

Latinx Student Engagement Project Listening Sessions

Initial Themes

Relevance

- Youth want their learning and school experience to connect to career interests and options
- Youth want opportunities to develop practical life skills

Cultural Identity

- Youth want their curriculum to reflect their culture and history as well as current issues facing their communities
- Youth want to share and learn about each other's traditions through school work, clubs, and school and community events

Racism & Bias

- Youth have experienced explicit and implicit racism at school
- Youth often feel misunderstood, overlooked or disrespected due to cultural expectations, perceptions or stereotypes

Relationships & Respect

- Youth value patient, supportive, caring adults who take an interest in their lives
- Youth value adults whom they feel they can identify with and relate to
- Youth value their independence yet have strong family and community connections

Rigor with Flexibility

- Youth value education and learning and they want to be around teachers and peers who value it as well
- Youth appreciate schools/programs with flexible hours, pace and structures given competing priorities