

Answers for CHANGE

HELPING US BUILD BRIDGES AND FOSTER DIALOGUE BETWEEN YOUTH

The St. Croix Foundation Youth Advisory Council compiled the 'Answers for Change' survey for 7th through 12th graders on St. Croix, US Virgin Islands. The survey was entirely designed and distributed by Youth Advisory Council members in order for young people to share their school and life experiences.

Students who participated in the survey were from public and private schools and include: St. Croix Educational Complex, St. Croix Central High School, John H. Woodson Junior High School, Elena L. Christian Junior High School, St. Mary's Catholic School, Arthur Richards Elementary School, Country Day School, and Good Hope School.

Public	HIGH SCHOOL	Private	Public	MIDDLE SCHOOL
DEMOGRAPHICS				
25%	were 9th graders	27%	39%	were 7th graders
29%	were 10th graders	25%	61%	were 8th graders
25%	were 11th graders	29%		
14%	were 12th graders	17%		
0%	were 11-12 years old	0%	21%	were 11-12 years old
7%	were 13 years old	0%	46%	were 13 years old
14%	were 14 years old	14%	25%	were 14 years old
23%	were 15 years old	20%	4%	were 15 years old
22%	were 16 years old	28%		
18%	were 17 or older	30%		
39%	were male	49%	43%	were male
56%	were female	49%	50%	were female
SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT				
WHEN ASKED, STUDENTS SAID THAT...				
69%	school was culturally supportive of their own heritage	70%	66%	school was culturally supportive of their own heritage
57%	school supported VI culture	68%	86%	school supported VI culture
30%	teachers always helped them with schoolwork when asked	65%	46%	teachers always helped them with schoolwork when asked
30%	they always had homework that helped them understand the material	47%	43%	they always had homework that helped them understand the material
60%	some of their classes held their interest	83%	69%	some of their classes held their interest
59%	school was valuable to them	93%	89%	school was valuable to them
68%	school was valued within their family	91%	91%	school was valued within their family
41%	they were encouraged to read for pleasure by their school	72%	65%	they were encouraged to read for pleasure by their school
42%	most of their teachers came prepared for class	56%	25%	most of their teachers came prepared for class
18%	they felt that ALL of their teachers cared about them.	39%	26%	they felt that ALL of their teachers cared about them.
13%	felt that their teachers were very supportive	31%	28%	felt that their teachers were very supportive
39%	they felt like the issue of teen pregnancy was not addressed adequately	42%	59%	they felt like the issue of teen pregnancy was not addressed adequately
46%	a counselor was provided	67%	73%	a counselor was provided

Public	HIGH SCHOOL	Private	Public	MIDDLE SCHOOL
SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT				
WHEN ASKED, STUDENTS SAID THAT...				
48%	a computer lab was at school	95%	71%	a computer lab was at school
25%	computers were available for every student when a class signed up to use the lab	77%	43%	computers were available for every student when a class signed up to use the lab
41%	white boards were available	82%	53%	white boards were available
29%	their school had modern textbooks	60%	56%	their school had modern textbooks
45%	more extracurricular activities would improve the school	54%	54%	more extracurricular activities would improve the school
41%	they felt safe at school	80%	62%	they felt safe at school
29%	they had conflicts at school	37%	54%	they had conflicts at school
41%	they did not have conflicts at school	58%	38%	they did not have conflicts at school
8%	they had considered dropping out of school	9%	12%	they had considered dropping out of school
60%	they had not considered dropping out of school	87%	82%	they had not considered dropping out of school
84%	felt that their education would prepare them for their post high school plans	86%	80%	felt that their education would prepare them for their post high school plans
7%	they had taken a trip to visit a college	27%	15%	they had taken a trip to visit a college
69%	they were motivated to get their education	95%	95%	they were motivated to get their education
MOTIVATION				
"WHAT MOTIVATES YOU TO GET YOUR EDUCATION?" (Students were allowed to choose more than one answer)				
50%	themselves	78%	66%	themselves
37%	teachers	49%	46%	teachers
58%	family	75%	74%	family
POST HIGH SCHOOL PLANS				
"WHAT ARE YOUR POST HIGH SCHOOL PLANS?" (Students were allowed to choose more than one answer)				
63%	attend college after high school	92%	68%	attend college after high school
23%	get a job	14%	39%	get a job
9%	learn a trade	5%	10%	learn a trade
1%	not sure about post high school plans	1%	3%	not sure about post high school plans
COPING				
"HOW DO YOU DEAL WITH STRESS?" (Students were allowed to choose more than one answer)				
22%	exercised	55%	30%	exercised
31%	ate	41%	44%	ate
26%	sang	31%	35%	sang
24%	danced	28%	29%	danced
20%	yelled	29%	30%	yelled
43%	slept	68%	54%	slept
1%	drank	13%	19%	drank
5%	smoked	22%	12%	smoked
2%	used drugs	21%	30%	used drugs
42%	watched television	48%	55%	watched television
33%	played games	43%	49%	played games
50%	talked to a friend	73%	59%	talked to a friend
5%	talked to a mentor	11%	11%	talked to a mentor
40%	went on the computer	44%	51%	went on the computer

Public	HIGH SCHOOL	Private	Public	MIDDLE SCHOOL
COPING				
"WHO DO YOU GO TO IN SEARCH OF ADVICE?" (Students were allowed to choose more than one answer)				
56%	went to their peers	70%	37%	went to their peers
48%	went to a parent	54%	61%	went to a parent
9%	went to a mentor	11%	11%	went to a mentor
12%	went to a teacher	20%	24%	went to a teacher

*Note: private and parochial middle school participation in the survey was not large enough to include as a data set



St. Croix Foundation
Youth Advisory Council

Believe... . . . Together, We Can Make a Difference.