

A MANIFESTO ON WRITTEN FEEDBACK

Compiled by participants in the “Responding to Student Writers” Workshop at Brazosport College (Fall 2016)

1. We are interested in what writers have to say, and we want writers to hear our interest in our feedback.
2. We want writers to know that feedback is offered to help students improve. We want writers to understand that feedback is a teaching moment, and, if they are confused, they should meet with us. We love to chat about writing with our students.
3. We want our feedback to show writers that they have power and value as contributors to academic discourse/their field.
4. We want writers to understand the purpose of their writing is to express not to impress.
5. We want writers to feel their writing is important and their visions are beautiful.
6. We want writers to feel empowered to take chances in their writing.
7. We want our feedback to push writers towards completeness and help writers cover material.
8. We want our feedback to help writers think critically about materials they’re using in their writing.
9. We want to be sure writers are using language that will help you communicate with the field they are writing within/for (nursing, literature, science, etc.).
10. We want writers to know that we all struggle with the writing process; difficulty is normal. You will make mistakes, and that’s ok.
11. We want writers to understand that each essay has a different focus but all of our lessons are connected. Essays aren’t individual tasks, but parts of larger lessons in writing.