



10 EXPECTATIONS

ALL STUDENTS SHOULD HAVE OF THEIR SCHOOLS

TEACHER RUBRIC

FROM BIG PICTURE LEARNING

We hear often of the high expectations schools have of students. But what about the expectations that students have of schools? These get less attention, but are essential to keep students engaged and in school. So we invite you, the educator, to help determine whether your students' school expectations are being met. **Complete this rubric, calculate the score, and visit the last page for advice and resources you can use to make your sure that your students' learning is relevant and engaging to them.**

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| | STRONGLY AGREE | AGREE | DISAGREE | STRONGLY DISAGREE | |
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4

3

2

1



RELATIONSHIPS

ASK YOURSELF: DO MY STUDENTS FEEL LIKE JUST ANOTHER FACE IN THE CLASSROOM?

I know about my students' individual interests and talents:

I help my students form relationships with adults and peers who might serve as models and mentors:

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RELEVANCE

ASK YOURSELF: IS SCHOOL JUST A SERIES OF HOOPS FOR MY STUDENTS TO JUMP THROUGH?

What my students are learning is relevant to their interests (including career interests):

I help my students to understand how learning contributes to our community and to the world:

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TIME

ASK YOURSELF: DO I DETERMINE THE PACE OF MY STUDENTS' LEARNING?

My students have sufficient time to learn at their own pace:

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| | STRONGLY AGREE | AGREE | DISAGREE | STRONGLY DISAGREE |
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TIMING

ASK YOURSELF: MUST ALL STUDENTS IN MY CLASSROOM LEARN IN THE SAME SEQUENCE?

My students can learn things in the order that fits their learning style and/or interests:

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PLAY

ASK YOURSELF: DO MY STUDENTS FEEL PRESSURE TO PERFORM UP TO A CERTAIN STANDARD?

My students have opportunities to explore and to make mistakes and learn from them, without being branded as failures:

My students have opportunities to tinker and make guesses:

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PRACTICE

ASK YOURSELF: DO MY STUDENTS LEARN SOMETHING & IMMEDIATELY MOVE ONTO THE NEXT TOPIC?

My students have opportunities to engage in deep practice of the skills they need to learn:

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CHOICE

ASK YOURSELF: ARE MY STUDENTS FOLLOWING THE SAME PATH AS EVERY OTHER STUDENT?

My students have real choices about what, when, and how to learn and demonstrate their abilities:

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| | STRONGLY AGREE | AGREE | DISAGREE | STRONGLY DISAGREE |
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4

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2

1



AUTHENTICITY

ASK YOURSELF: DO MY STUDENTS HAVE TO COMPLETE A LOT OF WORKSHEETS?

The learning and work my students do is regarded as significant outside of school by experts, family members, and employers:

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CHALLENGE

ASK YOURSELF: ARE MY STUDENTS' GRADES BASED SIMPLY ON COMPLETING ASSIGNMENTS?

My students feel appropriately challenged:

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My students are held to the meaningful standards of excellence that they may face in the real world:



APPLICATION

ASK YOURSELF: DOES MY STUDENTS' LEARNING GO BEYOND THE WALLS OF MY CLASSROOM?

My students are provided with opportunities to contribute to solving the problems in our community and the world at large:

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TALLY

Indicate the number of times you chose each of these options throughout the rubric

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|---|---|---|---|
| 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
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Multiply each of the above numbers by the corresponding rubric score

| | | | |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| x 4 | x 3 | x 2 | x 1 |
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Add each of the above numbers together to determine the total engagement score

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TOTAL: _____



56-42

Your students are highly engaged in learning at school (and probably in learning outside of school!). The school (including you!) deserves a lot of credit for this, but so do your students. The most engaged students are the ones that are deliberately at the center of their own learning, so schools that offer personalized-learning approaches often find a student body that is more motivated, more successful, and—quite frankly—happier.

42-28

Your students are moderately engaged in their own learning. It is likely that your school excels at meeting some of your students' expectations, but may fall short in others. In many cases, this is due to competing priorities. As much as your school may be dedicated to meeting students' expectations, it is also beholden to other stakeholders. Still, if you wish to keep your students engaged and motivated, it will be well worth your time to hear from them about the areas where their learning needs and expectations are not being met.

28-14

Unfortunately, it doesn't appear that your school is meeting expectations, which may mean that your students don't feel very connected to their own learning and, as a result, may not even be motivated to learn in the first place. This may illustrate itself in ways as simple as losing focus and interest in class, or in more dramatic ways such as poorer grades, higher rates of absenteeism, and --worse-- potential to drop out altogether. In circumstances like these, students and families often seek out alternative opportunities for schooling (such as charter schools, private schools, or innovative school networks like Big Picture Learning).

WHAT'S NEXT?

1 LEND YOUR VOICE

TAKE THIS SAME SURVEY ONLINE TO HELP US FOSTER A NATIONAL DIALOGUE ON STUDENT ENGAGEMENT.

bit.ly/10xteacher



2 SHARE YOUR STORY

EVERYONE NEEDS TO HEAR ABOUT GREAT SCHOOLS. TWEET ABOUT HOW YOUR SCHOOL IS MEETING STUDENT EXPECTATIONS!

[#10expectations](https://twitter.com/10expectations)

3 CHANGE YOUR PATH

LEARN MORE ABOUT SCHOOLS THAT WORK, LIKE THOSE THAT ARE PART OF THE BIG PICTURE LEARNING NETWORK.

bigpicture.org

4 LEAVE TO LEARN

READ MORE ABOUT STUDENT EXPECTATIONS FOR LEARNING, BOTH INSIDE AND OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM.

leavingtolearn.org

