ABOUT

These questions are designed to give direction, uncover hidden issues, designate vital tasks and assure commitment to meaningful student involvement. This checklist can be used as a tool with teachers, administrators, staff, students, and other members of the school community. Please note that every school does not have to score highly on each question; these are simply important questions to be considered to determine next steps.

KEY

4 = Our school does this moderately, and we are committed to continuing to improve
3 = Our school does this, and we are not committed to improving
2 = Our school does not do this yet, and we are committed to moving forward
1 = Our school does not do this, and we do not plan to do this

1.	Have students in your school reflected on the nature of current student involvement in your school?	1	2	3	4
	Are reflections by students focused on student involvement shared, either verbally or in writing, with…				
2.	Students?	1	2	3	4
3.	Administrators?	1	2	3	4
4.	Teachers?	1	2	3	4
5.	Additional Staff?	1	2	3	4
6.	Parents?	1	2	3	4
7.	Other Community Members?	1	2	3	4
	Have students in your school identified the limitations of meaningful student involvement in…				
8.	School planning?	1	2	3	4
9.	Education research?	1	2	3	4
10.	Formal teaching?	1	2	3	4
11.	Learning evaluating?	1	2	3	4
12.	Systemic decision-making?	1	2	3	4
13.	Educational advocacy?	1	2	3	4

14.	What percentage of students in your building currently experience meaningful involvement in your school?				
	1-10%	1			
	11-40%		2		
	41-70%			3	
	70-100%				4
15.	Do students in your school facilitate development opportunities for students to increase their capacity to be meaningfully involved?	1	2	3	4
16.	Do students in your school facilitate development opportunities for adults to increase their capacity to meaningfully involve students?	1	2	3	4
17.	Have adults in your school reflected on the nature of current student involvement in your school?	1	2	3	4
	Are reflections by adults focused on student involvement shared, either verbally or in writing, with…				
18.	Students?	1	2	3	4
19.	Administrators?	1	2	3	4
20.	Teachers?	1	2	3	4
21.	Additional Staff?	1	2	3	4
22.	Parents?	1	2	3	4
23.	Other Community Members?	1	2	3	4
24.	Are adults in your school provided with opportunities to continuously increase their capacity to meaningfully involve students?	1	2	3	4
	Have adults in your school identified the limitations of meaningful student involvement in…				
25.	School planning?	1	2	3	4
26.	Education research?	1	2	3	4
27.	Formal teaching?	1	2	3	4
28.	Learning evaluating?	1	2	3	4

29.	Systemic decision-making?	1	2	3	4
30.	Educational advocacy?	1	2	3	4
	Has your school formally or informally assessed whether the following people are committed to meaningful student involvement?				
31.	Students?	1	2	3	4
32.	Administrators?	1	2	3	4
33.	Teachers?	1	2	3	4
34.	Additional Staff?	1	2	3	4
35.	Parents?	1	2	3	4
36.	Other Community Members?	1	2	3	4
	Does your school currently offer opportunities for meaningful student involvement in…				
37.	School planning?	1	2	3	4
38.	Education research?	1	2	3	4
39.	Formal teaching?	1	2	3	4
40.	Learning evaluating?	1	2	3	4
41.	Systemic decision-making?	1	2	3	4
42.	Educational advocacy?	1	2	3	4
43.	Does your school have policies to ensure sustainable meaningful student involvement throughout your school?	1	2	3	4
44.	Has your school compensated for the budget considerations affecting meaningful student involvement?	1	2	3	4
	Does your school provide opportunities for every student to be meaningfully involved in…				
45.	School planning?	1	2	3	4
46.	Education research?	1	2	3	4
47.	Formal teaching?	1	2	3	4
48.	Learning evaluating?	1	2	3	4

		1	2	3	4
49.	Systemic decision-making?	1	2	3	4
50.	Educational advocacy?	1	2	3	4
	Does your school emphasis meaningful student involvement in…				
51.	School planning?	1	2	3	4
52.	Education research?	1	2	3	4
53.	Formal teaching?	1	2	3	4
54.	Learning evaluating?	1	2	3	4
55.	Systemic decision-making?	1	2	3	4
56.	Educational advocacy?	1	2	3	4
	Does your school provide school provide opportunities for students to partner deeply with adults in…				
57.	School planning?	1	2	3	4
58.	Education research?	1	2	3	4
59.	Formal teaching?	1	2	3	4
60.	Learning evaluating?	1	2	3	4
61.	Systemic decision-making?	1	2	3	4
62.	Educational advocacy?	1	2	3	4
	Does your school provide opportunities for students to lead…				
63.	School planning?	1	2	3	4
64.	Education research?	1	2	3	4
65.	Formal teaching?	1	2	3	4
66.	Learning evaluating?	1	2	3	4
67.	Systemic decision-making?	1	2	3	4
68.	Educational advocacy?	1	2	3	4
	Does your school formally recognize meaningful student involvement in…				
69.	School planning?	1	2	3	4

70.	Education research?	1	2	3	4
71.	Formal teaching?	1	2	3	4
72.	Learning evaluating?	1	2	3	4
73.	Systemic decision-making?	1	2	3	4
74.	Educational advocacy?	1	2	3	4
75.	Does your school recognize meaningful student involvement by…				
	Allowing students to be involved?	1			
	Enhancing classroom learning with involvement?		2		
	Acknowledging classroom learning with credit?			3	
	Fiscal rewards, including stipends, scholarships, or salaries?				4
76.	Does your school provide equitable or equal opportunities for students and adults via terms of office, voting rights, or positions?	1	2	3	4
77.	Does your school have a contingency plan to replace students whose terms, service, or job end early?	1	2	3	4
78.	Does your school have a conflict of interest policy for appropriate occasions?	1	2	3	4
79.	Does your school have a policy that formally allows and encourages students to be involved in multiple activities without penalizing them?	1	2	3	4
80.	Does your school allow students to have appropriate access to adult allies, including teachers, parents, and support staff?	1	2	3	4
81.	Does your school allow uninhibited student access information sources that allow them to be meaningfully involved, e.g. the Internet, adult decision-makers, records, etc?	1	2	3	4
82.	Does your school provide opportunities for students to continuously increase their capacity to be meaningfully involved?	1	2	3	4
83.	Does your school meaningfully involve students in addressing school-wide issues, not only those that affect students?	1	2	3	4
84.	Does your school meaningfully involve students as individuals by not obligating them to represent other students?	1	2	3	4

		1	2	3	4
85.	Has your school adjusted professional language and concepts to language that students can understand?	1	2	3	4
86.	Has your school sought to duly increase students' knowledge and ability to be meaningfully involved in…				
87.	School planning?	1	2	3	4
88.	Education research?	1	2	3	4
89.	Formal teaching?	1	2	3	4
90.	Learning evaluating?	1	2	3	4
91.	Systemic decision-making?	1	2	3	4
92.	Educational advocacy?	1	2	3	4
	Does your school systematically educate students about…	1	2	3	4
93.	Student voice?	1	2	3	4
94.	Meaningful involvement?	1	2	3	4
95.	Learning?	1	2	3	4
96.	The education system?	1	2	3	4
97.	School reform?	1	2	3	4
98.	Does student involvement your school…				
	Isolate students: Separate student involvement from adults, without the context of learning, the education system, or school improvement?	1			
	Involve students: Partner students with adults to improve schools in specific opportunities?		2		
	Integrate students: Deliberately partner students with adults in learning, the education system, and school improvement?			3	
	Infuse students: Inseparably entwine the success of educational systems with the successful partnerships of students and adults?				4
99.	Does your school view meaningful student involvement as…				
	Isolated – One-time activity, low numbers of participants, singular focus of activity, few outcomes	1			

	Sporadic – Occasional activities, limited numbers, limited scope of activity		2		
	Sustained – Complete infusion, every student involved, unlimited scope of activity			3	
	Essential – Complete infusion throughout learning, relationships, procedures, policy, and culture of school				4
100.	Does your school actively encourage all students to be meaningfully involved in your school?	1	2	3	4

Has your school sought to duly increase adults' knowledge and ability to meaningfully involve students in…

101.	School planning?	1	2	3	4
102.	Education research?	1	2	3	4
103.	Formal teaching?	1	2	3	4
104.	Learning evaluating?	1	2	3	4
105.	Systemic decision-making?	1	2	3	4
106.	Educational advocacy?	1	2	3	4

Does your school provide opportunities for students to reflect on meaningful student involvement in…

107.	School planning?	1	2	3	4
108.	Education research?	1	2	3	4
109.	Formal teaching?	1	2	3	4
110.	Learning evaluating?	1	2	3	4
111.	Systemic decision-making?	1	2	3	4
112.	Educational advocacy?	1	2	3	4

Does your school provide opportunities for adults to reflect on meaningful student involvement in…

113.	School planning?	1	2	3	4
114.	Education research?	1	2	3	4
115.	Formal teaching?	1	2	3	4
116.	Learning evaluating?	1	2	3	4

		1	2	3	4
117.	Systemic decision-making?	1	2	3	4
118.	Educational advocacy?	1	2	3	4
	Does your school systematically and rigorously evaluate the effects of meaningful student involvement on…				
119.	Academic achievement	1	2	3	4
120.	Student engagement	1	2	3	4
121.	School climate	1	2	3	4
122.	Professional satisfaction	1	2	3	4
123.	Does your school maintain a register of student-identified adult allies accessible to all students?	1	2	3	4
124.	Is your school committed to extending meaningful student involvement?	1	2	3	4
	Does your school have an active strategy for extending meaningful student involvement in…				
125.	School planning?	1	2	3	4
126.	Education research?	1	2	3	4
127.	Formal teaching?	1	2	3	4
128.	Learning evaluating?	1	2	3	4
129.	Systemic decision-making?	1	2	3	4
130.	Educational advocacy?	1	2	3	4
	Does your school give students and adults equal authority in….				
131.	School planning?	1	2	3	4
132.	Education research?	1	2	3	4
133.	Formal teaching?	1	2	3	4
134.	Learning evaluating?	1	2	3	4
135.	Systemic decision-making?	1	2	3	4
136.	Educational advocacy?	1	2	3	4

		1	2	3	4
137.	Does your school afford opportunities for students to expand their involvement in subsequent grade levels?	1	2	3	4
138.	Does your school actively inform parents about meaningful student involvement?	1	2	3	4
139.	Does your school obligate students to be meaningfully involved?	1	2	3	4
140.	Does your school obligate adults to meaningfully involve students?	1	2	3	4
141.	Does your school provide continuous development opportunities for students who are meaningfully involved?	1	2	3	4
142.	Does your school provide continuous development opportunities for adults who meaningfully involve students?	1	2	3	4
	Does your school provide opportunities for students to develop skills essential to meaningful involvement, such as…				
143.	Communication?	1	2	3	4
144.	Time management?	1	2	3	4
145.	Project planning?	1	2	3	4
146.	Meeting facilitation?	1	2	3	4
147.	Budget management?	1	2	3	4
148.	Other skills?	1	2	3	4
	Does your school provide opportunities for students to learn about the issues essential to being meaningfully involved, such as…				
149.	School improvement?	1	2	3	4
150.	Equity and diversity in education?	1	2	3	4
151.	Curricular approaches?	1	2	3	4
152.	Leadership issues in education?	1	2	3	4
153.	Other issues?	1	2	3	4
	Does your school provide opportunities for adults to learn skills essential to meaningful student involvement, such as…				
154.	Student/adult relationship building?	1	2	3	4

155.	Inquiry-based learning?	1	2	3	4
156.	Service learning?	1	2	3	4
157.	Project planning?	1	2	3	4
158.	Curriculum development?	1	2	3	4
159.	Teaching skills?	1	2	3	4
160.	Evaluation techniques?	1	2	3	4
161.	Decision-making methods?	1	2	3	4
162.	Advocacy methods?	1	2	3	4
163.	Does your school measure the effect of meaningful student involvement on student learning?	1	2	3	4
164.	Does your school measure the effects of meaningful student involvement on relationships among students?	1	2	3	4
165.	Does your school measure the effects of meaningful student involvement on relationships between students and adults?	1	2	3	4
166.	Does your school measure the effects of meaningful student involvement on the culture of school?	1	2	3	4
167.	Has your school created policies that sustain meaningful student involvement?	1	2	3	4
168.	Has your school provided ongoing professional development opportunities for adults to sustain meaningful student involvement?	1	2	3	4
169.	Has your school formally reformed procedures in your school to sustain meaningful student involvement?	1	2	3	4
170.	Has your school developed curricular approaches to sustain meaningful student involvement?	1	2	3	4
171.	Does your school have responsive student development processes to sustain meaningful student involvement?	1	2	3	4
172.	Do adults in your school acknowledge meaningful student involvement as a critical component of school improvement?	1	2	3	4
173.	Do students in your school understand meaningful student involvement as a critical component of school improvement?	1	2	3	4
174.	Does your school infuse meaningful student involvement	1	2	3	4

	throughout school improvement initiatives?				
175.	Does your school infuse school improvement initiatives throughout meaningful student involvement?	1	2	3	4
176.	Does your school have a mechanism to ensure all students can collaborate on meaningful student involvement?	1	2	3	4
177.	Does your school have a mechanism to ensure all adults can collaborate on meaningful student involvement?	1	2	3	4
	TOTALS:				
	Add all totals together to determine your **GRAND SCORE:**				

SCORING

600-700   Your school is a haven for meaningfulness. All students and adults in your building are successful in any endeavor they embark upon, and your school should be a model for the nation. Contact SoundOut immediately to begin this promotional campaign.

400-599   Your school has successfully undergone a journey to absolute success. A growing number of students and adults in your building have a vision for meaningful involvement, and have intentions to expand to more learners. Contact SoundOut to provide systems analysis for improvement, as well as professional development and student training to assist your effort.

200 – 399   Your school has begun efforts to promote meaningful student involvement, and has substantial room to grow. With a core group of students and adults working on your efforts, you are beginning to see the fruits of your labor. Contact SoundOut for more information about how we can provide leadership in your continuing efforts.

0 – 199   Your school needs assistance immediately. Without a structured program for Meaningful Student Involvement your building will likely continue sinking into irrelevance in the near future as students find meaning in other places throughout their community. Contact SoundOut for consulting, evaluation, professional development, and more.

Contact the SoundOut office by calling 360-489-9680 or emailing info@commonaction.org