

Staff Interview Protocol Spring 2023

Overview

- **Objective:** Understand how Black and Latino students conceptualize and categorize engagement
- **Time Required:** 45 minutes in Spring 2023
- **Facilitators:** At least two facilitators are needed
- **Structure:** Semi-structured interview
- **Participants:** Math staff
- **Incentives:** \$50 gift card
- **Supplies:** Audio recorder and device that can connect to the Internet
- **Location:** on Zoom

Prior to the Interview

- Obtain consent forms from participants
- Share information with participants about when and where the interview will be occurring

Introduction

Welcome. Hello, my name is [SAY NAME] and I am [INSERT RELEVANT POSITION]. [Introduce other staff who are present.] Child Trends, Search Institute, and McREL International, which are non-profit education research organizations, are partnering to understand Black and Latino students' engagement in math. This interview is a part of a research study. The purpose of this research is to develop culturally sustaining practices and tools to better support Black and Latino students' engagement in math. We think the best way to do that is to listen and learn from the experiences of individuals, like yourselves. Our conversation today will last about 45 minutes.

Informed consent. Participation in today's conversation is completely voluntary. Perspectives and experiences that you share today will be kept confidential, meaning we will not share your responses with anyone outside of the researchers on this study, and we will not use your names in the written report for this study. You will not benefit personally from participating in the interview. You may feel uncomfortable answering certain questions, but you may skip or refuse to answer any questions you are not comfortable answering or leave the interview at any time. If you would like to stop the interview, please let me know. We would like to record the conversation today for our records.

Are you willing to be recorded?

This project is funded by the National Science Foundation, grant #2200437. Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in these materials are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the National Science Foundation.

Learn more about the Adapted Measure of Math Engagement at <https://www.childtrends.org/project/adapted-measure-of-math-engagement>.

Adapted Measure of Math Engagement

If the participant is not willing to be recorded, ask if they would be willing to proceed with the interview without recording it. Instead, the facilitator will take notes during the discussion. If this option is acceptable, document how the interview was processed on your notes.

Do you have any questions?

If the participant agreed to be recorded, say the following: Since you have agreed to be recorded, I will need you to provide your consent verbally when I turn on the recording.

Turn on record and ask the following: Do you agree to participate in this interview as I have described it to you, including agreeing to be recorded?

The participant should say “yes” into the recording. Thank the participant and continue with the interview.

Ice Breaker

Let's start by getting to know each other. Please share our preferred pronouns, the grade you teach, and one sentence about something that you enjoy learning about either inside or outside of school.

Initial Questions

As I shared in the introduction, we are conducting this interview to better understand Black and Latino students' engagement in math. For the next 45 minutes, we will be asking some questions about you and your perceptions of Black and Latino students' engagement in your math classes. Let's get started!

- 1. We would love to know a little bit more about you. As a reminder, feel free to share only to the extent you feel comfortable.**
 - a. How long have you been teaching?
 - b. How do you identify in terms of gender?
 - c. How do you identify in terms of race/ethnicity?
 - d. Why did you become a math teacher?
- 2. What does it mean for students to be engaged in classroom learning?** *Potential follow-up prompts: What does it look like for students to be engaged? What does it look like for students not to be engaged? How does engagement look different from other subjects (e.g., English or Social Studies)? Does engagement look different for Black and Latino students?*
- 3. Tell me about a time when you felt like your Black and Latino students were engaged in your math class.** *Follow-up prompts: What did it look like?*

Adapted Measure of Math Engagement

4. **How do you support Black and Latino students' engagement in math?** *Potential follow-up prompts: Do you use different teaching styles (e.g., lecture, projects, group work, individual assignments)? Do you provide individualized instruction (e.g., walking around the classroom and helping specific students)? Do you ask your students how you can better support their learning?*

5. **What classroom, school, and/or community resources support Black and Latino students' engagement in math?** *Potential follow-up prompts: How do you use the curriculum (e.g., books, handouts) to support their engagement? How do you use technology (e.g. Google Classroom, Kahoot) to support their engagement? What school clubs support their engagement? What afterschool programs focused on math support their engagement?*

6. **What (if anything) in Black and Latino students' personal lives supports their engagement in math?** *Potential follow-up prompts: How do families support their engagement? How do you work with their families to support their engagement? How do friends support their engagement? How do other external factors support their engagement (e.g., community leaders, media, celebrities)?*

7. **[IF NOT ANSWERED] What are barriers to Black and Latino students' engagement in math?**

Conclusion

Thank you for your participation today. If you have any questions, concerns, or additional information you would like to share, email Samantha Holquist at sholquist@childtrends.org. Her name and contact information also are included on your consent form. *Stop recording. Alert Jennifer for gift card.*