

TRANSITIONS IN SCHOOL LIFE

Teacher Questionnaire

Wave 3

1:01  
CODE=1

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

ID: \_\_\_\_\_

1:02-15  
CODE=ID

Teacher Sex: \_\_\_\_\_

1:16

Grade Level: \_\_\_\_\_

1:17

The following are statements about schools, teachers, and students. Please indicate your personal opinion about each statement by circling the appropriate response from 1, Strongly Disagree to 5, Strongly Agree.

	Strongly Disagree			Strongly Agree		
	1	2	3	4	5	
Most students will waste free time if they're not given something to do.	1	2	3	4	5	1:1
Teachers should consider revision of their teaching methods if these are criticized by their students.	1	2	3	4	5	1:1
If I try really hard, I can get through to even the most difficult or unmotivated student.	1	2	3	4	5	1:2
Directing public remarks toward a defiant student is a good disciplinary technique.	1	2	3	4	5	1:2
Beginning teachers are not likely to maintain strict enough control over their students.	1	2	3	4	5	1:2
Some students in my class are just not as able as others when it comes to learning particular academic skills.	1	2	3	4	5	1:2
Parents of the students in my class have a greater effect on their children's motivation and performance than I do.	1	2	3	4	5	1:2
Principals should give unquestioning support to teachers in disciplining students.	1	2	3	4	5	1:2
Students should not be permitted to contradict the statements of a teacher in class.	1	2	3	4	5	1:2

	Strongly Disagree			Strongly Agree		
	1	2	3	4	5	1:
It is justifiable to have students memorize many facts about a subject even if they have no application.	1	2	3	4	5	1:
If some students in my class are not doing well in math, I feel that I should change my approach to the subject.	1	2	3	4	5	1:
Friends of students in my class have a greater effect on those students' motivation and performance than I do.	1	2	3	4	5	1:
Being friendly with students often leads them to become too familiar.	1	2	3	4	5	1:
Before students are able to make their own decisions, they must first learn to obey the rules.	1	2	3	4	5	1:
How much a student learns about math in my class depends more on a student's natural ability than on my teaching strategies.	1	2	3	4	5	1:
Student governments are a good "safety valve" but should not have much influence on school policy.	1	2	3	4	5	1:
If students in my class are having trouble with math, they will probably continue to have trouble with math in the future.	1	2	3	4	5	1:
A few students are just troublemakers and should be treated accordingly.	1	2	3	4	5	1:
By trying a different teaching method, I can significantly affect a student's achievement.	1	2	3	4	5	1:
If a student talks back to a teacher, it must be considered a serious offense.	1	2	3	4	5	1:

	Strongly Disagree			Strongly Agree		
	1	2	3	4	5	1:4
Students are often not capable of solving their problems through logical reasoning.	1	2	3	4	5	1:4
Some of my students were born with more math potential than other students.	1	2	3	4	5	1:4
Students can be trusted to use the lavatory without getting permission.	1	2	3	4	5	1:4
A student who destroys school material or property should be severely punished.	1	2	3	4	5	1:4
There is really very little that I can do to insure that most of my students achieve at a high level.	1	2	3	4	5	1:4
It is often necessary to remind students that their status in school differs from that of teachers.	1	2	3	4	5	1:4
Students can be trusted to work together without supervision.	1	2	3	4	5	1:4
I am certain that I am making a difference in the lives of my students.	1	2	3	4	5	1:4
Students often misbehave in order to make the teacher look bad.	1	2	3	4	5	1:4
Some of my students are not going to make much academic progress this year, no matter what I do.	1	2	3	4	5	1:4
Students can be trusted to correct their own tests.	1	2	3	4	5	1:4
Most of my poorly performing, unmotivated students will eventually graduate from high school.	1	2	3	4	5	1:4



Do boys and girls experience different problems during adolescence?

\_\_\_\_\_ (1) Yes      \_\_\_\_\_ (2) No

1:59

If yes, please describe.

1:60-61

1:62-63

On the following pages you will find four vignettes. Each one describes an incident and then lists five ways of responding to the situation. Think about each response option in terms of how appropriate you consider it to be as a means of dealing with the problem described in the vignette. You may find the option to be "perfect", in other words, "extremely appropriate" in which case you would circle the number 7. You may consider the response highly inappropriate, in which case you might circle the 1. If you find the option reasonable, you would circle some number between 1 and 7. Please rate each of the five options for each vignette by circling one number on its rating scale.

1. Jim is an average student who has been working at grade level. During the past two weeks he has appeared listless and has not been participating during reading group. The work he does is accurate but he has not been completing assignments. A phone conversation with his mother revealed no useful information. The most appropriate thing for Jim's teacher to do is:

a. Ask him if he can suggest some alternative assignments that will be more interesting to him.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1:64
very			moderately			very	
inappropriate			appropriate			appropriate	

b. She should impress upon him the importance of finishing his assignments since he needs to learn this material for his own good.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1:65
very			moderately			very	
inappropriate			appropriate			appropriate	

c. Let him know that he doesn't have to finish all of his work now and see if she can help him work out the cause of the listlessness.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1:66
very			moderately			very	
inappropriate			appropriate			appropriate	

d. Make him stay after school until that day's assignments are done.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1:67
very			moderately			very	
inappropriate			appropriate			appropriate	

e. Let him see how he compares with the other children in terms of his assignments and encourage him to catch up with the others.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1:68
very			moderately			very	
inappropriate			appropriate			appropriate	



2. The Rangers spelling group has been having trouble all year. How could Miss Wilson best help the Rangers?

a. Have regular spelling bees so the Rangers will be motivated to do as well as the other groups.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1:69
very			moderately			very	
inappropriate			appropriate			appropriate	

b. Make them drill more and give them special privileges for improvements.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1:70
very			moderately			very	
inappropriate			appropriate			appropriate	

c. Have each child keep a spelling chart and emphasize how important it is to have a good chart.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1:71
very			moderately			very	
inappropriate			appropriate			appropriate	

d. Help the group devise ways of learning the words together (skits, games, and so on).

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1:72
very			moderately			very	
inappropriate			appropriate			appropriate	

e. Ask the Rangers to come up with lists of words they would like to learn to spell.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1:73
very			moderately			very	
inappropriate			appropriate			appropriate	

3. In your class is a girl named Margy who has been the butt of jokes for years. She is quiet and usually alone. In spite of the efforts of previous teachers, Margy has not been accepted by the other children. Your wisdom would guide you to:

a. Prod her into interactions and provide her with much praise for any social initiative.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1:74
very			moderately			very	
inappropriate			appropriate			appropriate	

b. Talk to her and emphasize that she should make friends so she'll be happier.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1:75
very			moderately			very	
inappropriate			appropriate			appropriate	

c. Invite her to talk about her relations with the other kids, and encourage her to take small steps when she's ready.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1:76
very			moderately			very	
inappropriate			appropriate			appropriate	

d. Ask her what she likes to do and feels she is good at, and encourage her to form a group of interested classmates to work with her.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1:77
very			moderately			very	
inappropriate			appropriate			appropriate	

e. Encourage her to observe how other children relate and to join in with them.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1:78
very			moderately			very	
inappropriate			appropriate			appropriate	

2:01  
CODE

2:02  
CODE

4. Donny loses his temper a lot and has a way of agitating other children. He doesn't respond well to what you tell him to do and you're concerned that he won't learn the social skills he needs. The best thing for you to do with him is:

a. Emphasize how important it is for him to "control himself" in order to succeed in school and in other situations.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
	very			moderately			very	2:16
inappropriate				appropriate			appropriate	

b. Ask him if there is anything that you or the other children can do to help him get along better.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
	very			moderately			very	2:17
inappropriate				appropriate			appropriate	

c. Put him in a special class which has the structure and reward contingencies which he needs.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
	very			moderately			very	2:18
inappropriate				appropriate			appropriate	

d. Help him see how other children behave in these various situations and praise him for doing the same.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
	very			moderately			very	2:19
inappropriate				appropriate			appropriate	

e. Realize that Donny is probably not getting the attention he needs and start being more responsive to him.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
	very			moderately			very	2:20
inappropriate				appropriate			appropriate	

How many years have you taught math at the junior high school level?

\_\_\_\_\_ years

2:21

How adequate do you feel your training has been to teach math at the junior high school level?

1 \_\_\_\_\_ 2 \_\_\_\_\_ 3 \_\_\_\_\_ 4 \_\_\_\_\_ 5 \_\_\_\_\_ 6 \_\_\_\_\_ 7 \_\_\_\_\_  
not very very  
adequate adequate

2:23

Would you prefer not to have to teach math?

\_\_\_\_\_ 1) Yes

2:24

\_\_\_\_\_ 2) No

Would you prefer to be teaching at a different grade level?

\_\_\_\_\_ 1) Yes

2:25

\_\_\_\_\_ 2) No

How much formal math training have you had beyond the minimum required for your certification?

\_\_\_\_\_ 1) None

\_\_\_\_\_ 2) One course

2:26

\_\_\_\_\_ 3) 2-3 courses

\_\_\_\_\_ 4) More than 3 courses

Which one of the following Michigan teaching certificates do you have?

\_\_\_\_\_ 1) Elementary

\_\_\_\_\_ 2) Secondary

2:27

If you hold a secondary teaching certificate, what was your major in college?

\_\_\_\_\_

2:28



