

Empathy Interviews Notes

Your group will have 2 interviewees, 1 student and 1 teacher/admin (they know who they are).

You will have 35 minutes. Please time each interview to 10 minutes (get through as many questions as possible). You will spend the remaining time (15 min) in group discussion.

Outline: (35 min)

- 10 minute interview
- 10 minute interview
- 15 min: group discussion

Note-taker & Group:

Interviewee #1:

Empathy Interview Questions for Students:

1. Talk to us about your experience at Oakland High School. What do you appreciate? What makes it difficult for you to learn? (note any racial/gender or other power dynamics)
2. Share a story about when you felt excluded from the classroom community based on your race or other identity, whether it was intentional or even unconscious.
3. Share a time when you felt misjudged or underestimated by a teacher, staff, peer based on your race or some part of your identity. What support might have helped prevent this?
4. Who do you turn to (an adult on campus) when you are struggling academically? Why? (If you fear you are going to get a bad grade, or with concerns about getting into college, etc.)
5. If you could get a point across to all adults on campus with a magic wand, what would it be?

Interviewee #1: Wong

Empathy Interview Questions for Teachers/Admin:

1. Talk to us about your experience at Oakland High School. What do you appreciate? What makes it difficult for you to step into your role?
2. What comes up for you mentally and emotionally when you come across a student you have a difficult time engaging? What supports did you find helpful or would be helpful in addressing that challenge?
3. What do you wish you knew more about, had more training or resources about to support and learn

from the student you worked with?

4. Talk to us about an impactful journey with the student you supported this past semester.
5. What would you have liked to do differently?

Group Discussion: 15 minute discussion

- What themes did you hear? (5 min)
- What does this mean for our work in the Culture and Climate Committee? (5 min)
- What are you still curious about? (5 min)