In her book, *Fires in the Bathroom: Advice for Teachers from High School Students*, Kathleen Cushman allows students to tell teachers, current and prospective, what they want from teachers—what will help them learn. At the beginning of Chapter 10, Kushman writes,

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)

Clearly, students need to feel that school is relevant, and clearly one of the ways to do that is to have experiences outside of school. To have these sorts of opportunities to learn outside of school, students need to not only be allowed to articulate their wants (such as to do internships, which Kushman claims many high school students are interested in), but they need teachers who are humble enough to listen to them and make sure that they can pursue their interests.