



Survey Report

The sixth annual Austin Independent School District (AISD) High School Exit Survey was administered online to seniors in every AISD high school during Spring 2009. Facilitators on each campus, primarily *Project ADVANCE* counselors, were responsible for ensuring that all graduating seniors were given the opportunity to complete the survey.

This report contains the results for the Lanier High School Class of 2009. Where available, longitudinal data are presented to compare with the 2009 responses. In addition, average results from all AISD high schools are presented alongside results for Lanier for comparison purposes. In total, 3,365 students in the Class of 2009 completed the survey, including 271 students from Lanier. Longitudinal tests for statistical significance were conducted with district-level data (see district-level report). Table 1 presents longitudinal response rates by campus and by district. Next, major findings are presented, followed by open-ended campus-level responses and, finally, responses to the multiple choice items from the survey.

The report is structured as follows. First, a brief summary of key findings from the 2009 High School Exit Survey is provided. This summary is followed by a selection of open-ended student comments that capture the predominant themes that emerged from the student comments. Last, the detailed, item-specific results for each question from the survey are presented.

Table 1. High School Exit Survey Response Rates, Classes 2007-2009

	Class of 2007	Class of 2008	Class of 2009
All high schools	82.0%	74.8%	78.8%
Lanier	82.7%	79.1%	87.1%

Major Findings

Student responses are organized into seven general topics areas: Open-Ended Comments; Postsecondary Intentions and Family Support; High School Experiences, Campus Climate, and Civic Engagement; Instruction and Technology; Postsecondary Preparation and Advising; and Final Thoughts. Some of the notable trends at this campus include:

Thinking about college. It appeared Lanier seniors were more likely to report they started thinking about college as a future possibility in high school whereas other seniors were more likely to report thinking about it for “as long as I can remember.”

College preparation programs. More Lanier seniors appeared to have participated in the

INDIVIDUAL ITEM RESPONSES FOR LANIER HIGH SIlly waProthe 3.98 -14.(ETD33)Tj Tc.

Table 5. To What Extent Were Your Parents Involved In The Following School-Related Things? (Item 9)

<i>*Percentage who responded parents were involved at least Occasionally</i>	Lanier 2007	Lanier 2008	Lanier 2009	All HS 2007	All HS 2008	All HS 2009
Volunteering at your school	35.3%	34.1%	18.3%	38.6%	40.0%	30.3%
Working with you on homework or school projects	52.9%	60.7%	43.4%	54.8%	54.6%	46.8%
Helping you decide what classes to	53.4%	56.4%	48.7%	60.1%	██████	53.4%
	55.6%	45.0%	35.7%	57.4%	54.9%	45.9%
	58.8%	50.9%				

Table 6. How Far Did Your Parents Go In Sc

Table 9. For Each Of These Extracurricular Activities, Did You Spend More Than 10 Hours Per Week During Your Senior Year On Them? (Items 14 & 16)

<i>*Percentage of seniors indicating they spent more than 10 hours per week on each activity.</i>	Lanier 2009	All HS 2009
<i>Inside school</i>		
Music	4.2%	8.0%
Theater	2.7%	3.2%
Dance	4.0%	3.8%
Sports	16.9%	23.4%
UIL academic competitions	2.4%	2.3%
Speech/debate	2.4%	1.3%
Student government	0.8%	0.9%
Career and technical student organizations	5.2%	2.3%
<i>Outside school</i>		
Music	8.0%	6.6%
Theater	1.6%	1.5%
Dance	3.6%	2.9%
Sports	19.0%	19.1%
Community service/volunteering	8.0%	6.3%
Environmental project/activities	2.0%	1.8%
Boy/Girl Scouts	0.4%	0.6%
Family care	13.3%	7.2%

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Figure 2. Now Indicate The Number Of Hours Per Week That You Have Worked During Your Senior Year. (Q18b)

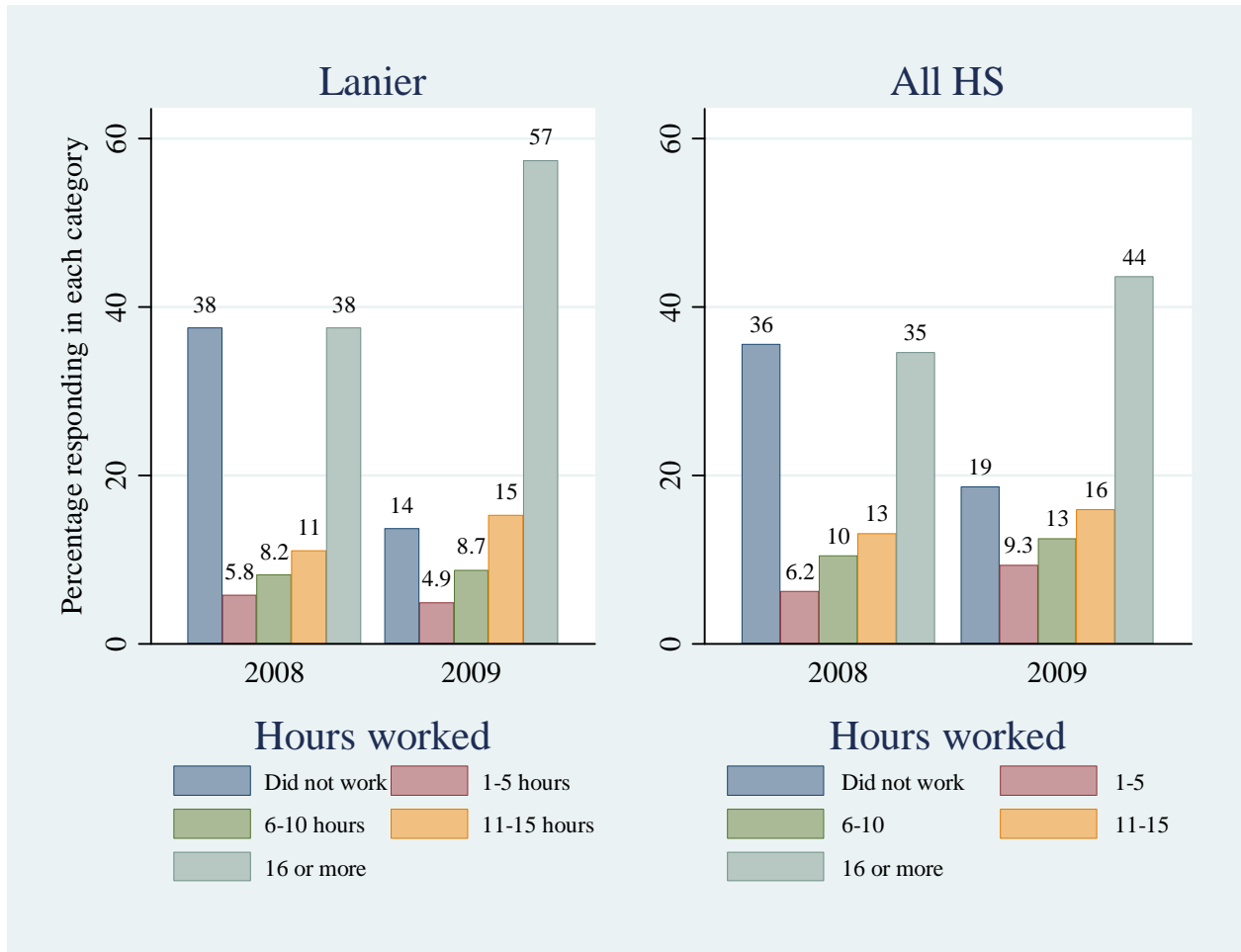


Figure 3. Thinking Back On Your Years In High School, How Many Hours Per Week Did You Typically Spend Studying, Doing Research, Or Completing Homework Assignments Outside Of Class? (Item 19)



Figure 4. On Average, What Percentage Of Your Study, Research And Homework Was Done Without Distractions (E.G., Television, Music, IM, Texting, Phone Calls)? (Item 20)

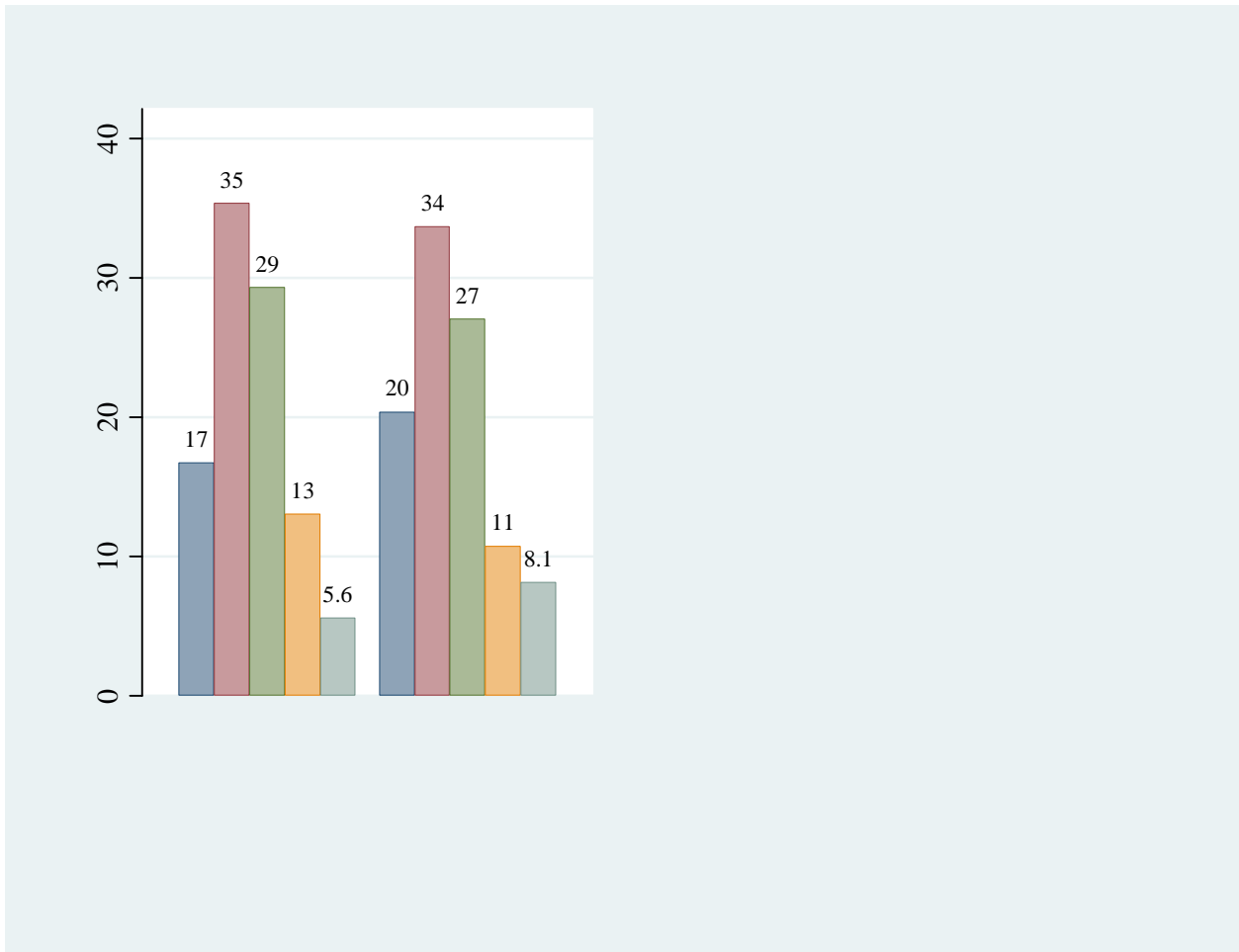
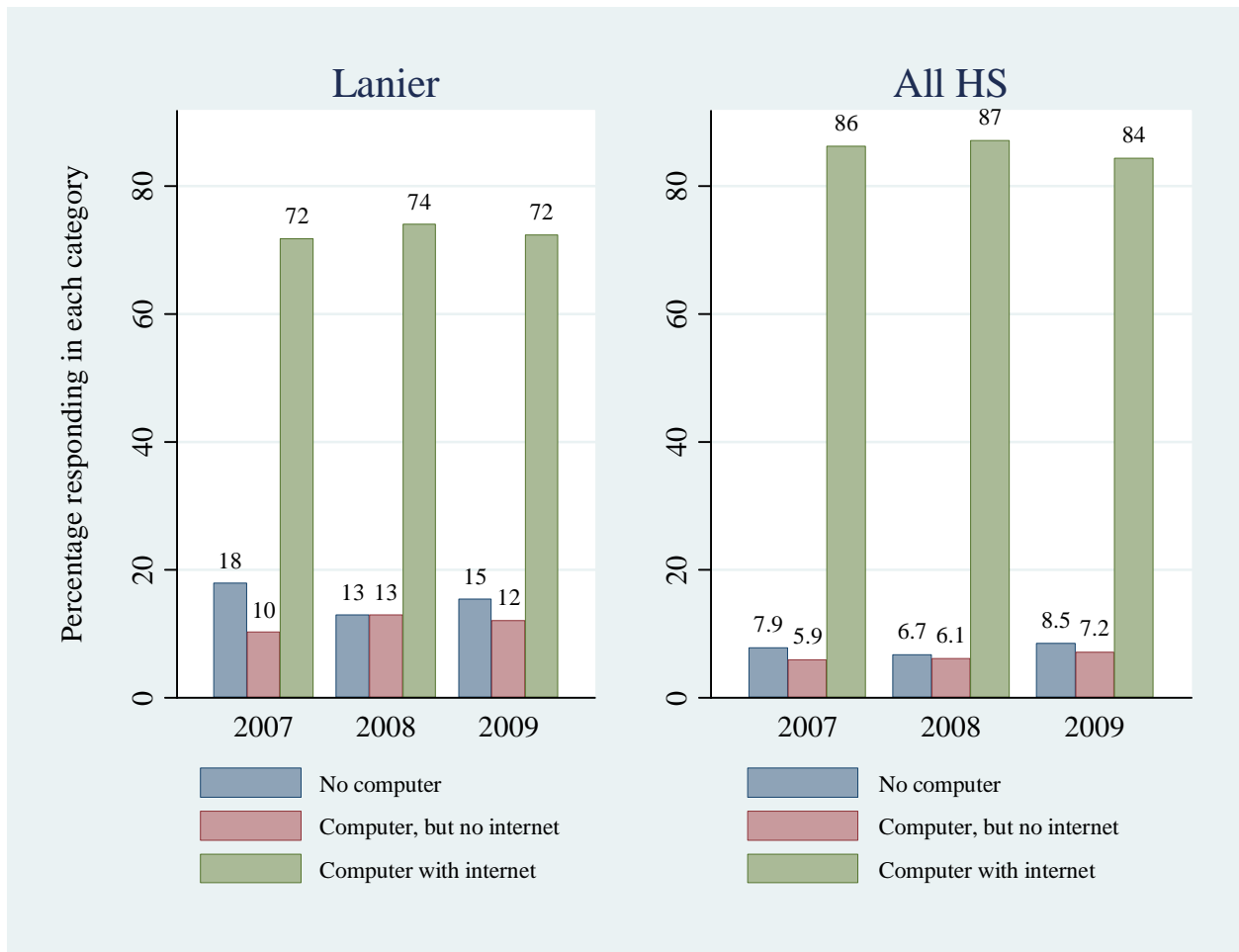


Table 11. Please Mark The Item That Best Indicates How You Feel: (Items 21a-21k)

<i>*Percentage who responded Strongly agree or Agree</i>	Lanier 2009	All HS 2009
I feel safe at my school	67.5%	78.7%
My classmates show respect to each other	49.8%	50.9%
The consequences for breaking school rules are the same for everyone	53.1%	41.1%
Adults at this school listen to student ideas and opinions	63.4%	53.1%
My homework helps me learn things I need to know	64.4%	58.6%
I know how I am doing in school	91.3%	82.9%
My teachers expected me to do my best work	87.8%	83.0%
My classes were rigorous and challenging	54.9%	59.6%
My high school coursework has been relevant to my life	53.7%	47.4%

Figure 5. Which Of The Following Describes Your Computer And Internet Access At Home? (Item 24)



Note. This item was recoded to match longitudinal data. In prior years' surveys, students were asked to indicate the type of Internet service they had at home.

Figure 6. Do Your Parents Use Parentconnect/Gradespeed To Monitor Your Grades?

Table 15. How Frequently Do You Use A Computer?: (Item 25)

<i>*Percentage who responded At least once a week or more</i>	Lanier 2007	Lanier 2008	Lanier 2009	All HS 2007	All HS 2008	All HS 2009
At home?	71.6%	74.4%	69.1%	86.4%	86.7%	83.9%
At school?	88.6%	80.6%	71.5%	70.8%	74.0%	73.1%
To present material in class, for example, using PowerPoint	50.5%	41.9%	34.6%	22.6%	23.5%	22.0%
To type a paper or class assignment?	68.4%	57.7%	51.1%	57.2%	55.3%	53.5%
To search the Internet to complete class-related assignments?	72.5%	63.3%	57.9%	62.3%	61.6%	62.7%
To research college/career choices?	59.4%	60.7%	50.6%	50.5%	50.6%	51.0%
To complete online forms or applications for college/employment?	57.1%	51.4%	43.3%	43.4%	44.0%	43.4%
To communicate with teachers (e.g., email, IM, etc.)?	26.3%	22.1%	15.4%	18.1%	20.8%	17.8%
To communicate with friends (e.g., email, IM, blog, Facebook, etc.)?	76.3%	67.1%	61.4%	74.1%	74.8%	72.5%
To monitor grades/progress in school?	.	.	30.2%	.	.	29.4%

Note. Missing values, denoted by a period, indicate the item was not included on the respective year's survey.

*Responses were *Never*, *Less than once a week*, *Once or twice a week*, *Every day*, and *Almost every day*. Reports prior to 2008 indicated item means; in 2009, percentages represented the number of students reporting *At least once a week* or more.

Table 16. Indicate How Much You Agree With Each Of The Following Statements About Technology Use At School: (Item 26)

<i>*Percentage who responded Agree or Strongly agree</i>	Lanier 2008	Lanier 2009	All HS 2008	All HS 2009
My teachers effectively use the technology resources that are available.	88.8%	93.6%	85.7%	89.8%
I would like to use more electronic communication with my classmates as part of my schoolwork.	86.0%	85.0%	79.8%	82.3%
I would like to use more electronic communication with my teachers.	79.8%	75.9%	73.2%	76.0%
I would like to use more online resources.	89.8%	88.0%	82.1%	84.0%

* Responses were *Strongly disagree, Disagree, Agree, Strongly disagree, and Don't know/Unsure.*

POSTSECONDARY PREPARATION AND ADVISING

Table 17. At What Time In Your Life Did You Start Thinking About College As A Possibility After High School? (Item 29)

	Lanier 2007	Lanier 2008	Lanier 2009	All HS 2007	All HS 2008	All HS 2009
As long ago as I can remember*	23.8%	17.8%	20.6%	39.1%	40.5%	38.7%
In elementary school	13.8%	9.3%	5.6%	12.0%	8.5%	7.6%
In middle/junior high school	25.4%	27.6%	25.5%	21.0%	21.9%	21.0%
In high school	33.9%	41.1%	44.9%	25.3%	26.9%	30.9%
I've never thought about college as an option after high school	3.2%	4.2%	3.4%	2.5%	2.3%	1.8%

* Item changed from 2007 surveys, when it was "When I was a child."

Table 18. High School Preparation For Post-Graduation Opportunities (Item 30a-D)

<i>*Percentage who responded Somewhat well or Well</i>	Lanier 2007	Lanier 2008	Lanier 2009	All HS 2007	All HS 2008	All HS 2009
How well prepared were you to plan your high school course selections?	93.2%	89.3%	88.7%	88.7%	91.2%	91.2%
How well prepared were you to meet your college and career goals?	85.4%	87.8%	84.8%	86.9%	88.4%	86.1%
How well prepared have you been for the college/technical/vocational school application process?	84.2%	86.7%	82.6%	84.6%	83.4%	82.0%
How well informed are/were you about obtaining financial aid for education after high school (whether or not you applied)?	91.1%	90.4%	89.2%	84.2%	81.0%	81.0%

* Response options were *Not well*, *Somewhat well*, and *Very well*.

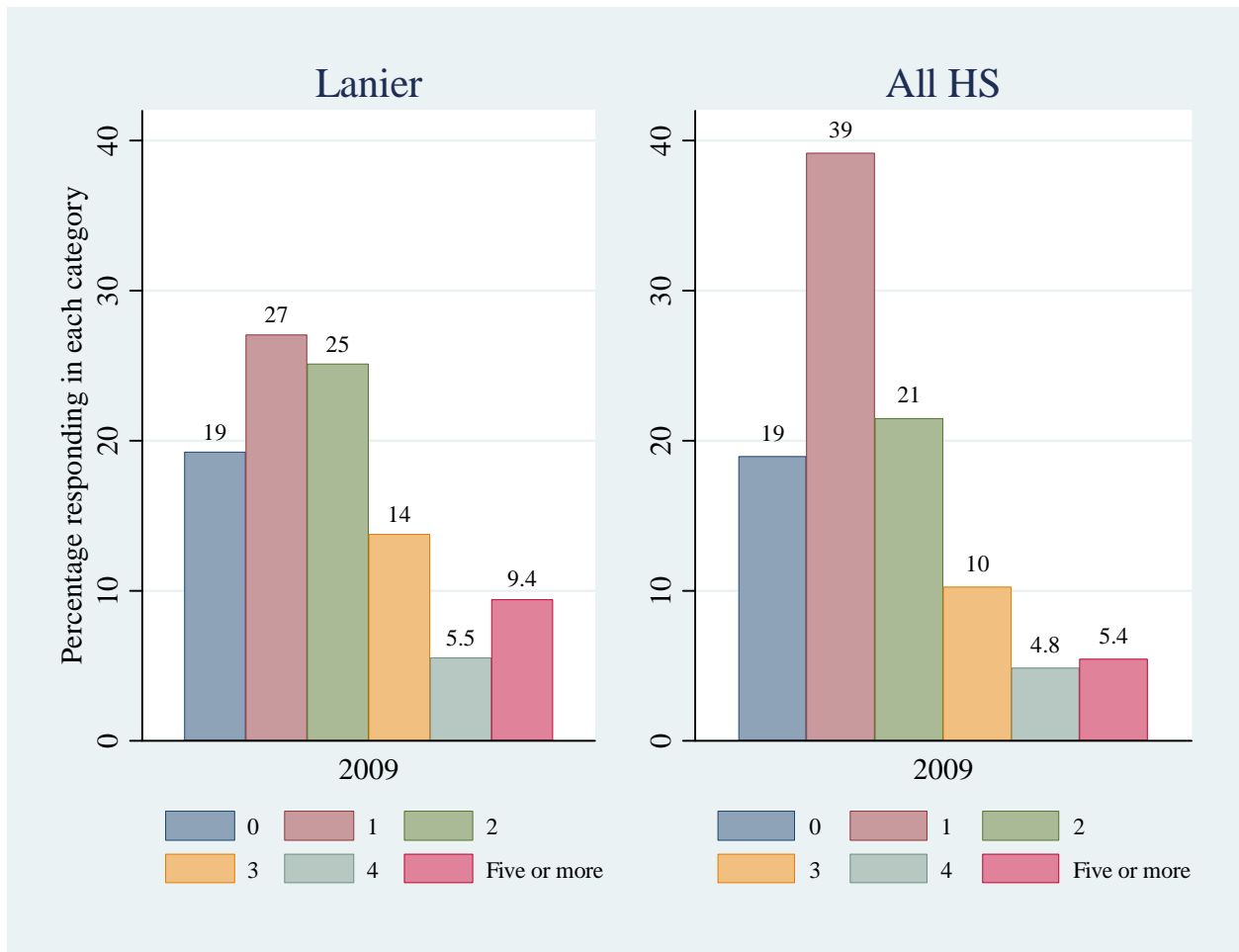
Table 19. How Did You Prepare For Continuing Education? (Check All That Apply) (Item 32)

	Lanier 2007	Lanier 2008	Lanier 2009	All HS 2007	All HS 2008	All HS 2009
Took the PSAT examination	52.8%	57.4%	46.1%	57.9%	67.9%	63.1%
Took AP/IB classes	34.9%	32.3%	29.9%	45.3%	48.6%	47.2%
Visited campuses	41.5%	42.2%	47.2%	44.0%	51.8%	55.8%
Attended college fairs	57.9%	48.0%	49.4%	44.4%	48.6%	45.3%
Completed and submitted a FASA	51.3%	46.6%	48.0%	41.3%	49.3%	48.6%
Completed and submitted a scholarship application	31.8%	36.3%	29.5%	30.8%	41.6%	40.3%
Took college entrance tests	59.0%	62.8%	56.1%	65.6%	72.4%	68.1%
Took test prep classes	44.1%	34.1%	39.5%	38.2%	41.7%	38.9%
Completed ACC courses	27.2%	37.2%	34.3%			

**Table 22. Have You Applied To The Following Types Of Postsecondary Institutions?
(Items 35, 36, And 37)**

	Lanier 2007	Lanier
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Figure 8. How Many Siblings (Brothers Or Sisters) Do You Have Who Are Either Enrolled In College Or Live With You (Item 11)



Note. This item was new to the 2009 survey. This item is designed to gauge the number of dependent children either living

Table 23. How Easy Has It Been For You And Your Parents To Understand The Process Of

ADDITIONAL RESULTS

Figure 9a. What Is The *One Thing* That Was Most Important To Keeping You Going Through School All The Way To Graduation? (Item 48, Lanier)

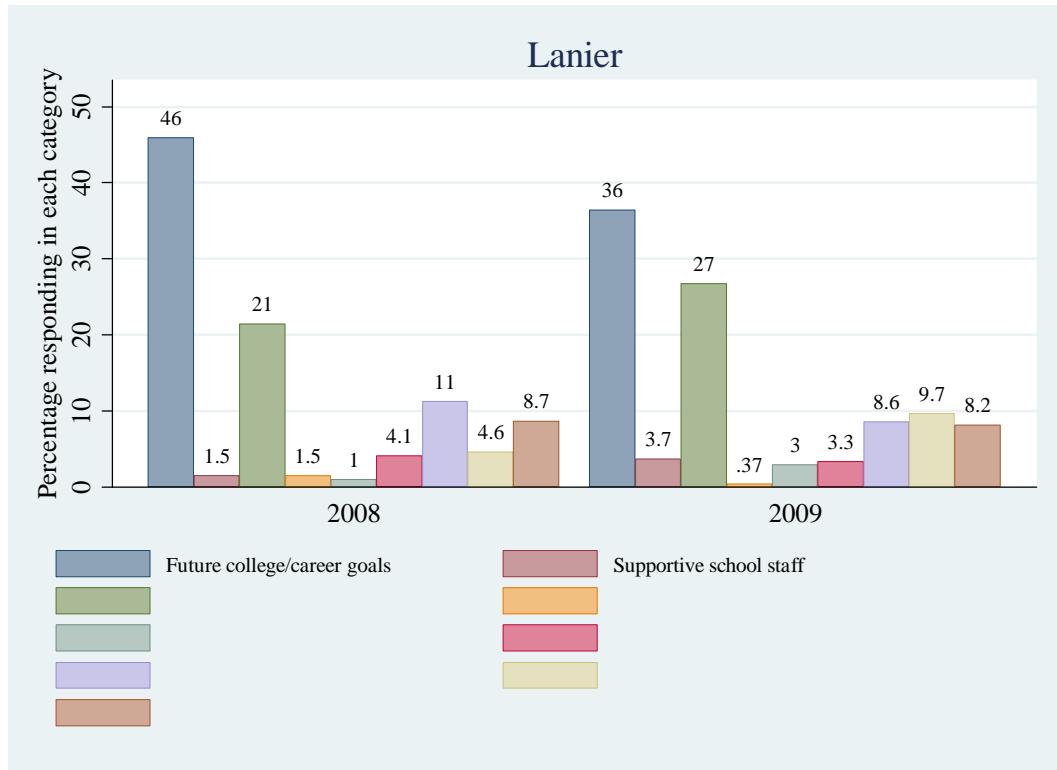


Figure 9b. What Is The *One Thing* That Was Most Important To Keeping You Going Through School All The Way To Graduation? (Item 48, All High Schools)

