



## Student Voice Rubric

17 ELEMENTS	6 AREAS					
	School Governance	Classroom Culture	Discipline & Problem Solving	Advisement	Student Activities	Professional Development
1.) Relationship Development			x	x		
2.) Communication and Culture of Listening	x	x	x			
3.) Supportive Staff			x	x	x	x
4.) Collaboration	x	x	x		x	
5.) Encouraging Participation		x		x	x	
6.) Responsive: Student Voice Leads to Action	x					
7.) Contributing to Decisions	x					x
8.) Peer Support Opportunities				x		
9.) Appealing to Students' Lives and Interests				x		
10.) Student Government with True Power	x				x	
11.) Real Leadership Roles	x					
12.) Community-Building			x			
13.) Variety and Choice		x			x	x
14.) Authentic Tasks and Real-World Experiences		x			x	x
15.) Exploring Self, Identity, and Goals			x			
16.) Fostering Self-Advocacy				x		x
17.) Constructivist Learning		x				x

**AREAS** are the most important *places* where student voice can and should be found.  
**ELEMENTS** are the most important *qualities* of student voice, which can be found in *all* areas.

# Student Voice Rubric

Student Voice Collaborative

AREA #1

**School Governance**

## **COMMUNICATION & CULTURE OF LISTENING**

- ✓ Students informed of current school and classroom policies
- ✓ Students offered opportunities to discuss policies/governance together
- ✓ Students offered opportunities to discuss policies/governance w/ staff
- ✓ Staff acknowledges, takes note of, and shares back student feedback

## **COLLABORATION**

- ✓ Students/staff conduct research together on school issues
- ✓ Students/staff generate ideas together about how to improve school
- ✓ Students/staff develop action plans together to improve school
- ✓ Students/staff organize school community around addressing issues

## **CONTRIBUTING TO DECISIONS**

- ✓ Staff makes decision-making process clear to students
- ✓ Staff offers students meaningful/regular ways to weigh in during process
- ✓ Students/teachers make classroom policies and decisions together
- ✓ Students/staff make school-wide policies and decisions together

## **RESPONSIVE: STUDENT VOICE LEADS TO ACTION**

- ✓ Students/staff implement shared plans together
- ✓ Students/staff monitor initiatives and reflect together
- ✓ Students/staff share progress and results of student contributions publically
- ✓ Students/staff revise and improve initiatives together

## **STUDENT GOVERNMENT WITH TRUE POWER**

- ✓ Student government is provided quality leadership training
- ✓ Student government identifies and explores real school issues
- ✓ Student government advises leadership team/committees on key issues
- ✓ Student government involved in carrying out initiatives and policies

## **REAL LEADERSHIP ROLES**

- ✓ Multiple students serve on School Leadership Team
- ✓ Multiple students serve on each other important school committee
- ✓ Students publish newspaper with commentary on student life and policy
- ✓ Students help to evaluate the school

# Student Voice Rubric

Student Voice Collaborative

AREA #2  
**Classroom Culture**

## COMMUNICATION & CULTURE OF LISTENING

- ✓ There is order to conversation – when one talks, others listen (one mic)
- ✓ Students offered opportunities for peer conferencing
- ✓ Teachers promote student-led discussion
- ✓ Teachers solicit, discuss, and respond to student feedback

## VARIETY AND CHOICE

- ✓ Lessons appeal to a variety of learning styles
- ✓ Students offered opportunities to be creative/express themselves
- ✓ Students offered choice in activities
- ✓ Students offered choice in topics

## ENCOURAGE PARTICIPATION

- ✓ Teachers create a safe space and encourage students
- ✓ Teachers assign challenging tasks and ask thought-provoking questions
- ✓ Students provided time to think/process before sharing with group
- ✓ Teachers call on a wide range of students

## COLLABORATION

- ✓ Students work with variety of peers in pairs and groups
- ✓ Students/teachers plan lessons together
- ✓ Students/teachers facilitate activities together
- ✓ Students/teachers grade and evaluate together

## AUTHENTIC TASKS AND REAL WORLD EXPERIENCES

- ✓ Students engage in project-based learning, research, and inquiry
- ✓ Students offered opportunities to connect work to goals and interests
- ✓ Students offered opportunities to take part in service learning
- ✓ Students offered internship/work experience opportunities

## CONSTRUCTIVIST LEARNING

- ✓ Students offered opportunities to experiment and test ideas
- ✓ Teachers present problems with multiple paths and solutions
- ✓ Students offered opportunities for hands-on learning
- ✓ Students offered opportunities to reflect on learning

# Student Voice Rubric

Student Voice Collaborative

AREA #3

## Discipline and Problem-Solving

### COMMUNICATION & CULTURE OF LISTENING

- ✓ There is order to conversation – when one talks, others listen (one mic)
- ✓ Students/staff share and agree to expectations for one another
- ✓ Students/staff have opportunities to explain/defend themselves
- ✓ Open door policy encourages sharing concerns/issues early on

### COLLABORATION

- ✓ Students/staff develop core values together
- ✓ Students help mediate conflicts between students
- ✓ Students/staff address personal conflicts together in small groups
- ✓ Students/staff carry out resolutions to conflicts and monitor together

### RELATIONSHIP DEVELOPMENT

- ✓ Students have opportunities to share and get to know one another
- ✓ Staff/students have opportunities to share and get to know one another
- ✓ Staff engages families, building bridges between school and home
- ✓ Students encouraged to meet/interact with a variety of students/staff

### COMMUNITY-BUILDING

- ✓ School celebrates differences and combats bullying
- ✓ Student progress/achievement/leadership is recognized and appreciated
- ✓ Regular activities bring school community together
- ✓ Students share ownership over physical space

### SUPPORTIVE STAFF

- ✓ Staff expresses interest in and empathy for students
- ✓ Staff addresses issues proactively when possible
- ✓ Staff responds to issues right away
- ✓ Staff offers students second chances and opportunities to learn from mistakes

### EXPLORING SELF, IDENTITY, AND GOALS

- ✓ Students have opportunities to share their roots and stories
- ✓ Students have opportunities to think about and discuss their values
- ✓ Students set, adjust, and monitor own goals
- ✓ Students have opportunities to reflect on self and impact of decisions

# Student Voice Rubric

Student Voice Collaborative

AREA #4  
**Advisement**

## **SUPPORTIVE STAFF**

- ✓ Staff expresses interest in and empathy for students
- ✓ Staff shares information and collaborates to support students
- ✓ Staff treats students fairly and with respect
- ✓ Staff offers equal opportunities to all students

## **APPEALING TO STUDENTS' LIVES AND INTERESTS**

- ✓ Staff provides opportunities for students to share lives and interests
- ✓ Staff considers impact of life experiences on student views/behavior
- ✓ Staff considers student lives/interests in planning (advisement) curriculum
- ✓ Teachers encourage students to connect material to lives/prior knowledge

## **FOSTERING SELF-ADVOCACY**

- ✓ Staff encourages students to stay informed and use resources
- ✓ Staff encourages students to hold themselves accountable
- ✓ Staff encourages students to ask for help
- ✓ Staff rewards initiative and action

## **ENCOURAGE PARTICIPATION**

- ✓ Teachers create safe space so students feel comfortable sharing feelings
- ✓ Teachers ensure that every student who wants to has a chance to speak
- ✓ Teachers commend and reward participation
- ✓ Students provided time to think/process before sharing with group

## **PEER SUPPORT OPPORTUNITIES**

- ✓ School offers peer tutoring program
- ✓ School offers peer mentoring program
- ✓ School offers peer mediation program
- ✓ School offers peer support groups

## **RELATIONSHIP DEVELOPMENT**

- ✓ School offers students variety of supportive adults to relate to
- ✓ Staff helps students set and track goals
- ✓ Staff helps students identify challenges and ways to overcome them
- ✓ Students get to know a small group of peers deeply over time

# Student Voice Rubric

Student Voice Collaborative

AREA #5  
**Student Activities**

## **COLLABORATION**

- ✓ Students/staff select activities to offer together based on need/interest
- ✓ Students/staff plan and organize activities together
- ✓ Students/staff facilitate activities together
- ✓ Students work together and share roles/responsibilities within activities

## **SUPPORTIVE STAFF**

- ✓ Staff encourages students to facilitate activities as much as possible
- ✓ Staff offers time and guidance when needed
- ✓ Staff helps with funding and coordinating
- ✓ Principal supports activities however possible

## **ENCOURAGE PARTICIPATION**

- ✓ Students have opportunity to suggest /vote on activities to be offered
- ✓ Information about available activities shared with all students
- ✓ Activities offer students opportunities to get to know one another
- ✓ Student participants actively recruit and organize

## **STUDENT GOVERNMENT WITH TRUE POWER**

- ✓ Student government is diverse and represents a range of students
- ✓ Student government advises staff on activities to offer
- ✓ Student government proposes new activities and helps get them started
- ✓ Student government helps make decisions about student activities

## **VARIETY AND CHOICE**

- ✓ Variety of student activities offered
- ✓ Activities include open and accessible to all students
- ✓ Participants choose direction activities go by contributing input
- ✓ Each activity encourages and respects a variety of opinions

## **AUTHENTIC TASKS AND REAL WORLD EXPERIENCES**

- ✓ Activities connect to outside community
- ✓ Activities include out-of-school trips and experiences
- ✓ Activities prepare students for post-HS work/studies/life
- ✓ Activities involve interaction and hands-on learning

# Student Voice Rubric

Student Voice Collaborative

AREA #6

**Professional Development**

## **AUTHENTIC TASKS & REAL-WORLD EXPERIENCES**

- ✓ Teachers trained to relate curriculum to student interests/ experiences
- ✓ Teachers trained to integrate out-of-school experiences into class
- ✓ Teachers trained to prepare students for college/work /life after school
- ✓ Teachers trained in project-based and hands-on learning

## **SUPPORTIVE STAFF**

- ✓ Teachers trained to counsel and problem-solve with students
- ✓ Teachers trained to collaborate with colleagues to support students
- ✓ Teachers trained to clarify, re-teach, and tutor students
- ✓ Teachers trained to be fair and respectful

## **CONSTRUCTIVIST LEARNING**

- ✓ Teachers trained to conduct inquiry/research/experiments w/ students
- ✓ Teachers trained to support students as teachers and facilitators
- ✓ Teachers trained to conduct reflection with students
- ✓ Teachers trained to conduct effective group work with students

## **FOSTERING SELF-ADVOCACY**

- ✓ Teachers trained to help students stay informed and use resources
- ✓ Teachers trained to encourage personal responsibility
- ✓ Teachers trained to promote habits of mind and work
- ✓ Teachers trained to promote thoughtful questioning and discussion

## **CONTRIBUTING TO DECISIONS**

- ✓ Teachers trained to integrate feedback and make decisions w/ students
- ✓ Admin trained to integrate feedback and make decisions w/ students
- ✓ Teachers trained to help students research and develop policy proposals
- ✓ Staff trained to implement policies and initiatives with students

## **VARIETY AND CHOICE**

- ✓ Teachers trained to accommodate a variety of learning styles
- ✓ Teachers trained to encourage creativity and self-expression
- ✓ Teachers trained to offer choice among activities
- ✓ Teachers trained to offer choice among topics