

Voices Igniting Success and Thriving Achievement

March 25, 2026



V.I.S.T.A Committee Norms

- ❖ Equity of voice
- ❖ Fair & respectful treatment to all
- ❖ Be Punctual-the flow of meeting continues if you are late
- ❖ Be Present...leading to a *Meaningful Engagement*
- ❖ Problems are discussed with a focus on solutions
- ❖ Closure of meeting with decisions that are made by all

Decision Making Process:

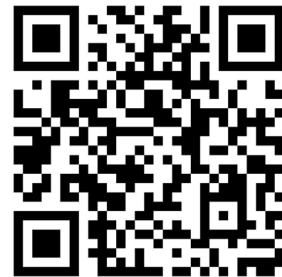
1. Thumbs up-you agree
2. Thumbs to the side -support it, but need to say why
3. Thumbs down-you don't agree and you have to provide why and solutions

Quorum:

1. 80% of members respond
- ❖ Be responsive to the assigned tasks
 - ❖ Sign in for any meeting that you attend

❖ Attendance sign in link:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScFcFtclnrBnKE9ws6ZCOELuXQRSwyL8L7Xky9RtrMI90dGXg/viewform?usp=preview>



Today's Agenda



- **Recap** of Student' Right to Freedom of Expression

Discuss:

- Actions taken by your peers or adults that show the Right to Freedom of Expression
- Challenges that your peers experience with the Right to Freedom of Expression
- Challenges that your friends experience to protect their Right to Freedom of Expression

Solutions:

- How can we overcome these challenges?
- Priority actions

Input from the Superintendent Student Advisory (SSA)

Quick recap-Right to Freedom of Expression

Rights as a Student:

- Students have the right to talk, write, and create in a respectful tone while following the expectations, without fear or worry from anyone.
- When it comes to how students dress, it's cool to be yourself, but everyone needs to feel comfortable and safe.

Responsibility as a Student:

- Students speak and share their thoughts respectfully and in a kind manner that follows expectations at school and away from school.
- Students will be mindful that our clothing choices should not disrupt the learning environment and follow expectations.
- Students need to know their limits on social media and think about how what they say affects others.

Discuss in your group

- **Actions taken by your peers or adults that show the Right to Freedom of Expression**
- **Challenges that your peers experience with the Right to Freedom of Expression**
- **Challenges that your friends experience to protect their Right to Freedom of Expression**

What possible actions your group can suggest?

Step-1: Discuss & write your group's response on the sticky notes provided

- ☐ How can we overcome the challenges related to Right to Freedom of Expression?
- ☐ What actions can be taken to support WESD stakeholders?

Step-2: Present & Finalize-all group members

- ★ Write ideas on sticky notes
- ★ Paste the sticky notes on the poster

Step-3: Share out

- ★ Explain the rationale

Next steps

The findings will be shared with the Culture & Climate Committee at their next meeting.

Challenges they see their peers having with this right

- Peers making negative comments to each other
- When my peers express themselves a lot of them get bullied
- We struggle with asking for help.
- Students struggle with unkind words, bullying, bad words, and making jokes that are not funny and hurt other people's' feelings.
- People make fun of them for just expressing themselves.
- One challenge that my peers experience is fitting in with their clothes they wear.
- Some students have a hard time expressing themselves with their clothing.
- Challenges that my peers experience is that sometimes the way people express themselves isn't appropriate or the fear of being bullied or discriminated.
- Sometimes they wear things that they think is fun, but it hurts peoples' feelings.
- Bullies
- Saying your own opinion and the person feeling judged, sad, and angry.
- The challenges that they might face is that they might get made fun of by expressing themselves, because not everyone would agree with how they feel or act.
- The way they experience themselves and the way they act.

Ideas we/they can do to help overcome these challenges

- Learn how to share our opinions
- When my peers experience daily good behavior
- Create opportunities for us to create something and share it.
- We can dress and speak what we want
- Create more activities where they can freely express themselves.
- More anti-bullying messages
- Help people feel more safe in what they say.
- More chances to ask for help.
- A way to help is to have 10 minutes to get a break in so we are not disrupted.
- I believe that when talking about freedom of expression, the most important thing is giving students multiple ways of expressing themselves - sports, music, activities.
- Dress how you want to express yourself
- Create ways to share your opinions
- Make sure people know it is not right to
- Make more chances for us to express ourselves through art and writing - clubs, newspaper
- Help students who have a hard time talking or being social.

Ideas we/they can do to help overcome these challenges...contd.

- Be kind and say appropriate words.
- Apologize if they said something bad.
- More hands-on activities to make learning fun
- Work with students about how to feel more comfortable near each other.
- Work with students on conversing with peers without getting judged on what they are and who they are.
- Dress how you want to express yourself
- Create ways to share your opinions
- Make sure people know it is not right to
- Make more chances for us to express ourselves through art and writing - clubs, newspaper
- Help students who have a hard time talking or being social.
- Teach students how to read themselves and calm their body down.
- We need to show expressions respectfully, be mindful with what we are doing.
- Brain breaks
- More hands-on activities to make learning fun
- Work with students about how to feel more comfortable near each other.
- Work with students on conversing with peers without getting judged on what they are and who they are.

Ideas we/they can do to help overcome these challenges...contd.

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- We need to show expressions respectfully, be mindful with what we are doing
- Limit social media
- Teach us how to speak and show ourselves respectfully.
- Adding more breaks to learning to help us catch up or calm down.
- Make lessons more fun.
- Help us not let other people judge us or lose belief in ourselves.
- More chances to learn that if we are not good at something, hard work will help us reach our dream.
- Students need to express themselves in an appropriate way by following the dress code while still dressing how they want, feeling comfortable in the clothing.
- More brain breaks to stay awake.
- Don't say things that people may make fun of you for.
- Dress appropriately how it makes you happy
- Make a vision board on what you like. (Maybe more for middle school).
- We could respect each other more.
- More fun activities.



VISTA committee meetings dates for 2025-2026

The meetings will take place last Wednesday of every month.

Date	Time
August 27, 2025 (First Meeting)	4:15-5:30 pm
September 24, 2025	4:15-5:30 pm
October 29, 2025	4:15-5:30 pm
November 12, 2025	4:15-5:30 pm
January 28, 2026	4:15-5:30 pm
February 25, 2026	4:15-5:30 pm
March 25, 2026	4:15-5:30 pm
April 29, 2026 (Last Meeting)	4:15-5:30 pm

Next Meeting