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Issue How are teachers supposed to know what helps the students best without the students' opinion being heard? How can we maximize student learning and the effectiveness of the way our teachers teach? Many teachers are trained in traditional techniques that are designed to help most students learn the material they are presented. After a number of years, students and their preferred learning styles change.

Project Description We come to school for over 150 days a year, sit in the classroom and try to learn what we need to from our teachers. It's all about passing the class to most students, to get that college degree and be free. When my group and I started working on this project we wanted to help change the reason students come to school. We come to school because our parents force us, or because we need to pass it to go to college, but we wanted students to want to come to school knowing that they would learn and be heard. It's important to me for my project to succeed because school is a big part of my life; I spend over 1280 hours in school and I would actually like to want to learn something for a change. Last year my group and I talked to the principal about the importance of student evaluations. We took surveys and collected the data from students who all wanted to be part of the evaluation process. I'd like to expand my project to a national level and encourage the development of a standard evaluation form to be distributed to students to allow them to provide useful feedback.

Project Outcome If teachers teach more effectively than they are happier in the classroom, students understand the information that is given to them faster, and test scores are improved. Engaging students helps to form a bond between the teacher and student, the bond is based on the student idea that they can give the teacher constructive feedback without worrying about being penalized.

Request I want my Representative to encourage policies that require that teachers distribute periodic evaluations to their students. I also want my Representative to enlist the U.S. Department of Education in developing the questionnaire, distributing it to school districts, analyzing results, and distributing the information gathered in the evaluations.