

Teacher Perspectives on Student Behavior

Efficient and Effective School District Governance Task Force

September 16, 2024



Preface and Framing

- **Broad Spectrum**
- Pressure from State and Federal Regulations
- Complicated Issues, Many Micro and Macro Solutions
- Root causes extend far beyond four walls of the school



Agenda

- Teacher Perspectives on Student Behavior: 2019 Survey
- Trends
- Bright Spots, Opportunities, Solutions
- Questions



Student Behavior: Teacher Perspectives and Experiences

Student Behavior
Survey Results
2019



JCTA Member Survey: Student Behavior 2019



- When rating frequency or severity of physical aggression from students aimed towards adults, 75% of responding teachers reported somewhat or rarely frequent, never frequent.
- 75 % of respondents believe there is a high correlation between student misbehavior and mental health issues.
- 62% of respondents believe that the sub shortage correlates with student behavior issues.
- 83% of respondents believe misbehavior by a few students negatively impacts the learning for others in the class.
- 58% of respondents believe that misbehaving students view being removed from the classroom as a reward for their behavior, and only 13% of respondents believe that removal from class results in improved behavior.
- 70% of respondents report that Principals being visible in the building has a positive impact on student behavior.
- 70% of respondents believe that allowing school counselors to spend more time counseling and placing more mental health professionals in schools would have a significant impact on student behavior.

Student Behavior: Trends



Correlation Between Mental Health and Student Behavior



Mental Health

- Diagnosed and things not 'diagnosable'
- Adolescents processing and internalizing lived experience, and this manifests in classrooms
 - homelessness, violence in homes and communities, in media, community issues

Apathy and Lack of Engagement

- Manifests as absences, students not agentic learners
- Could be attributed to standardization and de-personalization educators feel pressured to implement as a result of accountability system
- Cell phone usage contributes to this
- Respect: People in power set the tone



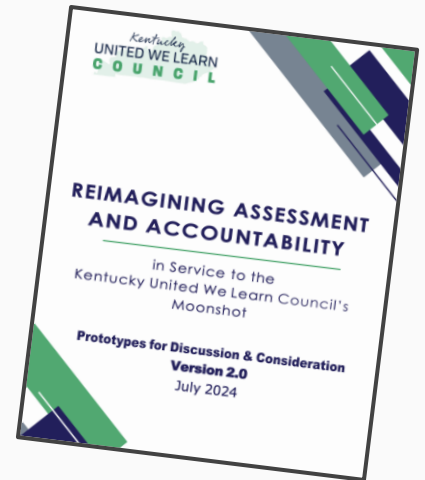
Student Behavior: Bright Spots, Opportunities, Solutions



Accountability System Changes



- Kentucky United We Learn Council's Reimagining Assessment and Accountability Prototypes
 - Could result in
 - more local control
 - more authentic learning experiences (lessons and assessments),
 - more learner-centered teaching
 - Innovation
 - Restoration of professional autonomy



Cell Phones



- Fern Creek High Policy Changes
 - Progressive System of Expectations and Consequences
 - GREAT feedback from teachers, am told students are doing well with it
 - Potential Solution: Invitations and financial incentives for participating schools, purchasing materials schools need to implement system

Investment in Addressing Mental Health



- JCPs Prioritization of Mental Health
 - Mental Health Practitioners
 - Goal to have them in every school with numbers based on number of students and need
 - Positive feedback from all stakeholders
 - BIG step, but still need more systemic support

Student Behavior: Potential Solutions



Incentivizing Collaborative Infrastructures



- Collaborative District Planning
 - Teacher, parent, student, community involvement
- Collaborative Teams to Explore and Address Behavior
 - Student Success and Behavior Incident Handbooks
 - Descriptive feedback about what is going on in classrooms, hallways, on buses
 - More accurate definitions and descriptions, which lead to to more acute system of addressing undesirable behavior
- School Based Collaborative Teams
 - To identify areas of growth and successes
 - Culture of action research, culture of inquiry
 - Engaged not caged staff

More Staff, Smaller Class Sizes



- Grants for Living Wages for Education Support Professionals
- Grants for MHPs, social workers,
- Investing in pipeline for MHPs, social workers
- Expanding CCAP into public sector
- Fully fund athletics
- Grants to City and County Governments, Community Organizations to develop sustainable supports to issues influencing student mental health and behavior

Q and A

