In her book, Kathleen allows students to tell teachers what they want from teachers:

Especially for teenagers, school doesn’t always provide the best setting for learning. At a time when adolescents want to try their wings, sitting in a classroom can feel frustratingly irrelevant and juvenile. They may not see the point of subjects they must take or the importance of habits like punctuality and correct language. To get ideas about their own interests and potential, they often need inspiration from not just academic teachers but other adults doing related work. (175)

Students need to feel that this is relevant, and to do that one has to have experiences outside of school. To have these, students need to not only be allowed to articulate their wants, but they need teachers who are humble enough to listen to them and make sure that they can pursue their interests.