

School Map Climate Assessment

This exercise in obtaining information about the safety of the school can only be done with children who understand the nature of maps and are mature enough to handle the exercise; primary grade students would probably not be asked to complete this exercise.

Directions:

Every student is given a copy of the two-dimensional school map (the kind that is contained in a typical student handbook). It is important to modify the map to indicate places that would not normally be put on the map:

- Parking lot(s)
- Buses
- Playing fields
- Basement
- Stairwell(s)
- Anything else...

There should also be a place to indicate whether the safety concerns are emotional, and/or physical. It might also be useful to put a check off box on the map for the child's gender.

Without putting any names on the map, students are given red and green "sticky dots" or red and green colored pens/pencils. Students are to indicate with the red and green as follows:

Red: Places in the school where they ***DO NOT*** feel safe, respected, appreciated, valued, etc.

Green: Places in the school where the ***DO*** feel safe, respected, appreciated, Valued, etc.

When each individual has marked the map, they are all collected and the information is collated on one large map. The information gathered would provide a visual portrayal of where the school is perceived to be safe and where it is not for the student body.

Note: If desired, the maps could be printed on different colors of paper so that different ages/classes of students would be taken into account. So, for example:

- Blue paper: Third grade
- Green paper: Fourth grade
- Pink paper: Fifth grade
- White paper: Sixth grade