

Worksheet 1 - School Brainstorming

Before you complete this form, please refer to the Powerpoint posted on Canvas that explains the guidelines for the School Design project.

Group Member Names (and assigned roles):

Part 1: Students

- Consider your school's student body.

This section should include your students' age levels, socioeconomic status, location (urban, rural, suburban), any particular special population or theme if you have one (e.g. an afrocentric school, a school that's purposefully racially integrated, a school for gifted children, an inclusion school where children of all abilities intermix...)

- For a student to succeed at your school, what characteristics or skills do they need to have? What characteristics or skills will you seek to develop through their schooling?

Part 2: Teachers

- List the five adjectives that best describe the ideal teacher at your school.
- What kind of training is required to become a teacher at your school? Why this kind of training?

Part 3: Assessment

- How are students assessed on a formative, day-to-day basis? Are they? Who does the assessing? (Note that "assessment" can simply mean be observed, or be the subject of notes a teacher writes. Or it can mean students evaluate themselves. It does not need to mean a formalized test). Explain your rationale for choosing this form of assessment.?
- How are students assessed on a formal, summative basis? Are they? Who does the assessing? Explain your rationale for choosing this form of assessment.

Part 4: Climate

- A visitor enters a classroom in your school. What do they see? What do they hear? What's going on?

Part 5: School Information

- List five words that describe what your school values - these can be values in their school community or in their role in society at large.
- How does your school, and its community, make the world a better place?

Part 6: Relating Psychological Constructs

- So far, we have talked about the nature of intelligence, intrinsic/extrinsic motivation, and creativity. What are your thoughts about these concepts in relation to your school? (For instance: What makes an “intelligent” student? From where do students get their motivation? From where do teachers get their motivation?)

Part 7: School Mission Statement

- As a group, create a tentative mission statement for your school.

A mission statement is a brief statement of the general values and principles which guide the program curriculum and/or department goals of your school.

The four questions to answer when creating a mission statement are:

1. *Who are we?*
State the name of your program or department (i.e. “The mission of Eagle City High School is _____”).
2. *What do we do?*
This includes the primary functions or activities of your school. Here, you will illustrate the most important functions, offerings and/or outcomes of your school.
3. *Why do we do it?*
The purpose of your school. Consider the impact of your school within your local community as well as the larger global network.
4. *For whom do we do it?*
These are the stakeholders of your program or department. The stakeholders are groups or individuals that participate in and benefit from your school (i.e. your students).

Suggested structure of a mission statement:

‘The mission of <the name of your school> is to <your primary purposes> by providing <your primary functions and/or activities> to <your specific stakeholders>. <Additional clarifying statements go here>.