Colorado’s Student Perception Survey - Grades 6-12

Colorado’s Student Perception Survey is a 34 question[[1]](#footnote-1) instrument that measures elements of student experience that have been demonstrated to correlate most closely to a teacher’s ability to positively impact student growth. Students are asked to indicate how frequently they experience each item with a response scale of *always*, *most of the time*, *some of the time*, and *never*. The survey is organized by four elements[[2]](#footnote-2):

There are two versions of Colorado’s Student Perception Survey: one for grades 3 - 5 and another for grades 6 - 12. The survey items for grades 6 - 12 are listed below and the version for use with grades 3 - 5 can be found at [www.coloradoedinitiative.org/resources/studentsurvey/](http://www.coloradoedinitiative.org/resources/studentsurvey/).

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| **Student Learning:** *How teachers use content and pedagogical knowledge to help students learn, understand, and improve.* |
| My teacher makes learning enjoyable. |
| What I learn in this class is useful to me in my real life. |
| My teacher teaches things that are important to me. |
| My teacher knows the things that make me excited about learning. |
| In this class, we learn a lot every day. |
| In this class, it is more important to understand the lesson than to memorize the answers. |
| When the work is too hard, my teacher helps me keep trying. |
| My teacher accepts nothing less than my best effort. |
| My teacher knows when we understand the lesson and when we do not. |
| If I don't understand something, my teacher explains it a different way. |
| My teacher explains difficult things clearly. |
| In this class, we have a say in what we learn and do. |
| My teacher talks to me about my work to help me understand my mistakes. |
| My teacher writes notes on my work that help me improve. |
| When we study a topic, my teacher makes connections to other subjects or classes. |
| **Student-Centered Environment:** *How teachers create an environment that responds to individual students’ backgrounds, strengths, and interests.* |
| My classroom is organized and I know where to find what I need. |
| Students feel comfortable sharing their ideas in this class. |
| My teacher respects my opinions and suggestions. |
| My teacher cares about me. |
| My teacher pays attention to what all students are thinking and feeling. |
| My teacher respects my cultural background. |
| My teacher respects me as an individual. |
| **Classroom Community:** *How teachers cultivate a classroom learning community where student differences are valued.* |
| My teacher would notice if something was bothering me. |
| Our classroom materials (books, articles, videos, art, music, posters, etc.) reflect my cultural background.  |
| In this class, I feel like I fit in. |
| I feel like an important part of this classroom community. |
| My teacher knows what my life is like outside of school. |
| My teacher knows what is important to me. |
| I ask for help when I need it. |
| I feel like I do a good job in this class. |
| **Classroom Management:** *How teachers foster a respectful and predictable learning environment.* |
| Our class stays busy and does not waste time. |
| Students in this class treat the teacher with respect. |
| The students behave the way my teacher wants them to. |
| Students in this class respect each other’s differences. |

1. A number of items on the Colorado SPS were adapted from items made available for non-commercial use through the Measures of Effective Teaching (MET) Project, funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.   [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. For administration purposes, survey items should be in the order that is outlined in our administration materials (<http://www.coloradoedinitiative.org/our-work/educator-effectiveness/studentsurvey/sps-administration/>), not by survey element. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)