



The *Disconnected* Youth of Little Rock and the Impact of LRSD

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Potential Factors to the “Disconnection”

- ▶ Truancy-Some kids just don't come to school.
- ▶ Students who struggle academically (those with identified disabilities and those who go unidentified)
- ▶ Discipline (repeated suspensions) leads to students being out of school.
- ▶ Parents/caregivers own personal, negative experiences with school may lead to lack of engagement.
- ▶ Students own parenting obligations lead to missing school and or dropping out.
- ▶ Criminal activities of students and or parents/caregivers may lead to students missing school/dropping out.
- ▶ PTSD-trauma from life experiences
- ▶ *****Over age, under credit (older students with little to no credits struggling to finish high school ex. 17 years old with 2 credits-need 22 credits to graduate high school)

LRSD High Schools

| | Total Enrollment | Female/Male |
|--------------|------------------|-------------|
| ▶ Central | 2,290 | 53%/47% |
| ▶ Hall | 930 | 49%/51% |
| ▶ J.A. Fair | 761 | 52%/48% |
| ▶ McClellan | 705 | 47%/53% |
| ▶ Parkview | 1,081 | 57%/43% |
| TOTAL | 5,767 | |

Total Sanctions by Grade-High Schools

| | | | |
|--------------------------|-------|-----------------|----|
| ▶ 9 th Grade | 3,679 | <i>Hamilton</i> | 12 |
| ▶ 10 th Grade | 1,981 | | 8 |
| ▶ 11 th Grade | 1,020 | | 0 |
| ▶ 12 th Grade | 938 | | 0 |
| ▶ TOTAL | 7,638 | (5,767) | |

Infractions by Grade Level –What does this mean?

- ▶ Highest number of disciplinary infractions are at the 9th and 10th grade levels (transition to high school can be difficult for some students).
- ▶ There is a disproportionate number of infractions involving Black students with an increase in infractions committed by black girls (3 year trend).
- ▶ The most infractions noted are Tardies, Repeated Violations of Category 1 and 2 Offenses, Disorderly Conduct, Physical Assault, Terroristic Threatening.
- ▶ Most of these infractions lead to an arrest/citation with an assigned court date.

PBIS and Restorative Justice Practices

- ▶ Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS) and the School Based Intervention Team (SBIT)
- ▶ Revisions in LRSD Student Handbook (Restorative Justice Practices)
- ▶ Professional Development and Ongoing Technical Assistance (*“Be the Change We Seek to See”*)
- ▶ Community Partnerships-Job Training, Skill/Trade Development, Internships for Students and their Families

The Conversation is the Relationship

- ▶ Inclusive activities at the school (athletics, clubs/organizations, etc.) and in the community (after school and summer programs, job assistance, mentoring activities, etc.)
- ▶ Alternatives to Out of School Suspensions (OSS)
- ▶ Parenting Support and Wrap Around Services (social work, mental health, employment assistance through training or partnerships)
- ▶ If they are not in school, WHERE ARE THEY?

Contact Information

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