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STEM Teachers Conference 2016

CROSS POLLINATING THE CURRICULUM



UNIVERSITY
OF WOLLONGONG
AUSTRALIA

Using a collaborative, thinking space for maths and science problems

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High School Trial: Work Like a Mathematician

YEAR 8 AND YEAR 9 MATHEMATICS



no books
discussing
ask for help
fun
interaction
writing on board
writing big
stand up
involved
easy to erase
collaborating
draw freely
see other people's work
everything
sharing
cooperation
easier to see
groups
own pace
expressing thoughts
big space



High School Trial: Student Survey

YEAR 8 AND YEAR 9 MATHEMATICS

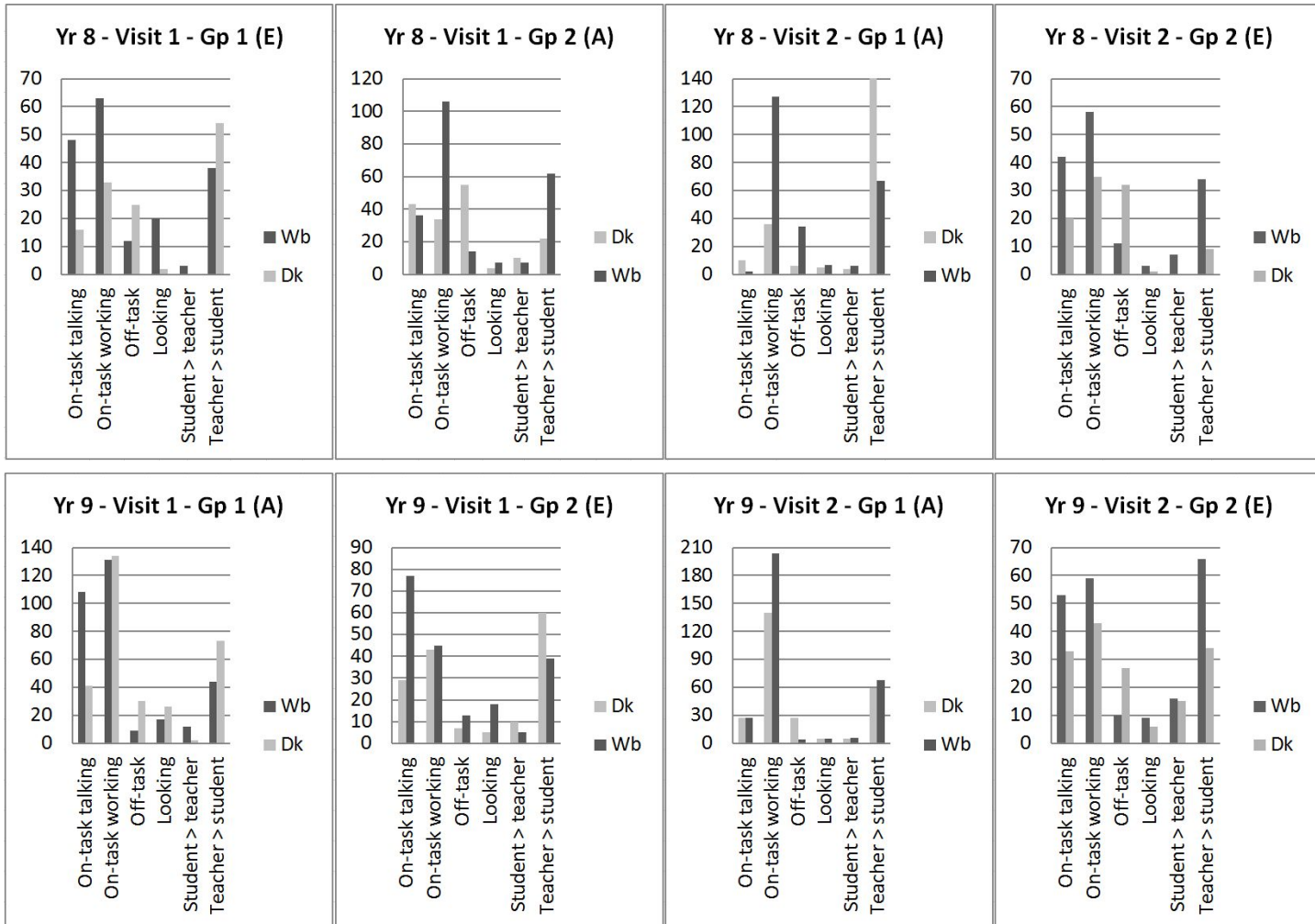
Statement	Yr 8 (2014) (n = 24)	Yr 9 (2014) (n = 25)	Yr 11 (2015) (n = 8)
1. I would like to have whiteboard classes at school.	100% (24)	100% (25)	63% (5)
2. I didn't think the whiteboard class was any better or worse than a normal class.	16.7% (4)	0% (0)	13% (1)
3. I would rather a normal class than a class in the whiteboard room.	0% (0)	0% (0)	0% (0)
4. I had fun in the whiteboard class.	91.7% (22)	92% (23)	63% (5)
5. I had no time to be bored in the whiteboard class.	75% (18)	68% (17)	13% (1)
6. I liked talking to my classmates about the problem.	75% (18)	88% (22)	88% (7)
7. I prefer the teacher telling me what to do in a normal class.	12.5% (3)	8% (2)	13% (1)
8. I was embarrassed to write on the boards, but later felt it was ok.	12.5% (3)	8% (2)	38% (3)
9. I was embarrassed to write on the boards and I do not want to do it again.	0% (0)	0% (0)	0% (0)
10. Writing on the boards was fine.	75% (18)	96% (24)	75% (6)
11. I liked being able to see other people's work to get hints.	75% (18)	64% (16)	63% (5)
12. I didn't trust anyone else's working and wanted the teacher to help me more.	8.3% (2)	0% (0)	0% (0)
13. I found everyone else's writing distracting.	0% (0)	0% (0)	0% (0)
14. I felt I was forced to do more work than when at tables and chairs.	12.5% (3)	16% (4)	13% (1)
15. I prefer sitting at a desk. Why? _____	8.3% (2 ¹)	4% (1 ¹)	0% (0)
16. I feel I learned more in the whiteboard classroom.	79.2% (19)	64% (16)	13% (1)
17. I feel I was more involved in my learning in the whiteboard classroom.	95.8% (23)	92% (23)	63% (5)
18. I think I learned equally well in the whiteboard room and normal room.	20.8% (5)	24% (6)	75% (6)

¹Comments made about sitting at a desk: "It's easier to write stuff down" (Year 8), "I like working on my own" (Year 8), "My legs hurt from standing" (Year 9).



High School Trial: Observations

YEAR 8 AND YEAR 9 MATHEMATICS



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Questions or Comments

Thank you!



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