



Austin Independent School District

Department of Program Evaluation

RESULTS OF THE AISD HIGH SCHOOL EXIT SURVEY CLASS OF 2008

ANDERSON HIGH SCHOOL

The sixth annual AISD High School Exit Survey was administered online¹ to seniors in every AISD High School during the Spring of 2008. This report contains the results for the Anderson High School Class of 2008. Where available, longitudinal data and current year average results from all AISD high schools are presented alongside Anderson results for comparison purposes. In total, 3,192 students in the Class of 2008 completed the survey, including 348 students from Anderson. Longitudinal tests for statistical significance were conducted with district-level data (see district-level report).

Table 1. High School Exit Survey Response Rates, Classes of 2005 to 2008

| | Percentage of Enrolled Seniors Responding ² | | | |
|------------------|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| | Class of 2005 | Class of 2006 | Class of 2007 | Class of 2008 |
| Anderson | 93.3% | 93.5% | 93.3% | 71.9% ↓ |
| All High Schools | 85.3% | 86.0% | 82.0% | 74.8% ↓ |

Student responses are organized into seven general topics areas: Open-Ended Comments; Postsecondary Intentions and Family Support; High School Experiences, Campus Climate, and Civic Engagement; Instruction and Technology; Postsecondary Preparation and Advising; and Final Thoughts. Some of the notable trends at this campus include:

- **College preparation and support.** Anderson students reported more college preparation activities than AISD seniors as a whole (e.g., taking the PSAT and college entrance tests, enrolling in AP/IB classes); however, they rated the assistance received from campus staff (i.e., counselors, advisors, teachers) lower than that of parents/family, friends, and their own research. Students reported a need for more information about scholarships/financial aid and attention to deadlines than is provided currently.
- **Computers and technology use.** Anderson students rated the quality of computer and technology instruction higher than AISD seniors as a whole, and reported more access to

¹ Facilitators on each campus, primarily *Project ADVANCE* counselors, were responsible for ensuring that all graduating seniors were given the opportunity to complete the survey. Most campuses completed the survey online, however students at Anderson were unable to do so due to inadequate computer facilities. These students completed a paper version of the survey and the *Project ADVANCE* counselor hand-entered each survey.

² Corrected response rate is 74.5% (see Appendix in district-level report for detailed information about response rates for 2008). Response rates are based on enrollment during the sixth 6-week reporting period. Due to the enrollment of some special education seniors with severe cognitive disabilities, a 100% uncorrected response rate was not expected.

high speed Internet than did all AISD seniors. Anderson students also appeared to be more involved in online communities and communication with friends online than AISD seniors as a whole.

- **Extracurricular activities and student employment.** Anderson seniors reported levels of extracurricular activity participation and employment similar to AISD seniors as a whole. However, fewer Anderson seniors reported working 16 or more hours per week during the school year than the AISD average.

INDIVIDUAL ITEM RESPONSES FOR ANDERSON HIGH SCHOOL

OPEN ENDED COMMENTS

The first item on the survey is open-ended so that students have the opportunity to give feedback to district administrators before they have received any prompts or exposure to the broad themes within the survey. The responses below are to the question, ***“What is the ONE thing that you especially want the administration of AISD to know?”***

Two hundred and thirty-two Anderson students (67%) provided a response³. While many students spoke positively about Anderson High School (*“It has been a very fun and worth my time to be here this 4 years. I have had an awesome learning experiense.”* and *“Anderson HS is awesome!”*), others expressed frustration with school policies and services including attendance and tardy policies, counseling and college advising, and lunch. Commonly identified themes include:

- **Policies for attendance and tardiness.** Students felt the school’s attendance and tardy policies were rigid and insensitive to their needs. *“I think that the attendance policy needs to be redone again. They did not excuse anything except for doctor appointments, if you had a note. I even had a hard time getting my grandmother's funeral excused without having an obituary.”* Another student said *“It is stupid to make someone have a doctors note when they are sick bc if someone is throwing up, they are obviously sick and they don't need to spend 15 dollars on a co-pay to prove it to the school if their parents write them a note.”* Other students felt the school should have provided more communication to the students and their parents about the changes in attendance and tardy policies.
- **Counseling and college advising.** Many students expressed dissatisfaction with the counseling they received at Anderson, especially in terms of college preparation. *“The counselors I felt were not as helpful as they should have been;” “The counselors seem to misplace transcripts alot.”* and *“It would be beneficial to help seniors more with financial aid/scholarships.”*
- **Lunch.** The lack of food options, the long lunch line, brief lunch periods, and the privilege to eat lunch outside of campus were commented on by several students. *“Anderson High School is a great school but i think we need to work on the lunch line;” “Longer lunches;” “Food "options" are good, however the "forced" food in the food line is not healty and needs to be re-visited;”* and, *“That open lunch is a welcomed break from school and should be permitted to all students that should drive.”*

³ All student quotes are taken directly from the survey, as typed in by the students. Examples are given to illustrate common themes.

POSTSECONDARY INTENTIONS AND FAMILY SUPPORT

Table 2. Within a Year After Graduating From High School, What Do You Plan To Do? (Item 7)

| Plan | All HS | | Anderson HS | |
|------------------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|-----------|
| | 2006-2007 | 2007-2008 | 2006-2007 | 2007-2008 |
| Continue my education* | 89.0% | 92.2% | 93.1% | 96.0% |
| Travel | 18.3% | 19.3% | 22.6% | 18.1% |
| Be a full-time parent | 2.2% | 2.2% | 0.2% | 1.1% |
| Go into the military | 2.6% | 2.8% | 2.0% | 3.2% |
| Work full-time | 13.2% | 13.6% | 8.9% | 5.7% |
| Work part-time | 35.5% | 41.1% | 34.0% | 35.6% |
| No plans | 5.6% | 2.4% | 4.2% | 1.1% |

Note. Respondents may select more than one option; percentages will not total 100%.

*Item was recoded to match longitudinal data. In 2008, this involved two items: “Attend a school or college for a business, technical, trade, or vocational certificate” and “Attend a college or university for a degree.” The percentage represents the total percent of students who chose either or both options.

Table 3. If You Are Not Planning to Pursue Further Education at This Time, What Are Your Primary Reasons? (Item 8)

| Reason | All HS | | Anderson HS | |
|---|-----------|-----------|-------------|-----------|
| | 2006-2007 | 2007-2008 | 2006-2007 | 2007-2008 |
| Cannot afford to attend school | 25.9% | 16.9% | 11.1% | 28.6% |
| Childcare responsibilities | 7.8% | 4.4% | 3.7% | 7.1% |
| Other family responsibilities* | ** | 11.7% | * | 7.1% |
| Don't like attending school | 15.8% | 19.4% | 29.6% | 14.3% |
| Grades/test scores aren't high enough | 19.8% | 16.5% | 18.5% | 0.0% |
| Don't feel academically prepared | 13.4% | 13.7% | 22.2% | 7.1% |
| Need income to support myself | 28.9% | 21.8% | 22.2% | 21.4% |
| Need income to support others | 9.6% | 6.1% | 0.0% | 7.1% |
| My career goals do not require further education* | ** | 10.1% | 14.8% | 0.3% |
| Other | 16.8% | 22.6% | 18.5% | 7.1% |

Note: Respondents may select more than one option; percentages will not total 100%. *New response option in 2008; it previously read, “Not needed for job.” Because very few students indicated that they would not pursue further education within a year, percentages should be interpreted with caution.

Table 4. If You Are Not Planning to Pursue Further Education at This Time, Do You Intend to Pursue It at a Later Time? (Item 9)

| Response | All HS | | Anderson HS | |
|-----------------------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|-----------|
| | 2006-2007 | 2007-2008 | 2006-2007 | 2007-2008 |
| Probably or Definitely Yes* | 51.9% | 59.2% | 4.8% | 92.9% |
| Maybe | 21.3% | 19.3% | 19.0% | 7.1% |
| Probably or Definitely No* | 4.7% | 10.5% | 52.4% | 0.0% |
| Don't know | 22.1% | 11.0% | 23.8% | 0.0% |

* Response options were collapsed for ease in reporting. Because very few students indicated that they would not pursue further education within a year, percentages should be interpreted with caution.

Table 5. If You Decide to Pursue Further Education at a Later Time, Would You Like to Come Back to Your High School for Support and Assistance With the Application and Financial Aid Process? (Item 10)

| Response | 2007-2008 | |
|----------|-----------|-------------|
| | All HS | Anderson HS |
| Yes | 26.6% | 30.8% |
| No | 30.1% | 38.5% |
| Not Sure | 43.2% | 30.8% |

Note. This item was new to the Exit Survey 2008. Because very few students indicated that they would not pursue further education within a year, percentages should be interpreted with caution.

Figure 1. To What Extent Do Your Parents / Family Support Your Plans for After High School? (Item 11)

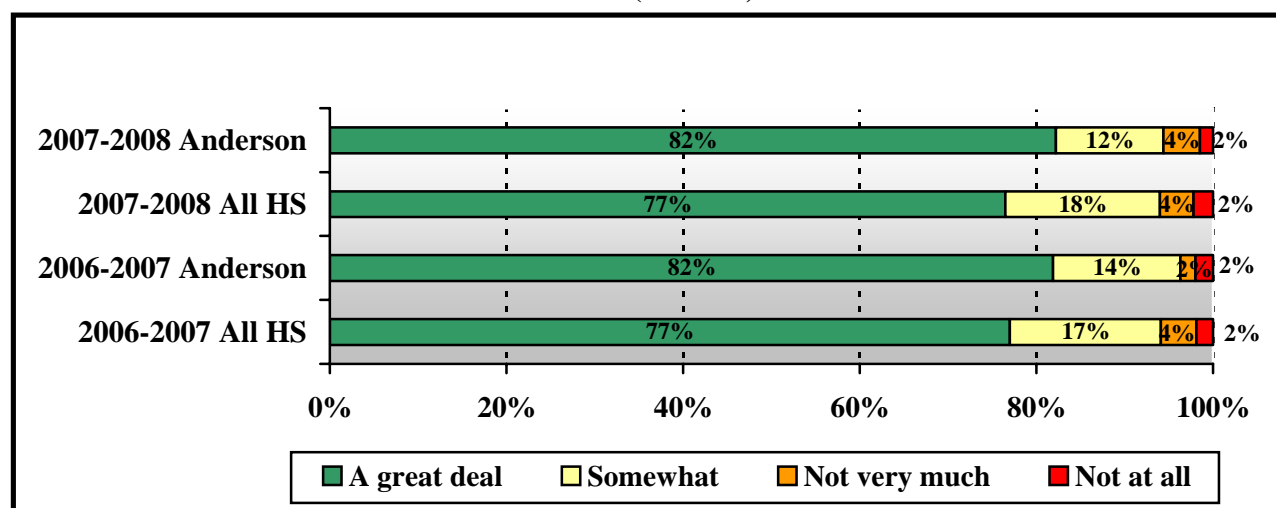


Table 6. To What Extent Were Your Parents Involved in the Following School-Related Things? (Item 12)

| Activity | 2007-2008 | |
|--|-----------|-------------|
| | All HS | Anderson HS |
| Working with you on homework or school projects | 54.6% | 49.1% |
| Volunteering at your school | 40.0% | 45.5% |
| Helping you decide what classes to take | 60.2% | 64.2% |
| Attending school activities or meetings | 54.9% | 63.0% |
| Communicating with your teachers. | 60.6% | 53.7% |
| School leadership opportunities (Campus Advisory Council, event committees, etc.)* | 29.1% | 27.9% |
| Attending athletic events and competitions* | 58.8% | 63.7% |
| Attending academic events and competitions* | 37.0% | 28.8% |
| Attending performance events (e.g., dance, theater, band)* | 53.3% | 52.8% |
| Joining and participating in the PTA* | 27.1% | 38.1% |

Note: Percentage is of the number of students reporting that parents were involved at least "Occasionally." Response options include: Never, Rarely, Occasionally, Often, and Consistently.

*New items included corresponding with items from the AISD Parent Survey.

**Table 7. Will You Be The First Person in Your Immediate Family to Attend College?
(Item 13)**

| | All HS | | Anderson HS | |
|--------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|-----------|
| | 2006-2007 | 2007-2008 | 2006-2007 | 2007-2008 |
| “Yes” | 29.1% | 30.0% | 12.0% | 10.7% |

**Table 8. How Far Did Your Parents Go in School?
Indicate Your Mother and Father’s Highest Level of Education. (Item 15)**

| Education Level | 2007-2008 | | | |
|---|-----------|--------|-------------|--------|
| | All HS | | Anderson HS | |
| | Mother | Father | Mother | Father |
| Did not finish high school | 18.6% | 17.9% | 5.5% | 4.6% |
| Graduated from high school or earned a GED | 17.4% | 16.9% | 10.4% | 7.5% |
| Attended a 2-yr community/junior college or vocational/technical school, but no degree | 8.6% | 6.5% | 6.6% | 4.6% |
| Graduated from a 2-yr community/junior college or vocational/technical school | 5.4% | 3.9% | 5.8% | 5.2% |
| Attended a 4-yr college, but did not complete a degree | 6.5% | 7.0% | 7.2% | 10.1% |
| Graduated from college | 21.6% | 19.2% | 38.2% | 32.2% |
| Completed a Master’s degree or equivalent | 12.1% | 12.5% | 18.2% | 20.0% |
| Completed a Ph.D., M.D., or other advanced professional degree | 3.8% | 6.4% | 6.1% | 11.9% |
| Don’t Know or Does Not Apply | 6.0% | 9.6% | 2.0% | 3.8% |

HIGH SCHOOL EXPERIENCES, CAMPUS CLIMATE, AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Table 9. How Many Different High Schools Have You Attended? (Item 3)

| # of schools | All HS | | Anderson HS | |
|------------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|-----------|
| | 2006-2007 | 2007-2008 | 2006-2007 | 2007-2008 |
| 1 | 76.1% | 77.5% | 77.9% | 82.2% |
| 2 | 16.8% | 16.8% | 11.7% | 12.9% |
| 3 or more | 7.2% | 5.6% | 6.5% | 4.9% |

Table 10. Please Indicate the Number of Years of High School in Which You Participated in Each of These Extracurricular Activities. (Items 16 & 18)

| | All HS 2007-2008 Percentage participating 1 or more years | Anderson HS 2007-2008 Percentage participating 1 or more years |
|-----------------------------------|---|--|
| In school | | |
| Music | 35.2% | 37.5% |
| Theater/Drama | 20.4% | 19.2% |
| Dance | 23.2% | 19.6% |
| Sports | 58.8% | 61.7% |
| UIL Academic Competition | 18.8% | 14.5% |
| Speech/Debate | 21.2% | 10.5% |
| Student Government | 16.5% | 13.0% |
| Other | 30.7% | 29.1% |
| Outside of school | | |
| Music | 30.3% | 30.3% |
| Theater/Drama | 11.7% | 10.9% |
| Dance | 17.0% | 14.9% |
| Sports | 52.0% | 59.9% |
| Community Service/Volunteering | 57.1% | 59.9% |
| Environmental Projects/Activities | 25.4% | 29.1% |
| Boy/Girl Scouts | 8.9% | 13.8% |
| Family Care | 19.8% | 16.7% |
| Other Organizations | 13.1% | 13.5% |

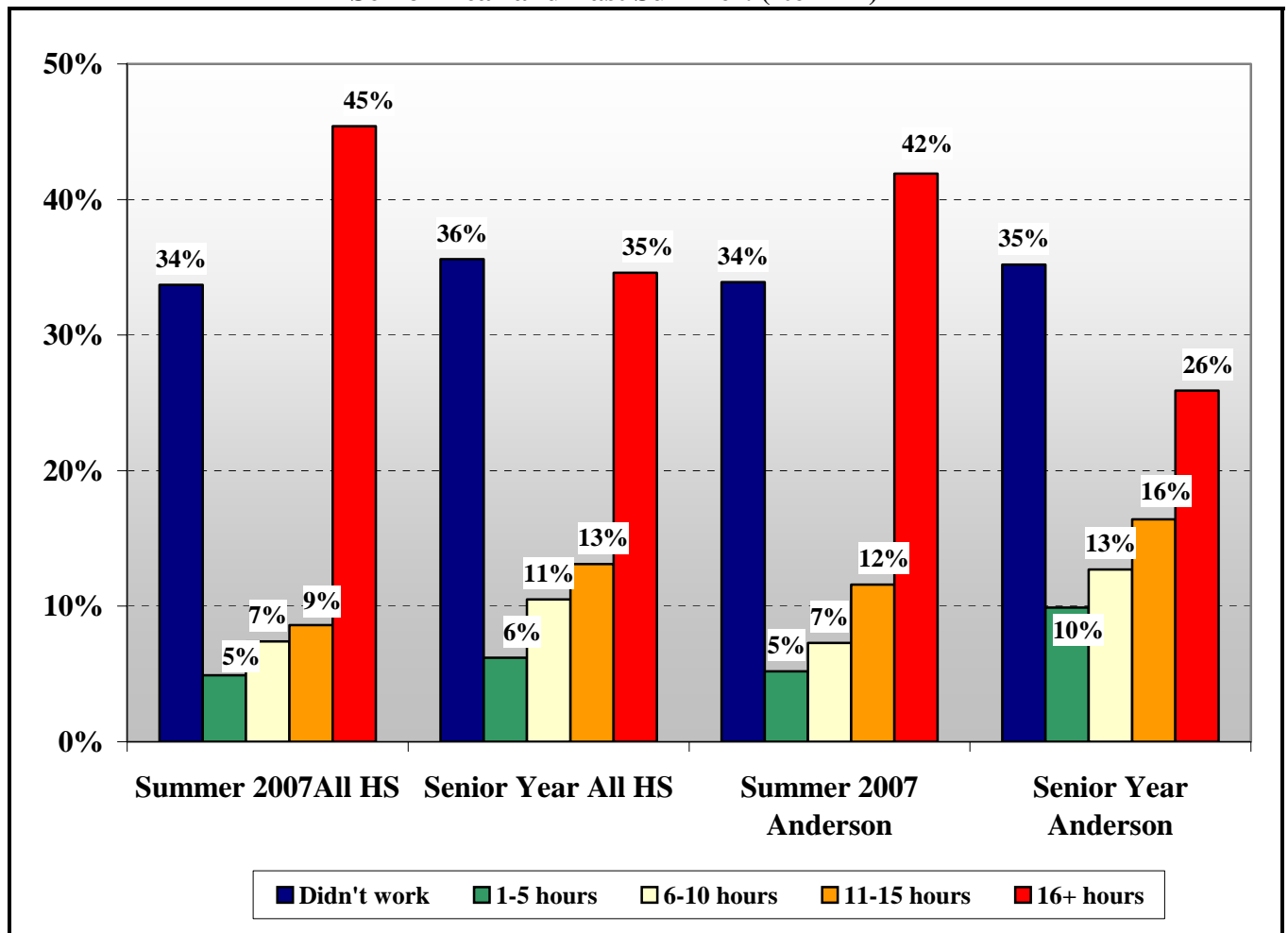
Note. Respondents may select more than one option; percentages will not total 100%. Percentages indicate the number of students who reported at least one year of participation.

Table 11. Please Indicate the Number of Years of High School That You Have Been Employed (Either During the Year or During the Summer). (Item 21)

| Years | 2007-2008 | |
|---------|-----------|-------------|
| | All HS | Anderson HS |
| 0 Years | 24.4% | 23.8% |
| 1 Year | 28.2% | 25.9% |
| 2 Years | 26.2% | 25.0% |
| 3 Years | 13.7% | 16.3% |
| 4 Years | 7.5% | 9.0% |

Note. This item was new in 2008.

Figure 2. Now Indicate the Number of Hours Per Week That You Have Worked During Your Senior Year and Last Summer. (Item 22)



Note: This item was new in 2008.

Figure 3. Thinking Back on Your Years in High School, How Many Hours per Week Did You Typically Spend Studying, Doing Research, or Completing Homework Assignments Outside of Class? (Item 23)

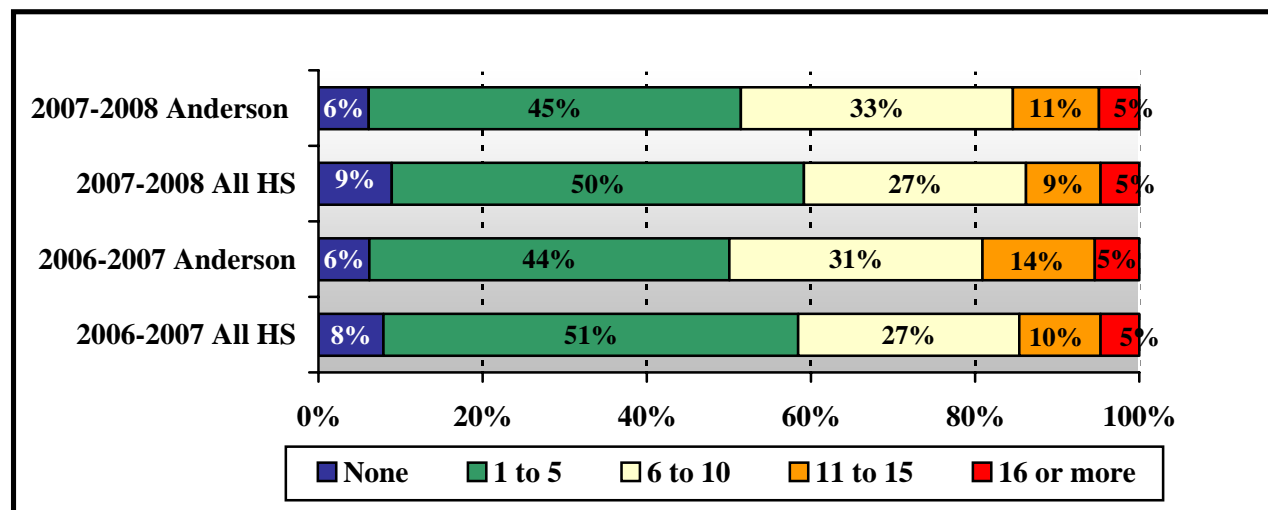
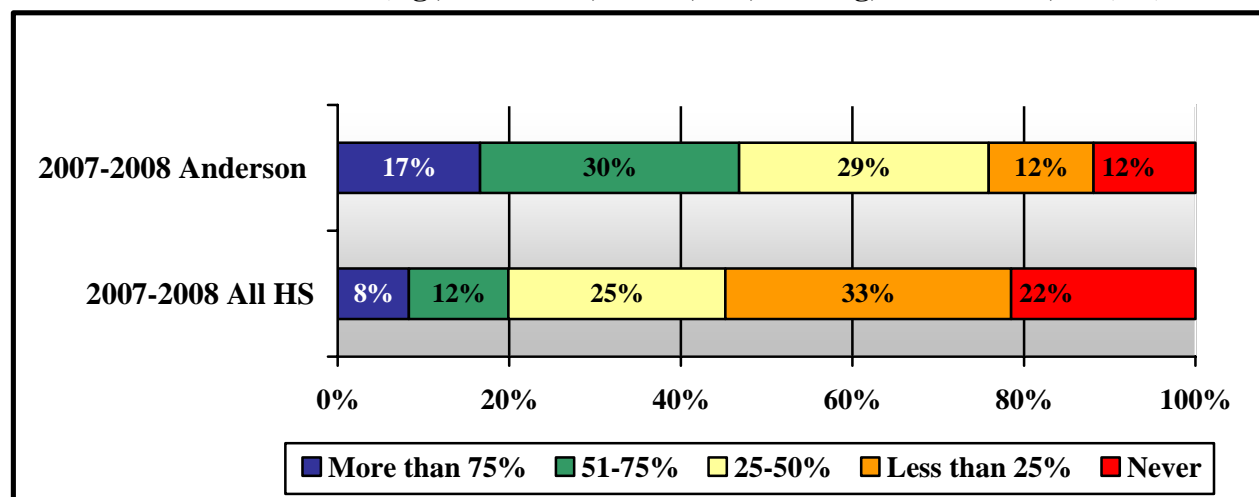


Figure 4. On Average, What Percentage of Your Study, Research and Homework Was Done Without Distractions (e.g., Television, Music, IM, Texting, Phone Calls, etc.)? (Item 24)



Note. This item was new in 2008.

Table 12. Please Mark the Item That Best Indicates How You Feel: (Item 25a-k)

| | 2007-2008 | | |
|--|----------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| | All HS Seniors | Anderson HS Grade 9-11 | Anderson HS Seniors |
| School climate | | | |
| I feel safe at my school | 3.4 | 3.2 | 3.5 |
| My classmates show respect to each other | 2.9 | 2.9 | 2.9 |
| The consequences for breaking school rules are the same for everyone | 2.7 | 2.8 | 2.7 |
| Adults at this school listen to student ideas and opinions | 2.8 | 2.7 | 2.8 |
| There is at least one adult at my school who I can go to if I have a problem | 3.3 | 3.0 | 3.2 |
| My teachers are fair to everyone | 2.9 | 2.7 | 2.9 |
| Academic climate | | | |
| My homework helps me learn things I need to know. | 2.9 | 2.8 | 3.0 |
| I know how I am doing in school | 3.4 | 3.1 | 3.2 |
| My teachers expected me to do my best work. | 3.6 | 3.4 | 3.5 |
| My classes were rigorous and challenging | 3.1 | * | 3.1 |
| My high school coursework has been relevant to my life | 2.7 | * | 2.8 |

Note. Average responses were calculated using the following scale: 1 (Never), 2 (Not a Lot), 3 (Sometimes), 4 (Always); responses of 'Don't Know' are not included. Items regarding School Climate and Academic Climate were modified for the Class of 2008 corresponding to the AISD Student Climate Survey. Therefore, longitudinal data are not available.

*These items are asked only on the High School Exit Survey.

**Table 13. Please Answer the Following Questions About Your Civic Engagement.
(Items 5 & 6)**

| Question | 2007-2008 | | | |
|--|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| | All HS Students Under 18 | All HS Students 18 or older | Anderson HS Students Under 18 | Anderson HS Students 18 or older |
| Are you registered to vote? | n/a | 51.0% | n/a | 73.3% |
| Have you voted in any school board, city, county, state, or national election? | n/a | 23.3% | n/a | 39.8% |
| Will you register to vote after your 18 th birthday? | 77.3% | n/a | 87.0% | n/a |
| Do you plan to vote in the presidential election in November? * | 66.2% | 70.3% | 73.1% | 80.5% |

*This response option was new in 2008.

INSTRUCTION AND TECHNOLOGY

Table 14. How Well Did Your High School Help You to Actively Develop Knowledge and Skills in the Following Areas? (Item 26)

| Area | Somewhat Well or Very Well | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|-----------|-------------|-----------|
| | All HS | | Anderson HS | |
| | 2006-2007 | 2007-2008 | 2006-2007 | 2007-2008 |
| Teamwork | * | 88.6% | * | 87.7% |
| Creative Thinking | 90.8% | 90.6% | 84.6% | 88.2% |
| Problem Solving | 92.9% | 91.5% | 90.5% | 91.5% |
| Conflict Resolution | 84.6% | 82.8% | 78.8% | 80.0% |
| Personal Health/Fitness | 78.5% | 78.6% | 73.6% | 77.6% |
| Time Management | * | 80.8% | * | 78.9% |
| Technology | * | 84.6% | * | 81.4% |

Note. Responses include: Not Well, Somewhat Well, and Very well. Percentages indicate the number of students who responded Somewhat Well or Very Well.

*Indicates a response option added in 2008.

Table 15. Please Rate the Quality of Instruction That You Feel That You Received in the Following Areas: (Item 27)

| Area | Good or Excellent | | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|-----------|-------------|-----------|
| | All HS | | Anderson HS | |
| | 2006-2007 | 2007-2008 | 2006-2007 | 2007-2008 |
| Writing | 82.6% | 81.3% | 78.8% | 76.3% |
| Mathematics | 71.3% | 70.7% | 73.0% | 76.6% |
| Science | 68.9% | 69.5% | 67.1% | 66.8% |
| Social Studies | 84.2% | 82.8% | 79.2% | 85.6% |
| Computer/Technology | 71.0% | 71.9% | 57.5% | 85.6% |
| Foreign Language | 64.5% | 63.9% | 61.1% | 65.6% |
| Performing/Fine Arts | 72.2% | 73.9% | 58.7% | 65.6% |

Note. Responses include: Poor, Fair, Good, and Excellent. Percentages are of the number of students reporting Good or Excellent.

Figure 5. Which Of The Following Describes Your Computer and Internet Access at Home? (Item 14)

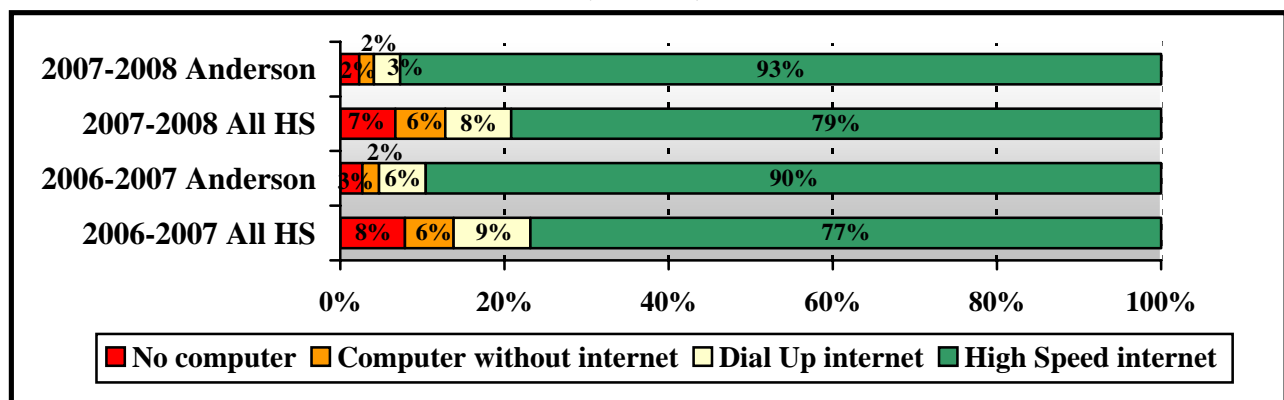


Table 16. How Frequently Do You Use a Computer... (Item 28)

| Use | Once a Week or More 2007-2008 | |
|--|----------------------------------|-------------|
| | All HS | Anderson HS |
| At home? | 86.7% | 94.1% |
| At school? | 74.0% | 77.4% |
| To present material in class, for example, using PowerPoint? | 23.5% | 17.9% |
| To type a paper or class assignment? | 55.4% | 57.9% |
| To search the Internet to complete class-related assignments? | 61.6% | 62.6% |
| To research college/career choices? | 50.6% | 51.0% |
| To complete online forms or applications for college/employment? | 44.0% | 44.6% |
| To communicate with teachers (e.g., email, IM, etc.)? | 20.8% | 22.1% |
| To communicate with friends (e.g., email, IM, blog, Facebook, etc.)? | 74.8% | 86.8% |
| To participate in online communities (Facebook, blogs, discussion boards, etc.)? | 56.9% | 77.1% |

Note. Responses include: Never, Less than Once a Week, Once or Twice a Week, Every Day or Almost Every Day. Previous reports indicated item means; percentages represent the number of students reporting At Least Once a Week or More.

Table 17. Indicate How Much You Agree With Each of the Following Statements About Technology Use at School (Item 29)

| Use | Agree or Strongly Agree 2007-2008 | |
|--|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| | All HS | Anderson HS |
| My teachers effectively use the technology resources that are available. | 85.7% | 80.2% |
| I would like to use more electronic communication with my classmates as part of my schoolwork. | 79.9% | 81.7% |
| I would like to use more electronic communication with my teachers. | 73.2% | 72.4% |
| I would like to use more online resources. | 82.1% | 77.9% |

Note: Responses include: Strongly Disagree, Disagree, Agree, Strongly Disagree and Don't Know/Unsure; Percentages are of the number of students who said Agree or Strongly Agree.

POST-SECONDARY PREPARATION AND ADVISING

Table 18. At What Time in Your Life Did You Start Thinking About College as a Possibility After High School? (Item 30)

| Time | All HS | | Anderson HS | |
|---|-----------|-----------|-------------|-----------|
| | 2006-2007 | 2007-2008 | 2006-2007 | 2007-2008 |
| As long as I can remember | 39.1% | 40.5% | 51.9% | 59.3% |
| In elementary school | * | 8.5% | 10.9% | 7.7% |
| In middle/junior high school | 21.0% | 21.8% | 15.9% | 17.4% |
| In high school | 25.3% | 26.8% | 20.3% | 13.9% |
| I've never thought about college as an option after high school | 2.5% | 2.3% | 1.0% | 1.8% |

* Item changed from previous surveys when it was, "When I was a child."

Table 19. High School Preparation for Post-Graduation Opportunities (Item 31a-D & Item 20)

| Preparation | Somewhat well or Very well 2007-2008 | |
|--|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| | All HS | Anderson HS |
| How well prepared were you to plan your high school course selections? | 91.2% | 89.9% |
| How well prepared were you to meet your college and career goals? | 88.4% | 92.9% |
| How well prepared are/were you for the college/technical/vocational school application process? | 83.4% | 84.2% |
| How well informed are/were you about obtaining financial aid for education after high school (whether or not you applied)? | 81.6% | 72.0% |
| I received extra help early in the school year so I could graduate on time (percent responding "yes") | 23.4% | 11.9% |

Note. Response options include: Not well, Somewhat well, and Very well. Previous surveys reported item means; in 2008, percentages reflect the number of students who responded Somewhat well or Very well.

**Table 20. How Did You Prepare for Continuing Education? (Check All That Apply)
(Items 32 & 35)**

| Preparation | All HS | | Anderson HS | |
|--|-----------|-----------|-------------|-----------|
| | 2006-2007 | 2007-2008 | 2006-2007 | 2007-2008 |
| Took the PSAT examination | 57.9% | 68.0% | 68.2% | 78.4% |
| Took AP/IB classes | 45.3% | 48.6% | 54.6% | 64.1% |
| Visited campuses | 44.0% | 51.8% | 51.1% | 54.9% |
| Attended college fairs | 44.4% | 48.6% | 31.8% | 39.7% |
| Completed and submitted a FAFSA | 41.3% | 49.3% | 42.7% | 48.0% |
| Completed and submitted a scholarship application | 30.8% | 41.5% | 34.0% | 48.0% |
| Took college entrance tests | 65.6% | 72.4% | 75.4% | 84.5% |
| Took test prep class | 38.2% | 41.7% | 39.0% | 45.1% |
| Completed ACC courses | 23.3% | 29.4% | 20.8% | 27.3% |
| Ordered and submitted transcripts | 40.3% | 50.3% | 52.1% | 64.7% |
| Applied to a 2-year college (including ACC)* | 49.8% | 41.1% | 40.2% | 30.5% |
| Applied to a 4-year college* | 69.1% | 63.9% | 78.4% | 76.1% |
| Applied to a business/technical/vocational school* | 13.8% | 6.5% | 9.4% | 4.6% |

Note. Respondents may select more than one option; percentages will not total 100%.

*An answer to this item was required in 2006-07; therefore percentages may not be entirely comparable.

Table 21. In Which of The Following College Preparation Programs Did You Participate While in High School? (Item 33)

| Program | 2007-2008 | |
|---|-----------|-------------|
| | All HS | Anderson HS |
| Project ADVANCE | 26.1% | 12.6% |
| AVID | 8.9% | 4.6% |
| ACC College Connections | 17.1% | 8.6% |
| College Forward | 3.0% | 0.9% |
| Hispanic Mother/Daughter | 3.0% | 1.1% |
| Talent Search/Trio | 2.6% | 0.3% |
| Upward Bound | 1.8% | 0.6% |
| Gear Up | 3.1% | 0.6% |
| Breakthrough | 1.5% | 0.3% |
| College 101 | 3.3% | 2.3% |
| I did not participate in any programs like this | 41.6% | 59.5% |
| Other | 4.9% | 4.0% |

Note. This item is new to the 2008 Exit Survey.

Table 22. If You Participated in One or More College Preparation Programs, What Did You Get Out of It? (Item 34)

| Benefit | 2007-2008 | |
|---|-----------|-------------|
| | All HS | Anderson HS |
| They encouraged me to attend school regularly | 35.3% | 18.4% |
| They helped me choose the HS courses to prepare for college | 31.8% | 17.7% |
| They explained the financial aid process to me | 37.9% | 19.2% |
| They were available to help with school-related issues | 29.1% | 14.9% |
| They helped me deal with personal issues | 18.7% | 7.8% |
| They helped me believe that college was right for me | 33.4% | 12.8% |
| They helped me apply to college | 47.3% | 24.8% |
| Other | 8.6% | 7.1% |

Note: This item was new in 2008.

Figure 6. How Helpful Was Your Project ADVANCE Facilitator/College Advisor in the Following Types Of Meetings? (Item 37)

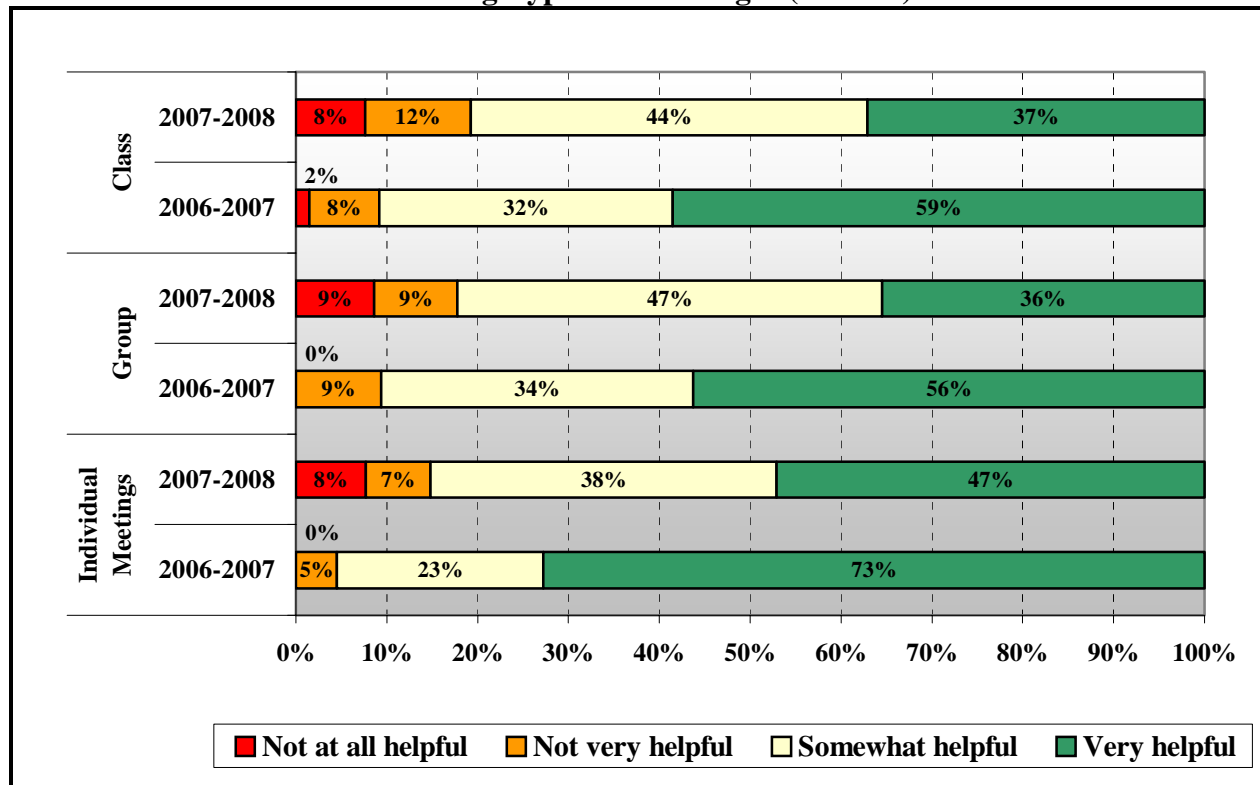


Figure 7. How Helpful Was Your Project ADVANCE Facilitator/College Advisor With the Following Processes? (Item 38)

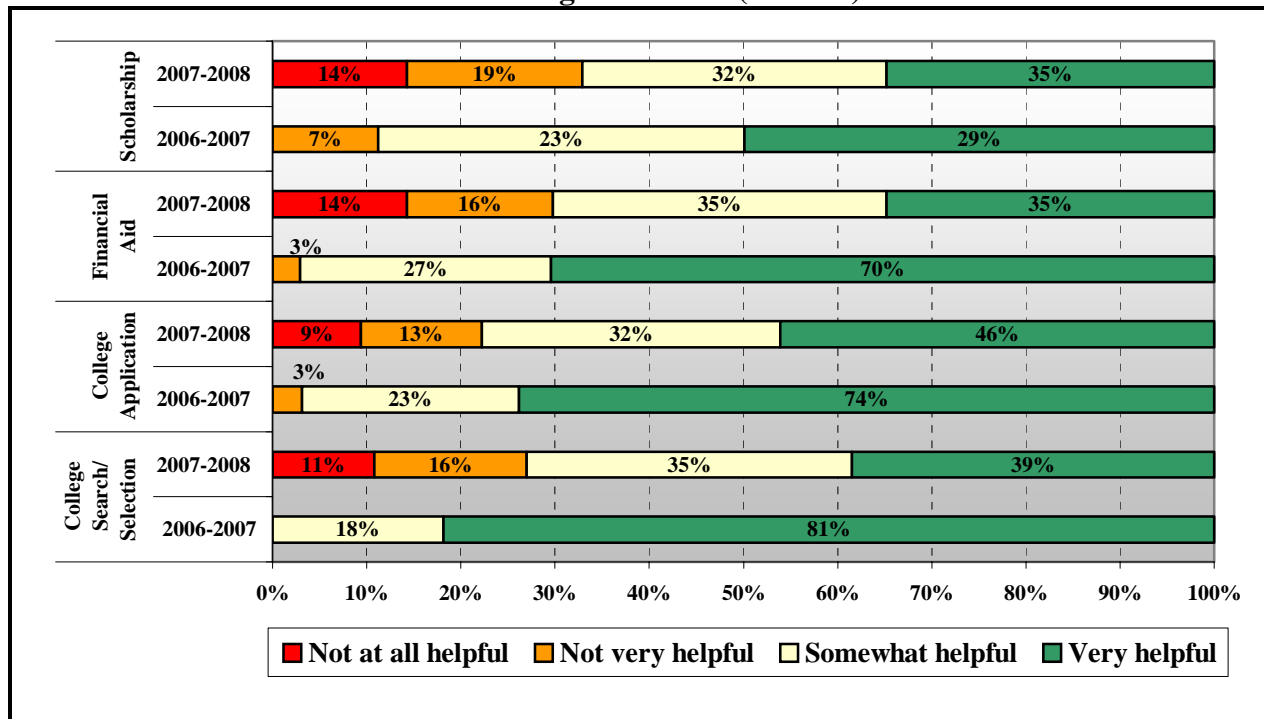
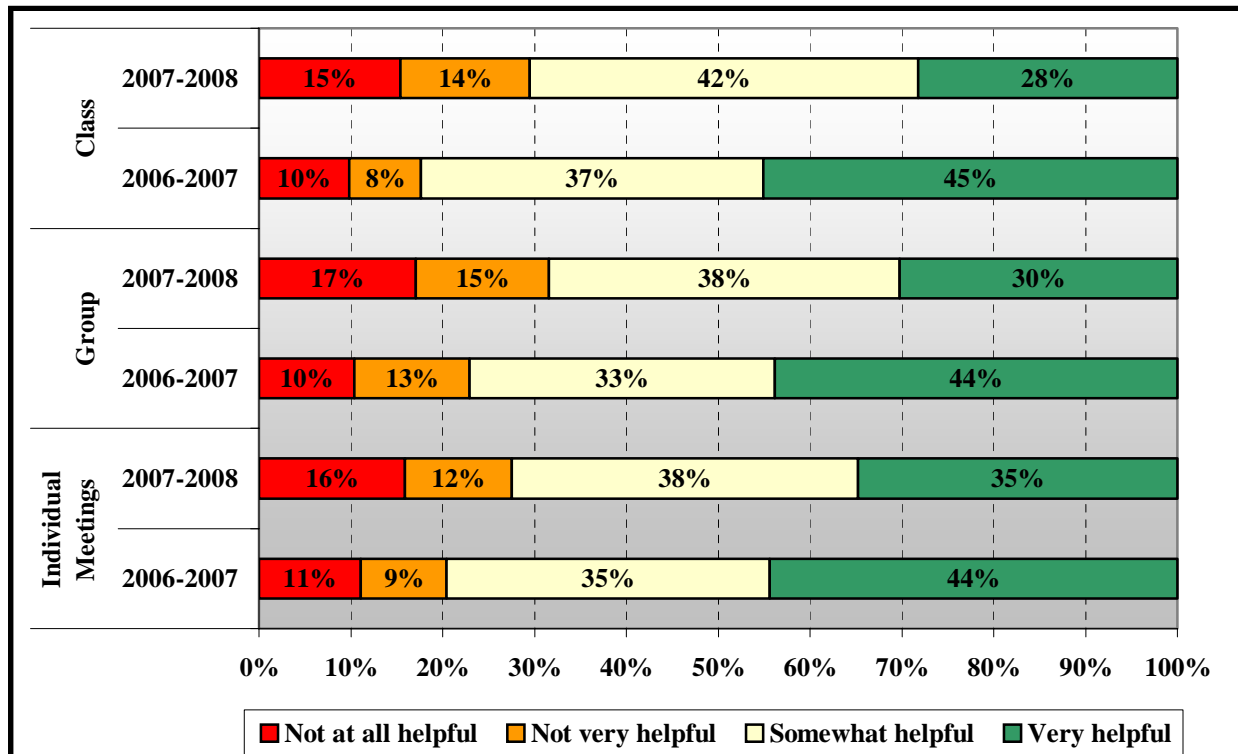
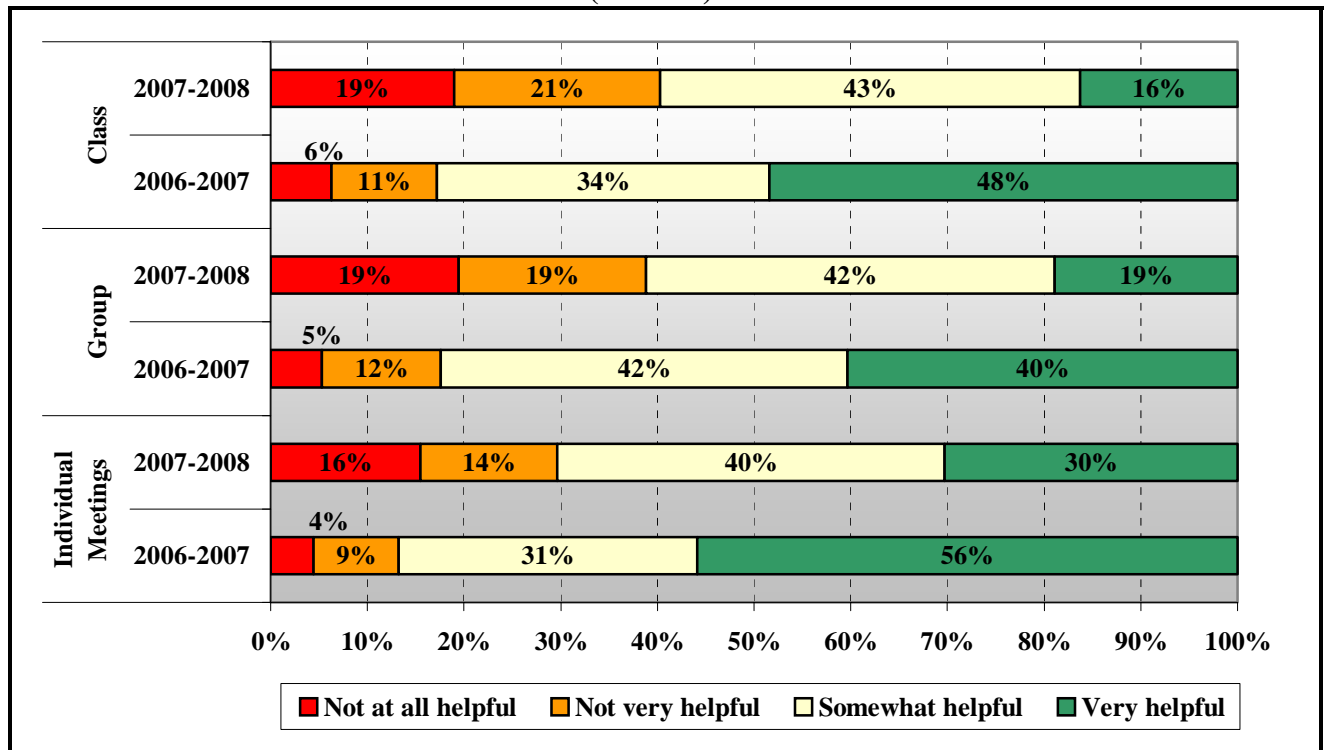


Figure 8. How Helpful Was Your Advocate/Advisory Teacher in the Following Types of Meetings? (Item 40)



Note. In 2007, there were separate items for Advocate and Advisory teachers. The 2006-2007 data reported here are regarding Advisory teachers only.

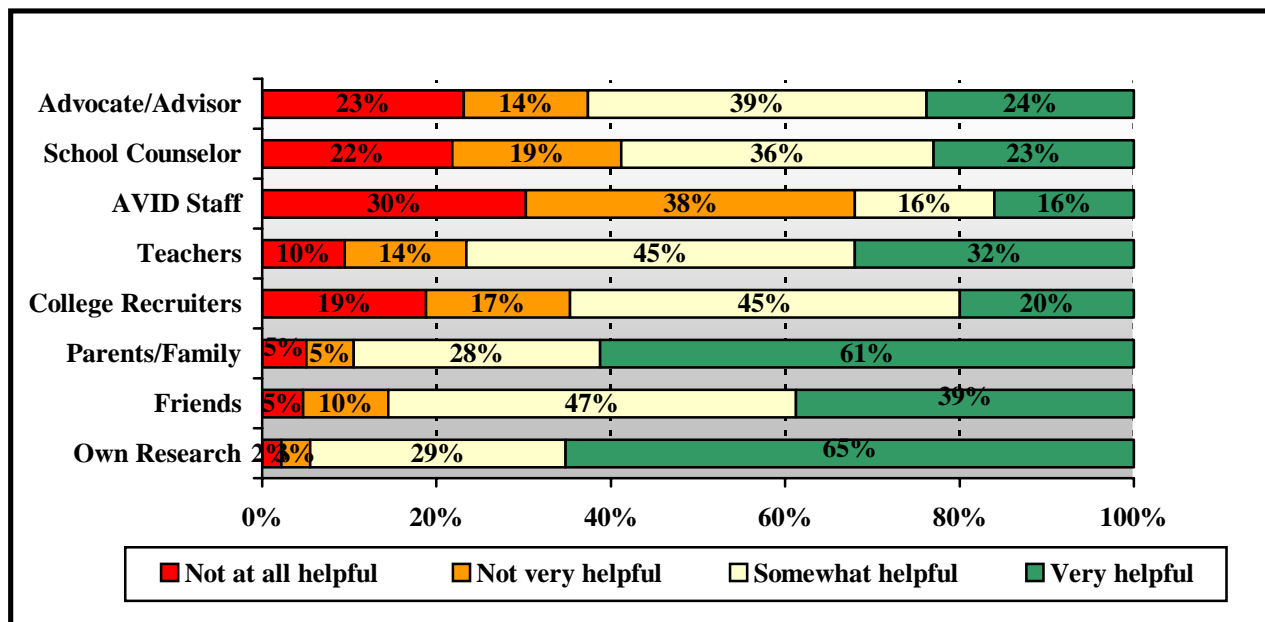
**Figure 9. How Helpful Was Your School Counselor in the Following Types of Meetings?
(Item 41)**



**Table 23. For Which of the Following Issues Did You Meet With a School Counselor?
(Item 42)**

| Issue | 2007-2008 | |
|---|-----------|-------------|
| | All HS | Anderson HS |
| Scheduling | 77.5% | 79.0% |
| Course selection & placement | 58.4% | 58.0% |
| Graduation plans | 53.2% | 50.9% |
| 4 year plan | 26.4% | 24.7% |
| Graduation credit verification | 37.4% | 39.4% |
| Testing interpretation | 17.0% | 9.5% |
| Career information | 18.5% | 11.2% |
| College information/applications | 38.8% | 39.9% |
| Writing resumes/ job applications | 11.2% | 9.2% |
| Financial aid information/ applications | 21.3% | 11.5% |
| Scholarship information/applications | 24.1% | 17.5% |
| Writing college essays | 11.5% | 6.3% |
| Conflict resolution | 12.2% | 7.8% |
| Personal and/or family issues | 13.2% | 6.6% |
| Parent conference | 10.4% | 6.6% |
| Teacher conference | 6.4% | 5.2% |
| Grades/test scores/academic performance | 41.6% | 31.0% |
| Other | 3.2% | 4.0% |

Figure 10. Which of the Following People (Other Than Your Project ADVANCE Counselor) Helped You to Prepare for the College/Technical /Vocational School Application Process and How Helpful Were They? (Item 39)



Note. This item has changed from previous years surveys, which did not ask students to indicate the level of helpfulness. Results do not include the response, “Doesn’t apply.”

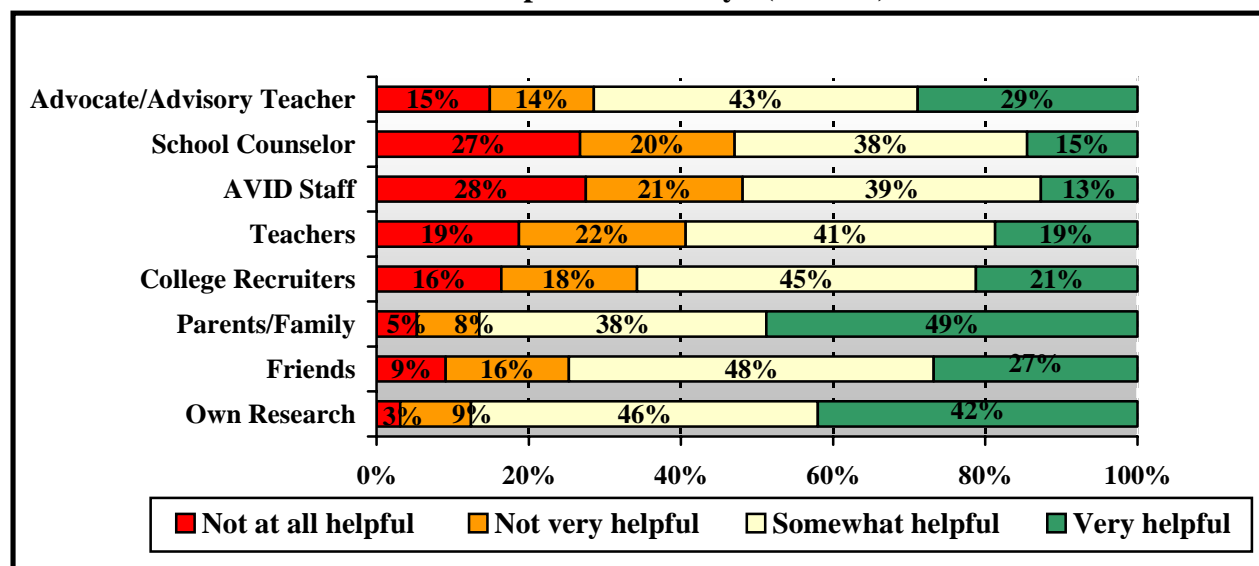
Table 24. How Important Is Each of the Following in Choosing a College? (Item 36)

| Reason | Somewhat or Very important 2007-2008 | |
|---|---|-------------|
| | All HS | Anderson HS |
| College expenses | 91.7% | 88.4% |
| Availability of financial aid | 90.1% | 82.8% |
| Availability of specific courses or curriculum | 95.1% | 95.8% |
| Reputation of the college in athletic programs | 61.4% | 58.6% |
| Social life at the college | 86.4% | 90.9% |
| Ability to live at home and attend college | 61.5% | 45.8% |
| Ability to live away from home* | 78.3% | 77.4% |
| Job or employment placement record of the college | 81.9% | 77.4% |
| Reputation of the college in academic programs | 90.1% | 77.4% |
| Easy admission standards | 72.0% | 63.7% |
| Ability to take courses online | 54.5% | 45.6% |
| Study abroad opportunities* | 77.1% | 75.5% |
| Service learning opportunities* | 74.9% | 68.7% |
| The school accepts dual-credit courses* | 75.5% | 71.2% |
| The school accepts AP/IB credits* | 77.0% | 79.3% |

Note. Response options include: Not Important, Somewhat Important, and Very Important.

*Item options were new in 2008. Percentages represent the number of students indicating Somewhat or Very important; in previous years, item means were reported.

Figure 11. Which of the Following People (Other Than Your Project ADVANCE Counselor) Helped You Obtain Information About Financial Aid for Education After High School and How Helpful Were They? (Item 43)



Note. This item has changed from previous years surveys, which did not ask students to indicate the level of helpfulness. Results do not include the response, “Doesn’t apply.”

Table 25. How Easy Has It Been for You and Your Parents to Understand the Process of Financial Aid? (Item 44)

| Degree of ease | 2007-2008 | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|-------------|
| | All HS | Anderson HS |
| Very Easy | 17.0% | 15.5% |
| Easy | 21.2% | 24.8% |
| Somewhat Easy, Somewhat Difficult | 36.2% | 31.3% |
| Difficult | 7.9% | 6.2% |
| Very Difficult | 3.9% | 5.0% |
| Did Not Apply for Financial Aid | 13.9% | 17.3% |

Note. This item changed from previous year surveys, which asked, “How easy has it been to understand the process of financial aid (whether or not you applied)?”

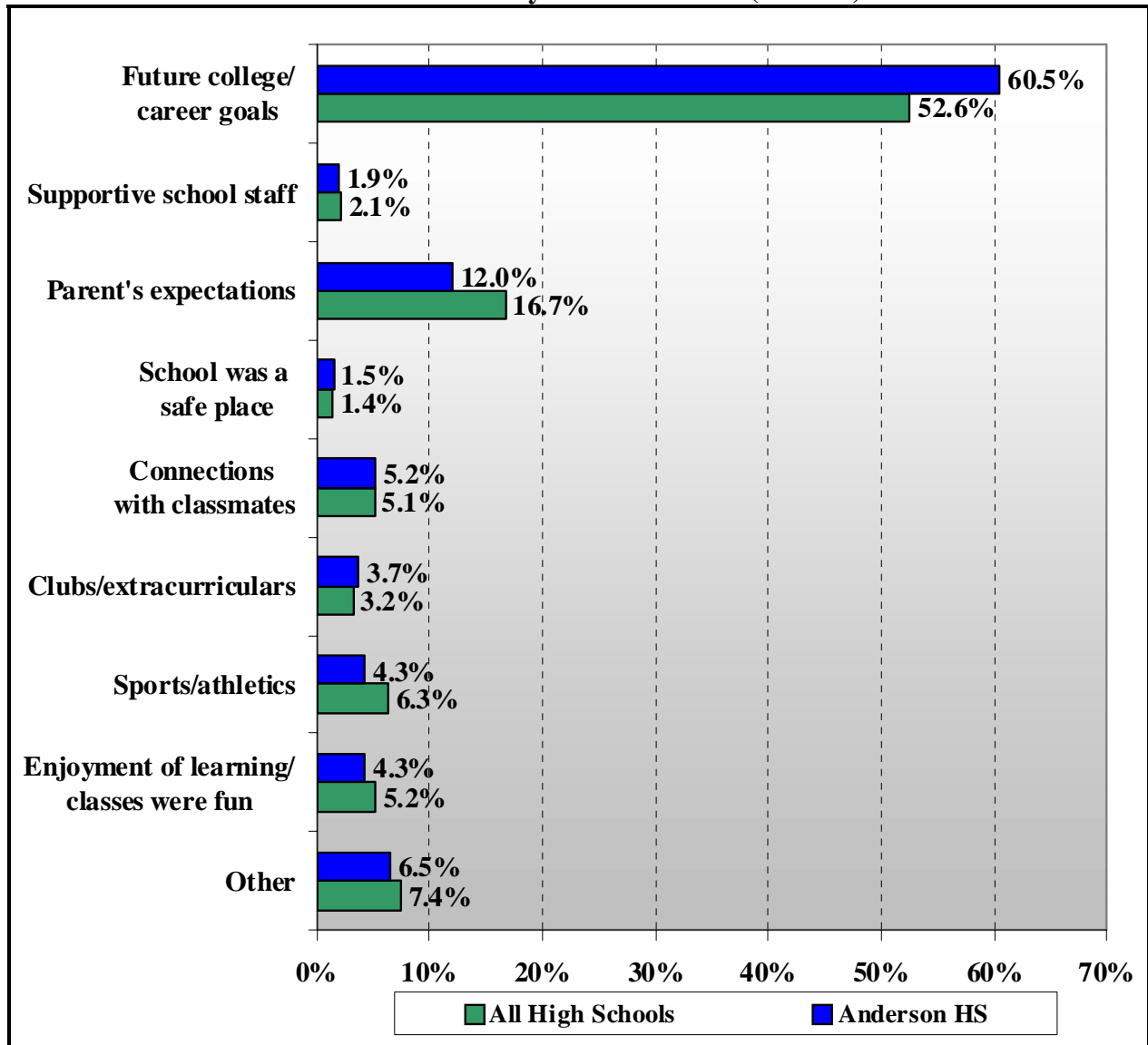
Table 26. How Do You Plan to Pay for Your Education After High School? (Item 45)

| Means of payment | 2007-08 | |
|--------------------------------|---------|-------------|
| | All HS | Anderson HS |
| Financial aid | 57.1% | 45.1% |
| Scholarships | 48.9% | 39.9% |
| Personal savings | 36.0% | 35.3% |
| Family savings | 45.8% | 62.4% |
| Family members will take loans | 13.5% | 17.0% |
| I will take loans | 28.0% | 25.3% |
| Grants | 26.7% | 20.7% |
| Working during the school year | 42.3% | 35.6% |
| Working during summer | 45.4% | 39.1% |
| Work-study programs on campus | 19.0% | 10.6% |
| Don't know/unsure | 14.8% | 8.6% |

Note. Respondents may select more than one option; percentages will not total 100%. This item was new in 2008.

FINAL THOUGHTS

Figure 12. What Is the One Thing That Was Most Important to Keeping You Going Through School All The Way to Graduation? (Item 46)



Note. The wording of two response options was changed from previous years' surveys. In 2008, students were asked to rate "Supportive staff" whereas last year they reported on "Supportive teachers;" and the prior option, "Team/club activities" was split into "Clubs/extracurriculars" and Sports/athletics.