

Student Voice Continuum

STUDENT POWER



Stance Towards Youth	Inform	Consult	Involve	Collaborate	Lead Together
Impact	Reproduce Inequities	Tokenization	Voice	Delegated Power	(Shared) Ownership
Goal	Provide youth with relevant information.	Gather input from youth.	Ensure youth needs and priorities are part of the process & solution.	Ensure youth capacity to play a leadership role in design and implementation of decisions.	Democratic participation and equity through shared leadership, & decision-making.
Message	<i>"We will keep you informed."</i>	<i>"We care what you think."</i>	<i>"You are making us think (and therefore act) differently about the issue.."</i>	<i>"Youth leadership and expertise are critical to how we address the issue."</i>	<i>"We cannot unlock transformative solutions without you."</i>
Racial Equity BIYOC = Black, indigenous, youth of color Underrepresented, intersectional youth = immigrant, Queer and Trans, foster, systems-impacted, unhoused youth, and youth with disabilities	Communication materials are distributed widespread without targeted outreach to BIYOC.	Multiple rounds of widespread BIYOC engagement events and activities are conducted through a variety of methods (such as surveys, focus groups, and town halls).	Targeted engagement of BIYOC and underrepresented, intersectional youth engage in events to share their unique needs and priorities.	BIYOC and underrepresented, intersectional youth co-lead with adults to engage other BIYOC and others in the decision-making process and have some decision-making power. Training and support is provided for youth to participate meaningfully.	BIYOC and underrepresented, intersectional youth have significant or full leadership and decision-making power. They collaborate with adults as equals. Training, supports and financial resources are provided for youth to lead meaningfully.
Activities	Online information postings, fact sheets, presentations, open houses	Focus Groups/Surveys, Community Forums, Public Comment	Youth Advisory Committees, Students on Hiring Committees	Youth on school wide decision making committees or as members on boards or school site councils, youth task force, partnering with a community organization to engage and support youth	Participatory Budgeting, youth-led funding decisions, youth-led initiatives or campaigns, partnering with a community organization to have youth lead

Adapted from:
 Youth Voice adaptation of "Spectrum of Community Engagement" by Rosa González of Facilitating Power, in collaboration with Movement Strategy Center and the Building Healthy Communities Initiative.
 Toshalis, Eric & Michael Nakkula. 2012. Motivation, Engagement, and Student Voice: The Students at the Center Series.
 Boston, MA: Jobs for the Future. <http://www.studentsatthecenterhub.org/resource/motivation-engagement-and-student-voice>.

