

Introduction to Results for the Class of 2012

The purpose of this survey is to monitor high school student perceptions of their high school experience. Results are used to improve the campus environment and program supports for students. Survey results also are used in the monitoring of the district strategic plan's Goal 3, which includes the measures of student self-confidence and attitudes toward school, work, and success. Seniors' responses to the multiple choice questions are organized into the following categories: postsecondary intentions and family support; high school experiences and campus climate; instruction and technology; postsecondary preparation and advising; and additional results.

Postsecondary Intentions and Family Support

1. *Within a year after graduating from high school, what do you plan to do? (Select all)*

	Campus 2011	Campus 2012	District 2012
Continue my education	93.6%	95.5%	90.8%
Attend a 4-year college or university	68.0%	75.2%	54.0%
Attend a 2-year and eventually transfer to a 4-year college	17.9%	19.1%	32.4%
Attend a 2-year community college only (not planning to transfer to a 4-year)	12.8%	3.5%	8.1%
Attend a private career or trade school	4.5%	1.9%	2.3%
Go into the military	3.8%	3.8%	4.3%
Be a full-time parent	1.1%	.9%	0.9%
Work full-time	6.3%	6.9%	8.9%
Work part-time	26.2%	29.3%	27.5%
Take a year off to do other things, then enroll in school	.	4.0%	5.6%
No plans/ not sure yet	2.8%	1.9%	3.9%
Other	5.3%	1.7%	4.1%

Notes. Missing values (.) indicate items were not included in respective year's survey.

In 2012, most students who indicated "Other" were entering military service.

About this survey.

The 10th annual Austin Independent School District (AISD) High School Exit Survey was administered online to seniors in every AISD high school during Spring 2012. On each campus, Project ADVANCE facilitators primarily were responsible for ensuring all seniors were given the opportunity to complete the survey. Special education chairs at each campus were tasked with providing eligible special education students with guidance and assistance in completing the survey.

This report contains the results for the AISD Class of 2012 at this campus. Where available, data are presented from previous senior classes and the district-level to compare with 2012 responses. At this school, 424 students in the Class of 2012 completed the survey, for an overall response rate of 92.4%.

At the district level, 3,413 students in the Class of 2012 completed the survey, for an overall response rate of 76.4%. District-level survey results are provided in a separate report that is available online.

2. If you are not planning to pursue further education, what are your primary reasons? (Select all)

	Campus 2011	Campus 2012	District 2012
Grades / test scores are not high enough	21.7%	41.2%	14.5%
Cannot afford to attend school	21.7%	23.5%	18.2%
Don't feel academically prepared for further education	13.0%	5.9%	11.6%
Family responsibilities or child care	0.0%	5.9%	6.9%
Need to earn an income to support myself / others	26.1%	5.9%	25.1%
Attending a college/trade/technical school is not for me	.	5.9%	5.3%
Want some time off from school to do other things, but plan to enroll after a year	.	23.7%	31.7%
My goals do not require additional education	17.4%	11.8%	11.2%
Not sure what I want to do yet	.	17.6%	26.1%
Other (please specify)	34.8%	17.6%	17.8%

Financial concerns were important in seniors' postsecondary plans.

Students who postpone education after high school are less likely to enroll in college and earn a degree than are students who do not postpone enrollment (Niu & Tienda, 2011).

3. During high school, to what extent were your parents involved in the following school-related activities?

	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often
Talking to you about homework	7.4%	20.5%	36.7%	35.8%
Making sure you completed your homework	11.4%	22.5%	36.1%	29.9%
Asking you about what you're learning in school	10.8%	16.7%	41.4%	31.1%
Helping you decide what classes to take	15.01%	23.7%	31.8%	29.4%
Talking to you about how you're doing in your classes	4.3%	10.5%	35.9%	49.2%
Rewarding you when you do well in school	15.5%	21.9%	38.2%	24.3%
Communicating with your teachers (e.g., teacher conferences, email and phone calls)	25.0%	32.9%	25.2%	16.8%
Attending school meetings	24.3%	21.0%	24.3%	30.3%
Attending school events (e.g., sports, performances)	17.9%	17.2%	23.4%	30.3%
Volunteering at your school	40.2%	22.9%	22.0%	14.8%
Joining and participating in the PTA	54.1%	15.5%	17.9%	12.4%

Note. Question changed in 2012 and precludes comparison to prior years' results.

4. How far did your mother, father, and older brother/sister go in school?

	Mother	Father	Sibling
Did not finish high school	7.7%	10.3%	4.1%
Graduated: high school or earned a GED	15.4%	12.8%	11.1%
Currently attending: 2-year college /technical school	2.2%	0.3%	6.2%
Currently attending: 4-year college	1.5%	0.5%	39.9%
Attended: 2-year college but did not complete degree	4.2%	1.5%	3.7%
Graduated: 2-year college/technical school	4.0%	2.8%	3.3%
Attended: 4-year college but did not complete degree	6.0%	7.7%	4.9%
Graduated: 4-year Bachelor's degree	35.8%	32.1%	19.8%
Graduated: Master's degree or equivalent	17.2%	17.7%	4.9%
Graduated: PhD, MD, JD, or other advanced degree	6.0%	14.4%	2.1%

Parental education level influences children's aspirations for their own education, as well as their actual educational achievement (Dubow, Boxer, & Huesmann, 2009).

Note. Question changed in 2012 and precludes comparison to prior years' results.

High School Experiences and Campus Climate

5. Including your current school, how many different high schools have you attended?

	Campus 2011	Campus 2012	District 2012
1	82.7%	81.5%	76.0%
2	11.7%	11.3%	15.9%
3 or more	5.7%	7.2%	8.1%

Multiple school changes can disrupt students' academic lives, particularly for Hispanic youth, because important relationships are disrupted and curricula may differ between schools (Bregman, 2010).

6. Please indicate the number of years of high school in which you participated in each of these extracurricular activities. Indicate the average number of hours per week you participated in these activities.

In School	Did Not Participate	1 year	2 years	3 years	4 years	Avg. # of years	Avg. # hours per week
Music	64.5%	8.3%	5.7%	1.6%	19.8%	3.1	1.7
Theater	78.0%	14.2%	3.5%	1.9%	2.3%	1.7	0.6
Dance	83.2%	5.2%	4.0%	3.1%	4.4%	2.5	1.2
Sports	45.6%	6.8%	8.7%	11.6%	27.1%	3.2	1.9
Academic clubs or UIL academic competitions	59.6%	6.8%	12.8%	5.9%	14.8%	2.8	1.0
Speech/debate	89.6%	5.9%	0.9%	0.9%	2.6%	2.2	1.5
Student government	87.2%	6.1%	2.4%	2.1%	2.1%	2.1	0.7
Career and technical organizations	89.8%	5.9%	2.8%	0.7%	0.7%	1.7	1.2

Note. Question changed in 2012 and precludes comparison to prior years' results.

Outside of School	Did Not Participate	1 year	2 years	3 years	4 years	Avg. # of years	Avg. # of hours per week
Music	68.3%	4.0%	4.9%	2.1%	20.5%	3.5	1.7
Theater	92.9%	3.1%	1.9%	0.5%	1.6%	2.2	0.9
Dance	87.9%	4.0%	2.3%	1.9%	3.8%	2.6	1.1
Sports	50.3%	5.6%	6.6%	4.9%	32.4%	3.6	2.1
Care for family members	83.4%	4.7%	3.5%	1.2%	7.1%	2.8	1.6
Community service	39.2%	8.7%	10.4%	8.2%	33.3%	3.3	1.5
Environmental projects	78.2%	5.4%	6.9%	1.9%	7.6%	2.6	1.2
Boy Scouts or Girls Scouts	91.5%	1.9%	0.7%	0.5%	5.4%	1.0	1.1

Note. Question changed in 2012 and precludes comparison to prior years' results.

Extracurricular activities provide intellectual and social development opportunities for students. Schools that provide more extracurricular activities and have more student participants have better academic outcomes in terms of students performing at grade level and staying in school than do schools that provide fewer such activities (Stearns & Glennie, 2009).

7. Please indicate the average number of hours per week you worked last summer and during your senior year.

	Percentage who worked <u>summer prior</u> to senior year		Percentage who worked <u>during</u> senior year	
	Campus 2011	Campus 2012	Campus 2011	Campus 2012
Did not work	39.2%	32.9%	48.7%	22.4%
1 to 5 hours	8.0%	14.7%	11.5%	16.2%
6 to 10 hours	8.9%	11.6%	9.1%	14.9%
11 to 15 hours	11.5%	30.1%	13.1%	26.1%
16 or more hours	32.4%	10.6%	17.7%	20.3%

Average # of hours worked per week	
Summer 2011	10.4
School year 2011-2012	10.8

8. How many hours per week did you typically spend studying, doing research, or completing homework assignments outside of class?

Percentage who studied each week	Campus 2011	Campus 2012
Did not study	6.0%	1.1%
1 to 5 hours	42.0%	37.0%
6 to 10 hours	31.0%	15.9%
11 to 15 hours	13.0%	10.6%
16 or more hours	8.0%	35.5%

Compared with those who did not work, seniors who worked longer hours had significantly lower academic achievement, attendance, and educational aspirations. They were less engaged in extracurricular activities. They also were less likely to enroll in college. However, seniors working longer hours were more likely to save their earnings for postsecondary enrollment and were less likely to be unemployed 2 years after high school (Marsh & Kleitman, 2005).

9. Please mark the answer that best indicates how you feel.

Percentage who responded either Sometimes or Always	Campus 2011	Campus 2012	District 2012
I can do even the hardest schoolwork if I try	90.7%	90.2%	90.6%
I enjoy doing my schoolwork	49.9%	55.2%	55.8%
I feel/felt well prepared for TAKS	91.1%	93.8%	91.6%
I try hard to do my best work	85.0%	88.7%	90.4%
I feel successful in my schoolwork	87.6%	88.5%	88.8%
My teachers push us to think hard about the things we read.	.	88.2%	83.5%
My teachers push everyone to work hard.	.	90.5%	86.8%
I can reach the goals I set for myself	90.7%	95.7%	94.3%
My homework helps me learn things I need to know	74.0%	82.1%	76.1%
My schoolwork makes me think about things in new ways	60.8%	74.2%	69.2%
I have fun learning in my classes	71.1%	76.0%	75.2%
My teachers connect what I am learning life outside of class	57.9%	67.2%	65.0%
I like to come to school	72.0%	71.8%	70.7%

Notes. Response options were Never, Not a lot, Sometimes, Always, and Don't know.

10. How well did your high school help you to actively develop knowledge and skills in the following areas?

Percentage who responded Somewhat well or Very well	Campus 2011	Campus 2012	District 2012
Teamwork	86.8%	92.3%	91.2%
Creative thinking	88.7%	91.8%	92.0%
Problem solving	93.1%	94.5%	92.7%
Conflict resolution	82.8%	87.3%	86.5%
Personal health/fitness	43.8%	45.9%	82.7%
Time management	47.1%	51.4%	83.6%
Technology	51.6%	49.2%	87.0%

Notes. Response options were Not well, Somewhat well, and Very well.

"21st-century skills" is a term generally used to refer to competencies such as collaboration, digital literacy, critical thinking, and problem-solving that will help students thrive in today's world.

11. Rate the quality of instruction you feel you received in the following areas.

Percentage who responded Good or Excellent	Campus 2011	Campus 2012	District 2012
English Language Arts	74.9%	84.6%	81.6%
Mathematics	72.5%	79.2%	68.6%
Science	74.1%	74.0%	68.7%
Social Studies	76.1%	83.6%	79.5%
Computer/Technology	52.7%	56.1%	66.3%
Foreign Language	53.6%	63.8%	59.9%
Performing/Fine Arts	52.4%	64.3%	72.8%
Career and Technical (CTE)	25.1%	33.4%	62.4%

Notes. Response options were Excellent, Good, Fair, and Poor.

Researchers have found students are important sources of information about what happens in classrooms. Students' responses are generally reliable, valid, and stable over time at the classroom level (Ferguson, 2010).

12. Which of the following describes your computer access at home?

	Campus 2011	Campus 2012	District 2012
No computer	2.2%	1.2%	5.2%
No computer, but Internet access (e.g., cell phone, iPad or iTouch)	2.2%	2.2%	5.3%
Computer, no Internet	3.7%	1.4%	5.4%
Computer with Internet access	91.9%	95.2%	84.1%

13. Do your parents use Parent Connect/Gradespeed to monitor your grades?

	Campus 2011	Campus 2012	District 2012
Yes	60.3%	59.2%	49.8%
No	32.1%	33.8%	39.7%
Don't know	7.6%	7.0%	10.4%

The odds of enrolling in a 2- or 4-year college, relative to not enrolling, was found to increase with the frequency with which parents discussed education-related topics (e.g., grades) with their children. Furthermore, a positive relationship between the frequency of parent-initiated contact with the school about academic issues and the odds of enrolling in a 4-year college was found to be particularly important for African American students (Perna & Titus, 2005).

14. How frequently do you use a computer or other Internet-capable devices (e.g., cell phone, iTouch or iPad)?

	Never	Less than once a week	Once or twice a week	Every day or almost every day
At home?	1.2%	2.1%	6.9%	89.7%
At school?	1.4%	12.0%	24.2%	62.4%
To present material in class, for example, using PowerPoint?	19.6%	63.2%	12.7%	4.5%
To type a paper or class assignment?	3.8%	37.1%	46.9%	12.2%
To search the Internet to complete class-related assignments?	2.9%	26.3%	43.1%	27.8%
To research college / career choices?	11.0%	40.2%	35.9%	12.9%
To complete online forms or applications for college or employment?	16.3%	45.9%	29.7%	8.1%
To communicate with teachers ?	22.5%	52.6%	17.9%	6.9%
To monitor grades/progress in school?	5.5%	14.6%	43.5%	36.4%

15. Indicate how much you agree with each of the following statements about technology use at school.

	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
Text books should be put online.	41.3%	33.2%	13.4%	6.4%	5.7%
My teachers need more training to use technology more in the classroom.	14.8%	33.1%	38.3%	3.3%	10.5%
We need newer software.	30.7%	31.7%	25.7%	2.4%	9.4%
My teachers effectively use the technology resources that are available.	24.9%	56.7%	12.9%	0.7%	4.8%
My school's technology is up to date. It does not need upgrading.	13.8%	35.2%	32.1%	9.0%	9.8%
Web sites that are blocked (e.g., YouTube, Facebook) should be unblocked.	60.2%	22.4%	9.5%	3.1%	4.8%
Homework assignments should be online.	28.5%	30.4%	20.6%	9.6%	11.0%

Note. Question changed in 2012 and precludes comparison to prior years' results.

16. How frequently do you log into Naviance/Family Connection for the following activities?

	Never	Less than once a week	Once or twice a week	Every day or almost every day
Career exploration	48.3%	40.9%	9.4%	1.4%
Class rank and GPA inquiry	23.2%	58.2%	16.4%	2.2%
College search	32.6%	50.2%	17.1%	2.1%
College visit sign up	36.4%	51.9%	10%	1.7%
Counselor-directed activities (such as "Personality Type Questionnaire" or "Explore Careers")	46.3%	42.7%	9.8%	1.2%
Resume building	46.4%	43.3%	9.0%	1.2%
Other	46.3%	38.8%	10.3%	3.3%

16b. How frequently do you log into Naviance/Family Connection for the following activities?

Percentage who responded once a week or more	Campus 2011	Campus 2012	District 2012
Career exploration	9.9%	10.8%	21.6%
Class rank and GPA inquiry	16.7%	18.6%	21.7%
College search	10.7%	10.2%	21.4%
College visit sign up	12.6%	11.7%	13.0%
Counselor-directed activities (e.g., personality questionnaire, career exploration)	8.3%	11.0%	11.0%
Resume building	10.7%	10.2%	10.7%
Other	13.9%	13.6%	17.8%

Postsecondary Preparation and Advising

17. At what time in your life did you start thinking about college as a possibility after high school?

	Campus 2011	Campus 2012	District 2012
As long ago as I can remember	50.5%	56.0%	38.7%
In elementary school	7.1%	5.0%	8.6%
In middle school / junior high	16.8%	16.0%	20.8%
In high school	23.8%	21.0%	29.3%
Never thought of college as an option	1.7%	2.0%	3.0%

Students' early college aspirations have increased over the past decade, and their aspirations continue to be influenced in high school (Copper, 2009).

18. Overall, how well prepared or informed...

Percentage who responded Somewhat well or Very well	Campus 2011	Campus 2012	District 2012
Were you to plan your high school course selections?	89.7%	90.5%	88.6%
Were you to meet your college and career goals?	87.5%	88.5%	84.3%
Have you been for the college or trade / technical school application process?	82.2%	83.3%	78.9%
Have you been about obtaining financial aid for education after high school?	82.3%	82.5%	82.4%

Notes. Response options were Not well, Somewhat well, and Very well.

19. How did you prepare for your education after high school (Select all)?

	Campus 2011	Campus 2012	District 2012
Took college entrance tests (SAT, ACT, THEA, Compass, Asset)	77.2%	80.2%	73.5%
Completed and submitted the FAFSA	50.2%	54.2%	58.2%
Visited one or more colleges or technical schools	65.8%	68.7%	57.8%
Ordered and submitted a transcript to a college or trade/ technical school.	66.3%	67.3%	55.9%
Took one or more Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate classes	60.0%	69.5%	53.9%
Met with a college recruiter at my high school	43.1%	43.7%	47.0%
Took test prep class for the PSAT, SAT, ACT, etc.	50.2%	54.2%	46.1%
Completed and submitted a scholarship application	48.0%	47.5%	44.8%
Met with the school counselor/ADVANCE staff to discuss college plans/processes	48.2%	49.2%	44.5%
Attended one or more college fairs	50.9%	50.6%	43.9%
Completed or are currently enrolled in ACC courses	43.5%	44.9%	40.3%
Participated in ACC College Connections	33.9%	30.5%	35.6%
Took other college level courses (e.g. Texas State, Texas Tech, TSTC)	7.4%	7.6%	8.8%
None of the above	6.9%	6.7%	7.0%

20. Have you applied to the following types of postsecondary institutions?

	Campus 2011	Campus 2012	District 2012
2-year	48.2%	56.0%	73.0%
4-year	80.5%	83.5%	78.5%
Business/technical/vocational school	11.4%	4.8%	10.1%

On average, Anderson 2012 seniors applied to 4.02 postsecondary institutions. Students who submitted 4 or more applications were found significantly more likely to become enrolled than were students who submitted fewer applications (Garland, 2008).

21. Of those who applied, what percentage of students reported being accepted to the following types of postsecondary institutions?

	Campus 2012	District 2012
2-year	88.0%	89.5%
4-year	96.9%	94.6%
Business/technical/vocational school	87.5%	87.2%

Note. Method of calculation changed in 2012 and precludes comparison to prior years' results.

22. Which of the following did a family member help you with to prepare for life after high school (Select all)?

	Campus 2011	Campus 2012	District 2012
Talked to you about career and/or college options	87.1%	87.1%	80.8%
Talked to you about finances	78.4%	78.8%	72.2%
Talked to you about your responsibilities as an adult	80.2%	81.8%	79.1%
Talked to you about what a career and/or college would be like	79.8%	81.8%	70.6%
Helped you with financial aid (FAFSA and/or scholarships)	62.7%	63.3%	56.1%
Helped you complete applications for colleges or trade/technical schools	60.0%	63.5%	48.3%
Encouraged you to apply to several different colleges	71.0%	67.9%	61.7%
No one in my family talked to me about or helped me with these things.	5.6%	5.1%	5.0%

23. Indicate if you know at least one teacher who would do the following.

	Campus 2011	Campus 2012	District 2012
Would be willing to give you extra help with your school work if you needed it	90.3%	95%	90.2%
Would be willing to help you with a personal problem	76.7%	80.2%	77.5%
Cares about how you're doing in school	83.9%	86.8%	84.8%
Would be willing to write you a letter of recommendation for a job or college	85.9%	91.7%	87.1%
Knows what you will be doing next year	68.9%	78%	69.1%
Would be willing to help you even after you graduate	69.4%	73.9%	70.3%

24. Were your school counselors available to talk to you about college and careers?

	Campus 2011	Campus 2012	District 2012
Yes, they were available and I talked to them.	58.5%	50.2%	52.2%
Yes, they were available, but I didn't try to talk to them.	25.9%	37.7%	28.8%
No, I tried and wasn't able to meet with them.	7.6%	6.9%	10.4%
No, they were not available, but I never tried to meet with them.	8%	5.2%	8.6%

Garland (2008) found that students' interaction with a school counselor and/or college advisor influenced the likelihood that those students would become enrolled in a postsecondary institution.

25. Was your Project ADVANCE staff available to talk to you about college and careers?

	Campus 2011	Campus 2012	District 2012
Yes, they were available and I talked to them.	47.7%	45.5%	45.3%
Yes, they were available, but I didn't try to talk to them.	30.1%	40.2%	28.7%
No, I tried and wasn't able to meet with them.	3.6%	4.6%	6.0%
No, they were not available, but I never tried to meet with them.	18.6%	9.6%	19.9%

26. Indicate whether the following people helped you with or encouraged you in any of the following activities (Select all).

	School Counselor	Advisory teacher	Teacher	Project ADVANCE staff	None of these
Select courses needed for work or admission to college	32.9%	5.7%	24.6%	15.4%	21.4%
Push your academic abilities further (e.g., challenging courses, science fair or summer learning, extra credit work)	17.7%	8.6%	43.9%	10.9%	18.9%
Take AP / honors courses	18.2%	6.3%	42.1%	8.6%	24.7%
Take dual credit or articulated credit courses	15.6%	4.6%	18.4%	18.6%	42.8%
Discussed career information and/or occupations you might want to pursue	23.7%	8.4%	24.0%	15.8%	28.8%
Continue your education after high school	25.7%	11.6%	31.3%	17.2%	14.2%
Talked to you about colleges suited to your interests and abilities	25.6%	6.9%	25.3%	17.2%	24.9%
Encouraged you to apply to multiple schools	26.1%	8.9%	24.5%	17.2%	17.4%
Helped you decide what school to attend	13.9%	3.6%	15.8%	12.9%	53.8%
Helped you fill out applications for postsecondary	16.3%	5.0%	17.8%	17.1%	43.7%
Helped you with your college application essays or personal statements	12.2%	4.7%	35.3%	11.1%	36.5%
Helped you with financial aid (e.g., FAFSA and/or scholarships)	17.3%	4.3%	11.7%	15.4%	51.3%
Helped you plan how to pay for college/technical school and/or for living expenses	11.1%	5.2%	9.3%	11.3%	62.9%
Talked to you about meeting your financial needs	15.9%	7.1%	13.7%	13.7%	49.4%

Note. Question changed in 2012 and precludes comparison to prior years' results.

27. In which of these programs did you participate?

	Campus 2011	Campus 2012	District 2012
AVID	7.4%	6%	8.4%
ACC Early College Start / Dual Credit	35.5%	45%	37.5%
ACC College Connections	19.4%	15%	20.1%
None of the above	49.3%	45%	46.0%

Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) students had higher aspirations, more college knowledge, and significantly higher academic preparation, than did other students in the same schools (Watt, et al, 2007).

Dual credit course enrollment is an effective strategy for encouraging student access to and persistence in postsecondary education (Karp & Hughes, 2008).

28. If you participated in any of the programs, did they help you with or encourage you in any of the following (Select all)?

	AVID	ACC - Early College Start	ACC - College Connections
I wasn't in this program or class	88.4%	20.8%	69.9%
Selecting courses needed for work or admission to college	19.2%	75.8%	17.5%
Pushing your academic abilities further (e.g., challenging courses, science fair or summer learning, extra credit work)	21.4%	73.2%	16.1%
Taking AP / honors courses	28.7%	63.7%	16.3%
Taking dual credit or articulated credit courses	18.0%	81.3%	11.7%
Discussing career information and/or occupations you might want to pursue	25.5%	66.0%	20.2%
Continuing your education after high school	20.3%	74.0%	19.5%
Discussing colleges / schools that were suited to your interests and abilities	21.1%	71.6%	15.6%
Applying to multiple schools	21.5%	73.8%	15.9%
Deciding what school to attend	22.1%	69.5%	16.8%
Filling out applications for colleges or trade / technical schools	25.0%	66.0%	19%
Completing college application essays or personal statements	24.7%	69.7%	14.6%
Applying for financial aid (FAFSA and/or scholarships)	27.5%	64.8%	19.8%
Planning how to pay for college/technical school and/or for living expenses	23.9%	72.7%	15.9%
Talked to you about how to meet your financial needs/ goals	25.6%	67.8%	18.9%

Note. Question changed in 2012 and precludes comparison to prior years' results.

29. How do you plan to pay for your education after high school (Select all)?

	Campus 2011	Campus 2012	District 2012
Scholarships and/or grants	59.5%	67.2%	67.2%
Loans	45.7%	35.1%	40.8%
Family or personal savings	68.0%	73.3%	58.7%
Tuition and fees exemption (e.g., military, foster care, adoption, deaf, blind, etc.)	.	7.6%	9.6%
Working during the school year	48.2%	47.8%	56.4%
Working during the summer	54.3%	53.7%	59.2%
I don't know	10.2%	3.8%	5.6%

30. How easy has it been for you and your parents to understand the process of applying for financial aid?

	Campus 2011	Campus 2012	District 2012
Easy	26.3%	24.3%	21.8%
Some parts easy, some parts difficult	46.1%	47.3%	47.4%
Difficult	10.4%	11.4%	13.2%
I did not apply for financial aid	17.2%	17.0%	17.5%

The completion of the FAFSA is important to entering and completing postsecondary education, especially for economically disadvantaged students. Students who completed the FAFSA were found 50% more likely to enroll in a 4-year college than were those who had not. Eighty-three percent of AISD's Class of 2010 who were enrolled in a postsecondary institution after high school completed a FAFSA (Looby, 2011).

31. If you did not submit a financial aid application, why not?

	Campus 2011	Campus 2012	District 2012
I do not need financial aid to attend college	31.2%	32.9%	19.3%
My parents were not willing to submit private financial information	7.5%	4.3%	6.4%
My family did not think we would qualify or be eligible for financial aid	27.7%	25.7%	18.8%
I do not plan to go to college	8.7%	8.6%	16.2%
I did not know about the financial aid process	24.9%	28.6%	39.2%

About 38% of students reported they did not need financial aid, and almost 40% did not know about the process.

32. Without including any financial aid (such as loans, grants, scholarships or exemptions), full-time tuition and fees for one semester at _____ costs about...

Austin Community College		University of Texas		Harvard University		Total cost of books for one school year	
\$100	1.2%	\$1,000	1.2%	\$1,000	0.3%	\$100	2.0%
\$400	9.4%	\$5,000	9.2%	\$5,000	1.0%	\$1,500	50.0%
\$900	21.7%	\$10,000	18.4%	\$10,000	1.5%	\$5,000	10.0%
\$5,000	15.6%	\$15,000	14.1%	\$20,000	16.0%	\$10,000	3.0%
\$10,000	1.7%	\$20,000	26.6%	\$50,000	46.6%	\$15,000	4.0%
Don't know	50.4%	Don't know	30.5%	Don't know	34.8%	Don't know	31.0%

Researchers consistently show that most parents and students are uninformed or poorly informed about college prices and financial aid, and students' postsecondary decisions are influenced by this limited knowledge (Perna, Lundy-Wagner, Yee, Brill, & Tadal, 2009).

Full-time tuition and fees for a semester cost about \$900 at ACC, ranged between \$4,673 and \$5,369 at UT, and were \$20,433 at Harvard. The total cost of books and supplies for one year of college is estimated at \$1,100 by the College Board.

33. What is the one thing that "kept you going" through school all the way to graduation?

	Campus 2011	Campus 2012	District 2012
Club / extracurricular activities	6.9%	8.7%	8.4%
Connections with classmates	13.9%	16.7%	13.3%
Enjoyment of learning / classes that were fun	5.8%	5.1%	4.5%
Future college / career goals	30.6%	26.2%	21.9%
Parents' expectations	17.4%	15%	22.0%
School was a safe place	1.3%	1.2%	1.2%
Sports / athletics	11.4%	12.3%	12.5%
Supportive school staff	3.1%	3.1%	3.9%
Other (please specify)	9.4%	11.6%	12.1%

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