YOUTH VOICE CARDS

To truly tune in to youth voice, you need to ask good questions.
Great ideas for your new high school will come from many places, and one of the richest sources of insight is what young people tell us.

+ You’ll want to speak with young people who represent the full range of students your school will serve.

+ You’ll want to understand their true needs—and how you might inspire them to stretch their ambitions for themselves.

+ You’ll want to spend time truly analyzing what you’ve heard.

Think about what you want to learn from the young people you’ll meet. Look through these cards and choose a few questions to kick off your conversations, or come up with questions of your own.
YOUR FUTURE
What kind of future do you see for yourself?

Now, imagine that the possibilities are infinite. What other ambitions do you have for your future?
How do you want your life to be different from the lives of the people who have raised you?

What could be better? What might be worse?
What do you want school to provide to help you pursue your dreams?

What is your school doing for you today? What is your school not doing for you today?
YOUR FUTURE
Do you see yourself going to college?

If so, how does going to college align with your ambitions? If not, how well is high school preparing you for the career you want?
What kind of job or career do you want to pursue?

Why does it interest you? What do you think you need to know—and be able to do—in order to get that career?
YOUR FUTURE
What does the American Dream mean to you?

Is it attainable? What do you need to achieve it? What stands in your way? How can high school help?
Who are the role models you admire most?

What do you admire about them? What did it take for them to be successful?
YOUR FUTURE
How do you define success for yourself?

What would help you achieve that success? Where can you go to find that help?
YOUR FUTURE
Think of a question you would like to ask young people about their future.

Write your question here:
YOUR FUTURE
Think of a question you would like to ask young people about their future.

Write your question here:
Tell me about something you’re really interested in right now.

How might that topic, subject, or issue play a role in your future?
YOUR PASSION
What is something you really care about?

Why does it matter to you? How can you keep learning more about it?
YOUR PASSION
If you had to choose one thing to do for the rest of your life, what would it be?

Why does that energize you? What will it take to truly master it?
What is something you would love to teach?

Why does it fascinate you? Why do other people need to learn about it?
YOUR PASSION
What are you an expert at?

Where did you learn about it, and what did it take to become an expert? What did it feel like along the way to becoming an expert?
YOUR
PASSION
Finish the sentence: "I feel alive when ________________."
YOUR
PASSION

XQ
Tell me about something you learned recently that you found truly interesting.

What did you learn? What was so fascinating about it? What else do you want to learn about it?
What do you wake up thinking about every morning?
YOUR
PASSION
Think of a question you would like to ask young people about their passion.

Write your question here:
YOUR PASSION
Think of a question you would like to ask young people about their passion.

Write your question here:
YOUR DREAM SCHOOL
Tell me about a time in school when you felt really inspired to learn.

What was that experience like? How could teachers create more moments that inspire you to learn?
If you were a school principal, what is one thing you’d change?

How would that make high school better for students? What would you do to get your students excited about learning?
YOUR DREAM SCHOOL
If you could add one class that would make you really excited to go to school, what would it be?

How would that class prepare you for the future?
YOUR DREAM SCHOOL
Get into your imagination. Build a dream school.

What would it be like to go there? What kind of future would it prepare you for?
YOUR DREAM SCHOOL
If you could build a school that was specifically designed for how you learn, what would it look like? Sound like? Feel like?

Take me through a day at that school...
What will getting a high school diploma do for you?

How will it set you up for the next step toward achieving your dreams?
YOUR DREAM SCHOOL
How would your dream high school better prepare you for college or a career?

What do you think you need to be ready for college?
YOUR DREAM SCHOOL
During what part of the day do you learn the most?

What does learning mean to you? What does it mean to your family?
Think of a question you would like to ask young people about their dream school.

Write your question here:
YOUR DREAM SCHOOL
Think of a question you would like to ask young people about their dream school.

Write your question here: