DEVELOPMENTAL ASSET SURVEY:
WHAT OUR ORCHARD PARK STUDENTS ARE TELLING US
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WHAT OUR STUDENTS ARE TELLING US
Summarized for the Tri-Board Meeting
January 19, 2010
Summary of the ASSET SURVEY administered in September, 2009, to the 9th and 12th grade classes at Orchard Park High School

References are also made to the surveys administered in the Spring, 2003, (8th grade and 11th grade classes), and in the Fall, 2006, (9th grade and 12th grade classes)
Developmental Assets: A Profile of Our Youth
Summary of the 2009 Survey Administration
What are ASSETS?

- ASSETS
  - Vital signs of healthy youth
  - 40 characteristics internal and external to the youth
  - Reflect the degree to which our youth may resist engaging in risk-taking behaviors
  - Assets tend to decrease from 6th through 12th grades
  - Girls tend to have slightly more assets than boys
Background on the Developmental Assets Survey in Orchard Park

- First survey: Spring, 2003, to the 8th Grade Class of 2007 & the 11th Grade Class of 2004
- Second survey: Fall, 2006, to the 9th Grade Class of 2010 & the 12th Grade Class of 2007
- Third survey: Fall, 2009, to the 9th Grade Class of 2013 & the 12th Grade Class of 2010
- Survey prepared by the Search Institute
  [www.search-institute.org]
- Overview of the results from the 2009 Survey, shown with the results of the 2003 & 2006 surveys, serves as a Baseline versus “Comparison”
Background on the Developmental Assets Survey in Orchard Park

Two Shifts To Focus On:

First Shift
From fixing young people’s problems … to
Promoting young people’s strengths

Second Shift
Beyond programs … to… Building relationships
Average Number of Assets Reported by OUR YOUTH

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total Assets</th>
<th>Grade 8/9</th>
<th>Grade 11/'12</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>Purple</td>
<td>Maroon</td>
<td>Purple</td>
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<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Purple</td>
<td>Maroon</td>
<td>Purple</td>
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<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Purple</td>
<td>Maroon</td>
<td>Purple</td>
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External Assets

Support

Empowerment

Boundaries & Expectations

Constructive Use of Time
Percent of Youth Reporting: External Asset Support

- Family Support
- Positive Family Communication
- Other Adult Relationships
- Caring Neighborhood
- Caring School Climate
- Parent Involvement in Schooling

Year:
- 2003
- 2006
- 2009
Percent of Youth Reporting: External Asset Empowerment

- Community Values Youth
- Youth as Resources
- Service to Others
- Safety

Year Comparison:
- 2003
- 2006
- 2009
Percent of Youth Reporting: External Asset Boundaries & Expectations

- Family Boundaries
- School Boundaries
- Neighborhood Boundaries
- Adult Role Models
- Positive Peer Influence
- High Expectations

Comparing years:
- 2003
- 2006
- 2009
Percent of Youth Reporting: External Asset

Constructive Use of Time

- Creative Activities
- Youth Programs
- Religious Community
- Time at Home

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<tr>
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<th>2003</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2009</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Creative Activities</td>
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<td>Youth Programs</td>
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<td>Religious Community</td>
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<td>Time at Home</td>
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Internal Assets

Commitment to Learning
Positive Values
Social Competencies
Positive Identity
% of Youth Reporting: Internal Asset

Commitment to Learning

- Achievement Motivation
- School Engagement
- Homework
- Bonding to School
- Reading for Pleasure

Years: 2003, 2006, 2009
% of Youth Reporting: Internal Asset

Positive Values

- Caring
- Equality & Social Justice
- Integrity
- Honesty
- Responsibility
- Restraint

[Graph showing the percentage of youth reporting positive values over the years 2003, 2006, and 2009 for each internal asset.]
% of Youth Reporting: Internal Asset

Social Competencies

Planning & Decision Making
Interpersonal Competence
Cultural Competence
Resistance Skills
Peaceful Conflict Resolution

Years:
- 2003
- 2006
- 2009
% of Youth Reporting: Internal Asset

Positive Identity

- Personal Power
- Self-esteem
- Sense of Purpose
- Positive View of Personal Future

2003
2006
2009
% of Youth Reporting:
Focus on Thriving Indicators

HELPS OTHERS

EXHIBITS LEADERSHIP

OVERCOMES ADVERSITY

SUCCCEEDS IN SCHOOL

2003/8
2006/9
2009/9
2003/11
2006/12
2009/12
% of Youth Reporting: Deficit & Risky Behaviors

Alone at Home (>2hrs/day)

TV Overexposure (>3hrs/sch.day)

Physical Abuse (home)

Victim of Violence

2003/8
2006/9
2009/9
2003/11
2006/12
2009/12
% of Youth Reporting: Deficit & Risky Behaviors

- Drinking Parties
- Alcohol--use last month
- Alcohol--use last 2 wks.

Drinking Parties
Alcohol--use last month
Alcohol--use last 2 wks.
% of Youth Reporting: Deficit & Risky Behaviors

- Tobacco--use last month
- Tobacco--smokeless, last yr.
- Inhalants--last yr.
- Marijuana--last yr.
- Other Drugs--last yr.
- Driving & Alcohol--driving
- Driving & Alcohol--riding

Years:
- 2003/8
- 2006/9
- 2009/9
- 2003/11
- 2006/12
- 2009/12
% of Youth Reporting: Deficit & Risky Behaviors

- Sexual Intercourse--at least once
- Sexual Intercourse-- 3+ times in lifetime

- 2003/8
- 2006/9
- 2009/9
- 2003/11
- 2006/12
- 2009/12
Areas of Strength

- Family Support
- Leadership
- Rate of Tobacco Use
- Helping Others
- Positive View of Personal Future

Areas of Opportunity

- Community Values Youth
- Family Boundaries & Communication
- Drinking
- Adult Role Models
- Creative Activities & Reading for Pleasure
- Planning
- Resisting Danger

These are areas for further conversations
To positively develop the youth of our community, we need to strengthen and rebuild the developmental support structures.
Our community can....

• Recognize that all youth need “assets”
  – support/expand asset building efforts
  – empower youth to contribute

• Realize that asset building is an ongoing process--there is no end
  – establish long-term goals and perspectives based on these findings
  – advocate quality opportunities for our youth
Our community can....and has....

- 2003: OPCYC founded
- Teen Dances, Battle of the Bands, Movie Nights
- Town Meetings (Regal Cinema)
- Tri-Board Presentations
- Community Presentations (Park Parsons, PTO’s, OPHS Staff, …)
- Joint programs with the Town of Orchard Park Recreation Department, Recreation Commission, Orchard Park Seniors
- Car Washes
- Collaboration with Amherst Youth Bureau
- OPCSD Co-curricular Behavior Policy joint development team
- OPHS Freshmen Parents Orientation
Easy Ways for Adults to show Youth They Care.
{And They Help Build Assets, too!}

• Be relaxed.
• Kneel, squat, or sit so you're at their eye level.
• Answer their questions.
• Tell them how terrific they are.
• Create a tradition with them and keep it.
• Learn what they have to teach.
• Use your ears more than your mouth.
• Make yourself available.
• Show up at their concerts, games, and events.
• Find a common interest.
• Communicate clear and consistent message by what you Say and Do  
  *Be a positive role model.*
• Deal with conflict in a non-violent manner. Be healthy in your use of alcohol and medication.
Easy Ways for Adults to show Youth That They Care.
{And They Help Build Assets, too!}

START THE CONVERSATION