

We are glad that you will be using our online student survey! Here are some facts about the survey and some helpful hints in administering it that may address local questions:

- The survey is completely anonymous: students do not give their names, and we keep no identifying data about them.
- The survey has 25 questions (see the attached pdf copy of the survey questions). Many questions demand a written response in addition to selected response choices.
- The typical amount of time needed to complete the survey is 20 minutes. Yet, over 95% of students have completed every question, and fewer than 1% of the answers are childish or off-topic responses!
- Once an individual has begun the survey, he/she must finish it in that sitting. There is no mechanism for saving the survey and finishing at another time or on another machine.
- Although students have been mature in responding, you might want to have them complete the survey in school, in computer labs (or under some other form of supervision) to ensure that their responses are as useful as possible.
- We will close your version of the survey when you tell us to. We will then send you an Excel spreadsheet that contains only your school's responses with a summary of all the responses from everyone to date. As of August 1, 2014, over 8300 students have responded to two different versions.
- Our survey has not been normed against a 'random' group of secondary students. The overall results are thus probably slightly 'better' than the norm (cf. the National Study of Student Engagement) since our survey population is self-selecting - only our clients and friends have used it. However, our results on boredom track pretty closely the national results.
- If you are only going to have a sample of students take the survey, we recommend that you make some effort to formally randomize the sample (e.g. every 5th student in an alphabetical list). It is especially important to make sure that weaker or disaffected students are in the sample. This is their chance to be heard.
- Sorry, we cannot customize this survey without losing the ability to include your results in the aggregate results and thus make useful analyses for everyone.

Don't hesitate to contact me if you have questions, technical issues or feedback.

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