

Listen to the Wisdom of Youth: What Supports or Undermines Resiliency

Student focus group questions—and how adults can create real opportunities for this to occur.

	Question for Student/Youth	Question for Consultant/Teacher/ Other Trusted Adult
1.	How do you know a teacher or other adult cares about you? How do you know when they believe in you? What do they say and do to show they care and believe in you? Do they provide opportunities for you to care about others?	How do youth know a teacher or other adult or other youth cares about them? What do we say and do to show we care and believe in a specific youth, and youth in general? How do we provide opportunities for youth to care about others?
2.	What works best for you at your school to help you learn and succeed or what do you wish would happen at your school to help you learn and succeed?	What works best for youth (at your school) to help them learn and succeed or what do they/you wish would happen at your school to help youth learn and succeed?
3.	Have you or your friends been asked to speak about <i>The Black or The Latina ... Experience?</i> Please describe the event and your feelings.	How do you work to support culturally appropriate ways of recognizing students and to minimize stereotyping ?
4.	Many of us are of non- majority or mixed heritage and non-traditional identity . How is this a factor in your lives and the lives of your family and friends - including how this relates to school? Do you encounter people telling you what they think is most relevant about you?	How do you support students in not having others impose definitions of identity on them?
5.	Please talk about how behavioral intervention strategies support or undermine your resilience.	How do behavioral intervention strategies support or undermine students' resilience?
6.	Please tell us briefly what your goals and dreams are. Are the adults in your school aware of your goals and dreams? What else do you need from your school or the adults in your school to help you achieve your goals and dreams?	Are the adults in your school and community aware of our youth's goals and dreams ? Please tell us briefly what their goals and dreams are. What else do youth need from your school or from the adults in school and the community to help them achieve their goals and dreams?
7.	Do you feel like an active participant and contributor in your school? Where would you like to have more opportunities to participate in making decisions and planning? What changes would be needed to make this possible?	Do youth feel like active participants and contributors in their schools (and communities)? Where should youth have more opportunities to participate in making decisions and planning? What changes would be needed to make this possible?
8.	Is there anything else that would make your school a school you would want to attend? ... and a school that wants you to attend?	Is there anything else that would make your school a school youth would want to attend? ... and a school that wants youth to attend?