Overview: As you already know, one of the fundamental anchors in any school's success are the relationships formed between students and their teachers. Long Beach Unified is fortunate to have teachers who care deeply for their students. As we try to distill those practices that create the richest and healthiest student-teacher relationships in our schools, it seems only logical to ask practitioners why what they do works.

Today, though, we want you to think about a time when you were the learner. The questions we are sharing with you today are the same questions we asked kids.

Teacher Interview Protocol

Please number off 1 - 3. Give a few minutes for them to think about their best teacher and the assigned question. Hold small group discussions to share answers to the assigned questions. Group members can use the Interviewer Reflection Sheet to capture any notes, aha's or take aways. Each person completes the Google Form summary using the Reflection Sheet.

Introduction

Think back to the best teacher(s) you ever had as a student. Write down their names.

Question 1: Relationships

Tell me about the one teacher who you know really cared about you, supported you, or encouraged you. (You know that you mattered to this person, not just as a student, but as a person yourself) How did you know they really cared about you? What did they do to support or encourage you?

Question 2: Expectations

Think about a teacher you have had who had high expectations. (What I mean by that is this teacher really wanted you to be successful in his/her class.) What are the kinds of things this teacher said and did that let you know they really believed you could be successful in their class?

Question 3: Management

Think about a teacher you have had who was well-respected by you and by others. They ran an organized and structured classroom where students behaved and were learning, not because they were afraid of being punished, but because the teacher helped the students understand the importance of learning. Tell me about the kinds of things this teacher did?

Last Question

Is there anything else you want to say about these teachers you had as a student?