Safe and Supportive Schools: Connectedness

Social and Emotional Connectedness of the School Community

In a school community, both the adults and children can perform at their best only when they communicate well and feel connected to one another. Everyone needs to feel safe, nurtured, and supported - or teaching and learning are compromised. Data on this report comes from the annual SALT Survey.

**Connectedness among professional colleagues, teachers, and administrators**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Percent who report they agree or strongly agree that:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>This school</td>
<td>My job lets me use my skills and knowledge.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R.I. high schools</td>
<td>I help decide how school policies ought to be changed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Teachers on my team or grade level respect each other's ideas and opinions.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Teacher Responses**

- Percent who report they are satisfied or very satisfied with:
  - Co-worker stimulation and support
  - Opportunities to accomplish something worthwhile
  - There is a group spirit among the staff.

**Student Responses**

- Percent who report that most of the time or always:
  - There is a group spirit among the staff.

**Advisory Programs**

- Percent reporting that their school has a 'teacher-led' advisory program
- Percent of teachers who report they serve as an advisor in the school's advisory program

**Connectedness between students and teachers**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Percent who report that most of the time or always:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>This school</td>
<td>Teachers take a personal interest in students.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R.I. high schools</td>
<td>Get individual help and advising from teachers.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Teacher Responses**

- Percent who report that they agree or strongly agree that members of their team or grade level:
  - Teachers on my team or grade level respect each other's ideas and opinions.
  - Teachers on my team or grade level respect each other's ideas and opinions.

**Student Responses**

- Percent who report that most of the time or always:
  - Teachers take a personal interest in students.

**Advisory Programs**

- Percent reporting that their school has a 'teacher-led' advisory program
- Percent of teachers who report they serve as an advisor in the school's advisory program

**Connectedness throughout the school community as a whole**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Percent who agree or strongly agree that:</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>This school</td>
<td>The school views parents as important partners.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R.I. high schools</td>
<td>Including parents on school committees such as curriculum, budget and school improvement</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Parent Responses**

- They have a sense (feeling) of belonging in this school.
- Students in this school have trouble getting along with each other.

**Teacher Responses**

- It is essential for schools to provide instruction on conflict or violence reduction.
- This school provides instruction on conflict or violence reduction.

**Building-Principal Responses**

- Percent reporting that their school has a 'teacher-led' advisory program

**Student Responses**

- Students in my class enjoy working together.