Student Perception Survey Reflection Guide

Your Student Perception Survey (SPS) results give you a powerful tool for understanding your students’ experience. These results will likely confirm information about your students, surprise you with details that you didn’t know, and open up new questions about areas you want to explore further. This data is a unique source of actionable feedback on your instructional practice that you can apply to build upon your strengths and accelerate your professional development. The survey is aligned to Colorado’s Teacher Quality Standards and includes items[[1]](#footnote-1) that research has found to be strongly correlated with student learning outcomes.

Make sure to set aside sufficient time to review and reflect on the results. With 34 items and multiple ways to look at the data, survey results provide a lot of information to process. This resource will guide you through each step of the process to analyze your results and use the data to inform your professional growth. This guide can be used by teachers, students, or district level staff to analyze any level of results.

START WITH INITIAL REACTIONS

* What are your initial thoughts about these results?
* Does anything surprise you?
* What are you most proud of?
* What questions do you have?

IDENTIFY STRENGTHS AND AREAS OF NEED

Start with each survey category and identify strengths and areas of need. Keep the following in mind when you are reviewing the data:

* **Always consider comparison groups:** Questions should be compared against the school, district, state, or content area comparison groups.
* **Look at the distribution of responses:** Two questions may have the same percent favorable score but one could have many more “never” responses than “most of the time.”
* **Disaggregate to understand subgroups:** Responses to some questions may look very different for different groups of students (e.g., boys vs. girls, different periods or grade levels, etc.).

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| **Survey Element** | **Areas of Strength** Consider questions that:* Are higher than the comparison groups
* Are better than predictions
* Have a lot of “always” responses
* Have consistent responses across subgroups
 | **Areas of Need**Consider questions that:* Are lower than the comparison groups
* Don’t live up to predictions
* Have a lot of “never” responses
* Look very different for student subgroups
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| **Student Learning** |  |  |
| **Student-Centered Environment** |  |   |
| **Classroom Management** |  |   |
| **Classroom****Community** |  |   |

REFLECT ON YOUR ANALYSIS

SPS results are just one source of information about your practice. Now that you have identified several strengths and areas of need, use additional data and context to think about how these results fit into the broader context of your school/class/practice? Consider the following:

* Observation data
* Student growth data
* Programs and initiatives
* Curriculum

PLAN NEXT STEPS

There are several ways that you can use SPS results as part of a broader plan to improve your practice.

* Collaborate with a trusted colleague to help you think about how to use the results. Use the Student Perception Survey Coaching Conversations Guide to review results with a peer, administrator, coach, or evaluator.
* Use team or professional development time to explore school-wide summary results and identify trends, strengths, and opportunities for all-staff professional development.
* Use SPS results to inform your self-assessment and reflection, goal setting, and feedback conversations.
1. A number of items on the Colorado SPS were adapted from items made available for noncommercial use through the Measures of Effective Teaching (MET) project, funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)