



# MAIN COURSE

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Students are the heart of  
Michigan's education system

# WALKING TACOS



Students should have a real voice in shaping their education—leading, participating in, and influencing decisions at every level. In this system, adults value young people’s unique knowledge and experience, and work with them as partners in creating education opportunities.

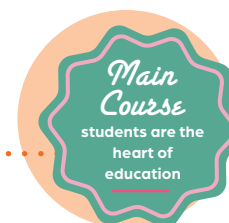
## Reviews from Michiganders

*"[It] would be really beneficial for... schools to have that type of student government...letting the kids run with the ideas"*

*"I think students should have a strong hand in decision making, [they] should have a lot of voice and power."*

## WALKING TACOS:

A ROBUST AND MEANINGFUL SYSTEM OF STUDENT ENGAGEMENT IN DECISION MAKING.



## INGREDIENTS

- Meaningful practices and systems are in place for students to decide how the classroom, school, or district works.
- Students co-develop classroom practice and interest-based lessons with their teachers.
- Adult support and funding are needed to implement the decisions students make.
- School policies reflect a commitment to power-sharing with youth.



## Cooking Instructions

1. Gather the practices and systems that are most useful to the local school context from research, community leaders, and students themselves.
2. Engage students in loading their tacos with co-developed practices and lesson plans.
3. Ensure school policies create the context for meaningful student leadership.
4. Provide adult support and funding so that students are successful.
5. Enjoy!

### CHEF'S TIP

The best meals are made together—students should have a real voice in shaping their education, from classroom decisions to district policies.