



Middle School Journal Call for Student Submissions

Middle School Journal highlights the voices and perspectives of young adolescents through a student column each issue.

Student Column: In this column, we ask young adolescents to respond in a written or artistic format of their choosing (e.g., written narrative; poetic; story map; drawing/sketch) to one of the following two prompts that critically explore who young adolescents are and the ways in which schools support and or struggle to support them. Sometimes the ways that young adolescents view themselves are drastically different from the ways in which society, educators, peers and even families view them. Through the first prompt, we explore the possible tensions that exist between these two realities, giving young adolescents the opportunity to talk back against deficit views that others might have about some aspects of their identity. The second prompt directly relates to middle schools and schooling practices, asking young adolescents to critically explore how schools both support students and function as restrictive spaces for them.

Prompt 1: How do you describe yourself? How does this differ from how others (i.e. teachers, peers, family members, strangers) see you?

Prompt 2: Describe the ways your school supports who you are. In what ways can your school better support you?

Prompt 3: What are you passionate about and why?

Narrative pieces should be no longer than 2 double-spaced pages (12pt font). Artistic images should be accompanied by a brief description.

Submissions accepted on a rolling basis. Please submit online at: msjeditors@gmail.com

If you are submitting a response for the student column, please specify the prompt in your cover letter and include the following author information: name; age; grade; school (if applicable). Please note that this information will be included as part of the student column, unless requested otherwise. A caregiver signature is required prior to publication.

Address inquiries to editors Kathleen Brinegar, Lisa Harrison, and Ellis Hurd at msjeditors@gmail.com.

Middle School Journal, a refereed journal, is an official publication and a Professional Membership benefit of the Association for Middle Level Education (AMLE). Published five times per year, the journal offers articles that promote quality middle level education and contribute to an understanding of the educational and developmental needs of youth between the ages of 10 and 15.