**Summary of the student responses to communication in an innovative classroom at Heritage Woods Secondary**

**Survey Questions Page 3**

**This classroom is equipped with 6 round tables, 4 sofas, few desks, coffee table top, clipboards, and mini white boards:**

**105 French as a Second Language Students surveyed from grades 9-11**

**\* Some Response**

**\*\* Frequent Response**

**\*\*\* High Response**

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| **Positives** | Negatives | Suggestions |
| Face to face \*\*\* | Not good for tests uncomfortable \* | More sofas \*\*\* |
| Sofas make room relaxed\*\*\* | Overcrowded tables \*\* | Bigger tables \* |
| Able to sit with friends | Talking during videos on back sofas | 1 Big table |
| Communicate freely \*\*\* | Board hard to see from back | Comfortable seats  |
| Round tables enable to speak to more people \*\*\* | Back turned to board \*\*\* | Desks on test days \*\*\* |
| Round tables easier to ask questions \*\*\* | Sitting only with friends, others left out \*\* | Section of individual desks \*\* |
| Round tables easier to get help \*\*\* | Don’t like tests on clipboards \*\*\* | More discussions about serious topics |
| Round tables discourage isolation or separation \*\*\* | Cannot work properly | Always have sofas in a circle |
| Open spacious room \*\*\* | Chairs uncomfortable \* | Semi-circle of sofas facing tables |
| Sofas good for individual or group work \*\*\* | Hard to focus if want to work alone | Fill room with desks and lounge area |
| Room good for listening exercises, movies, activities | When table has assignment and the super smart person does everything; it’s hard to learn | Sofas face each other |
| Feels nice | Those on sofas cannot talk with those at tables | Desks for everyone \*\* |
| Elementary school style | Block 5 takes down | Desks in groups \*\* |
| Small groups=good \* | Block 1 sets up | Bonbons |
| Places to work, places to relax, options \*\*\* | Tests in rows | Separate disruptive students |
| Collaboration \*\* | Too comfortable then don’t work \* | Fly swatter |
| Interaction \*\* | Division in the class: tables VS sofas \* | Tests on tables with dividers \* |
| Not stern classroom setting \*\* | Sofa people don’t pay attention-discouraging \* | Sofas not in a line |
| Easier to change set up for discussions, hockey, work | Sofas only for discussions | Food |

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| **Positives** | Negatives | Suggestions |
| Circles easier to talk \*\*\* | Ex-immersion students take over or are intimidating | Buy sofas from Ikea |
| Encourages discussion \*\*\* | Separates the working from the non-working | More projects less tests |
| Round tables forced to work together  | Not a stable classroom | Seating arrangement for tests |
| Sociable | Chatty students \*\* | More explanations |
| Able to focus | Tables for days that need real concentration | Go to library for tests |
| Comfortable \*\*\* | Intimidation in circle discussion | Posters for learning \* |
| Community feel | Like more structured setting | Carpet |
| Creativity thrive | Noisy, can’t concentrate | Cabinets for backpacks |
| Less professional setting | Don’t talk to my table group outside of class | Lap tables |
| Less intimidation |  | Lamps, curtains on door, TV, paintings |
| Laid back atmosphere for teenagers |  | Paint walls in color |
| Lots of transformations possible |  | Bean Bag chair |
| Sofas make room calmer |  |  |
| Freedom to sit where I like, does not feel like a routine \*\* |  |  |
| Surrounded by teacher speaking French |  |  |
| More group work encourages communication |  |  |
| At first I was shy about talking but once I started to get to know others, I felt like I fit in |  |  |
| A change from tradition \*\* |  |  |
| Constantly involved |  |  |
| Friendly \*\*\* |  |  |
| Absolutely love it |  |  |
| My favorite |  |  |
| Best set up |  |  |
| It’s excellent |  |  |
| Calm |  |  |
| A more inviting room, makes me want to learn \*\* |  |  |
| More comfortable to share then desks |  |  |
| Love tables instead of desks |  |  |

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| **Positives** | Negatives | Suggestions |
| Class is more connected |  |  |
| More active, new idea, not as boring as other classes |  |  |
| Not a stressful environment \*\*\* |  |  |
| Talk on sofas but have fun |  |  |
| Balance work environment with sofas and tables |  |  |
| Personal choice where to work |  |  |
| Feel more at home \*\*\* |  |  |
| Cannot be off task in a circle |  |  |
| Feels less like school |  |  |
| Not looking at the back of someone’s head |  |  |
| Like funny posters |  |  |
|  |  |  |

**Communication Survey**

How does the atmosphere of a classroom encourage or discourage your communication? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

What works about this set-up? (Room 205 with sofas and round tables) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

What doesn’t work?

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What would you do differently if you were setting this up and why?

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**THANK YOU/MERCI**

**How does the atmosphere of a classroom encourage or discourage your communication (general comments from question 1)?**

* Comfortable giving my opinion in a relaxed environment
* When teacher pushes you to do your best
* Classmates don’t judge
* Ex-immersion students speak last on discussion
* Patient people help
* Family environment encourages everyone to be part of the class
* Positive
* Not pressured to speak but encouraged
* Fun classroom makes it easy to communicate
* Bullying interferes with communication