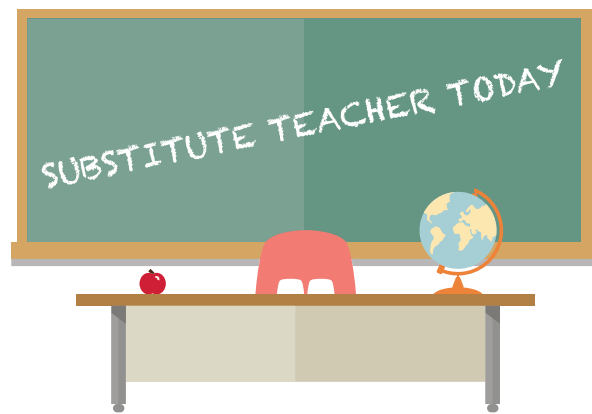


CLOSING EQUITY GAPS HELPS STUDENTS SUCCEED

In 2009, we began **School Works**, a community action research project aimed at understanding what resources and opportunities exist for students and at **developing a community plan for action** to ensure Pittsburgh has an equitable school system. We trained volunteers to interview principals, counselors and teachers over the last four years to find out what was happening on the ground. Through School Works, we have a better picture of what successful schools are doing and the inequities that exist within our school district.

We analyzed the interview results with an eye to understanding what was happening in our most vulnerable schools, which we defined as schools that have more students who qualify for free and reduced lunch, higher racial achievement gaps and lower overall achievement. Because these data are derived from interviews, you should use them as we do, as indicators of trends rather than precise accounts of what is happening.

TEACHERS MATTER



35%

of teachers new to the building in **more vulnerable schools**

15%

of teachers new to the building in **less vulnerable schools**

Daily average of teacher absences

11% in more vulnerable schools

6% in less vulnerable schools

Source: Principal Interviews 2012

Books and materials are essential ingredients to student success.



In the 2012-2013 school year, **100%** of schools opened libraries, compared to the **80%** that were open in the 2011-2012 school year.



School counselors provide critical social support and academic counseling to students.

The American School Counselor Association recommends that school counselors work with no more than 250 students.



440 Students per Counselor



361 Students per Counselor



Green icon = recommended amount of students per counselor

Red icon = additional students per counselor

Each icon represents 5 students

75%

of counselors in the district have more than 250 students

Grade 6-12 school average

Source: Principal and Counselor Interviews 2010 - 2012

Schools with good behavior support plans help keep their students where they should be — in the class and learning.

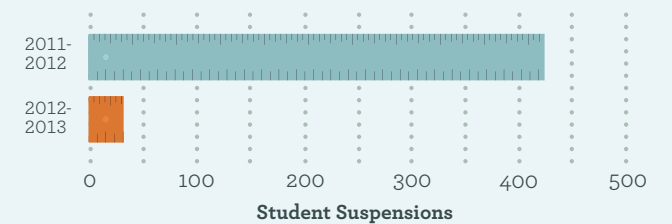


15%

of students are being sent to the principal's office in **more vulnerable schools**

6%

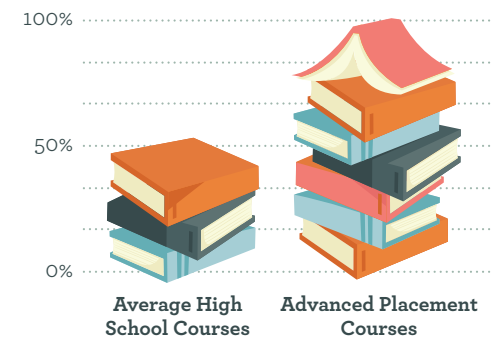
of students are being sent to the principal's office in **less vulnerable schools**



One school dramatically reduced suspensions when they implemented a behavioral plan.

Source: Principal Interviews 2012

Advanced courses help prepare students for the rigor of college classes.



Percentage of teachers who assign homework more than three days a week.

COLLEGE BOUND



In 2010, the district changed its rules so that any high school student qualifying academically could enroll in **Center for Advanced Studies** courses. The number of black students enrolled in Advanced Placement courses has **doubled** over the past three years.

100+ more students took AP classes in 2012-2013 than in 2011-2012

Source: Principal, Teacher and Counselor Interviews 2010 - 2012