

We have isolated ten top concerns of students that have definite implications for school improvement/restructuring. These ten represent the top concerns of over 50 possible practices that do contribute to student failure. They are as follow: lecturing, no adjustments to learning style, lack of interest in student attendance, lack of being helped to establish a feeling of belonging, overwhelming homework assignments, lack of rewards/success, lack of caring about student work, little or no individual help, overwhelming full schedule of classes, and unfair/inequitable discipline and punishment. Seven of these top ten concerns as documented by over 500 dropouts and a professional task force relate directly to classroom/ instructional experiences which implies that a primary power of reducing school dropouts remains with the classroom teacher and the environment created within classrooms. (Zero Dropout by the year 2000).