

Students talk back:

Opportunities for growth lie
in student perceptions

Student perceptions

- Student surveys are one of multiple measures of teacher effectiveness.
- Students can identify what teachers do well.
- Students' perceptions of teachers correlate to student performance.

Source: **von Frank, V. (2013, Winter)**. Students talk back: Opportunities for growth lie in student perceptions. *The Leading Teacher*. 8(2). 1, 4-5



Define the desired outcome

- Measured learning?
- Self-directed learning?
- Balance engaging with challenging.

Source: **von Frank, V. (2013, Winter)**. Students talk back: Opportunities for growth lie in student perceptions. *The Leading Teacher*. 8(2). 1, 4-5



Ask the students

- One or two open-ended questions per week.

“What is working well in our class?”

“What things do you think I could do better?”

- Ask students to formulate next questions.
- Follow up with students through discussion.

Source: **von Frank, V. (2013, Winter)**. Students talk back: Opportunities for growth lie in student perceptions. *The Leading Teacher*. 8(2). 1, 4-5



Prepare for the results

- Results should guide teacher practices.
- Reactions depend on teacher's personality and skill level.
- Leaders can guide how the feedback is used.
- Ensure there are no repercussions for students.
- Make counseling services available for when results are different from self-perception.

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Use the information

- Recognize connection between actions and student results.
- Use feedback to fine-tune practices.
- Use feedback in a collective learning experience within learning teams.
- Create norms and values for how the feedback will contribute to teacher learning.

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A higher awareness

- Student input can raise awareness of goals.
- Posing questions about classroom practice can improve perception and preparation of practice.

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Download the article and accompanying tools

Read the full article, with more information, resources, and tools to help you implement these ideas in *The Leading Teacher* (Winter, 2013).



Available at www.learningforward.org/publications/leading-teacher.

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