

THE PROBLEM:

This research was conducted to investigate student motivation in the context of school and my class. This inquiry is the first step in supporting and preparing my students for successful careers. I examined student's motivation to come to school, do school work, achieve good grades, and finally their motivation to come to my automotive class.

THE QUESTIONS:

1. What intrinsic or extrinsic factors that play a role in a student's motivation in the classroom?
2. Are students intrinsically or extrinsically motivated to participate in automotive?

THE WHO AND HOW:

Participants included:

- 19 freshman
- 22 sophomores



Tools used to collect data:

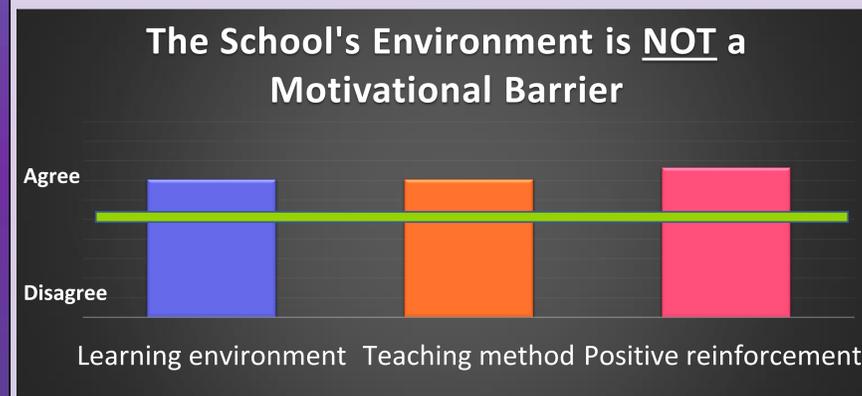
- Motivation surveys
- Motivation essays
- Teacher observations

THE CONNECTION TO INDUSTRY:

Motivation is a key part of employee productivity in any industry job. In my work at Raytheon, I learned that Raytheon employees are highly motivated by many intrinsic motivations including culture, learning opportunities, challenges, and application of knowledge. Raytheon motivates their employees to work together and solve problems that arise during their professional work day.

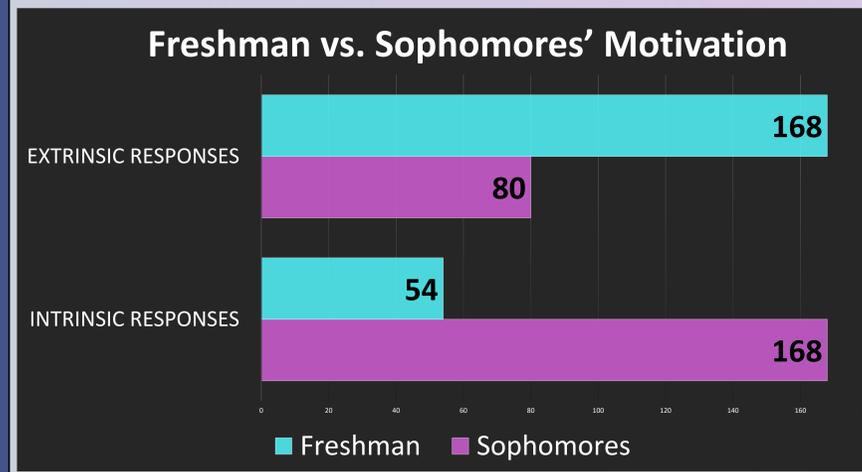
Environmental Motivation:

Students report that external environmental factors do not play a role in their motivation to come to school. Students report that grades, achievement, and learning opportunities motivate them to come to school versus the school's physical environment.



Overall School Motivation:

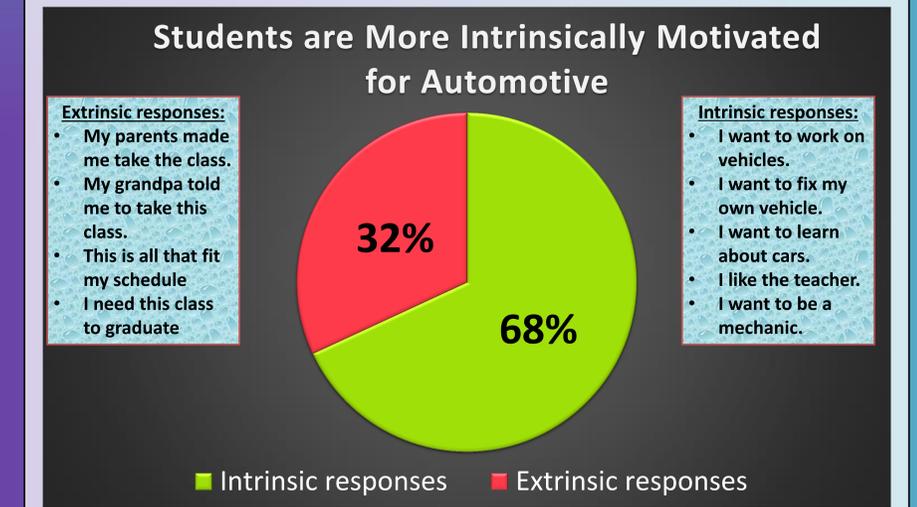
Freshman are extrinsically motivated to come to school and participate in school activities, while sophomores are more likely to be intrinsically motivated to do the same. Sophomores report grades, college, and learning opportunities drive them to come to school, while freshman report that family members, sports, or friends are their motivation to come to school.



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Automotive Motivation:

Freshman and sophomore students report being intrinsically motivated to come to automotive class due to a passion, interest, or love of vehicles.



THE FUTURE:

I will work with the freshman students in my automotive courses and introduce them to intrinsic motivational factors that will lead the students to enjoy school for themselves. Some of the factors that will be introduced to the freshman include: creating a culture that is inviting and nurturing, having the students visualize their future success, and having them set attainable goals for their education. This will lead to students understanding how culture, learning opportunities, challenges, and application of knowledge will bring them success in their career pathway.

Intrinsic – The internal motivational factors that influence a students motivation.

Extrinsic- The external motivational factors that influence a students motivation.

REFERENCES:

Castiglia, B. (2006). Factors driving student motivation. *Journal of the Academy of Business Education*, 7, 2006.