

**RESULTS OF THE AISD HIGH SCHOOL EXIT SURVEY  
CLASS OF 2007**

**ANDERSON HIGH SCHOOL**

The fifth annual Austin ISD High School Exit Survey was administered electronically to seniors in every AISD High School during the Spring of 2007. This report contains the results for the Class of 2007, along with a longitudinal summary of responses, where available<sup>1</sup>.

The survey is organized into five general topics: Postsecondary Intentions, Postsecondary Preparation, Campus Climate and High School Experiences, Technology Usage, and Parent Involvement. Individual item results are presented, both for your campus and for all High Schools.

The district-wide response rate for the High School Exit Survey remained similar to that of previous years (Table 1). Surveys were received from 3,235 students in the Class of 2007. The survey sample once again closely resembles the ethnic and gender distribution of the district's senior class, indicating that the results are representative of the entire senior class population.

**Table 1. AISD High School Exit Survey Response Rates, Classes of 2004 to 2007**

	Percentage of Enrolled Seniors Responding <sup>2</sup>			
	Class of 2004	Class of 2005	Class of 2006	Class of 2007
<b>ANDERSON</b>	89.9%	93.3%	93.5%	89.3%
<b>ALL HIGH SCHOOLS</b>	81.5%	85.3%	86.0%	82.0%

**INDIVIDUAL ITEM RESPONSES FOR A**

**Item 1. What is the ONE thing that you especially want the administration of AISD to know.**

Themes from this open-ended comment section have been identified and summarized each year. Generally, comments remain consistent from year to year; commonly identified themes expressed by the Class of 2007 include:

- **Respect.** Students continued to express a desire to be treated with respect and fairness by school staff, including administrators, office/attendance staff, hall monitors, security and parking lot personnel. Many felt that they were treated with suspicion and disrespect as a result of the behavior of other students. Students also were concerned that some rules (e.g., parking, dress code, off-campus lunch) were enforced inconsistently.
- **Academics.** Many students wished they had been told about the importance of good grades and rigorous coursework starting as early as middle school. They also questioned the quality of instruction during High school. Students stressed the importance of learning about college requirements and the college application process earlier in their high school careers. Negative comments about TAKS also were widespread.
- **Attendance and Exemption Policies.** Students particularly were upset about the elimination of final exam exemptions, and many comments indicated that students are more likely to skip classes now that attendance is not used for final exam exemptions. Students also expressed dissatisfaction with tardy policies, particularly those that result in arriving even later to class.
- **Dress code.** Students again expressed dissatisfaction with dress codes, and did not believe that style of dress interferes with the learning process. Many would have liked to wear hats.
- **Food.** Students at many campuses were unhappy with the cafeteria food and wished for better tasting, healthier options. Some also complained about losing vending machines.
- **Facilities.** Students were disheartened by lack of attention to school facilities, particularly the cleanliness of restrooms. Many students commented on the lack of towels and soap.

**SPECIFIC COMMENTS FROM THE CLASS OF 2007 FROM ANDERSON HIGH SCHOOL<sup>3</sup>:**

- Students made 328 total comments; 34.5% were positive, 64.9% of comments were negative.
- The most frequently mentioned topics were *General Positive Comments* (positive comments about school or AISD with no particular topic mentioned), *General Negative Comments* (negative comments about school or AISD with no particular topic mentioned), and *Academics* (especially negative comments about TAKS).
- **Policies that “do not work**

*time. When you bring a note and you didnt drop it in before school they always give you a hard time. Id imagine that writing a note that takes literally 30 seconds should not be such a hassle.*

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*The counseling staff (and office staff) with the exception of our Project Advance counselor are all highly inaccessible. They do not respond to requests to meet with them and if you manage to corner them for five minutes they seem to know nothing about college or you personally. I spent the past year going to my IB coordinator after I gave up on my counselors, thank goodness she knows something!*

**Item 2.**

	2004-2005		2005-2006		2006-2007	
Academic Climate	ALL HS	ANDERSON	ALL HS	ANDERSON	ALL HS	ANDERSON
My teachers taught in a way that was clear and easy to understand.	3.0	2.9	3.0	2.8	3.0	2.9



**Item 8.** *Here is a list of community organizations found in and around Austin. Please indicate which of them, if any, you have participated in while in High School.*

Organization	AKINS	ANDERSON	AUSTIN	BOWIE	CROCKETT	GARZA
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**Item 9**



**Item 11. How well did your high school help you to further develop knowledge and skills in the following areas?**

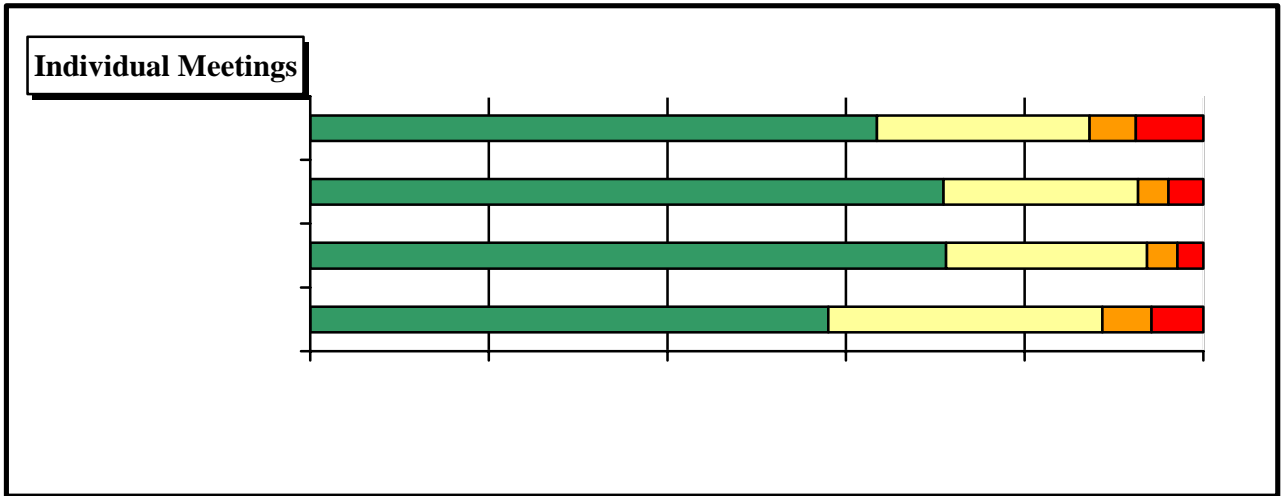
	2004-2005		2005-2006		2006-2007	
	ALL HS	ANDERSON	ALL HS	ANDERSON	ALL HS	ANDERSON
<b>Creative Thinking</b>	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.3	2.3	2.2
<b>Problem Solving</b>	2.4	2.4	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3
<b>Conflict Resolution</b>	2.2	2.2	2.0	1.9	2.2	2.0
<b>Personal Health/Fitness</b>	2.2	2.2	2.0	1.8	2.1	2.0
<b>Composite Score</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>2.9</b>

**Item 14.**

**Item 16. *High school preparation for post-graduation opportunities***

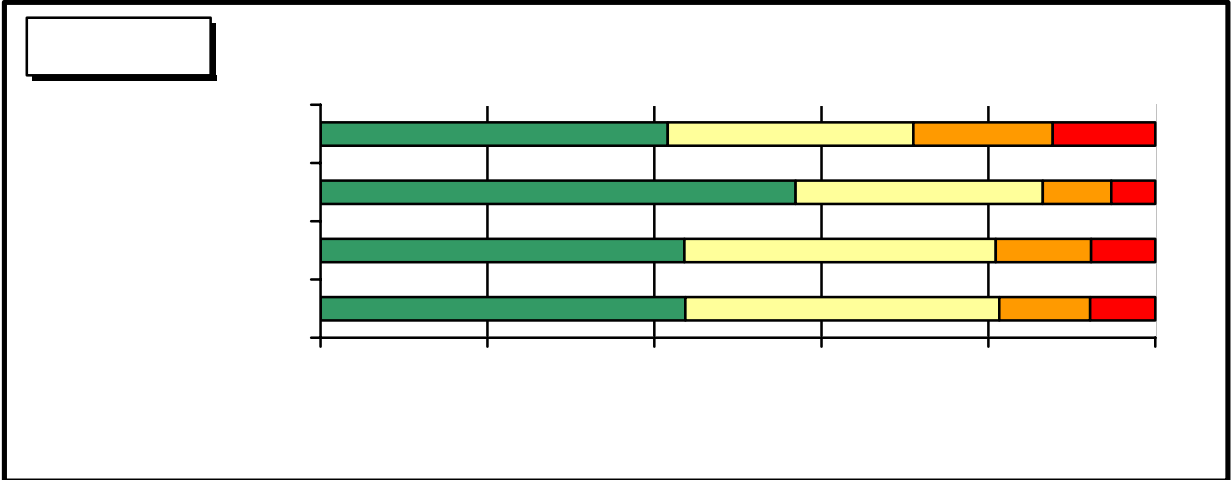
	2004-2005	2005-2006	2006-2007
ALL			

**Item 19.** *How helpful was your Project ADVANCE/College Advisor in the following types of meetings?*

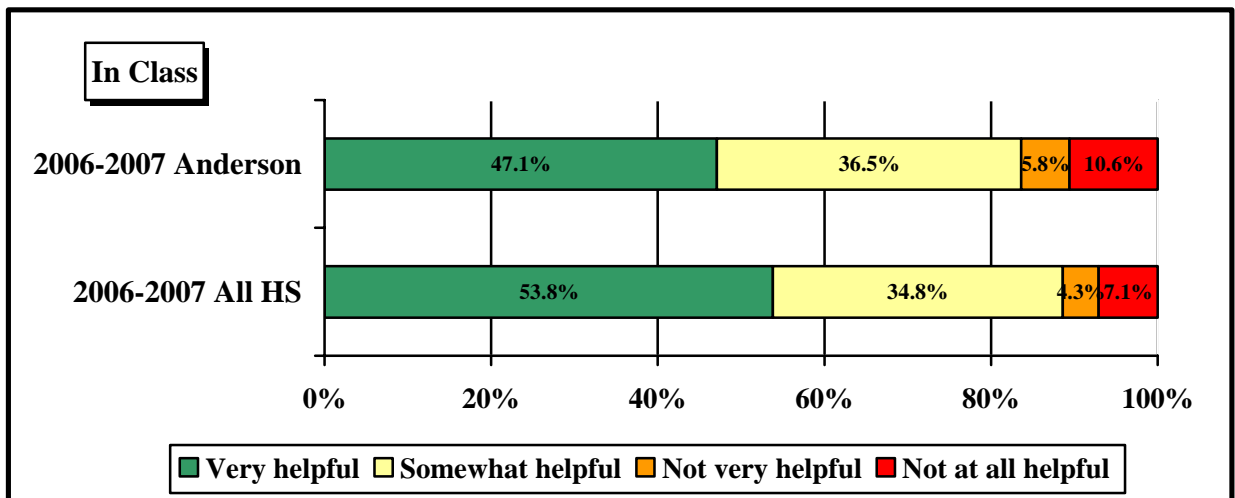
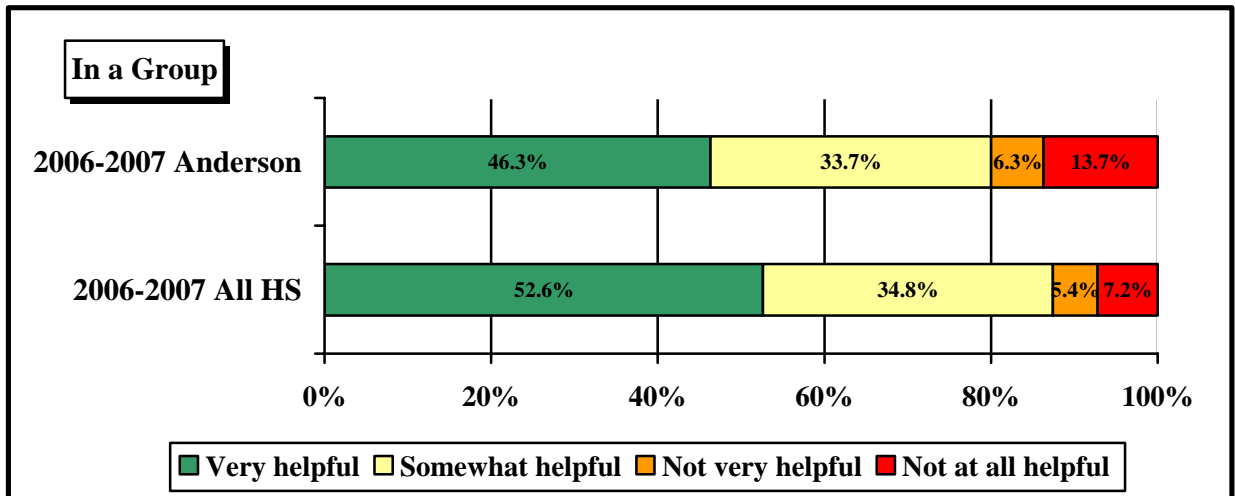
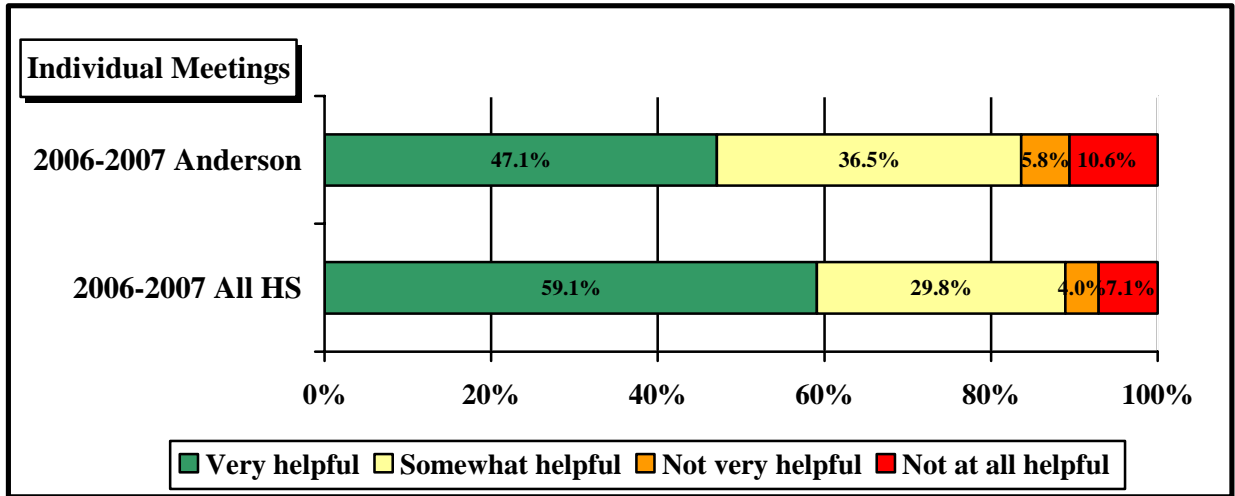


**Item 20. *How helpful was your Project ADVANCE Facilitator/College Advisor with the following processes?***

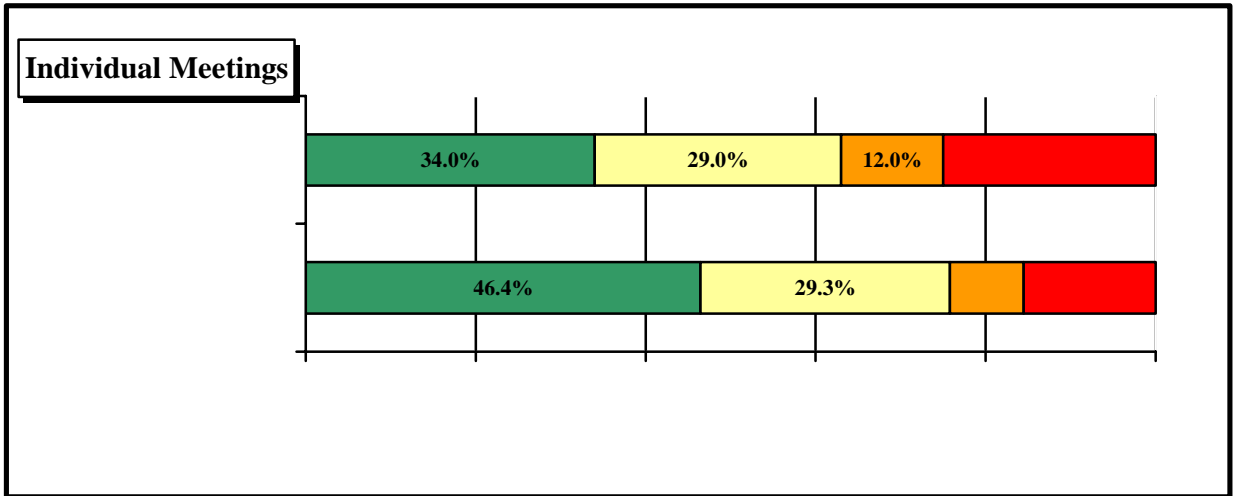
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Item 21. *How helpful was your Advocate in the following types of meetings? (Skip this question if you do not have an Advocate).*



**Item 22.** *How helpful was your Advisory Teacher in the following types of meetings? (Skip this question if you do not have an Advisory Teacher).*







**Item 24.** *For which of the following issues did*

**Item 26. To what extent were your parents involved in the following school-related things?**

	2005-2006		2006-2007	
	ALL HS	ANDERSON	ALL HS	ANDERSON
Working with you on homework or school projects	2.8	2.7	2.8	2.6
Volunteering at your school	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.2
Helping you decide what classes to take	2.9	3.0	2.9	2.9
Attending school activities or meetings	2.9	3.0	2.9	2.8
Communicating with your teachers	**	**	2.9	2.7

Note: Response options include 1 (Never), 2 (Rarely), 3 (Occasionally), 4 (Often), and 5 (Consistently).

**Item 27. How easy has it been for you and your par**

**Item 28. How far did your parents go in school? Indicate your mother and father's highest level of education.**

Education Level	2005-2006*		2006-2007			
	MOTHER		MOTHER		FATHER	
	ALL HS	ANDERSON	ALL HS	ANDERSON	ALL HS	ANDERSON
Did not finish high school	16.7%	4.3%	17.4%	4.5%	18.5%	5.1%
Graduated from high school or earned a GED	20.2%	14.5%	22.1%	14.1%	19.6%	12.2%
Attended a 2-yr community/junior college or vocational/technical school, but did not complete a degree	7.9%	6.3%	9.4%	7.5%	6.9%	3.8%
Graduated from a 2-yr community/junior college or vocational/technical school	4.4%	3.9%	5.4%	3.8%	4.6%	4.6%
Attended a 4-yr college, but did not complete a degree	7.3%	8.7%	7.1%	8.0%	6.6%	7.1%
Graduated from college	19.3%	32.7%	19.8%	32.2%	17.5%	30.4%
Completed a Master's degree or equivalent	10.3%	18.4%	10.6%	21.9%	12.1%	21.5%
Completed a Ph.D., M.D., or other advanced professional degree	3.3%	4.5%	3.1%	3.8%	5.4%	8.6%
Don't Know or Does Not Apply	9.3%	6.5%	5.2%	4.3%	8.6%	6.8%

\*Note: Father was added in 2007.

**Item 29. Thinking back, at what time in your life did you start thinking about college as a possibility after high school?**

Time	2005-2006		2006-2007	
	All HS	ANDERSON	All HS	ANDERSON
As long as I can remember	39.6%	51.7%	39.1%	51.9%
When I was a child	13.0%	12.6%	12.0%	10.9%
In middle/junior high school	23.7%	16.7%	21.0%	15.9%
In high school	20.9%	16.7%	25.3%	20.3%
I've never thought about college as an option after high school.	2.9%	2.2%	2.5%	1.0%



**Item 37.**



**Item 43. *If you are not planning to pursue further education at this time, do you intend to pursue it at a later time?***

	2005-2006		2006-2007	
	ALL HS	ANDERSON	ALL HS	ANDERSON
<b>Yes, Definitely</b>	36.6%	30.6%	45.8%	33.3%
<b>Yes, Probably</b>	15.3%	14.3%	15.9%	19.0%
<b>Maybe</b>	21.3%	22.4%	20.6%	19.0%
<b>Probably Not</b>	2.6%	4.1%	4.0%	4.8%
<b>Definitely Not</b>	2.1%	2.0%	2.2%	0.0%
<b>Don't Know</b>	22.1%	26.5%	11.5%	23.8%

**For all students:**

**Items 45-47. *Voting***

	2004-2005	2005-2006	2006-2007



**APPENDIX**

**Table A.1. Response Rate and Respondent Demographic Characteristics**

Seniors Enrolled	# Surveys	Initial Response Rate	African Am	Hispanic	White
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