

STUDENT EMPOWERMENT

The Student Empowerment Program helps students to acquire skills to improve communication, confidence, motivation levels, and interpersonal relationships to reach their greatest potential.

Empowering students to take control to lead functional and fulfilling lives should help them meet their needs for power and belonging, and enable them to realize their social goals. Such an outcome should positively affect students' achievement motivation. However, there is little research on the construct of student empowerment. A descriptive study using ethnographic techniques was conducted to examine the nature of student empowerment in a primary school classroom.

Findings suggest that there are two dimensions of student empowerment: intrapersonal and interpersonal empowerment, supporting existing literature. Moreover, they build on the literature by indicating that intrapersonal empowerment is the ability and capability of students to pursue appropriate and complementary social and achievement goals through the establishment of agendas. Interpersonal empowerment is the pursuit of goals by students that are not in conflict with peers or the teacher. This research indicates that student empowerment is a fluid and fragile phenomenon, but also one that the teacher can contribute to.