

Student Engagement & Building Authentic Relationships

HOW DO YOU RATE YOURSELF ON ...	IN PLACE	IMPROVEMENT NEEDED
Projecting an image that tells students you are here to build rather than destroy them as people?		
Letting students know that you are aware of and interested in them as individuals?		
Conveying your experiences and confidence that each student can meet well-defined standards of values and demands for competence and can follow guidance toward solutions or problems?		
Enhancing the academic expectations and evaluations that parents or guardians hold for their children's ability?		
Serving as a model of sensitivity and high ideals for each student?		
Taking every opportunity to establish effective private or semi-private communications with students?		
Encouraging students to express their opinions and ideas?		
Conveying to students concern and interest for their needs?		
Making certain the classroom climate is inviting physically and emotionally?		
Exhibiting enthusiasm for learning tasks and for the students?		
Interjecting humor into the school?		
Making a concerted effort to interact with each student?		
Encouraging student to praise their peers?		
Setting realistic but challenging expectations for students?		
Showing a desire to learn more about the various cultures represented in your school?		
Providing opportunities for all students to shine?		
Working with each student to establish goals, develop strengths, and overcome weaknesses?		
Listening actively. Recognizing each response and question?		
Using self-disclosure appropriately. Carefully considering what you post.		
Letting your students interview you at the beginning of the year.		

Adapted from: Kuykendall, C. (2004) *From rage to hope: Strategies for reclaiming Black and Hispanic students*. Bloomington, IN: Solution Tree.



Straight From the Heart

When asking a group of racially and culturally diverse high school students to name the teachers in their school who:

- Really cared about them; Respected them; Enjoyed getting to know them as people...

A group of 40 students pooling their answers could only name 10 of 120 faculty members in their high school.