



## Tool: 10 Questions to Ask Students

This tool will help you spark conversations with your students to understand what's working and where innovation may best serve your school or district. Empathy—listening to learners—is the first step in designing solutions that scale.



To get started:

1. **Determine the right approach** for soliciting student feedback: interviews, focus groups, forums, or surveys. To learn more about each approach, click [here](#).
2. **Identify students to engage.** Ask yourself any of the following questions to ensure you're including as many diverse student voices as possible.

*Who has a perspective that's different than mine?*

*What student groups haven't we heard from yet?*

*Which students aren't thriving in school as it is today?*



### HOW TO USE THIS TOOL

**BEFORE posing questions:** Invite a diverse set of students to be included.

**DURING:** Listen to understand, not to respond. Take notes using the template on the next page. Follow up with questions that solicit stories and specific examples.

**AFTER posing questions:** Reflect with peers to identify themes. What can you celebrate that is working well? What are opportunities for growth or change? How might you empower teachers and students to make changes to impact the student experience?

## Connect

How would you describe school in one or two words?

Do you have at least 2 adults at school that you can count on to support you in a time of need?

Describe what you are learning in school right now and why it matters to you.

What does it mean to be successful in school? How do you know you are successful?

## Continue

What is your favorite thing about school?

What is the most memorable learning experience that you have had in school?

## Start

If you had a magic wand, what would you change about school?

What do you want to learn more about? Why?

How could school help you achieve your goals and dreams?

## Stop

What should we stop doing at school?