

The My Voice Student Aspirations Survey asks students to respond to questions about conditions in school that influence their aspirations. It was developed specifically for students by Dr. Russell J. Quaglia, of the Quaglia Institute in Portland, Maine. Assessing aspirations is important because students who develop and sustain high aspirations are better able to achieve the goals that they set for themselves.

During the 2005-2006 academic year, 65, 517 students from 88 schools in 22 states completed the My Voice survey. Responses of the national sample of students are listed below, beside the responses from the WTMC students who completed the survey.

#	Affecting Condition	My Voice Survey Statement - Academic Year 2005 - 2006	National Sample N = 65,517 Agreement	WTMC Sample N = 232 Agreement
1	Belonging	School is a welcoming and friendly place.	64 %	88 %
2	Belonging	I feel accepted for who I am at school.	77 %	85 %
3	Belonging	I have difficulty fitting in at school.	12 %	8 %
4	Belonging	Teachers care about my problems and feelings.	46 %	67 %
5	Belonging	I am proud of my school.	51 %	75 %
6	Belonging	I feel comfortable going to the cafeteria for lunch.	70 %	76 %
7	Belonging	I think bullying is a problem in my school.	31 %	10 %
8	Heroes	Students respect teachers.	41 %	74 %
9	Heroes	I have a teacher who is a positive role model for me.	66 %	76 %
10	Heroes	Teachers care about me as an individual.	50 %	75 %
11	Heroes	Teachers care if I am absent from school.	49 %	72 %
12	Heroes	If I have a problem, I have a teacher with whom I can talk.	50 %	74 %
13	Heroes	Teachers respect students.	55 %	37 %
14	Heroes	Students respect each other.	31 %	18 %
15	Sense of Accomplishment	Tests are an important part of my education.	67 %	79 %
16	Sense of Accomplishment	Teachers recognize students who are kind and helpful.	71 %	81 %
17	Sense of Accomplishment	I have never been recognized for something positive at school.	21 %	13 %
18	Sense of Accomplishment	I give up when school work is difficult.	19 %	11 %
19	Sense of Accomplishment	Teachers recognize me when I try my best.	60 %	76 %
20	Sense of Accomplishment	I put forth my best effort at school.	67 %	78 %
21	Sense of Accomplishment	Getting good grades is important to me.	84 %	91 %
22	Fun & Excitement	I enjoy being at school.	50 %	66 %
23	Fun & Excitement	Teachers enjoy working with students.	58 %	82 %
24	Fun & Excitement	Teachers make school an exciting place to learn.	32 %	63 %
25	Fun & Excitement	School is boring.	46 %	21 %
26	Fun & Excitement	I enjoy participating in my classes.	56 %	73 %
27	Fun & Excitement	Teachers have fun at school.	39 %	63 %

28 Fun & Excitement	Learning can be fun.	65 %	87 %
29 Curiosity & Creativity	I feel comfortable asking questions in class.	66 %	80 %
30 Curiosity & Creativity	My teachers present lessons in different ways.	73 %	89 %
31 Curiosity & Creativity	At school I am encouraged to be creative.	58 %	27 %
32 Curiosity & Creativity	My classes help me understand what is happening in my everyday life.	40 %	16 %
33 Curiosity & Creativity	I enjoy learning new things.	77 %	45 %
34 Curiosity & Creativity	I learn new things that are interesting to me at school.	67 %	38 %
35 Curiosity & Creativity	What I learn in school will benefit my future.	77 %	48 %
36 Spirit of Adventure	I am afraid that my friends won't like me if I do well in school.	5 %	3 %
37 Spirit of Adventure	I push myself to do better academically.	75 %	82 %
38 Spirit of Adventure	Students are supportive of each other.	42 %	67 %
39 Spirit of Adventure	I am afraid to try something if I think I may fail.	24 %	21 %
40 Spirit of Adventure	Teachers help me learn from my mistakes.	58 %	75 %
41 Spirit of Adventure	Teachers think I can be successful.	72 %	85 %
42 Spirit of Adventure	I am excited to tell my friends when I get good grades.	55 %	66 %
43 Leadership & Responsibility	Student council represents all students at school.	35 %	53 %
44 Leadership & Responsibility	I see myself as a leader.	59 %	59 %
45 Leadership & Responsibility	Other students see me as a leader.	35 %	41 %
46 Leadership & Responsibility	Teachers encourage students to make decisions.	64 %	85 %
47 Leadership & Responsibility	I think about others' feelings when I make decisions.	68 %	75 %
48 Leadership & Responsibility	I am a good decision maker.	64 %	68 %
49 Leadership & Responsibility	I know the goals my school is working on this year.	37 %	50 %
50 Confidence to Take Action	I believe that I can be successful.	91 %	94 %
51 Confidence to Take Action	I believe that I can make a difference in this world.	64 %	75 %
52 Confidence to Take Action	Teachers expect me to be successful.	78 %	45 %
53 Confidence to Take Action	Going to college is important to my future.	86 %	89 %
54 Confidence to Take Action	I work hard to reach my goals.	79 %	84 %
55 Confidence to Take Action	I am excited about my future.	77 %	81 %
56 Confidence to Take Action	I think it is important to set high goals.	77 %	85 %
57 Confidence to Take Action	School is preparing me well for my future.	65 %	86 %
58 Parents	My parents care about my education.	Not Available	92 %
59 Parents	My parents like my school.	Not Available	93 %
60 Parents	My parents think going to college is important.	Not Available	91 %
61 Parents	My parents feel comfortable talking to my teachers.	Not Available	76 %
62 Parents	Teachers let my parents know what I do well.	Not Available	44 %
63 Parents	I would like my parents to attend more school events.	Not Available	19 %