



## Survey Report

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The sixth annual Austin Independent School District (AISD) High School Exit Survey was administered online to seniors in every AISD high school during Spring 2009. Facilitators on each campus, primarily *Project ADVANCE* counselors, were responsible for ensuring that all graduating seniors were given the opportunity to complete the survey.

This report contains the results for the Lanier High School Class of 2009. Where available, longitudinal data are presented to compare with the 2009 responses. In addition, average results from all AISD high schools are presented alongside results for Lanier for comparison purposes. In total, 3,365 students in the Class of 2009 completed the survey, including 271 students from Lanier. Longitudinal tests for statistical significance were conducted with district-level data (see district-level report). Table 1 presents longitudinal response rates by campus and by district. Next, major findings are presented, followed by open-ended campus-level responses and, finally, responses to the multiple choice items from the survey.

The report is structured as follows. First, a brief summary of key findings from the 2009 High School Exit Survey is provided. This summary is followed by a selection of open-ended student comments that capture the predominant themes that emerged from the student comments. Last, the detailed, item-specific results for each question from the survey are presented.

**Table 1. High School Exit Survey Response Rates, Classes 2007-2009**

	Class of 2007	Class of 2008	Class of 2009
All high schools	82.0%	74.8%	78.8%
Lanier	82.7%	79.1%	87.1%

### Major Findings

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:

- **Thinking about college.** It appeared Lanier seniors were more likely to report they started thinking about college as a future possibility in high school whereas other seniors were more likely to report thinking about it for “as long as I can remember.”
- **College preparation programs.** More Lanier seniors appeared to have participated in the programs *AVID*, *Project ADVANCE*, *ACC College Connections* than did district seniors as a whole. Lanier seniors who took part in these programs were more likely than other seniors to say the program facilitators helped them choose the high school courses necessary to prepare for college and that they explained the financial aid process to them.
- **College application.** Lanier students were also more likely to report having applied to a 2-year college than their peers at other campuses; conversely, they were also less likely than their peers to indicate that they had applied to a 4-year institution.

## INDIVIDUAL ITEM RESPONSES FOR LANIER HIGH SCHOOL

### OPEN ENDED COMMENTS

The responses below are to the question, “*What is the ONE thing that you especially want the administration of AISD to know?*”

One hundred and forty-four (53%) provided a response. Many students mentioned general positive feelings about Lanier High School and expressed gratitude to the teachers and staff. Furthermore, many students were critical of the Advisory program. Last, several students expressed disappointment that they did not receive more information about college. Commonly identified themes expressed by the Class of 2009<sup>1</sup> include:

- **Positive comments:** Students expressed how much they like Lanier High School and how it motivated them to be successful. “*that the staff is very good. some times the students just make this school look bad.*” “*I liked all the administrators this year. They were all every kind.*” “*That i want to thank all of you for making things so easy for us and because with out all their help me 3 months away from being a mom i would not be able to say that i want the best for my baby and that thanks to all the help availble at Lanier High School I am able to say that i completed cosmetology that i have a licence and that i'm going to have a good job and going to acc and being a parent all at once and that is because i am capable of doing it.*”
- **Advisory/Seminar.** “*Stop changing the way our school works, advisory is pointless and lunches are way too short.*” “*Take out advisory and shorten the day, or even a longer lunch.*”
- **College preparation.** “*i think it will be better if the teachers give more support to seniors..and help them to find a scholarships.*” “*i want to know what college help you as been a immigrant*”

<sup>1</sup> 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 6)**

	Lanier 2007	Lanier 2008	Lanier 2009	All HS 2007	All HS 2008	All HS 2009
Continue my education*	85.6%	91.9%	89.7%	89.0%	92.2%	93.1%
Go into the military	1.0%	2.7%	3.3%	2.6%	2.8%	3.9%
Be a full-time parent	4.1%	4.0%	2.6%	2.2%	2.2%	1.7%
Work full-time	14.9%	15.2%	15.1%	13.2%	13.5%	11.7%
Work part-time	31.8%	53.4%	40.2%	35.5%	41.1%	32.9%
No plans	8.7%	2.7%	2.6%	5.6%	2.4%	2.3%

*Note.* Respondents could select more than one option, so percentages may not total 100%.

\* Item was recoded to match longitudinal data. In 2008, this was 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 all 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 7)**

	Lanier 2007	Lanier 2008	Lanier 2009	All HS 2007	All HS 2008	All HS 2009
Cannot afford to attend school	38.9%	22.2%	19.0%	30.6%	16.9%	33.0%
Childcare or family responsibilities	22.2%	11.1%	19.0%	9.8%	14.9%	11.4%
Don't like attending school	11.1%	16.7%	23.8%	22.4%	19.4%	17.6%
Grades/test scores aren't high enough	33.3%	22.2%	14.3%	23.0%	16.5%	21.6%
Don't feel academically prepared	16.7%	16.7%	4.8%	15.8%	13.7%	17.0%
Need income to support myself	22.2%	27.8%	33.3%	34.4%	21.8%	28.4%
Need income to support others	11.1%	11.1%	19.0%	10.4%	6.0%	10.8%
Other	10.0%	16.7%	10.5%	16.8%	22.6%	12.9%

*Note.* Respondents could select more than one option, so percentages may not total 100%.

**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 8)**

	Lanier 2007	Lanier 2008	Lanier 2009	All HS 2007	All HS 2008	All HS 2009
Probably or definitely yes	66.7%	35.3%	56.5%	61.7%	59.2%	66.2%
Maybe	22.2%	29.4%	39.1%	20.6%	19.3%	24.1%
Probably or definitely no	0.0%	17.6%	0.0%	6.2%	10.5%	4.2%
Don't know	11.1%	17.6%	4.3%	11.5%	11.0%	5.6%

*Note.* Response options were collapsed for ease in reporting.

**Table 5. To What Extent Were Your Parents Involved In The Following School-Related Things? (Item 9)**

<i>*Percentage who responded parents were involved at least Occasionally</i>	Lanier 2007	Lanier 2008	Lanier 2009	All HS 2007	All HS 2008	All HS 2009
Volunteering at your school	35.3%	34.1%	18.3%	38.6%	40.0%	30.3%
Working with you on homework or school projects	52.9%	60.7%	43.4%	54.8%	54.6%	46.8%
Helping you decide what classes to take	53.4%	56.4%	48.7%	60.1%	60.2%	53.4%
Attending school meetings	55.6%	45.0%	35.7%	57.4%	54.9%	45.9%
Communicating with your teachers	58.8%	50.9%	41.4%	59.6%	60.6%	52.1%
Participating in school leadership opportunities	.	26.4%	12.2%	.	29.0%	17.9%
Attending athletic events	.	53.7%	36.3%	.	58.8%	51.5%
Attending academic events and competitions	.	41.7%	23.5%	.	36.9%	25.4%
Attending performance events	.	52.3%	34.8%	.	53.3%	45.0%
Joining and participating in the PTA	.	13.6%	8.2%	.	27.1%	16.5%

*Note.* Missing values, denoted by a period, indicate the item was not included on the respective year's survey.

\* Response options were *Never, Rarely, Occasionally, and Often*. In 2008, *Consistently* was an additional response option; in 2009, it was removed. Thus, results may not be equivalent between years.

**Table 6. How Far Did Your Parents Go In School? Indicate Your Mother And Father's Highest Level Of Education. (Item 12)**

	Lanier Mother	Lanier Father	Lanier Sibling*	All HS Mother	All HS Father	All HS Siblings
Did not finish high school	49.7%	45.5%	16.6%	18.4%	18.7%	11.2%
Graduated from high school or earned a GED	21.1%	20.8%	29.3%	19.6%	18.0%	22.9%
Attended a 2-yr community/junior college or vocational/technical school, but no degree	6.6%	5.3%	14.4%	8.5%	6.0%	10.3%
Graduated from a 2-yr community/junior college or vocational/technical school	3.5%	2.5%	3.9%	5.2%	4.1%	3.6%
Attended a 4-yr college, but did not complete a degree	4.4%	6.3%	5.5%	14.0%	13.2%	8.0%
Graduated from college	2.0%	2.7%	5.0%	13.7%	12.5%	15.5%
Completed a Master's degree or equivalent	1.8%	2.5%	0.0%	11.1%	12.1%	3.5%
Completed a Ph.D., M.D., or other advanced professional degree	1.7%	0.9%	0.0%	3.6%	6.3%	1.4%
Don't Know or Does Not Apply	9.2%	13.6%	25.4%	5.9%	9.1%	23.6%

\* New response option in 2009

## HIGH SCHOOL EXPERIENCES, CAMPUS CLIMATE, AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Table 7. How Many Different High Schools Have You Attended? (Item 3)

	Lanier 2007	Lanier 2008	Lanier 2009	All HS 2007	All HS 2008	All HS 2009
1	68.4%	65.9%	54.2%	76.1%	77.6%	70.1%
2	22.8%	26.5%	29.4%	16.8%	16.8%	18.4%
3 or more	8.8%	7.6%	16.4%	7.2%	5.6%	11.5%

Table 8. Please Indicate The Number Of Years Of High School In Which You Participated In Each Of These Extracurricular Activities. (Items 13 &amp; 15)

<i>*Percentage who reported at least 1 year of participation</i>	Lanier 2008	Lanier 2009	All HS 2008	All HS 2009
<i>In school</i>				
Music	33.8%	27.6%	35.1%	33.6%
Theater	18.4%	17.6%	20.4%	18.6%
Dance	27.0%	29.8%	23.2%	22.1%
Sports	60.8%	57.9%	58.8%	57.9%
UIL academic competitions	29.0%	22.8%	18.8%	20.0%
Speech/debate	28.0%	32.6%	21.2%	20.9%
Student government	20.2%	23.3%	16.4%	16.3%
Career and technical student organizations	.	34.1%	.	14.5%
<i>Outside school</i>				
Music	27.6%	22.5%	30.3%	30.5%
Theater	13.5%	10.1%	11.7%	7.9%
Dance	20.7%	21.4%	17.0%	15.0%
Sports	47.1%	52.2%	52.0%	50.9%
Community service/volunteering	52.9%	47.5%	57.1%	62.1%
Environmental project/activities	27.8%	28.5%	25.4%	28.0%
Boy/Girl Scouts	6.3%	5.6%	8.9%	8.0%
Family care	19.7%	32.9%	19.8%	22.4%

Note. Missing values, denoted by a period, indicate the item was not included on the respective year's survey.

\*Respondents could select more than one option, so percentages may not total 100%.

**Table 9. For Each Of These Extracurricular Activities, Did You Spend More Than 10 Hours Per Week During Your Senior Year On Them? (Items 14 & 16)**

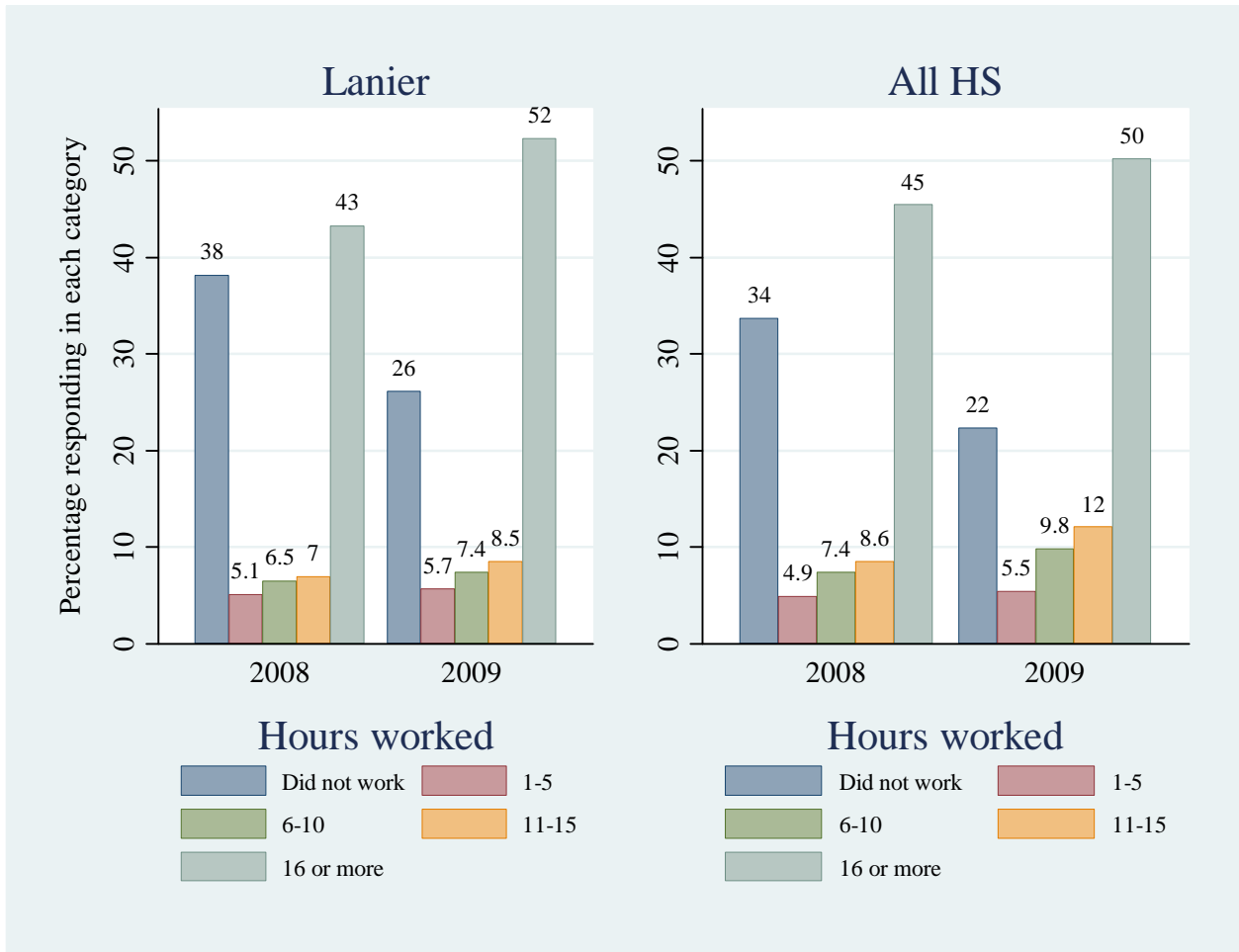
<i>*Percentage of seniors indicating they spent more than 10 hours per week on each activity.</i>	Lanier 2009	All HS 2009
<i>Inside school</i>		
Music	4.2%	8.0%
Theater	2.7%	3.2%
Dance	4.0%	3.8%
Sports	16.9%	23.4%
UIL academic competitions	2.4%	2.3%
Speech/debate	2.4%	1.3%
Student government	0.8%	0.9%
Career and technical student organizations	5.2%	2.3%
<i>Outside school</i>		
Music	8.0%	6.6%
Theater	1.6%	1.5%
Dance	3.6%	2.9%
Sports	19.0%	19.1%
Community service/volunteering	8.0%	6.3%
Environmental project/activities	2.0%	1.8%
Boy/Girl Scouts	0.4%	0.6%
Family care	13.3%	7.2%

\* Respondents could select more than one option, so percentages may not total 100%.

**Table 10. Please Indicate The Number Of Years Of High School That You Have Been Employed (Either During The Year Or During The Summer). (Item 17)**

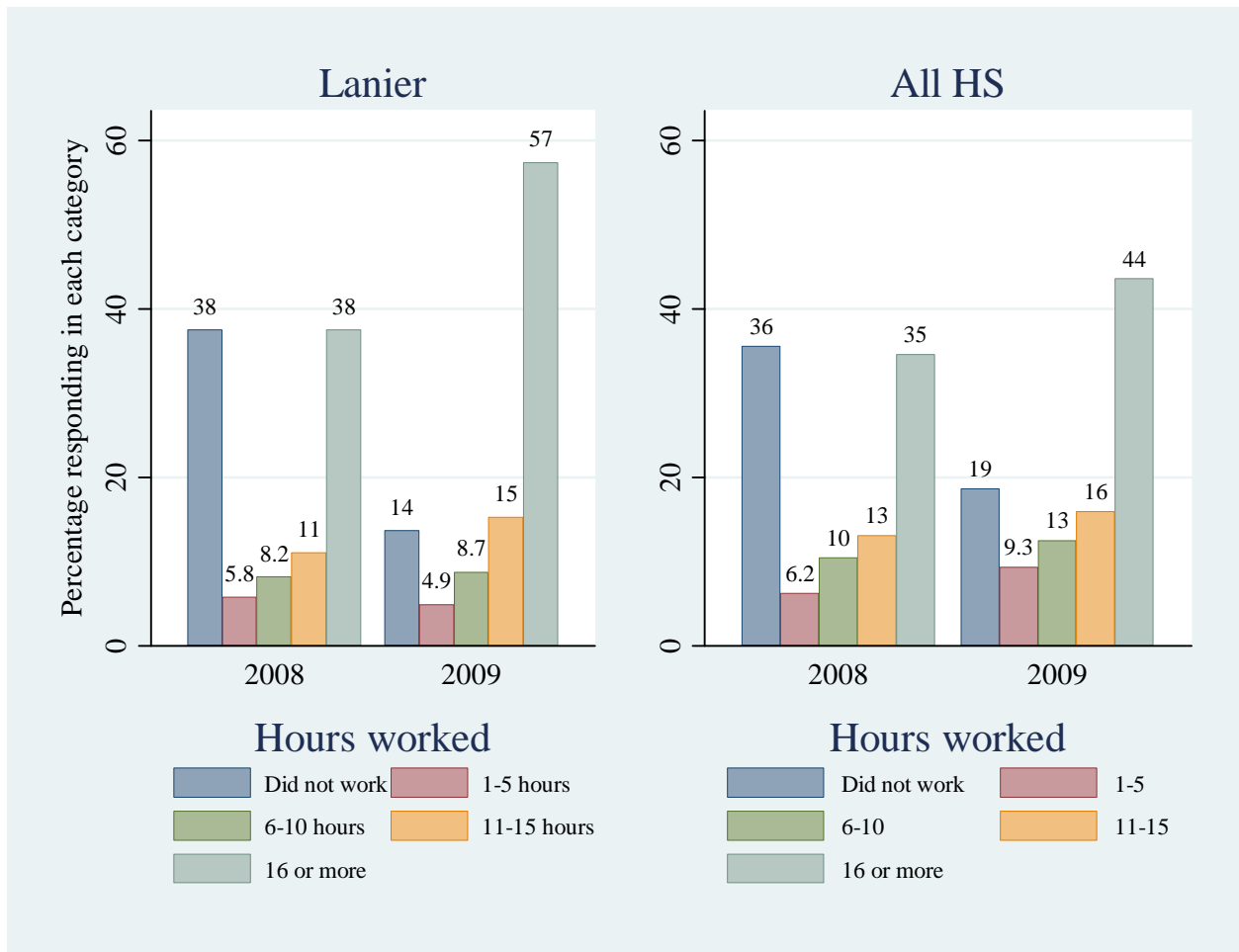
	Lanier 2008	Lanier 2009	All HS 2008	All HS 2009
0	30.8%	30.8%	24.4%	27.9%
1	28.1%	28.2%	28.2%	26.8%
2	19.9%	22.6%	26.2%	24.5%
3	14.0%	12.8%	13.7%	12.9%
4	7.2%	5.6%	7.5%	7.9%

**Figure 1. Now Indicate The Number Of Hours Per Week That You Have Worked During Last Summer. (Q18a)**

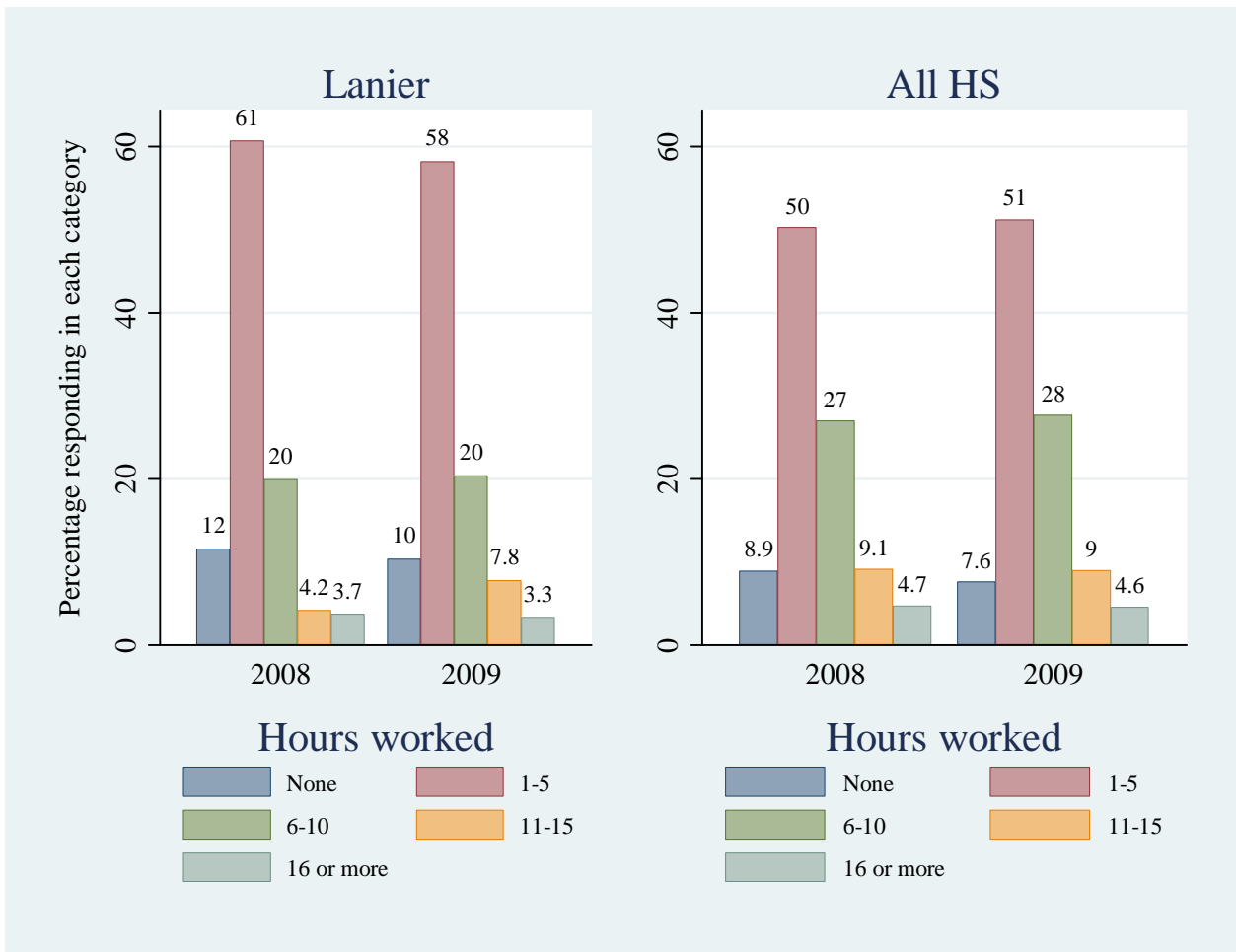




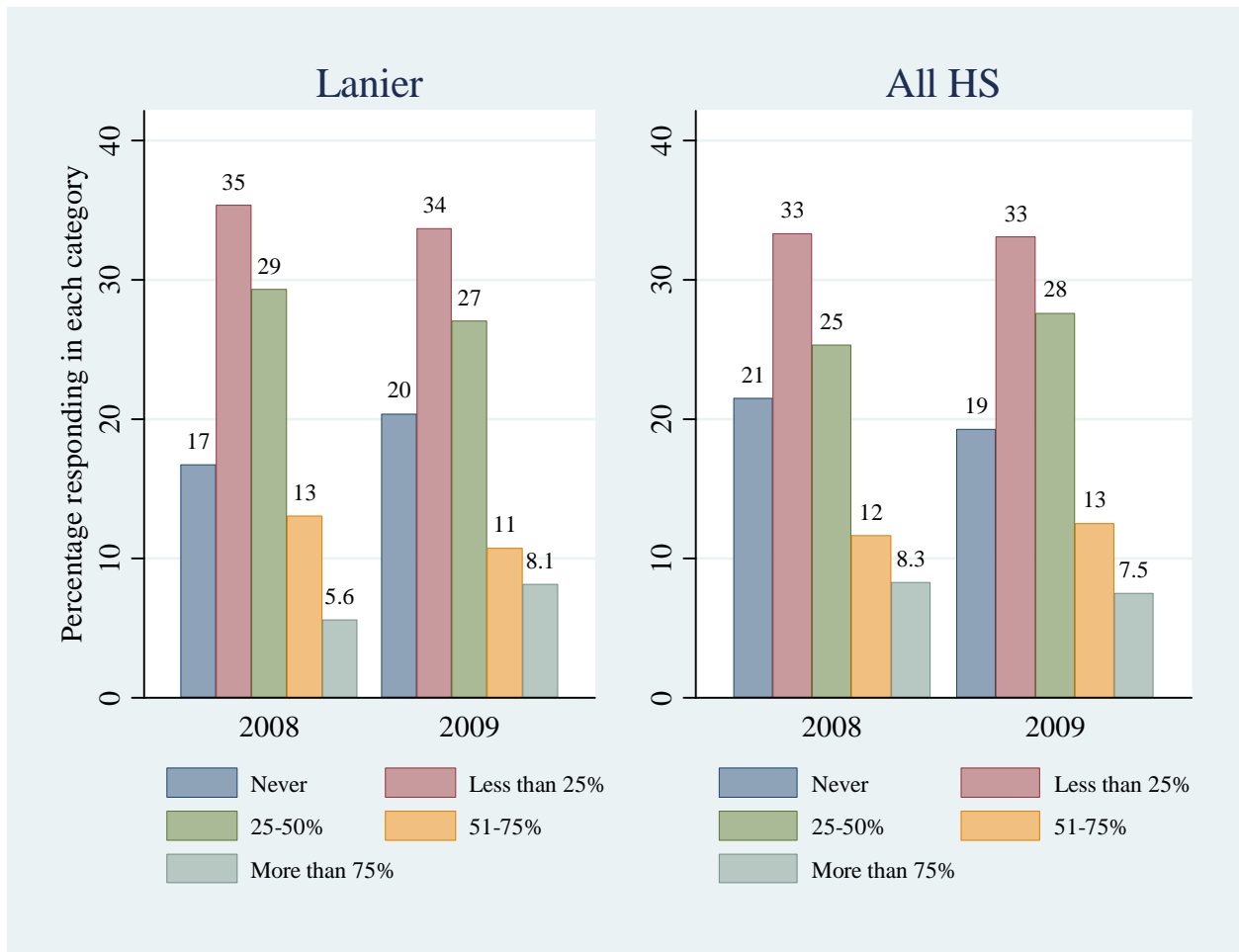
**Figure 2. Now Indicate The Number Of Hours Per Week That You Have Worked During Your Senior Year. (Q18b)**



**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 19)**



**Figure 4. On Average, What Percentage Of Your Study, Research And Homework Was Done Without Distractions (E.G., Television, Music, IM, Texting, Phone Calls)? (Item 20)**



**Table 11. Please Mark The Item That Best Indicates How You Feel: (Items 21a-21k)**

<i>*Percentage who responded Strongly agree or Agree</i>	Lanier 2009	All HS 2009
I feel safe at my school	67.5%	78.7%
My classmates show respect to each other	49.8%	50.9%
The consequences for breaking school rules are the same for everyone	53.1%	41.1%
Adults at this school listen to student ideas and opinions	63.4%	53.1%
My homework helps me learn things I need to know	64.4%	58.6%
I know how I am doing in school	91.3%	82.9%
My teachers expected me to do my best work	87.8%	83.0%
My classes were rigorous and challenging	54.9%	59.6%
My high school coursework has been relevant to my life	53.7%	47.4%
There is at least one adult at my school who I can go to if I have a problem	79.0%	78.0%
My teachers are fair to everyone	50.0%	45.3%

\*Response options include *Strongly agree, Agree, Neither agree nor Disagree, Disagree, Strongly disagree, and Don't know*. Response options changed from 2008. Therefore, longitudinal data were not available.

**Table 12. Please Answer The Following Questions About Your Civic Engagement. (Items 4 & 5)**

	Lanier 2009	All HS 2009
Are you registered to vote?*	17.6%	41.4%
Have you voted in any school board, city, county, state, or national election?*	8.6%	22.9%
Will you register to vote after your 18th birthday?***	49.7%	77.3%

\* Only asked to students who were 18 years old or older

\*\* Only asked to students who were not 18 years or older at the time they completed the survey

## INSTRUCTION AND TECHNOLOGY

**Table 13. How Well Did Your High School Help You To Actively Develop Knowledge And Skills In The Following Areas? (Item 22)**

<i>*Percentage who responded Somewhat well or Well</i>	Lanier 2007	Lanier 2008	Lanier 2009	All HS 2007	All HS 2008	All HS 2009
Teamwork	.	94.9%	93.6%	.	88.6%	89.7%
Creative thinking	98.5%	93.0%	96.2%	90.8%	90.6%	91.7%
Problem solving	94.3%	93.1%	94.4%	92.9%	91.5%	92.0%
Conflict resolution	92.2%	88.4%	86.1%	84.6%	82.8%	84.1%
Personal health/fitness	92.2%	85.0%	88.7%	78.5%	78.6%	81.0%
Time management	.	84.5%	88.0%	.	80.8%	81.2%
Technology	.	85.0%	89.1%	.	84.6%	84.2%

Note. Missing values, denoted by a period, indicate the item was not included on the respective year's survey.

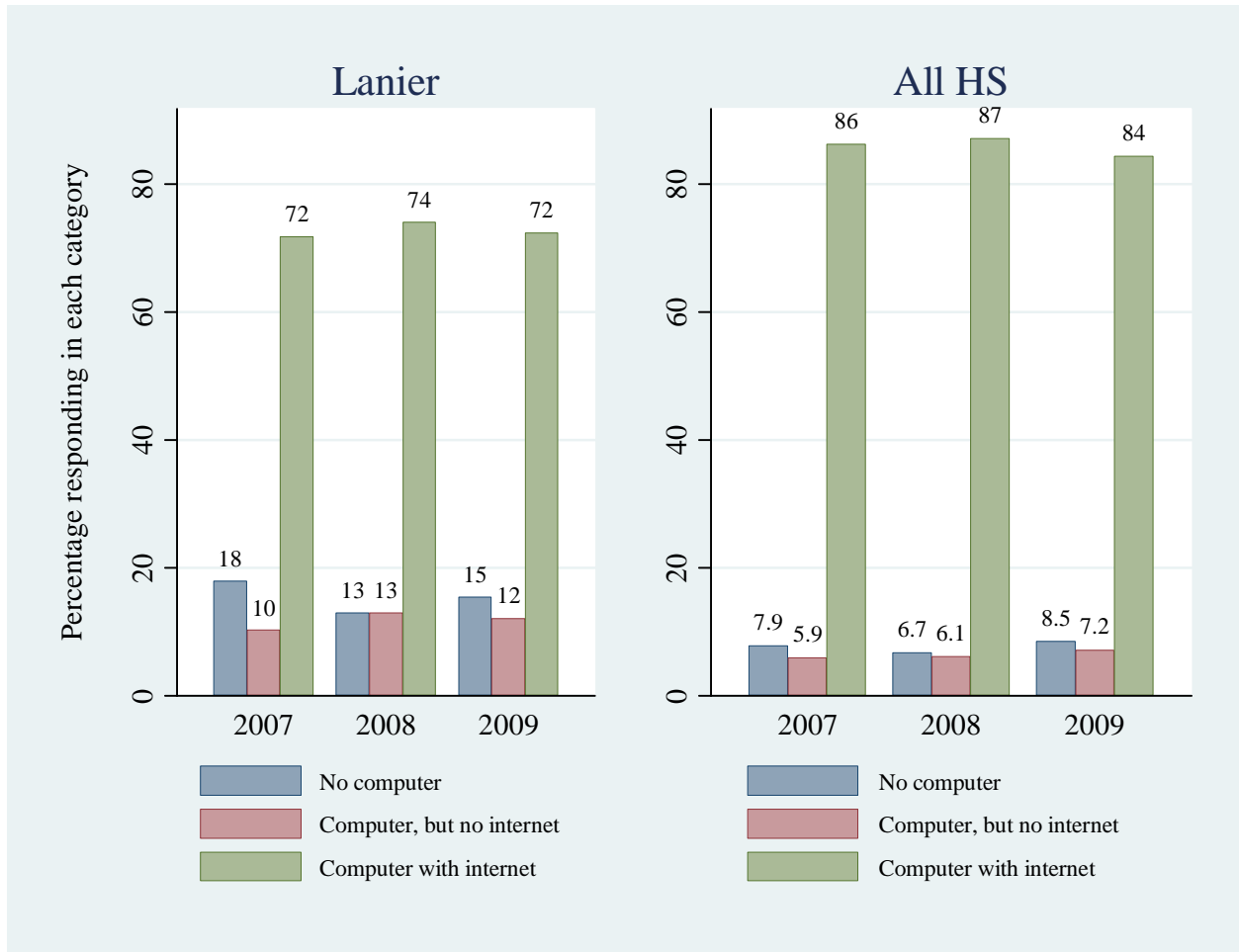
\*Responses were *Not well*, *Somewhat well*, and *Very well*.

**Table 14. Please Rate The Quality Of Instruction That You Feel That You Received In The Following Areas: (Item 23)**

<i>*Percentage who responded Good or Excellent</i>	Lanier 2007	Lanier 2008	Lanier 2009	All HS 2007	All HS 2008	All HS 2009
Writing	83.5%	80.1%	84.6%	82.6%	81.2%	81.6%
Mathematics	70.3%	64.8%	69.4%	71.3%	70.7%	70.8%
Science	76.8%	69.0%	74.1%	68.9%	69.5%	69.8%
Social Studies	88.0%	89.7%	89.5%	84.2%	82.8%	82.0%
Computer/Technology	78.9%	76.4%	81.5%	71.0%	71.8%	70.2%
Foreign Language	72.7%	73.7%	73.8%	64.5%	63.9%	64.3%
Performing/Fine Arts	79.8%	75.5%	75.8%	72.2%	73.8%	73.0%

\* Responses were *Poor*, *Fair*, *Good*, and *Excellent*.

**Figure 5. Which Of The Following Describes Your Computer And Internet Access At Home? (Item 24)**



*Note.* This item was recoded to match longitudinal data. In prior years' surveys, students were asked to indicate the type of Internet service they had at home.

**Figure 6. Do Your Parents Use Parentconnect/Gradesped To Monitor Your Grades?  
(Item 27)**



Note. This item was new for 2009.

**Table 15. How Frequently Do You Use A Computer?: (Item 25)**

<i>*Percentage who responded At least once a week or more</i>	Lanier 2007	Lanier 2008	Lanier 2009	All HS 2007	All HS 2008	All HS 2009
At home?	71.6%	74.4%	69.1%	86.4%	86.7%	83.9%
At school?	88.6%	80.6%	71.5%	70.8%	74.0%	73.1%
To present material in class, for example, using PowerPoint	50.5%	41.9%	34.6%	22.6%	23.5%	22.0%
To type a paper or class assignment?	68.4%	57.7%	51.1%	57.2%	55.3%	53.5%
To search the Internet to complete class-related assignments?	72.5%	63.3%	57.9%	62.3%	61.6%	62.7%
To research college/career choices?	59.4%	60.7%	50.6%	50.5%	50.6%	51.0%
To complete online forms or applications for college/employment?	57.1%	51.4%	43.3%	43.4%	44.0%	43.4%
To communicate with teachers (e.g., email, IM, etc.)?	26.3%	22.1%	15.4%	18.1%	20.8%	17.8%
To communicate with friends (e.g., email, IM, blog, Facebook, etc.)?	76.3%	67.1%	61.4%	74.1%	74.8%	72.5%
To monitor grades/progress in school?	.	.	30.2%	.	.	29.4%

*Note.* Missing values, denoted by a period, indicate the item was not included on the respective year's survey.

\*Responses were *Never*, *Less than once a week*, *Once or twice a week*, *Every day*, and *Almost every day*. Reports prior to 2008 indicated item means; in 2009, percentages represented the number of students reporting *At least once a week* or more.



**Table 16. Indicate How Much You Agree With Each Of The Following Statements About Technology Use At School: (Item 26)**

<i>*Percentage who responded Agree or Strongly agree</i>	Lanier 2008	Lanier 2009	All HS 2008	All HS 2009
My teachers effectively use the technology resources that are available.	88.8%	93.6%	85.7%	89.8%
I would like to use more electronic communication with my classmates as part of my schoolwork.	86.0%	85.0%	79.8%	82.3%
I would like to use more electronic communication with my teachers.	79.8%	75.9%	73.2%	76.0%
I would like to use more online resources.	89.8%	88.0%	82.1%	84.0%

\* Responses were *Strongly disagree, Disagree, Agree, Strongly disagree, and Don't know/Unsure.*

#### POSTSECONDARY PREPARATION AND ADVISING

**Table 17. At What Time In Your Life Did You Start Thinking About College As A Possibility After High School? (Item 29)**

	Lanier 2007	Lanier 2008	Lanier 2009	All HS 2007	All HS 2008	All HS 2009
As long ago as I can remember*	23.8%	17.8%	20.6%	39.1%	40.5%	38.7%
In elementary school	13.8%	9.3%	5.6%	12.0%	8.5%	7.6%
In middle/junior high school	25.4%	27.6%	25.5%	21.0%	21.9%	21.0%
In high school	33.9%	41.1%	44.9%	25.3%	26.9%	30.9%
I've never thought about college as an option after high school	3.2%	4.2%	3.4%	2.5%	2.3%	1.8%

\* Item changed from 2007 surveys, when it was "When I was a child."

**Table 18. High School Preparation For Post-Graduation Opportunities (Item 30a-D)**

<i>*Percentage who responded Somewhat well or Well</i>	Lanier 2007	Lanier 2008	Lanier 2009	All HS 2007	All HS 2008	All HS 2009
How well prepared were you to plan your high school course selections?	93.2%	89.3%	88.7%	88.7%	91.2%	91.2%
How well prepared were you to meet your college and career goals?	85.4%	87.8%	84.8%	86.9%	88.4%	86.1%
How well prepared have you been for the college/technical/vocational school application process?	84.2%	86.7%	82.6%	84.6%	83.4%	82.0%
How well informed are/were you about obtaining financial aid for education after high school (whether or not you applied)?	91.1%	90.4%	85.2%	84.2%	81.6%	81.0%

\* Response options were *Not well*, *Somewhat well*, and *Very well*.

**Table 19. How Did You Prepare For Continuing Education? (Check All That Apply) (Item 32)**

	Lanier 2007	Lanier 2008	Lanier 2009	All HS 2007	All HS 2008	All HS 2009
Took the PSAT examination	52.8%	57.4%	46.1%	57.9%	67.9%	63.1%
Took AP/IB classes	34.9%	32.3%	29.9%	45.3%	48.6%	47.2%
Visited campuses	41.5%	42.2%	47.2%	44.0%	51.8%	55.8%
Attended college fairs	57.9%	48.0%	49.4%	44.4%	48.6%	45.3%
Completed and submitted a FASA	51.3%	46.6%	48.0%	41.3%	49.3%	48.6%
Completed and submitted a scholarship application	31.8%	36.3%	29.5%	30.8%	41.6%	40.3%
Took college entrance tests	59.0%	62.8%	56.1%	65.6%	72.4%	68.1%
Took test prep classes	44.1%	34.1%	39.5%	38.2%	41.7%	38.9%
Completed ACC courses	27.2%	37.2%	34.3%	23.3%	29.4%	33.1%
Ordered and submitted transcripts	33.8%	37.7%	28.8%	40.3%	50.3%	47.7%
Other college-level courses	.	.	7.7%	.	.	5.4%

*Note.* Respondents could select more than one option, so percentages may not total 100%. Missing values, denoted by a period, indicate the item was not included on the respective year's survey.

**Table 20. In Which Of The Following College Preparation Programs Did You Participate While In High School? (Item 33)**

	Lanier 2008	Lanier 2009	All HS 2008	All HS 2009
Project ADVANCE	17.5%	24.0%	26.1%	17.9%
AVID	20.2%	13.3%	8.9%	8.8%
ACC College Connections	26.0%	21.8%	17.1%	18.0%
College Forward	0.9%	2.6%	3.0%	3.5%
Con mi MADRE	1.8%	0.7%	3.0%	1.9%
Talent Search/Trio	1.3%	2.6%	2.6%	2.6%
Upward Bound	0.9%	0.7%	1.8%	1.3%
Breakthrough	0.9%	0.4%	1.5%	1.3%
Immigrant College Access	.	4.4%	.	2.3%
I did not participate in any programs like this	36.8%	36.5%	41.6%	41.3%
Other	5.4%	0.7%	4.9%	3.0%

Note. Missing values, denoted by a period, indicate the item was not included on the respective year's survey.

**Table 21. If You Participated In One Or More College Preparation Programs, What Did You Get Out Of It? (Item 34)**

	Lanier 2008	Lanier 2009	All HS 2008	All HS 2009
They encouraged me to attend school regularly	42.6%	34.9%	35.3%	31.8%
They helped me choose the HS courses to prepare for college	41.1%	34.3%	31.8%	28.5%
They explained the financial aid process to me	41.8%	47.1%	37.9%	33.2%
They were available to help with school-related issues	30.5%	29.1%	29.1%	26.2%
They helped me deal with personal issues	20.6%	14.5%	18.7%	15.4%
They helped me believe that college was right for me	41.8%	37.8%	33.4%	30.9%
They helped me apply to college	46.8%	45.9%	47.3%	38.7%
Other	6.4%	0.6%	8.6%	1.9%

**Table 22. Have You Applied To The Following Types Of Postsecondary Institutions? (Items 35, 36, And 37)**

	Lanier 2007	Lanier 2008	Lanier 2009	All HS 2007	All HS 2008	All HS 2009
Have you applied to a 2-year college	61.0%	58.7%	53.5%	49.8%	41.4%	41.3%
Have you applied to a 4-year college?	63.1%	48.0%	44.3%	69.1%	63.9%	62.7%
Have you applied to a business/technical/vocational school?	24.6%	11.2%	14.5%	13.7%	6.5%	8.5%

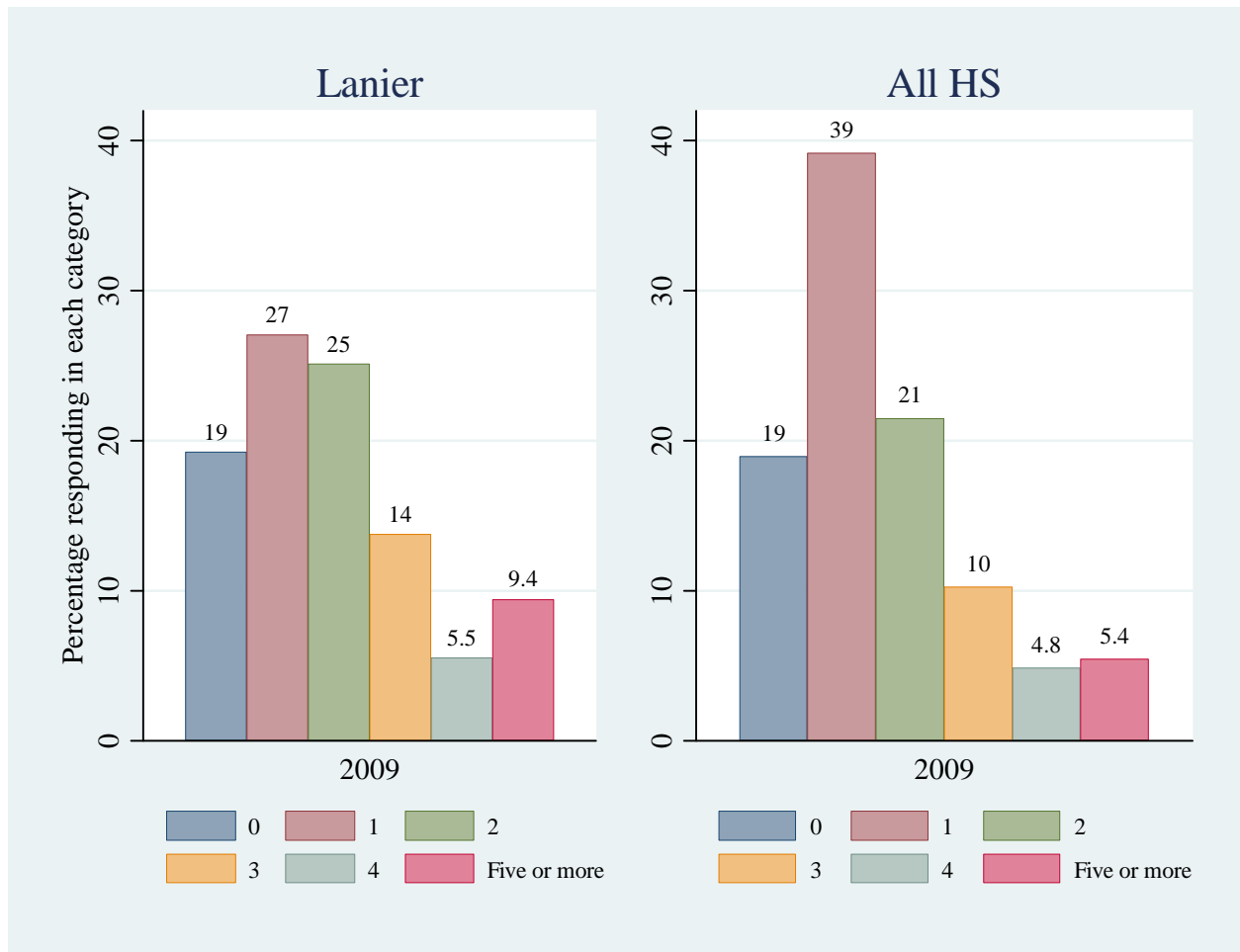
*Note.* On the 2009 survey, students were asked to indicate the number of schools to which they had applied, whereas in 2008, students were only prompted to indicate whether they had applied.

**Figure 7. Will You Be The First Of Your Siblings (Brothers Or Sisters) To Attend College? (Item 10)**



*Note.* This item was reworded for the 2009 survey. In past years, we asked students if they were the first person in their family to attend college. For 2009, we asked students separately about their siblings and parents. Therefore, no longitudinal data were available for this question.

**Figure 8. How Many Siblings (Brothers Or Sisters) Do You Have Who Are Either Enrolled In College Or Live With You (Item 11)**



*Note.* This item was new to the 2009 survey. This item is designed to gauge the number of dependent children either living at home or away at college.

**Table 23. How Easy Has It Been For You And Your Parents To Understand The Process Of Applying For Financial Aid? (Item 45)**

	Lanier 2008	Lanier 2009	All HS 2008	All HS 2009
Difficult	12.8%	12.3%	11.8%	12.8%
Some parts easy, some parts difficult	41.5%	46.1%	36.3%	43.7%
Easy	34.4%	17.8%	38.0%	22.2%
Did not apply for financial aid	11.3%	23.8%	13.8%	21.4%

**Table 24. How Do You Plan To Pay For Your Education After High School? (Item 46)**

	Lanier 2008	Lanier 2009	All HS 2008	All HS 2009
Scholarships and/or grants	45.3%	53.1%	54.8%	56.3%
Loans	65.0%	26.9%	63.7%	38.0%
Family or personal savings	36.8%	31.7%	56.8%	49.5%
Working during the school year	51.1%	52.4%	47.0%	46.4%
Working during the summer	46.6%	49.4%	45.3%	48.2%
I don't know	17.5%	22.5%	14.9%	14.6%

*Note.* Respondents could select more than one option, so percentages may not total 100%.

**Table 25. Which Of The Following Did A Family Member Do To Help You Prepare For Life After High School Graduation? (Item 43)**

	Lanier 2009	All HS 2009
Encouraged you to apply to several different colleges	44.6%	57.0%
Talked to you about what college would be like	47.6%	62.9%
Helped you complete college applications	20.3%	42.0%
Helped you find scholarships	19.9%	34.2%
Helped you complete a FAFSA	38.4%	45.6%
Helped you decide which college to attend	39.1%	53.0%
Helped you write college essays/personal statements	15.1%	29.6%
Did not help	25.1%	14.2%

*Note.* This item was new in 2009.

**Table 26. If You Did Not Submit A Financial Aid Application, Why Not? (Item 47)**

	Lanier 2009	All HS 2009
I do not need financial aid to attend college	14.0%	23.4%
My parents were not willing to submit private financial information	6.7%	6.9%
My family did not think we would qualify for or were eligible for financial aid	24.4%	23.5%
I do not plan to go to college	14.0%	9.8%
I did not know about the financial aid process	40.9%	36.3%

*Note.* This item was new in 2009.

**Table 27. Which Of The Following Campus Staff Helped You With Any Of The Activities Listed Below: (Item 42)**

	Lanier School counselor	Lanier Advisory	Lanier Teacher	Lanier Advance Facilitator	Lanier AVID Staff	Lanier Early College Start Advisor	All HS School counselor	All HS Advisory	All HS Teacher	All HS Advance Facilitator	All HS AVID Staff	All HS Early College Start Advisor
<b>Selected courses for work or college</b>	50.2%	28.0%	37.8%	31.6%	5.8%	24.4%	48.3%	12.8%	28.0%	21.7%	4.2%	12.0%
<b>AP/honors courses</b>	45.1%	24.4%	46.9%	15.6%	5.5%	8.4%	35.4%	11.1%	47.4%	10.5%	3.8%	3.2%
<b>To continue education</b>	48.0%	38.5%	58.9%	32.7%	7.6%	19.6%	47.5%	22.6%	53.9%	26.1%	6.0%	9.8%
<b>Talked about colleges/schools</b>	43.6%	28.7%	44.4%	33.8%	7.6%	18.5%	37.7%	16.3%	37.1%	26.4%	4.7%	7.5%
<b>Discussed careers</b>	37.1%	32.0%	44.4%	34.5%	5.8%	18.2%	33.5%	16.8%	33.9%	24.1%	4.8%	7.6%
<b>Encouraged to apply to multiple schools</b>	38.2%	33.1%	45.5%	33.1%	6.9%	12.0%	37.6%	16.3%	34.4%	26.8%	4.9%	5.2%
<b>Helped complete applications for college</b>	29.8%	23.6%	26.5%	36.4%	4.0%	13.8%	25.2%	10.3%	20.3%	26.0%	3.8%	5.7%
<b>Helped find scholarships</b>	26.2%	23.6%	25.5%	34.5%	4.4%	6.5%	24.3%	9.8%	19.4%	26.2%	4.0%	4.1%
<b>Helped choose college</b>	28.0%	22.5%	28.7%	30.5%	3.6%	9.5%	22.8%	9.6%	22.9%	19.4%	3.0%	4.3%
<b>Helped plan for college expenses</b>	23.3%	25.5%	26.5%	30.2%	3.6%	7.6%	21.2%	10.3%	16.9%	21.7%	3.7%	4.5%
<b>Helped with college application essays or personal statements</b>	22.9%	23.6%	38.9%	27.6%	6.2%	7.6%	21.3%	9.3%	36.2%	19.9%	3.8%	3.9%

*Note.* The design of this question changed from what it was in 2008. In past years, students were asked to rate each type of staff member according to their effectiveness in one of the above college preparation domains. On the 2009 survey, students were asked to indicate whether any of these staff members had helped them with any of the activities listed above.

**ADDITIONAL RESULTS**

**Figure 9a. What Is The *One Thing* That Was Most Important To Keeping You Going Through School All The Way To Graduation? (Item 48, Lanier)**





**Figure 9b. What Is The *One Thing* That Was Most Important To Keeping You Going Through School All The Way To Graduation? (Item 48, All High Schools)**

