

# Project SUCCESS

## EVALUATION REPORT SUMMARY

Humboldt Junior High School  
Year Two

September 2004

Amy Bemis, M.A.  
Evaluation Consultant

Carol Freeman, Ph.D.  
Research Associate  
Center for Applied Research and Educational Improvement  
College of Education and Human Development

University of Minnesota

## **Summary of Important Findings**

The results of the evaluation conducted at the end of the 2004-05 school year illustrate that Project SUCCESS is indeed a success. Responses from all groups participating in the surveys—students, core English teachers, staff, parents, and alumni; 4,900 in all—reflect very positive feelings toward the program and, more importantly, recognition of the many outcomes it achieves. Following are examples of survey results [from Humboldt Junior High School](#) that address many of the program's main objectives.

### ***Demographics***

- More than 45% of Humboldt students identified themselves as African American.
- More than 20% identified themselves as Asian or Pacific Islander.
- The same percentage, over 20%, identified themselves as Latino or Hispanic.
- Nearly 16% of Humboldt students identified themselves as Native American.
- Just over 24% of Humboldt students identified themselves as White.

### ***Student Perceptions***

- Over 89% of Humboldt students felt that going to plays with Project SUCCESS was valuable.
- Nearly 98% said the in-class workshops were valuable.
- More than 93% of students said Project SUCCESS “gave me useful advice and information.”
- Over 84% of Humboldt students said Project SUCCESS “helped me understand classmates who have different perspectives and experiences.”
- Nearly 89% of students said Project SUCCESS “helped me understand myself better.”

### ***Teacher Perceptions***

- Half of polled teachers said attending plays with Project SUCCESS was valuable. The other half had not been to a play with Project SUCCESS.
- All of the teachers at Humboldt said the in-class workshops were valuable.
- Half of Humboldt teachers said Project SUCCESS had a positive impact on their students' knowledge of how to reach their goals and dreams.
- Over 83% of Humboldt teachers said Project SUCCESS had a positive effect on their students' feelings about themselves.

- Nearly 17% of Humboldt teachers said Project SUCCESS had a positive influence on their students' overall grades.
- A third of Humboldt teachers said Project SUCCESS had a positive impact on students' relationships with teachers.
- TWO thirds said Project SUCCESS had a positive effect on students' relationships with other students.

### ***Future Planning***

- 94% of Humboldt students in Project SUCCESS indicated the program "helped me think about my future."
- Over 88% of students said Project SUCCESS "helped me identify more choices than I thought I had."

### ***Impact on School Life***

- Over 72% of Humboldt students said they made a special effort to attend school for Project SUCCESS activities.
- 70% of Humboldt students said Project SUCCESS had a positive impact on their knowledge of how to reach their goals and dreams.
- Nearly 41% of Humboldt students said Project SUCCESS had a positive effect on their overall grades.

### ***Understanding of Self and Others***

- Over one-third of Humboldt students said Project SUCCESS had a positive impact on their relationships with teachers.
- Nearly 40% of Humboldt students said Project SUCCESS had a positive influence on their relationships with other students.
- Half of Humboldt students said Project SUCCESS had a positive influence on their feelings about themselves.

### ***Theater Experience***

- More than 15% of Humboldt students indicated that they had seen a play with Project SUCCESS.
- Nearly one-third of Humboldt students who saw a play said they attended with their family.
- 36% said they would attend again, given the chance.

It is clear from the survey results that those who participate regard the program highly and value each of its components. It will be critical to continue outreach and funding

efforts so that even more students and families can benefit from the important opportunities that Project SUCCESS has to offer.