



Enhancing Teacher Feedback with Tripod Student Surveys

Rob Ramsdell, Cambridge Education



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Roadmap for Presentation

- Introduction and overview
- The key ideas behind the Tripod surveys
- Outcomes of the survey process – patterns and typical reporting views
- Logistics and administration details

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Background/Overview: The Tripod Project Student Surveys

Student surveys are used to collect data and to generate reports focused on

classroom learning conditions and
student engagement.


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Survey Versions




Grades K-2

- Fewer Questions
- Fewer Choices
- Proctors Needed to Administer in Smaller Groups



Grades 3-5

- Shorter than the Secondary Version
- Uses More Simplistic Language



Grades 6-12

- Designed for older students
- Includes More Items

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Background/Overview: The Tripod Project Student Surveys

- Student surveys are used to collect data and to generate reports focused on classroom learning conditions and student engagement.
- Surveys developed and refined over the past 10 years.
- They are a key component of **the Gates Measures of Effective Teaching Project.**

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Tripod Surveys and Measures of Effective Teaching

In the Gates Measures of Effective Teaching study a single administration of student surveys was found to be a

reliable measure and
predictive

of student achievement gains.



Background/Overview: The Tripod Project Student Surveys

- Student surveys are used to collect data and to generate reports focused on classroom learning conditions and student engagement.
- Surveys have been developed and refined over ten years. They are a key component of the Gates Measures of Effective Teaching Project.
- Created by Ron Ferguson of Harvard University who leads all research and analysis of survey results.

Ron Ferguson



- Founder of the Tripod Project
- Leads all research and analysis of Tripod survey data
- Senior Lecturer in Education and Public Policy, Harvard University
- Director of the Achievement Gap Initiative, Harvard University.

Multiple Measures

Classroom Observations

Engaged Students
Achieving Students

Tripod Surveys

Student Growth and Learning

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Benefits

Increase Reliability of Feedback

Focus Priorities

Track Progress

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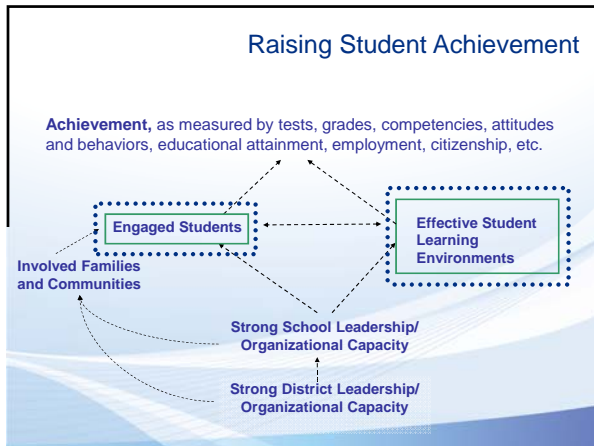
Roadmap for Presentation

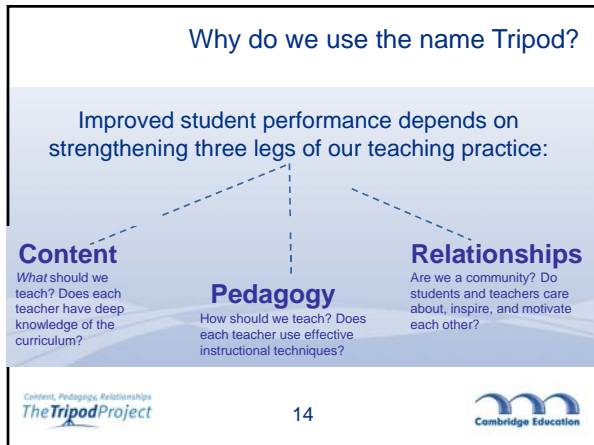
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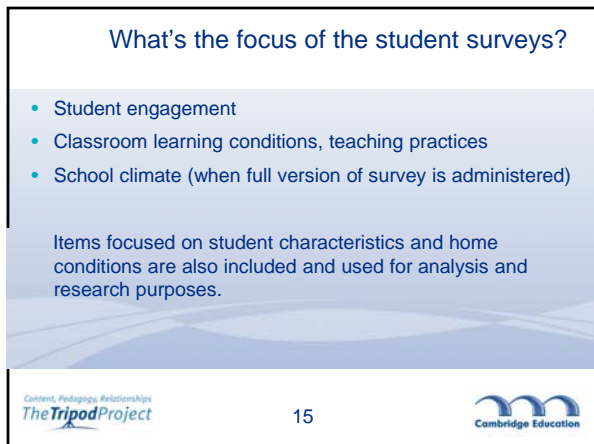
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Sample Items: Tripod Student Engagement

| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Effort to Learn | <i>I have pushed myself hard to completely understand my lessons in this class.</i> |
| Mastery Goals | <i>In this class, it is important to me to thoroughly understand my class work.</i> |
| Help Avoidance | <i>I don't like asking the teacher in this class for help, even if I need it.</i> |
| Trust (Don't Fit In) | <i>I feel out of place in this class, like I don't really fit in.</i> |

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Teaching Practices: Tripod Seven Cs Sample Survey Items Secondary Level

| | |
|-------------|---|
| Care | <p>Control</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students in this class treat the teacher with respect. • My classmates behave the way the teacher wants them to. • Our class stays busy and doesn't waste time. |
| Control | |
| Clarify | |
| Challenge | |
| Captivate | |
| Confer | |
| Consolidate | |

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Teaching Practices: Tripod Seven Cs Sample Survey Items

- Care
- Control
- Clarify
- Challenge
- Captivate
- Confer
- Consolidate

Control

- Students in this class treat the teacher with respect.
- My classmates behave the way the teacher wants them to.
- **Our class stays busy and doesn't waste time.**

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Teaching Practices: Tripod Seven Cs Sample Survey Items

- Care
- Control
- Clarify
- Challenge
- Captivate
- Confer
- Consolidate

Why multiple items?

Challenge

- My teacher asks students to explain more about the answers they give.
- **My teacher doesn't let people give up when the work gets hard.**
- In this class, we learn to correct our mistakes.
- My teacher wants us to use our thinking skills, not just memorize things.

Teaching Practices: Tripod Seven Cs Sample Survey Items

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Sample Items: Early Elementary

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Happiness | <i>I like coming to school.</i> |
| Effort | <i>I try as hard as I can to learn in school.</i> |
| Challenge | <i>My teacher makes sure I try to do my best.</i> |
| Care | <i>I like the way my teacher treats me when I need help.</i> |
| Clarify | <i>My teacher is very good at explaining things.</i> |

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Reporting View: % Favorable Responses



Our Mantra: Multiple Measures, Multiple Times, Over Multiple Years

We need multiple measures over multiple years. This way, no one instance of measuring the classroom will have such high stakes that teachers will have reasons to be fearful, which will be important, particularly at the outset.



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Key issues

- Online vs. paper
- Length of surveys
- Number of class sections at the secondary class
- Students with special needs
- Three biggest challenges of a successful program
- Confidentiality
- Early elementary

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