Student success: How a connection can make all the difference by Gabby Mowbray

Students' relationships with their teachers may impact how they respond in an educational environment. Depending on the strength of a relationship, students are inclined to perform differently based upon their comfort level in a classroom.

According to an article composed by the Department of Psychology at NYU, "When teachers form positive bonds with students, classrooms become supportive spaces in which students can engage in academically and socially productive ways. Positive student-teacher relationships are classified as having the presence of closeness, warmth, and positivity."

These studies have shown that strong relationships with teachers can lead students down the right path of academic achievement.

Studies completed on student-teacher relations can apply to classrooms at PV. Sophomore Katie Sieprawski addresses, "Having a good relationship with my teachers is very important to me. I can rely on them and know that they will always provide me with the best resources possible."

The United Teachers of Los Angeles observed that healthy student-teacher relationships increase the academic trajectory of students. A students' bond with their teacher can also be impacted by class size.

Recently, teachers in Los Angeles have gone on strike due to this issue. ULTA found that classes over capacity do not allow students to have a personal relationship with the teacher.

This classroom environment also causes teachers to struggle with helping all

students because they need to continue teaching the lesson.

Most of the students who contributed to studies completed by UTLA have found that teachers do not even know their students' names.

In some cases, students have the mindset that if they do not understand a concept right now then they never will.

A twitter poll conducted by the Spartan Shield in January gathered that 94% of respondents believe their relationship with the teacher impacts the class. The adjustment to the classroom works both ways, as students rely on their teacher to welcome them into the class and teachers expect their students to put forth effort in to building a relationship.

