

# High School Exit Survey: P-Lanier

## Austin Independent School District

Class of 2015

### Purpose

The 13<sup>th</sup> annual Austin Independent School District (AISD) High School Exit Survey (HSES) was administered online to seniors in every AISD high school during Spring 2015. In total, 16 P-Lanier High School seniors completed the survey, for a response rate of 76%.

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 may have provided eligible special education students with guidance and assistance in completing the survey.

The purpose of the HSES was to monitor high school students' 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's strategic plan *Goal 3: All students will graduate ready for college, career, and life in a globally competitive economy.*

## Postsecondary Aspirations, Parental Engagement, & Support

Table 1.

**Half of P-Lanier seniors planned to [work part time while attending college.](#)**

Postsecondary plans	P-Lanier 2014	P-Lanier 2015	District 2015
Continue my education	96%	69%	86%
Attend college or technical school <u>without working</u>	0%	0%	20%
Attend college or technical school while <u>working full time</u>	21%	19%	11%
<a href="#">Attend college or technical school while working part time</a>	63%	<b>50%</b>	56%
Work full time only	13%	13%	4%
Work part time only	4%	0%	1%
Enlist in the military	8%	0%	3%
No plans/ not sure yet	13%	19%	4%
Other	4%	0%	2%

Table 2.

Half of P-Lanier seniors who planned to enroll in college planned to enroll **Spring 2016**.

Semester enrollment	P-Lanier 2014	P-Lanier 2015	District 2015
This summer	16%	10%	8%
This fall	37%	40%	85%
<b>Next spring</b>	47%	50%	7%

Table 3.

Almost half of P-Lanier seniors planned to enroll in a **2-year institution**. More than 1/3 of seniors planned to enroll in a **2-year college and then transfer to a 4-year college**.

Type of institution	P-Lanier 2014	P-Lanier 2015	District 2015
A 4-year college or university	20%	18%	57%
<b>A 2-year college or university</b>	50%	45%	10%
<b>A 2-year community college and then transfer to a 4-year college</b>	40%	36%	30%
A private career or trade school	5%	0%	2%

Table 4.

Three in 4 of P-Lanier seniors planned to attend **Austin Community College**.

Postsecondary institutions	P-Lanier 2014	P-Lanier 2015	District 2015
<b>Austin Community College (ACC)</b>	71%	75%	35%
Texas State University	0%	0%	8%
University of Texas-P-Lanier	0%	0%	9%
University of Texas-San Antonio	0%	0%	4%
Texas A&M University	0%	0%	4%
St. Edward's University	0%	0%	2%
Blinn College	0%	0%	2%
University of North Texas	0%	0%	2%
Texas Tech University	0%	0%	3%
Stephen F. P-Lanier University	0%	0%	1%
Other	29%	25%	31%

Table 5.

**Health sciences** and **computer and information sciences** were top areas P-Lanier seniors planned to study in college. Eighteen percent of P-Lanier seniors were interested in studying **computer and information sciences**, a 13% percentage point increase since 2014.

Jobs/careers	P-Lanier 2014	P-Lanier 2015	District 2015
<b>Health sciences</b>	35%	<b>27%</b>	17%
Business	10%	0%	13%
Engineering	10%	9%	13%
Law, public safety, corrections, and security	0%	0%	6%
<b>Computer and information sciences</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>18%</b>	5%
Human services	0%	0%	3%
I do not know	0%	18%	9%
Visual and performing arts	5%	0%	7%
Agricultural sciences and technologies	0%	0%	3%
Natural sciences and mathematics	5%	0%	7%
Education	10%	9%	5%
Communication	0%	0%	4%
Architecture	10%	0%	2%
Social sciences	0%	0%	3%
Hospitality and tourism	0%	9%	1%
Humanities	0%	0%	1%
Office skills	0%	9%	0%
Trade and industrial	0%	0%	1%

Table 6.

**Almost 80% of P-Lanier seniors did not take a high school course in the area they planned to study in college.**

	P-Lanier 2015	District 2015
Yes	22%	65%
<b>No</b>	<b>78%</b>	35%

Table 7.

More than 4 in 10 P-Lanier seniors who did not take a course in the area they planned to study in college did not do so because **there were no such courses offered at P-Lanier.**

Reasons	P-Lanier 2015	District 2015
I wanted to, but there were no such courses offered at my school.	43%	27%
My parents did not want me to take a course in that area.	0%	1%
I wanted to, but my schedule would not allow it.	29%	51%
I was not interested in taking a course in this area in high school.	29%	18%
A counselor steered me away from those courses.	0%	1%
Other	14%	11%

Table 8.

Four in 10 P-Lanier seniors who did not plan to enroll in college immediately after high school, planned to **take a year off from school to pursue other things.**

Reason	P-Lanier 2014	P-Lanier 2015	District 2015
Financial	3%	0%	18%
Academic	3%	20%	7%
Personal obligation	0%	20%	7%
Personal preference	0%	20%	20%
Gap year	6%	40%	35%
Other	0%	0%	14%

Table 9.

More than 8 in 10 P-Lanier seniors' mother's education level was a **high school diploma/GED or below.**

School status	P-Lanier 2014	P-Lanier 2015	District 2015
Doctorate degree (e.g., PhD, EdD, etc.)	0%	0%	3%
Professional degree (e.g., MD, JD, etc.)	0%	0%	20%
Master's degree	4%	0%	9%
Bachelor's degree (4-year)	8%	6%	20%
Associate degree (2-year)	0%	0%	5%
Some college	25%	6%	13%
High school diploma or earned a GED	13%	19%	19%
Less than high school	42%	63%	24%
Don't know or does not apply	8%	6%	4%

Table 10.

**Forty-four percent of P-Lanier seniors' parents expected them to [earn a college degree or industry license/certification](#).**

Level of education	P-Lanier 2014	P-Lanier 2015	District 2015
Doctorate degree (e.g., PhD, EdD, etc.)	8%	0%	12%
Master's degree	8%	6%	16%
Bachelor's degree (4-year)	29%	19%	37%
Associate degree (2-year)	8%	19%	5%
Industry license or certification	--	0%	3%
Some college	0%	38%	7%
High school or earned a GED	21%	13%	8%
I am not sure	8%	6%	12%

Table 11.

**Almost all P-Lanier seniors expected to [earn a college degree or certification](#) in their lifetime.**

Level of education	P-Lanier 2014	P-Lanier 2015	District 2015
Doctoral or professional degree	--	6%	20%
Master's degree	--	13%	28%
Bachelor's degree (4-yr college or university)	38%	31%	35%
Associate degree (2-year community college)	33%	13%	8%
Industry license or certification (e.g., trade/technical school)	4%	6%	4%
High school diploma	13%	3%	5%

Table 12.

**P-Lanier seniors have been told mostly by their [parents](#) and [teachers](#) they should go to college.**

Level of education	P-Lanier 2015	District 2015
<b>Parents</b>	<b>88%</b>	89%
<b>Teachers</b>	<b>75%</b>	78%
College and career advisor	13%	55%
School counselor	31%	55%
Coach(es)	6%	38%
Sibling(s) or other family member(s)	69%	63%
Friend(s)	56%	75%
Other adult in my life	31%	47%
No one	0%	3%

Table 13.

**P-Lanier seniors' parents were involved with their schooling mostly by **making sure they completed their homework** and **talking to them about how their doing in their classes**.**

Seniors who responded either <i>sometimes</i> or <i>often</i>	P-Lanier 2014	P-Lanier 2015	District 2015
Talking to you about homework	70%	57%	68%
<b>Making sure you completed your homework</b>	78%	<b>69%</b>	65%
Asking you about what you're learning in school	70%	57%	65%
Helping you decide what classes to take	64%	50%	54%
<b>Talking to you about how you're doing in your classes</b>	87%	<b>69%</b>	79%
Rewarding you when you do well in school	74%	40%	56%
Communicating with your teachers	52%	26%	46%
Attending school meetings	30%	33%	47%
Attending school events	27%	32%	58%
Volunteering at your school	26%	32%	28%
Joining and participating in the PTA	17%	14%	18%
Use Parent Cloud to monitor your grades	31%	19%	51%

Table 14.

**Most P-Lanier seniors know at least one teacher who supported their personal lives, high school academics, and postsecondary aspirations.**

Teacher help	P-Lanier 2014	P-Lanier 2015	District 2015
Would be willing to give you extra help with your school work if you needed it	96%	81%	88%
Would be willing to help you with a personal problem	58%	44%	74%
Cares about how you're doing in school	71%	63%	79%
Would be willing to write you a letter of recommendation for a job or college	71%	56%	81%
Knows what you will be doing next year	46%	31%	65%
Would be willing to help you even after you graduate	38%	50%	64%
I do not know a teacher who fits any of the items above.	--	6%	4%

# Persistence and Motivation

Table 15.

P-Lanier seniors indicated their feelings about their persistence, motivation, and interactions with teachers.

Percentage who responded either <i>sometimes</i> or <i>always</i>	P-Lanier 2014	P-Lanier 2015	District 2015
I can do even the hardest schoolwork if I try.	96%	88%	92%
I enjoy doing my schoolwork.	83%	67%	59%
I feel/felt well prepared for STAAR/EOC.	77%	73%	84%
I try hard to do my best work.	100%	82%	91%
I feel successful in my schoolwork.	100%	9%	89%
My teachers push us to think hard about the things we read.	96%	100%	87%
My teachers push everyone to work hard.	100%	100%	90%
I can reach the goals I set for myself.	100%	100%	96%
My homework helps me learn things I need to know.	92%	86%	78%
My schoolwork makes me think about things in new ways.	100%	87%	73%
My teachers connect what I am learning to life outside of class.	73%	79%	70%
I have fun learning in my classes.	88%	86%	77%
I like to come to school.	83%	60%	71%

# Extracurricular Activities

Table 16.

The school-affiliated activities P-Lanier seniors were mostly involved in were **sports** and **speech/debate**.

In school	Did not participate	1-2 years	3-4 years
Music	69%	25%	6%
Theater/drama	69%	31%	0%
Dance	71%	28%	0%
<b>Sports</b>	38%	<b>51%</b>	<b>13%</b>
Academic clubs/UII competitions	88%	13%	0%
<b>Speech/debate</b>	50%	<b>50%</b>	<b>0%</b>
Student government	67%	33%	0%
Career and technical student organizations	80%	20%	0%

Table 17.

P-Lanier seniors were mostly involved in **sports** and **providing routine care for family members** outside of school.

Outside of school	Did not participate	1-2 years	3-4 years
Music	63%	19%	19%
Theater/drama	69%	24%	6%
Dance	75%	19%	6%
<b>Sports</b>	44%	<b>19%</b>	<b>37%</b>
<b>Providing routine care for family members</b>	47%	<b>34%</b>	<b>20%</b>
Community service	75%	19%	6%
Environmental projects/activities	81%	13%	6%
Boy/Girl Scouts	88%	6%	6%

## Work and Study Time

Table 18.

Almost 60% of P-Lanier seniors **worked** during their senior year.

Work time	Percentage who worked <i>during</i> senior year		
	P-Lanier 2014	P-Lanier 2015	District 2015
Did not work	25%	44%	39%
<b>Less than 20 hours</b>	8%	<b>13%</b>	28%
<b>20 hours or more</b>	67%	<b>44%</b>	33%

Table 19.

Almost 40% P-Lanier seniors who worked during their senior year worked to **save money for college**.

Reason	P-Lanier 2015	District 2015
<b>To save money for college</b>	<b>38%</b>	19%
To help my family with bills/expenses	13%	20%
I like the freedom of having my own money	25%	52%
Other	25%	9%



Table 20.

On average, P-Lanier seniors studied **1 to 5 hours** each week.

Study time	Percentage who studied each week		
	P-Lanier 2014	P-Lanier 2015	District 2015
None	17%	20%	9%
<b>1 to 5 hours</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>40%</b>	40%
6 to 10 hours	25%	13%	22%
11 to 15 hours	4%	7%	12%
16 to 20 hours	4%	0%	9%
More than 20 hours	8%	20%	9%

## Instructional Quality

Table 21.

P-Lanier High School helped seniors to actively develop **Twenty-first Century Skills**.

Percentage who responded <i>somewhat well</i> or <i>very well</i>	P-Lanier 2014	P-Lanier 2015	District 2015
Teamwork	96%	63%	91%
Creative thinking	96%	88%	90%
Problem solving	92%	82%	93%
Conflict resolution	96%	73%	87%
Personal health/fitness	92%	63%	81%
Time management	91%	75%	84%
Technology	88%	69%	84%

Table 22.

P-Lanier seniors rated the quality of their **computer/technology**, **performing/fine arts**, **social studies**, and **English language arts** instruction most favorably.

Percentage who responded <i>good</i> or <i>excellent</i>	P-Lanier 2014	P-Lanier 2015	District 2015
<b>English language arts</b>	78%	<b>66%</b>	81%
<b>Social studies</b>	70%	<b>67%</b>	75%
<b>Performing/Fine arts</b>	55%	<b>67%</b>	73%
Career and technical (CTE)	64%	62%	71%
Science	67%	57%	70%
Mathematics	75%	53%	73%
<b>Computer/Technology</b>	54%	<b>69%</b>	64%
Foreign language	48%	46%	64%

## Technology Access and Use

Table 23.

Forty-four percent of P-Lanier seniors have a **computer with Internet access** at home.

Access	P-Lanier 2014	P-Lanier 2015	District 2015
No computer	13%	25%	5%
No computer, but Internet access	26%	13%	12%
Computer, no Internet	4%	19%	4%
<b>Computer with Internet access</b>	<b>57%</b>	<b>44%</b>	<b>79%</b>

Table 24.

P-Lanier seniors used Naviance mostly to **search colleges**.

Percentage answering <i>yes</i>	P-Lanier 2014	P-Lanier 2015	District 2015
Class rank and GPA inquiry	26%	19%	82%
<b>College search</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>44%</b>	<b>70%</b>
Counselor-directed activities	29%	25%	63%
College visit sign up	21%	19%	55%
Career exploration	42%	25%	48%
Resume building	21%	13%	36%

## Postsecondary Preparation and Advising

Table 25.

Forty-four percent of P-Lanier seniors did not start thinking about college until they were in **high school**.

Time frame	P-Lanier 2014	P-Lanier 2015	District 2015
As long as I can remember	12%	19%	37%
In elementary school	0%	13%	9%
In middle/junior high school	18%	19%	21%
<b>In high school</b>	<b>38%</b>	<b>44%</b>	<b>31%</b>
I've never thought about college	3%	6%	3%

Table 26.

Over 1/3 of P-Lanier seniors who did not think about college until high school thought about it by their **sophomore year**.

Grade	P-Lanier 2014	P-Lanier 2015	District 2015
9 <sup>th</sup> Grade	9%	17%	20%
10 <sup>th</sup> Grade	5%	50%	25%
11 <sup>th</sup> Grade	9%	17%	37%
12 <sup>th</sup> Grade	15%	17%	18%

Table 27.

P-Lanier seniors prepared for postsecondary education mostly by **completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)** and **taking courses at Austin Community College**.

Type of preparation	P-Lanier 2014	P-Lanier 2015	District 2015
Took college entrance tests (e.g., SAT, ACT, THEA, COMPASS, ASSET)	17%	6%	60%
Took one or more Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate classes	13%	13%	51%
Took test prep class for the PSAT, SAT, ACT, etc.	9%	13%	45%
<b>Completed or are currently enrolled in ACC courses</b>	13%	25%	32%
Took other college level courses (e.g., Texas State, Texas Tech, TSTC)	9%	6%	9%
Visited one or more colleges or technical schools	29%	20%	58%
Met with the school counselor/ADVANCE staff to discuss college plans/processes	21%	13%	50%
Attended one or more college fairs	17%	20%	43%
Met with a college representative or recruiter at my high school	13%	13%	41%
Participated in ACC College Connections	17%	7%	24%
Attended Financial Aid Saturday event(s)	--	0%	10%
<b>Completed and submitted the FAFSA</b>	29%	25%	68%
Completed and submitted a scholarship application	13%	13%	47%
Ordered and submitted a transcript to a college or trade/ technical school.	17%	13%	56%
I have not completed any activities to prepare for continuing my education	54%	53%	17%
I have done nothing to academically prepare for continuing my education	57%	63%	19%
I have not completed any forms to prepare for continuing my education	67%	63%	19%

Table 28.

P-Lanier seniors' family members helped them prepare for life after high school mostly by **talking to them about their responsibilities as an adult, career and/or college options, and finances.**

Form of help	P-Lanier 2014	P-Lanier 2015	District 2015
Talked to you about career and/or college options	63%	56%	79%
Talked to you about finances	38%	56%	65%
Talked to you about your responsibilities as an adult	75%	63%	75%
Talked to you about what a career and/or college would be like	50%	38%	62%
Helped you with financial aid (FAFSA and/or scholarships)	21%	13%	55%
Helped you complete applications for colleges or trade/technical schools	17%	19%	40%
Encouraged you to apply to several different colleges	33%	50%	53%
No one in my family talked to me about or helped me with these things.	13%	13%	6%

Table 29.

P-Lanier seniors' teachers helped them most by **pushing their academic abilities** and helped them **decide what college to attend.** School counselors helped them by encouraging them to **take AP/honors courses.**

Activity	None of these people	School counselor	Teacher	College & career advisor
Select courses needed for work or admission to college	31%	19%	44%	6%
Push your academic abilities further	38%	13%	50%	0%
Take AP / honors courses	53%	20%	27%	0%
Take dual credit or articulated credit courses	44%	19%	38%	0%
Get information about careers/occupations	38%	13%	50%	0%
Continue your education after high school	38%	13%	44%	6%
Apply to multiple schools	56%	13%	31%	6%
Decide what school to attend	38%	13%	50%	0%
Fill out applications for postsecondary education	53%	13%	33%	0%
Write college application essays or personal statements	44%	19%	38%	0%

Table 30.

Most P-Lanier seniors **never tried to meet with** their school counselor or Project ADVANCE advisor.

Availability	School Counselor	College & Career Advisor
Yes, this person was available and I talked to him/her.	31%	33%
I tried to talk to this person and wasn't able to meet with him/her.	6%	7%
<b>I never tried to meet with this person.</b>	<b>63%</b>	<b>60%</b>

## Applications to Postsecondary Institutions

Table 31.

Almost 40% of P-Lanier seniors who applied to 2-year institutions submitted **1 to 3 applications**.

Institution type	0 applications	1-3 applications	4 or more applications
<b>2-year</b>	50%	<b>37%</b>	13%
4-year	80%	7%	13%
Business/technical/vocational school	86%	7%	7%

Table 32.

Almost 30% of P-Lanier seniors who applied to 2-year institutions received **1 to 3 acceptances**.

Institution type	0 acceptances	1-3 acceptances	4 or more acceptances
<b>2-year</b>	67%	<b>27%</b>	6%
4-year	79%	7%	14%
Business/technical/vocational school	92%	0%	8%

## Postsecondary Financial Literacy

Table 33.

Seventy-three percent of P-Lanier seniors planned to pay for college with **scholarships and/or grants** or **by working during the summer**.

Source	P-Lanier 2014	P-Lanier 2015	District 2015
<b>Scholarships and/or grants</b>	55%	<b>73%</b>	68%
Loans	30%	18%	42%
Family or personal savings	45%	55%	63%
Tuition and fees exemption	20%	0%	10%
Working during the school year	70%	64%	59%
<b>Working during the summer</b>	55%	<b>73%</b>	61%
I don't know	10%	0%	4%

Table 34.

P-Lanier seniors learned about financial aid for college mostly from their **parents or other adults**.

Source of information	P-Lanier 2014	P-Lanier 2015	District 2015
Senior economics class	17%	13%	21%
Financial Aid Saturday events	13%	6%	16%
Talked to school counselor/college and career advisor/Project ADVANCE staff	21%	50%	48%
Information from a college or university (e.g., website, brochures)	25%	25%	35%
College recruiter	8%	0%	18%
U.S. Department of Education or FAFSA websites	13%	13%	23%
<b>Parents or other adults</b>	50%	<b>63%</b>	63%
Social media (e.g., Twitter, Facebook, etc.)	21%	13%	12%
None of these	21%	19%	10%

Table 35.

**Over half of Akins seniors did not apply for financial aid.**

Degree of ease	P-Lanier 2014	P-Lanier 2015	District 2015
Easy	9%	19%	24%
Some parts easy, some parts difficult	35%	25%	47%
Difficult	9%	0%	12%
<b>I did not apply for financial aid</b>	48%	56%	16%

Table 36.

**Most P-Lanier seniors who did not submit the FAFSA did not do so because they did not know about the financial aid process.**

Reason	P-Lanier 2014	P-Lanier 2015	District 2015
I did not need financial aid to attend college	9%	11%	18%
My parents were not willing to submit private financial information	0%	0%	6%
My family did not think we would qualify or be eligible for financial aid	18%	11%	19%
I did not plan to go to college	0%	0%	18%
<b>I did not know about the financial aid process</b>	73%	78%	38%

## Acronym Key

The following acronyms are used in the High School Exit Survey summary reports. Where relevant, acronyms have a link to an external URL.

Acronym	Definition
<a href="#">ACC</a>	Austin Community College
<a href="#">ACT</a>	American College Testing
<a href="#">AP</a>	Advanced Placement
<a href="#">ASSET</a>	American College Testing (ACT) placement exam for students in community/technical colleges
<a href="#">COMPASS</a>	American College Testing (ACT) Computer-adapted Placement Assessment and Support Services
<a href="#">EOC</a>	End of Course exam
<a href="#">FAFSA</a>	Free Application for Federal Student Aid
<a href="#">GPA</a>	grade point average
<a href="#">MSA</a>	Metropolitan Statistical Area
<a href="#">PSAT</a>	Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT)
<a href="#">SAT</a>	Scholastic Aptitude Test
<a href="#">STAAR</a>	State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness
<a href="#">TAKS</a>	Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills
<a href="#">THEA</a>	Texas Higher Education Assessment
<a href="#">TSTC</a>	Texas State Technical College
<a href="#">UIL</a>	University Interscholastic League