Richfield #3
Case #68086

Enforcing Richfield Pride

BY: Diego Luis Niquio

Problem

- There are many people who are proud of our school, but are not able to SHOW it because others don't.
- Additionally, this lacks the pride needed to represent who we are as a school.

How can we improve this ?

- Establish a large school merchandise/bookstore.
- Establish an annual event called, "Spartan Day", where students can celebrate RHS by wearing Spartan merchandise, interacting in various activities, and compete in interclass competitions.
- Expand more on improving hallway decorations.

Solution Criteria

- Based from the criteria, the proposed annual, "Spartan day" is the most effective. It requires less maintenance, less time, a fair amount of budget, and the most out of student engagement.

	Budget	Time	Maintenance	Student Engagement	Total
School Store	3	2	3	2	10
Spartan Day	2	1	1	3	7
Hallway Decor	1	3	2	1	7

Scale 1-3 1= least and 3 = most

Action Plan!

How it will be implemented?

- It will be established on a Non-traditional school day (Best on a Friday or day before a major break).
- Everyone will be encouraged to wear or display spartan related wear or materials.
- Teachers and staff will facilitate all games and activities throughout the day.
- Prizes will be awarded for games, competitions, and for the best spartan spirit individual.
- Competitions will be against all advisory classes.

How will it be measured?

- The success of this event will be measured by the amount of people who engage and participate in the activities.

Challenge:

- Students will need a place where they can purchase Spartan merchandise (school store).

Let's start by enforcing all school PRIDE because it's something that we should never try to HIDE!

A Proposal to Improve College Readiness

Presented by William Voigt

"RHS students are seeing the college application process as a barrier, not as an opportunity."

The Problem...

- RHS upperclassmen are **unprepared** for the College application process
  - College Applications are harder than they need to be
- Students have to reach out to the counselors to gain any sort of information
- At RHS, the blunt reality is that **students are not willing advocate for themselves**.
  - less likely to reach out to counselors = many students with little to no information
- Applying for college often is not a solely independent process -- students will likely need the guidance of an experienced individual
- Increasing technology = more complex application system

THE COMMON APPLICATION

THE COALITION

NAVIANCE

Possible Solutions & Criteria:

- **Extra Counselor(s) + Increased Duties**

- **Course (1 semester) specifically dedicated for Application Process / Scholarship Opportunities / Seeking Aid**

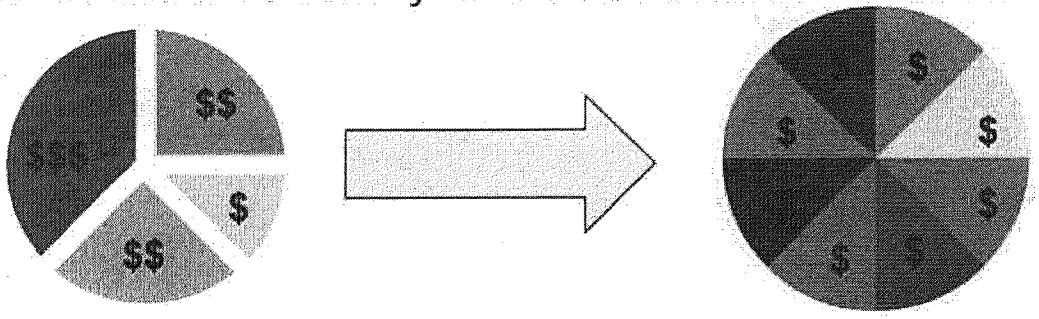
- **A more informative Advisory class**
  - **Advisory: 25 min class period every week composed of grade checks and small activities to help students in graduating.**
- Criteria: Cost, Effectiveness, and Student Desire

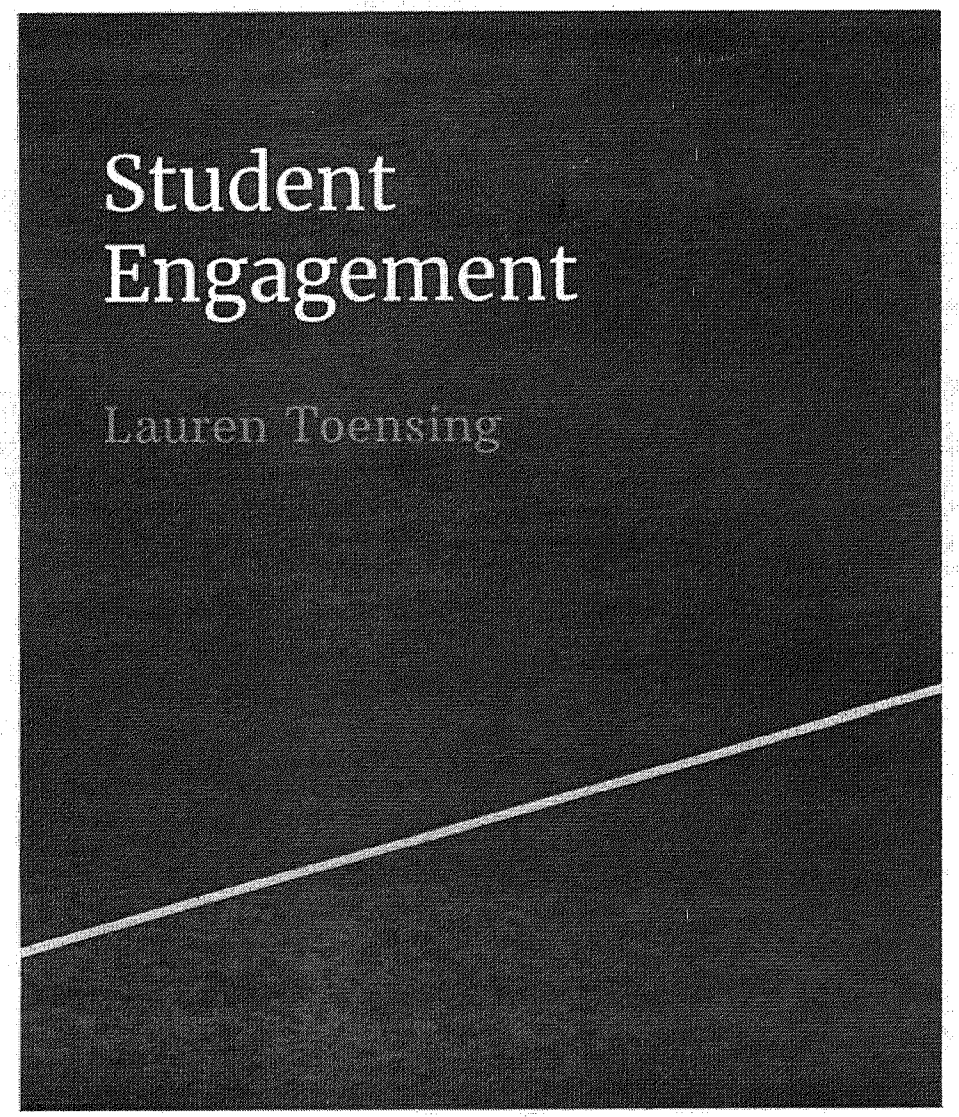
Solution - Hiring/Expanding Counselors' Roles

- This solution will most effectively counter students' reluctance to get the help they need
- Effectiveness is more important than cost
    - Initial investment will help funnel money back into school
- The advisory method would add little to no change to the readiness of RHS students simply because of the culture surrounding this period

Action Plan

- **Route 1: Hiring 1-2 Specific College Counselor(s) -**
  - Our current three counselors would perform the same tasks that they do now and new counselors would serve as solely college counselors
- **Route 2: Expanding the counselor staff and incorporating a more thorough college application guidance -**
  - This solution would divide all counselor work among 4-5 different counselors
  - Each counselor would do their current tasks + more college application help
- A reallocation of funds will likely cover the cost of this solution

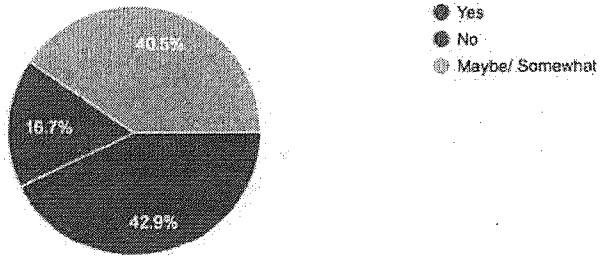




- Students at Richfield High School report only moderate engagement in school— an average of 6.5 on a scale of 10
- Low engagement often means kids don't care about performance, hurting their grades and the school
- Low engagement can be due to a number of factors, many outside of the school's control, but there are still things we can do to improve engagement

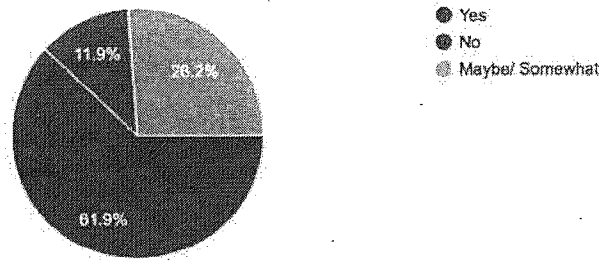
Do you feel that your level of engagement significantly affects your grades?

42 responses



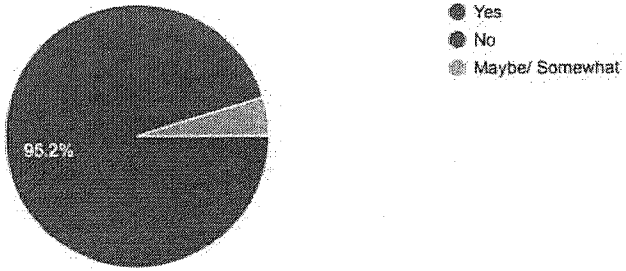
Do you get better grades when you like your teachers?

42 responses



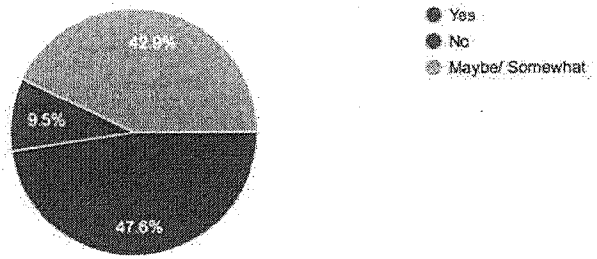
Do you enjoy school more when you have teachers that you like?

42 responses



Do you feel that Richfield High School already has an environment with predominantly friendly and respectful staff?

42 responses



Potential Solutions & Criteria:

1. LIGHTER WORKLOAD: Less work can mean less stress and better mental health
2. MORE CLASS OPTIONS: Allows students to better follow their own interests
3. BETTER STUDENT-TEACHER RELATIONSHIPS: Allows for better collaboration and communication
4. SMALLER CLASS SIZES: More time can be spent on each student
5. FOCUS ON LEARNING, NOT GRADES: Reduces stress and fear of failure, allowing for best learning

1. What is the cost?
2. Will it take time from the school day?
3. Will it affect student learning?
4. Will it create more work for teachers?
5. Will it be accessible and helpful for all students?

Solution:

We decided that emphasizing respectful and friendly relationships between students and teachers was the best way to increase student engagement.

- Students report higher engagement and often better performance when they feel respected by their teachers
- Students especially enjoy classes with teachers who take personal interests in their students
- This solution is helpful for all students, especially those who are already disengaged or low performing
- Easy to implement and at no cost to the school

Action Plan:

Most students already report that they find the atmosphere at RHS to be mostly or somewhat respectful and friendly, which implies that the desired culture already exists in the school but could be better emphasized. A simple policy that encourages all teachers to form personal and respectful relationships with their students could only make that culture more prevalent, and would not be difficult to introduce. It would not require any significant or institutional changes.

Improving Overall Student Engagement in RHS Classrooms

Josh Peterson

Student Engagement (why this?)

We chose to focus on student engagement because a student's engagement in class has a very direct impact on their performance. If you do not pay attention during class and are constantly lacking focus, it reflects in grades and test scores. You can not learn material without focusing and being taught it. That is the whole reason we are at school and have teachers. By improving a student's engagement, it should improve their performance SO, we need to find better ways to incentivise students to engage with material being taught.

Criteria:

We decided that our criteria would be impact on students, ease of implementation, and price.

Solution Options

- Best solution: Make participation a bigger percent of grades for non math/hard science classes.
  - Secondary solutions: Better encourage teachers to be interested in subject material.

How?

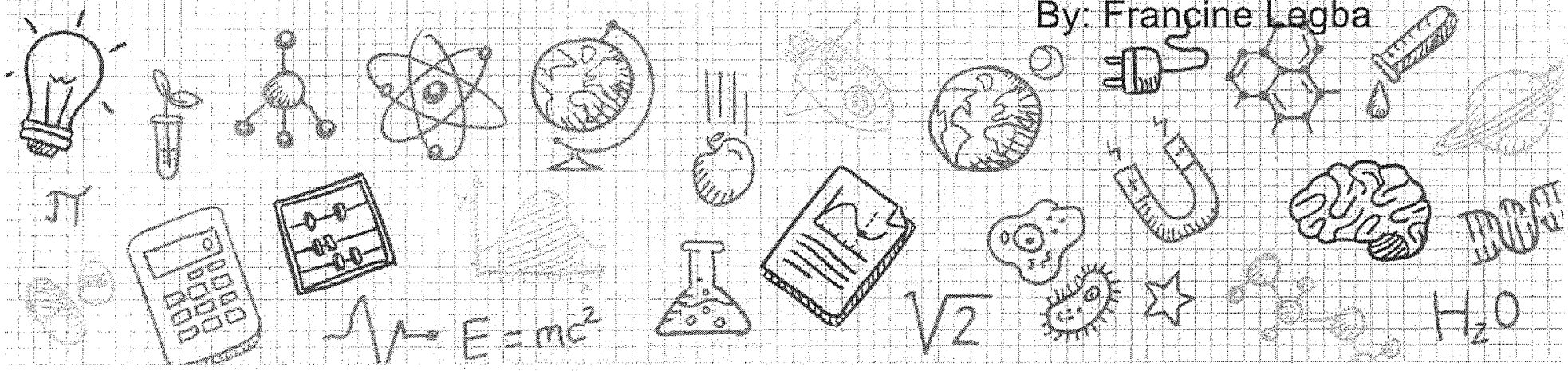
Increase already present class participation grade percentage. If Students do not engage, they already have a bad start, and this will give students an opportunity to be better rewarded for engaging in the material in classes.

Challenges: Often, the problem of educational disengagement needs to be addressed much closer to home, which administration is not capable of. However, our solution could help to alleviate what we see as the biggest problem at RHS.

Tackling College Readiness

After school College Readiness programs

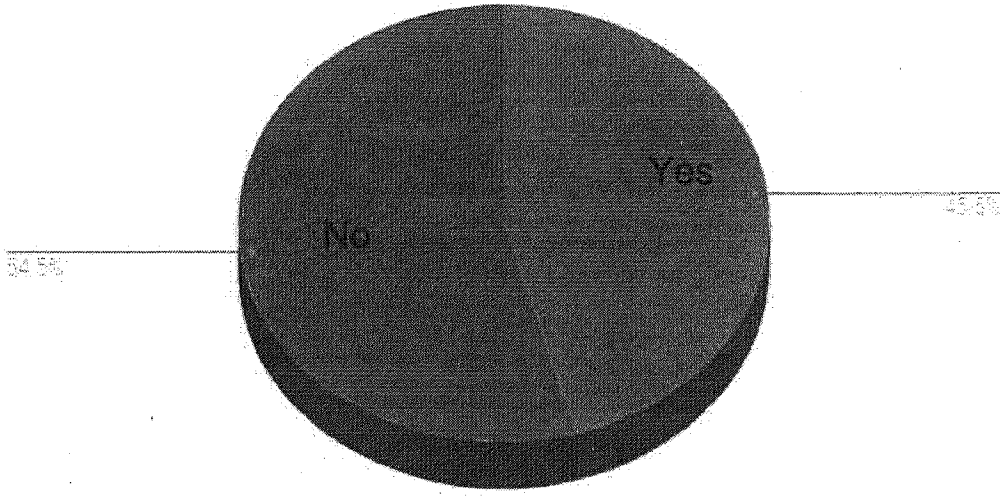
By: Francine Legba



Introduction

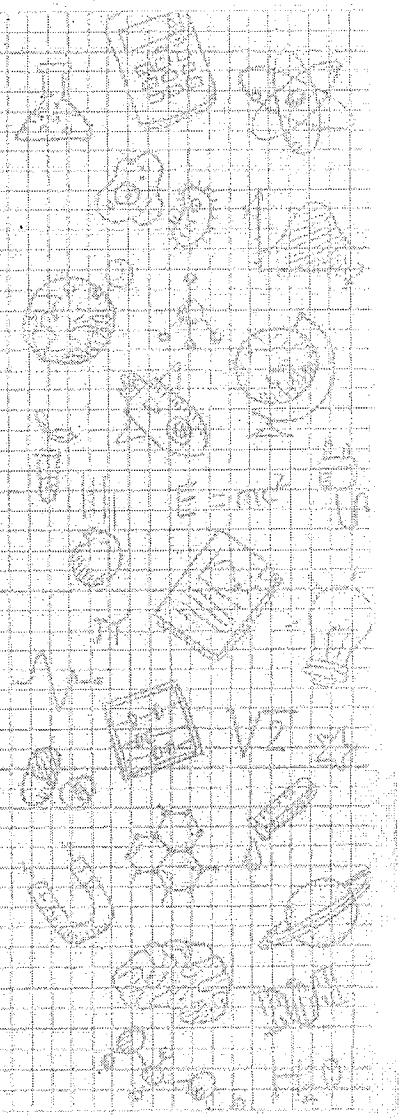
- ✘ Students never hearing of after school college prep programs. Only 45.5% of students heard of Upward Bound program.
- ✘ Good advertisement of CIS programs but limited advertised solutions to help students outside of school. .
- ✘ Students often complain of limited options that offer career advice.
- ✘ How do we effectively inform the student body and increase participation at the same time?

Have you heard of Upward Bound?



Potential Solutions

- ✘ Incentives to encourage students to come try program
- ✘ Spread info across PA, flyers, posters, email
- ✘ Have open houses for programs each year
- ✘ Host fun student-oriented programs to fund student planned activities in college readiness programs
- ✘ Take personal survey from students and advertise how well these programs assist students with their needs
- ✘ Combining college recovery and credit program into a single program that efficiently meets students needs

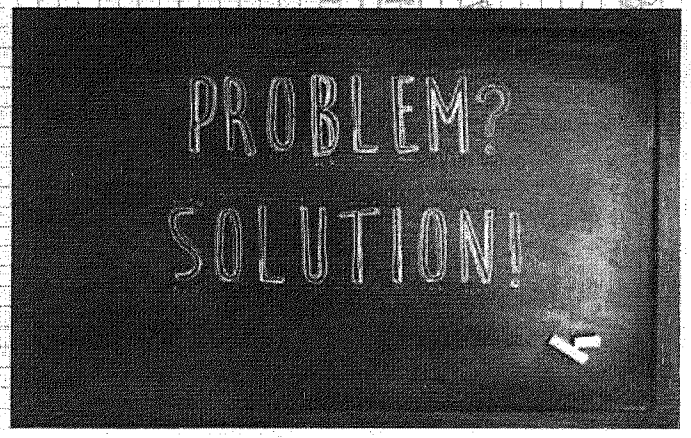


Solution Criteria

	Cost effectiveness	Excite/ Increase student interest	Likely increase in student participation	Easily convey information to large mass	Total
Info shared through fliers, announcements, posters	4	2	1	5	12
Open house to display program	5	2	1	5	13
Combining credit recovery with college prep	3	3	5	4	**15**
Incentives to join programs such as prizes, field trips chosen by students, etc	1	5	5	2	13

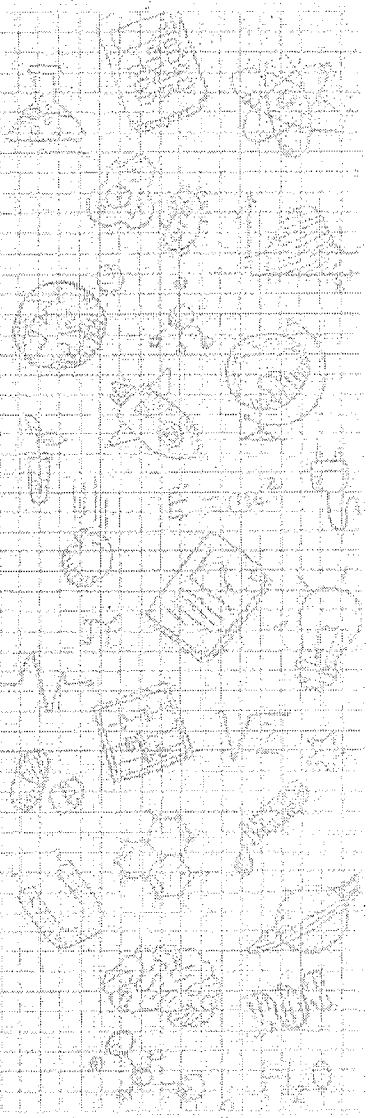
Solution and Action Plan

- From freshman year, students are encouraged through flyers, email, posters and assemblies to attend open houses that provide snacks, prizes to offer a chance for students to get a feel of college readiness programs
- Taking Action= combining credit recovery, tutoring and college readiness programs into a profitable multifaceted program that meets all students' needs and providing adequate advertisement to inform students of this program.



Challenge

- ✘ Challenge of garnering student interest
- ✘ Combining credit recovery and college prep leaves students no option for attendance
- ✘ College prep programs may not be available in summer while credit recovery is



Mental Health In Schools

By Emily Maleck

Our Problem

Mental Health is an important topic that schools should be spending time and money on for their students. Many students are affected by mental health and for a lot of these children it affects their schoolwork or attendance at some point or another. Overall this can affect grades, GPAs, and graduation rates.

Solutions

- Make sure students are aware of the schools services
- Hire therapists at the school
- Provide a safe place in the school for breaks
- Provide more academic assistance
- Help students find therapists and resources outside of the school

	Cost	Student	Effectiveness	Effort	Staff	Total
Awareness	5	1	3	5	3	**16**
Hire professionals	1	2	4	1	2	**12**
Safe place	2	5	2	3	1	**14**
Academic support	3	4	1	2	5	**15**
Outside help	4	3	5	4	4	**20**

The Solution

The most effective solution to this problem would be to give students resources to find therapists. That process can be overwhelming for students and their parents and having some who knows what they are doing to help would make it much easier. Also, it is unclear what the process should be to get help through the school, and it is unclear what services the school can offer, so providing clarity on that should be a priority.

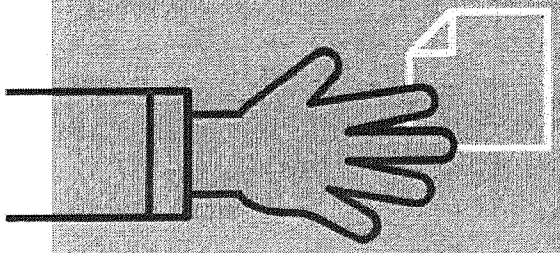
Challenges:

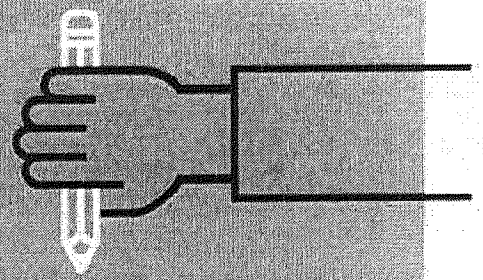
- Getting students willing to work with the school in specifying what they need and stepping forward to ask for help in the first place.
- It would not help those with financial problems, because therapists can be expensive.

Action Plan

- Reach out to mental health facilities near the Richfield area to see what they offer relating to working with school districts.
- Offer flyers outlining the actions required to receive help from the school regarding mental health. These could be handed out in advisory.
- Make clear the services that the school can provide to assist students in being as successful as they can be.

Diversity in Accelerated Classes





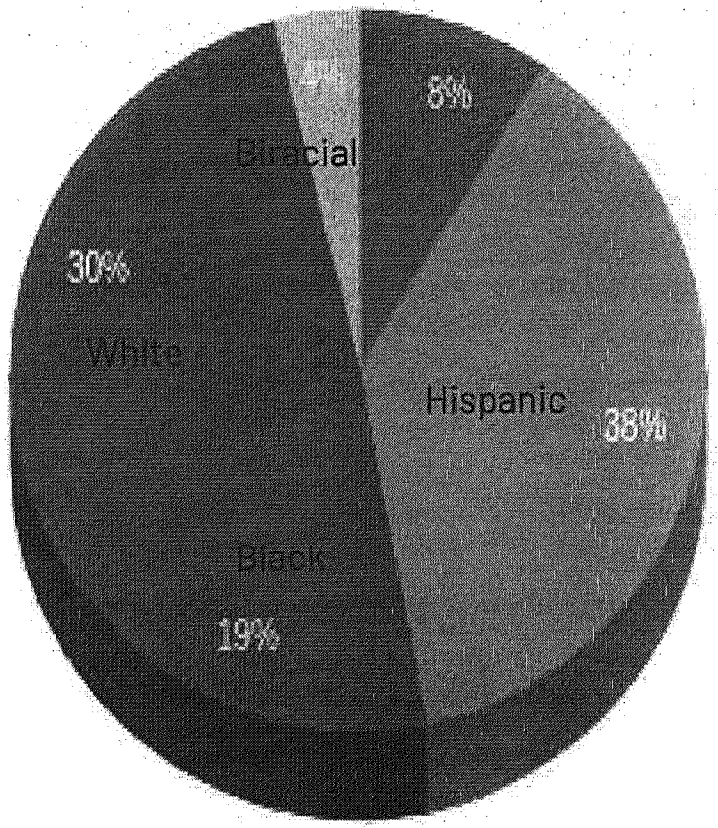
Reflecting the school's demographics in our honors courses.

Kanani Ali, James Bowers, Phoebe McCartan, Matthew Kateley, Evynn Hall

Our Problem

Despite being a majority of the student body, minorities at Richfield disproportionally take fewer accelerated (honors, AP, CIS) courses. This means that minority students are less prepared for the rigor of university.

As seniors, we believe that being prepared for college at an earlier age would have been more beneficial to us. It would have improved our level of preparedness needed to be successful in the future and boosted student self confidence.



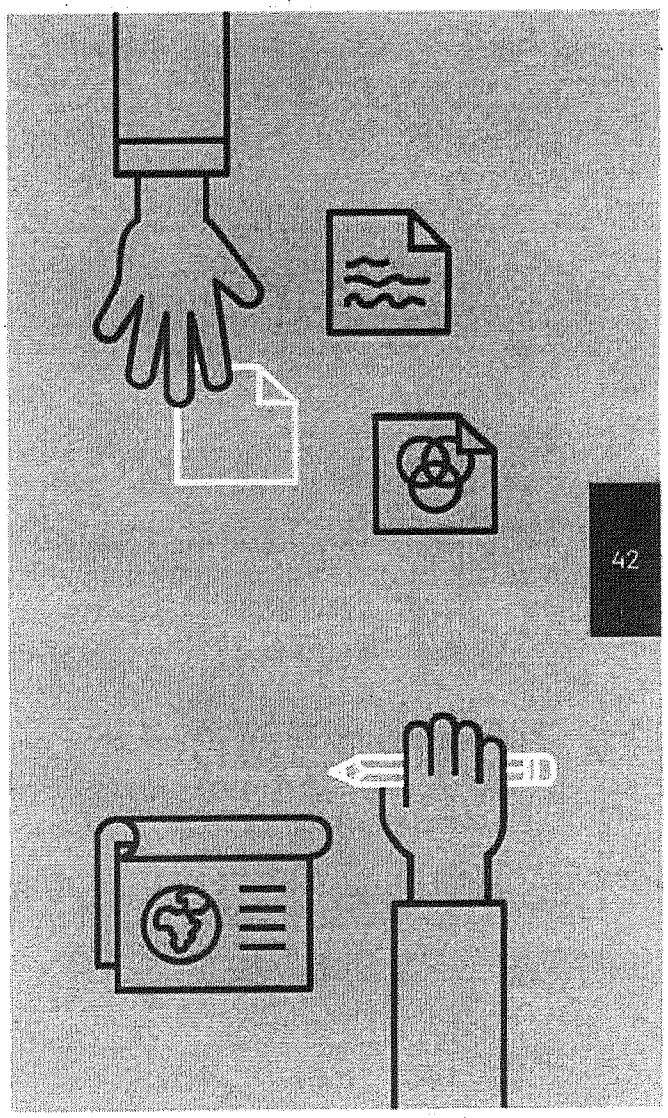
Potential Solutions

Starting Honors/CIS/AP Courses Earlier

Adding Seminar classes/support classes into middle school

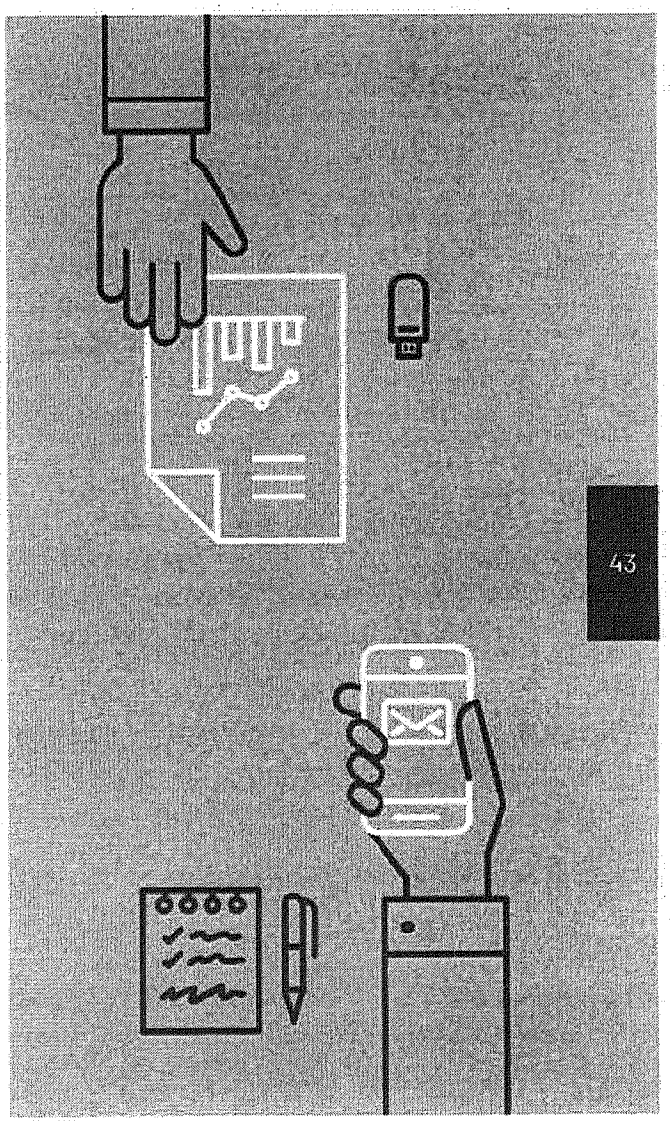
Providing a middle ground between Honors and Regular Courses

Increase Number of honors and accelerated learning courses



Solutions and Criteria

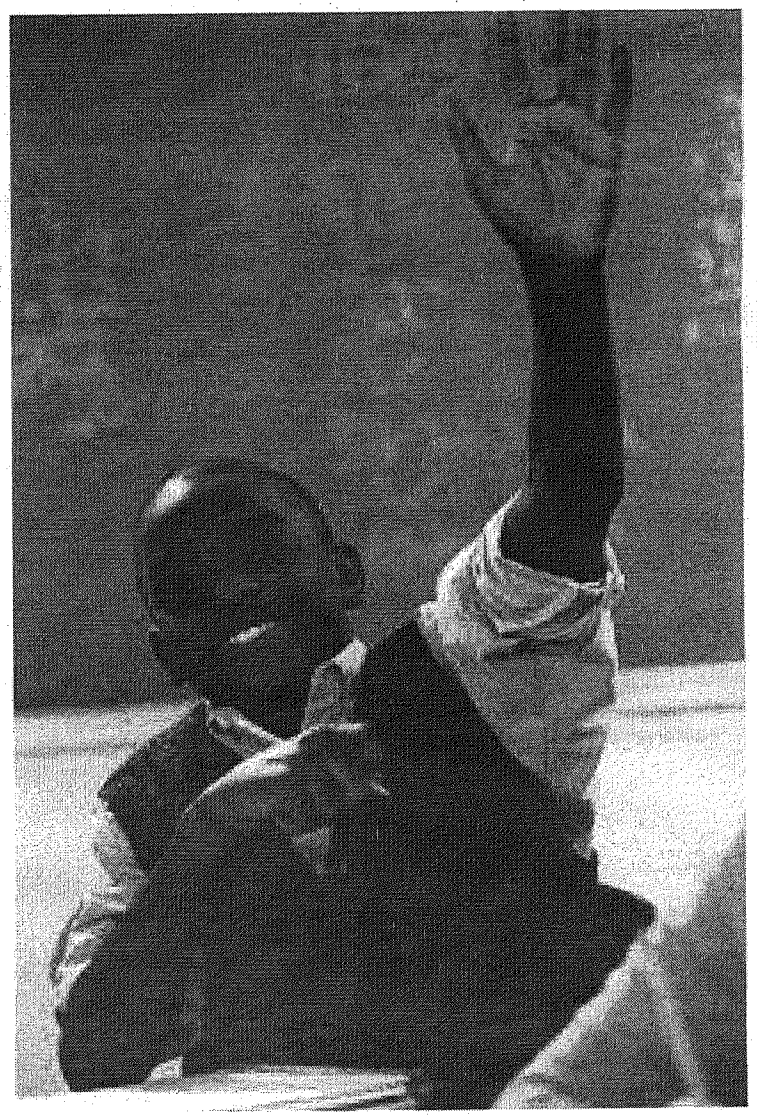
	Cost	Implementation	Effectiveness	Sustainability	Totals
Encourage honors	5	5	2	1	13
Pre- honors	2	3	8	3	16
Increase # of courses	1	1	6	4	12
Honors courses in Middle	3	2	10	5	**20**
Seminar in Middle	4	4	4	2	18



Our solution / Action Plan

Our action plan is to follow a similar model as the high school implemented with the freshman class of the 2017-18, however in the middle school (preferably sixth graders). Using a mandated accelerated course properly places al students in the honors cycle, and would break the "honors" identity. As well, we would like to introduce more accelerated courses into the middle school system.

This will encourage students to take more honors classes in the high school due to the early exposure they had in middle school



- Increase engagement through different teaching
- More college fairs and college possible programming
- Create a counseling month
- Increase free time in school
- Add tutoring
- Add activities for students
- Offer more transportation
- Increase social workers
- Add more clubs and programs
- Monitor attendance
- Increase rewards and consequences
- Create a student mentoring program
- Make learning more interesting
- Expand sports and arts offerings
- Add TAs to every class for more adult interaction
- Reduce class sizes
- Mandatory counselor meetings with students
- Better adult/student relationships
- Focus work on learning rather than grades
- Continue to increase class choice options
- More college readiness programs
  Increase student engagement
- Encourage diversity in honors classes
- Honors in middle schools
- Improve college readiness
- Increase diversity in honors classes
- Improve college prep/counseling

- ACT Prep class
- Support for advanced classes
- Active promotion of honors classes
- More after school help
- Better communication system with teachers
- More engaging instruction
- More trades classes
- Longer passing times
- Incentives for attendance
- Add after school help
- Middle school honors math
- Be less strict
- More team/student bonding work
- Add easier classes
- 9th grade college planning
- Use advisory better
- Increase parent involvement,
- Add parent clubs
- Use technology to communicate
- Add more required field trips
- Hands on/movement in lessons
- Add more teachers of color
- Mentors to supports students to become teachers
- Improve school culture
- More guest speakers

- More effective homework assignments
- More homework flexibility
- Life prep class
- Teachers with special qualifications
- More real world life experiences
- Job preparation classes
- Assignment coordination
- College readiness preparation
- Added engagement for learning
- Improve advisory for college prep
- Counselors add more career prep
- Improve the school story
- Increase school spirit
- Spartan day

Attendance

•••

By: Carla D, Patrick M, Quionne S, Kevin Y.

Introduction

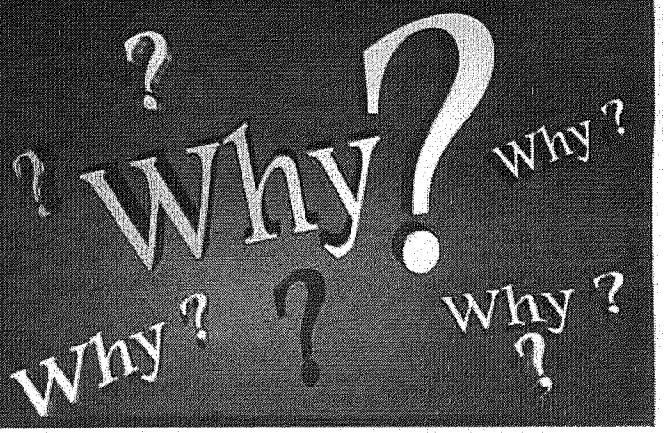
Our topic is about Attendance

We will talk about the attendance in Richfield High School

Why We Chose this Topic

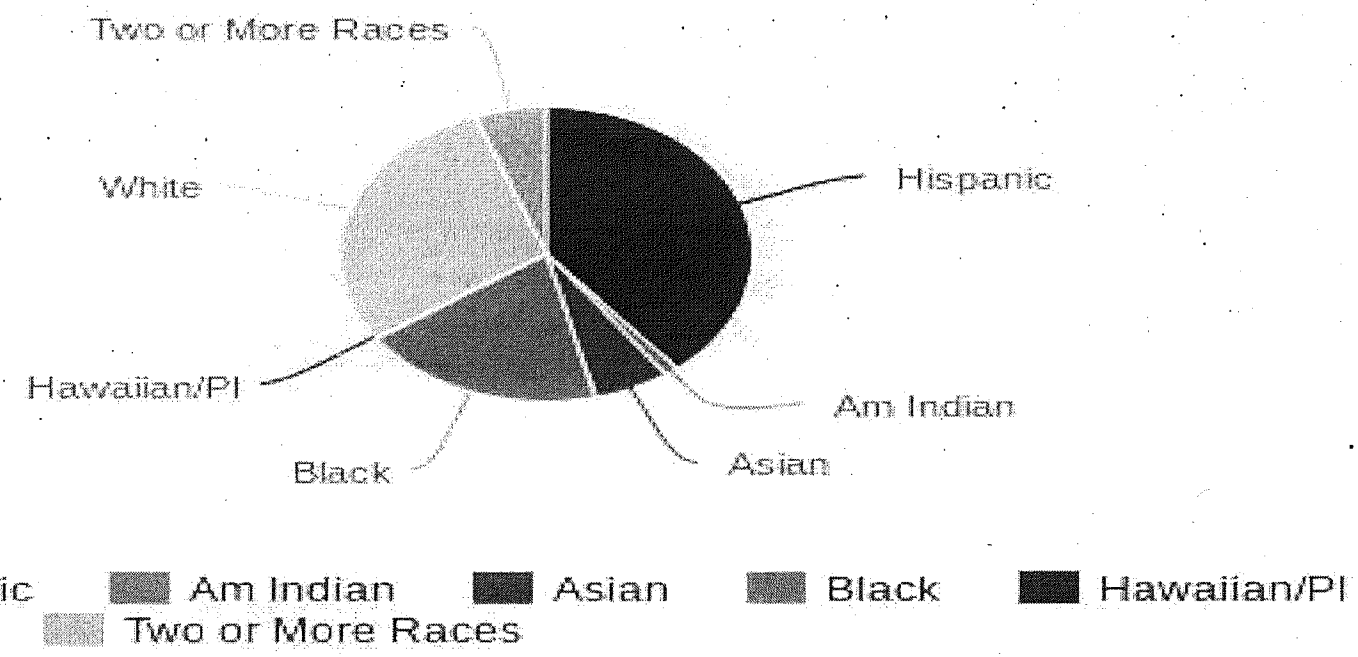
We chose this topic because..

- It's a big problem
- Many students aren't on time to class
- Come late to school
- Skipping school

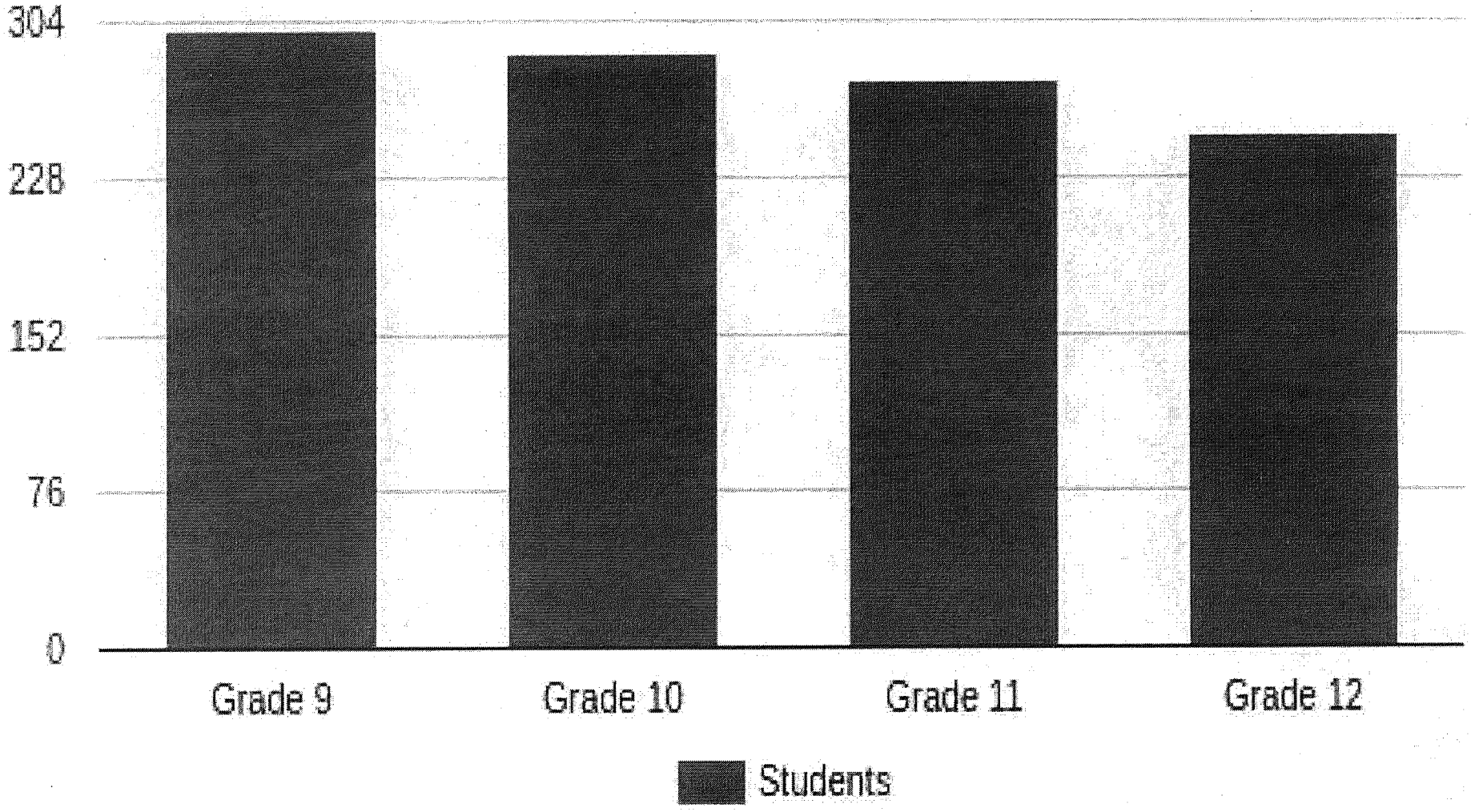


Richfield Senior High Richfield Public School District

Demographics



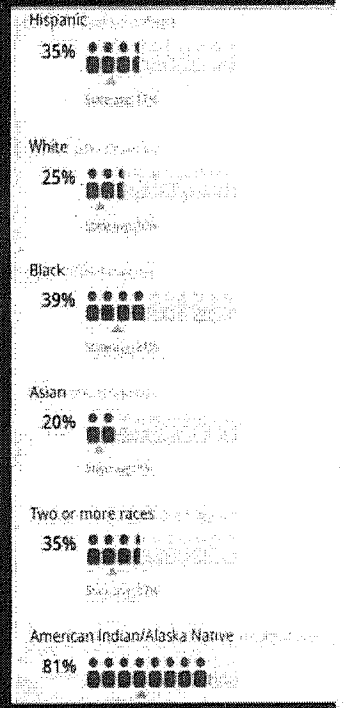
Proficiency Trends


304
228
152
76
0
Grade 9
Grade 10
Grade 11
Grade 12
Students

Specific Problems

Specific Problems are..

- Hispanic: 34% of Students Attend at Richfield High School, 35% Truant
- White: 33% of Students Attend at Richfield High School, 25% Truant
- Black 20% of Students Attend at Richfield High School, 39% Truant
- Asian 7% of Students Attend at Richfield High School, 20% Truant
- 2 or more races 4% of Students Attend at Richfield High School, 35%
- Native 2% of Students Attend at Richfield High School, 81% Truant



Potential Solutions

- More punishments for tardies
- Put more of a limit on absences
- More monitoring in the hallways
- Make school more enjoyable and more engaging so students will want to come

Criteria Used

We believe putting more of a limit on absences will help increase attendance the most effective because it will force the students show up to school and not skip. We also believe that using more exciting learning like Kahoot will make kids want to learn versus a lecture with the lights off, making kids want to sleep

importance

Attendance is important because...

- if you don't show up to school it will affect your grades.
- You will miss your teachers lesson.
- Missing work starts to add up
- Your attendance is key to succeeding!

Action Plan

I believe we could start next year because we could start improving some rules in the school district. In High School people should miss a certain amount of days of school. Also if they get a certain amount of unexcused in a class they should get detention. We could have hall monitors so that people would We could have hall monitors so that people would Actually require passes when being in the h

Conclusion

Hopefully this year attendance can be better than last year and with the solution we chose could improve our attendance.

Questions?

Thanks for Listening!

Sources

https://www.greatschools.org/minnesota/richfield/1718-Richfield-Senior-High-School/#Race_ethnicity*Discipline_and_attendance

https://www.publicschoolreview.com/richfield-senior-high-school-profile

https://rc.education.state.mn.us/#mySchool/orgId--10280035000__p--1

School Improvement Proposal

By: Jorge Quintero, Adolfo Moran, Mario Cervantes, Ruben Cruz and Kevin Gomez

Introduction

Field trips for students in Richfield high school has been reduced over the years. Only 9 and 10th graders have field trips, but also Seniors needs field trips. First of all because the Senior year is the last year for all students in high school. All classes need to have access to field trips not just honors or AP.

Why we choose school culture ?

What specific topic did we choose? Field trips

We choose school culture because we think it's a topic that has been forgotten by teachers, staff and students.

Specific problem

Not having enough field trips for all classes
Not having enough education of relevant topics
Not enough experiences that connect with our education
Long term classes every day
Bad Behavior
We don't learn new things in a hands-on experiential way.

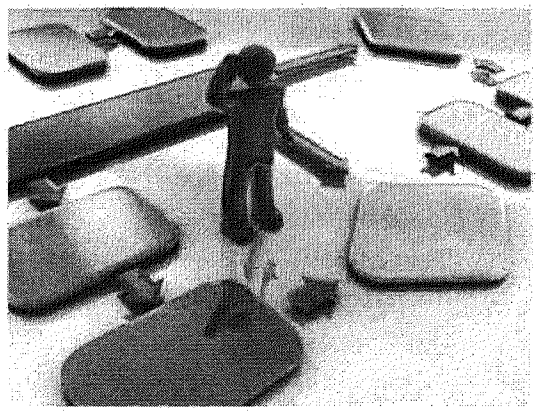
Potential solution.

Schedule plan and have a required number of field trips for each grade every year.

Create a permission form

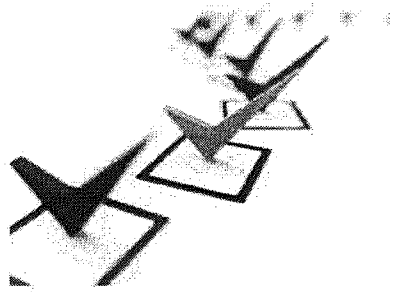
Check the weather

Make rules



Criteria used to select solution

- Have more than just one field trip in all year in all classes.



Conclusion

Field trips are great for students because it helps students learn and spend time with friends/teachers, that is why more field trips need to be added for normal classes. Most of the students would not have this experience in their life. So make this school a great every year.

Sources

http://www.richfieldmn.gov/around-town/wood-lake-nature-center/field-trips-education