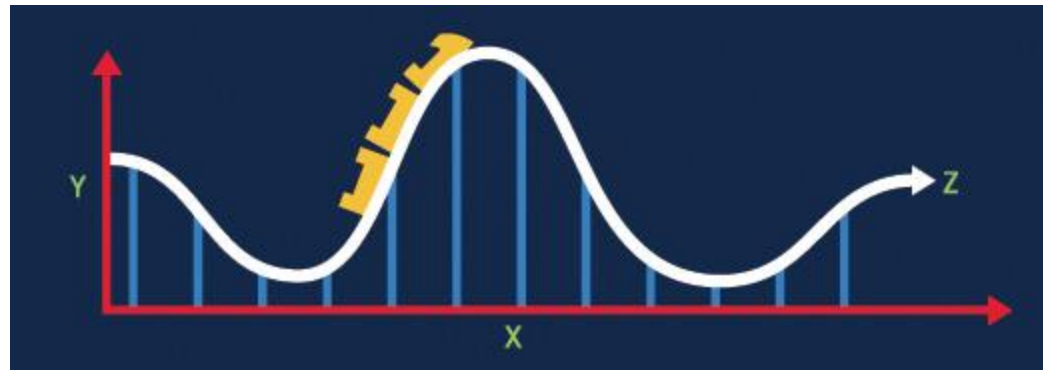
- 76% of students feel their teacher communicates with their parents when they do well
- 67% of students feel teachers recognize them when they do their best

Sense of Accomplishment

- 87% of students feel they give their best effort in school
- 77% of students help other students at school

Fun and Excitement

- Characterized by students being inspired, actively engaged, and emotionally involved in their school work.



Fun and Excitement

- 54% of students feel they have fun at school
- 63% of students feel their teachers have fun at school

Fun and Excitement

- 76% of students feel learning can be fun
- 56% of students like going to school

Fun and Excitement



93% of students feel school
is not boring

Curiosity and Creativity

- Characterized by inquisitiveness, eagerness, a strong desire to learn, new or interesting skills, and a desire to satisfy the mind with new discoveries.



Curiosity and Creativity

- 72% of students feel comfortable asking questions in class
- 78% of students feel their teachers listen to them

Curiosity and Creativity



- 85% of students enjoy working on projects with their peers
- 80% of students feel their teachers know their interests

Curiosity and Creativity

- 83% of students like to learn new things in their classes
- 71% of students like what they learn at school

Spirit of Adventure

- Characterized by a student's ability to take on positive, healthy challenges at school and home
- Tackle something new without the fear of failure or success



Spirit of Adventure

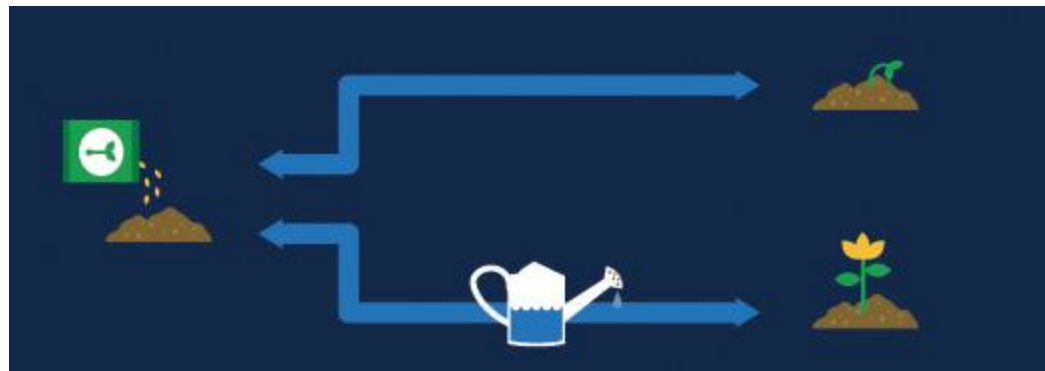
- 91% of students feel their teachers help them learn from their mistakes
- 49% of students only raise their hand if they know the answer
- 80% of students feel their teacher thinks they are smart

Spirit of Adventure

- 51% of students are excited to tell their friends when they get good grades
- 84% of students think what they learn in school is important

Leadership and Responsibility

- Students are able to express their ideas and are willing to accept consequences of their actions.
- Cultivates accountability and fosters leadership



Leadership and Responsibility

- 47% of students feel they are good decision makers
- 49% of students feel teachers learn from students

Leadership and Responsibility

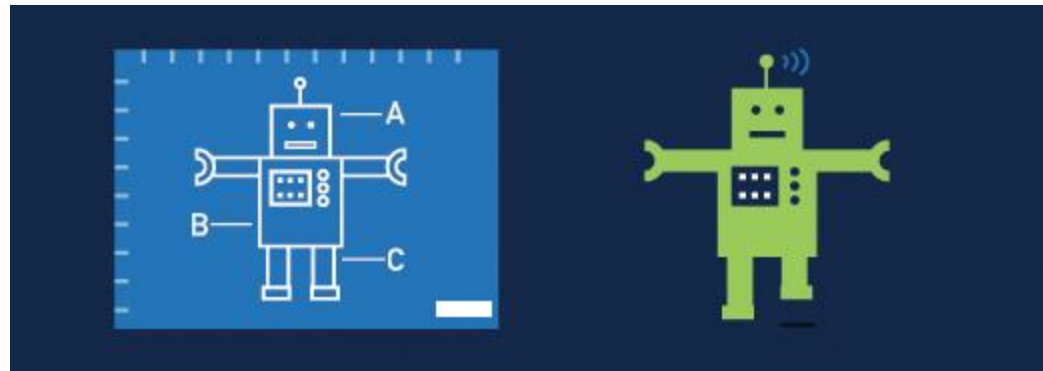
- ❑ 69% of students feel they help make the classroom rules
- ❑ 93% of students feel it is important to follow the rules

Leadership and Responsibility

- 37% of students feel that they are a leader
- 53% of students feel other students listen to their ideas

Confidence to Take Action

- ❑ The extent to which the students believe in themselves
- ❑ Encourages them to dream about their future while being motivated to set goals in the present



Confidence to Take Action

- 76% of students think they are smart
- 82% of students feel they work hard in school

Confidence to Take Action

- 85% of students want to go to college
- 89% of students feel they know how to set goals for themselves
- 82% of students feel their teacher helps them reach their goals

Three Important Considerations When Analyzing

1. The results reflect respondents' perceptions of reality
2. The data are merely numbers
3. The most helpful comparisons are internal

Guiding Principles

- The eight conditions that make a difference are categorized into three guiding principles that facilitate aspirations. They are:
 1. **Self-Worth:** Belonging, Heroes, and Sense of Accomplishment
 2. **Active Engagement:** Fun and Excitement, Curiosity and Creativity, and Spirit of Adventure
 3. **Purpose:** Leadership and Responsibility and Confidence to Take Action

Current Strategies Implemented

Self Worth:

- MBI lessons in: confidence building, resilience, self-respect, problem solving,
- Athletic and Academic Participation
- Small-group counseling and classroom presentations
- Principal Lunches
- Honor Roll and Perfect Attendance recognition
- School Pride – The Gator Way! (dog tags)
- Recognition of strengths in 5th grade
- Inviting the parents and community to view student work and recognize grade-level academic accomplishments.
- Talent Show

Possible Strategies to Implement Self Worth:

- Recognizing character responsibility – such as doing the right thing when no one is looking...
- Increase Title One parent participation through email and direct communications
- Staff training on confidence building strategies for elementary-age students
- Post student work and accomplishments for student viewing

Current Strategies Implemented:

Active Engagement

- MBI Lessons: problem solving and team building
- Field Trips – minimum of one per grade, per year
- Junior Achievement
- Guest speakers as applicable to curriculum
- Making connections: student life, current events, and careers

Possible Strategies to Implement: Active Engagement

- Encourage classroom participation – random selection, kid pickers, no hand raising, etc
- Encourage independent projects to demonstrate student knowledge
- Increase strategies for student-guided, self-paced learning with teacher facilitation
- Pursue school-wide academic involvement – competitions, contests, etc.

Current Strategies Implemented:

Purpose

- MBI Lessons: peer pressure, anger management, conflict mediation, problem solving, time management, organization, following directions, and career exploration
- Community Service Projects
- Community Buddy Letters
- Newsletter or Website student recognition
- Representation at Principal Lunches

Possible Strategies to Implement:

Purpose

- Increase career exploration
- Increase middle school readiness conversations/communications with parents and students

Summary

- Action Steps: