

Purpose in school is fostered when students and staff take responsibility for who and what they want to become, both in terms of professional careers and by being confident, responsible members of their community.

When students believe they have a voice they are **43%** more likely to report having **Purpose**.

Encouraging a Sense of Purpose

Far too many students do not see a connection between their school experience and who they are or who they want to become. Too many teachers have lost a connection between the daily school experience and who they are as educators. Schools must think seriously about the traits that characterize a successful school and how achievement is recognized and rewarded. Schools must balance the call for improved academic performance with myriad other factors that impact preparing students for success beyond graduation. Schools must also challenge students to think about the characteristics that accompany successful and rewarding work. A sense of Purpose involves developing students' and teachers' sense of Leadership & Responsibility. Students and teachers must participate in meaningful decision making and be provided with authentic opportunities to share in the responsibility for the school community. When students and teachers find purpose in their lives, they will have the Confidence to Take Action in order to secure a meaningful, productive, and rewarding future.

LEADERSHIP & RESPONSIBILITY



The Condition of Leadership & Responsibility means being able to express ideas and a willingness to accept the consequences of our actions. It cultivates accountability for the classroom environment and school community. Fostering leadership empowers students and teachers to make just and appropriate decisions and to take pride in their actions. Schools that promote this Condition expect their students and teachers to have a voice and be good decision makers. They provide legitimate decision-making opportunities, seek student and teacher input, and expect participants to be accountable for their actions

CONFIDENCE TO TAKE ACTION



Confidence to Take Action is characterized by a positive and healthy outlook on life that comes from looking inward rather than outward for approval. It is the extent to which students and teachers believe in themselves and their ability to make a difference in their schools. This Condition is at the heart of what schools ultimately strive for: instilling in students and teachers both confidence and an expectation that they will be successful. Schools can help build Confidence to Take Action by having high expectations, providing support, and encouraging independent thinking. By enhancing the quality of academic, professional and personal growth, schools empower participants to become active and involved members of the learning community.