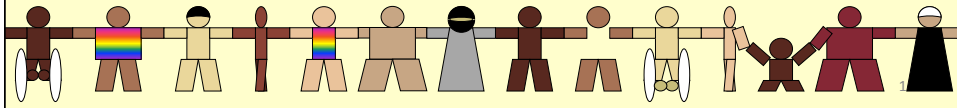
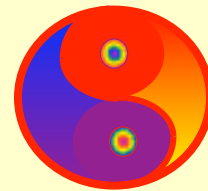


# **UPDATE ON BULLYING: Findings from the Spring 2012 Midland Park Student Survey**

***Presented Jan. 24, 2013***

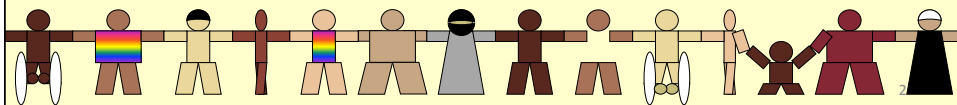


***Dr. Paula  
Rodríguez Rust***



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[spectrumdiversity@comcast.net](mailto:spectrumdiversity@comcast.net)***



**Findings from  
EVVRS and the  
Midland Park  
Student Surveys**

3  
3

**State-wide  
EVVRS Statistics for 2011-2012  
Reported by NJ DOE**

4

	County-wide	HIB/Enrollment Average over districts	Lowest	Highest
Atlantic	.00966	.01241	0	.04563
Bergen	.00798	<b>.00819</b>	0	<b>.04103</b>
<b>Midland Park</b>		<b>.0117</b>		
Burlington	.00974	.01418	0	.05682
Camden	.01353	.01588	0	.05757
Cape May	.00672	<b>.0079</b>	0	.02564
Cumberland	.01013	<b>.02082</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>.11532</b>
Essex	.00499	.00923	0	.09259
Gloucester	.01053	.01006	0	.03462
Hudson	.00459	.01127	0	.0655
Hunterdon	.00961	.0093	0	.05263
Mercer	.0074	.0135	.00117	.05556
Middlesex	.00864	.00945	0	<b>.02424</b>
Monmouth	.01036	.01435	0	.05247
Morris	.00989	.01015	0	.03364
Ocean	.0161	.00945	0	.02659
Passaic	.00603	.01053	0	.05428
Salem	.01552	.01211	0	.03349
Somerset	.00811	.01433	0	.09677
Sussex	.01134	.01149	0	.03107
Union	.01052	.01145	0	.02489
Warren	.01959	.01499	0	.09247

## Findings from The Midland Park Student Survey

**When students name call, bully, or harass each other, and teachers or other school staff are close enough to notice the bullying, how often do the adults try to stop it?**

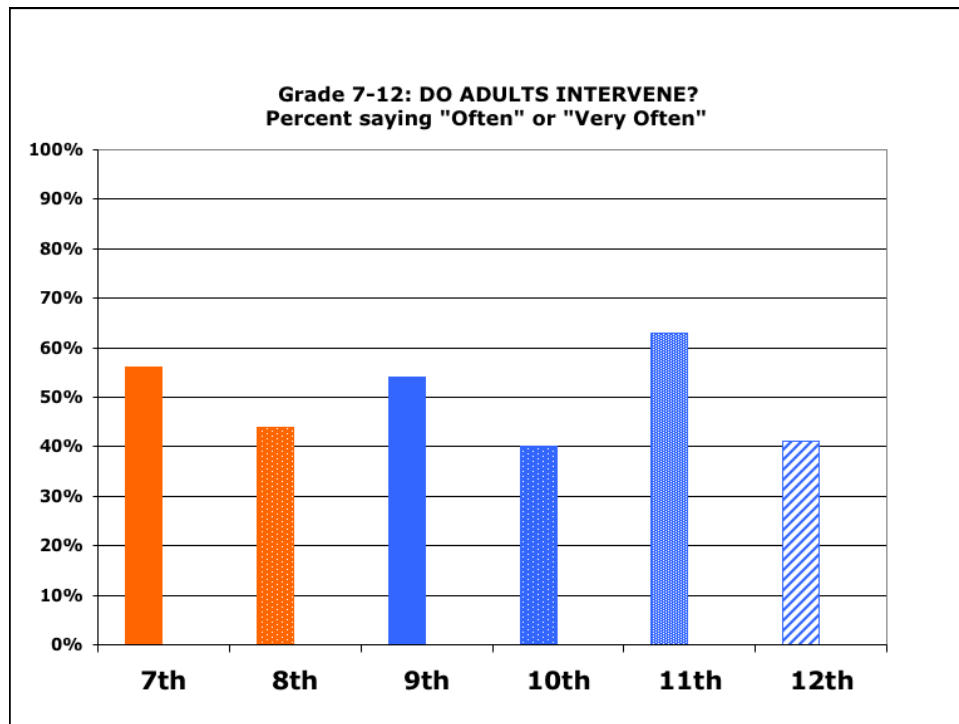
Answer Choices (Grades 7-12):

Never  
Rarely  
Sometimes  
Often  
Very Often

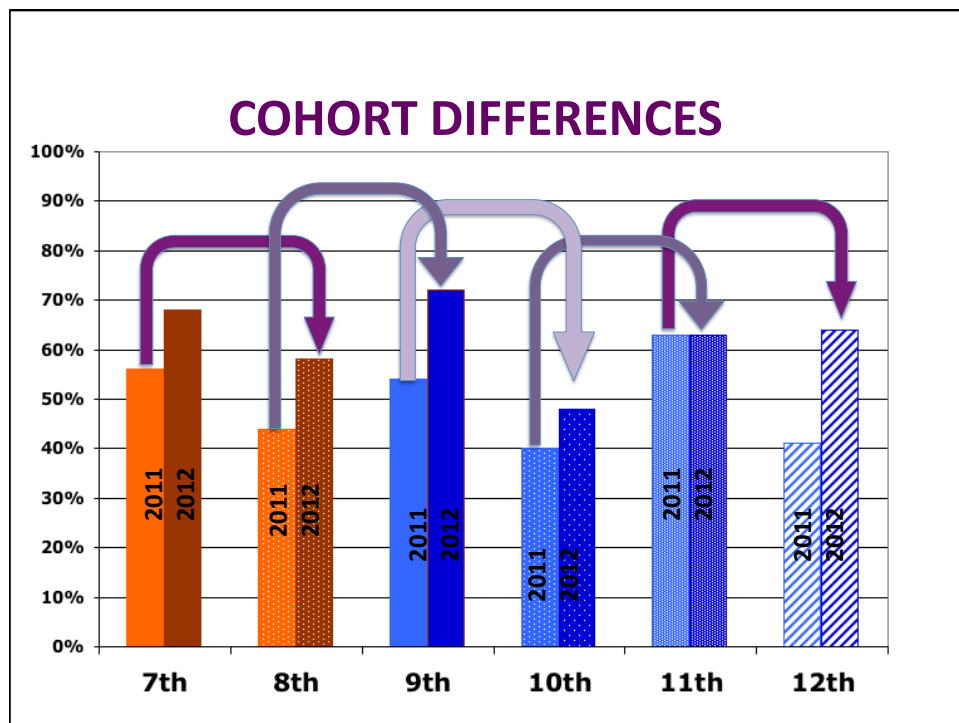
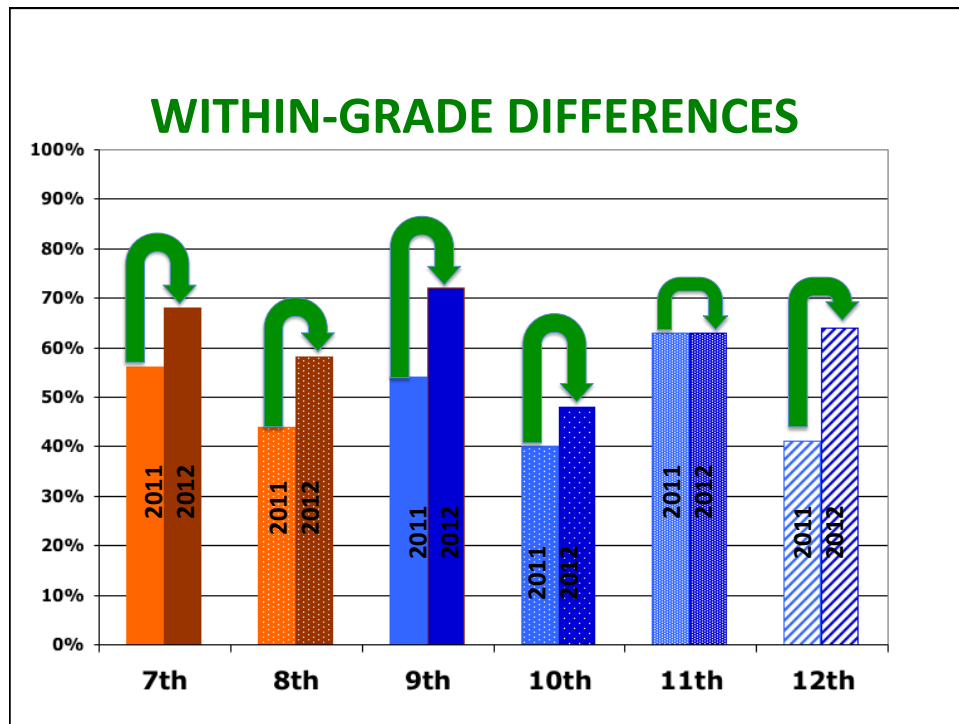
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Rarely  
Sometimes  
Often  
Very Often



**There are Two Ways to Examine  
the Differences between 2011  
and 2012 Findings:**  
*Within-Grade Differences*  
*Cohort Differences*



**In general, when teachers find out about bullying in school, are they usually able to stop the students who are bothering or bullying other students:**

Answer Choices (Grades 2-12):

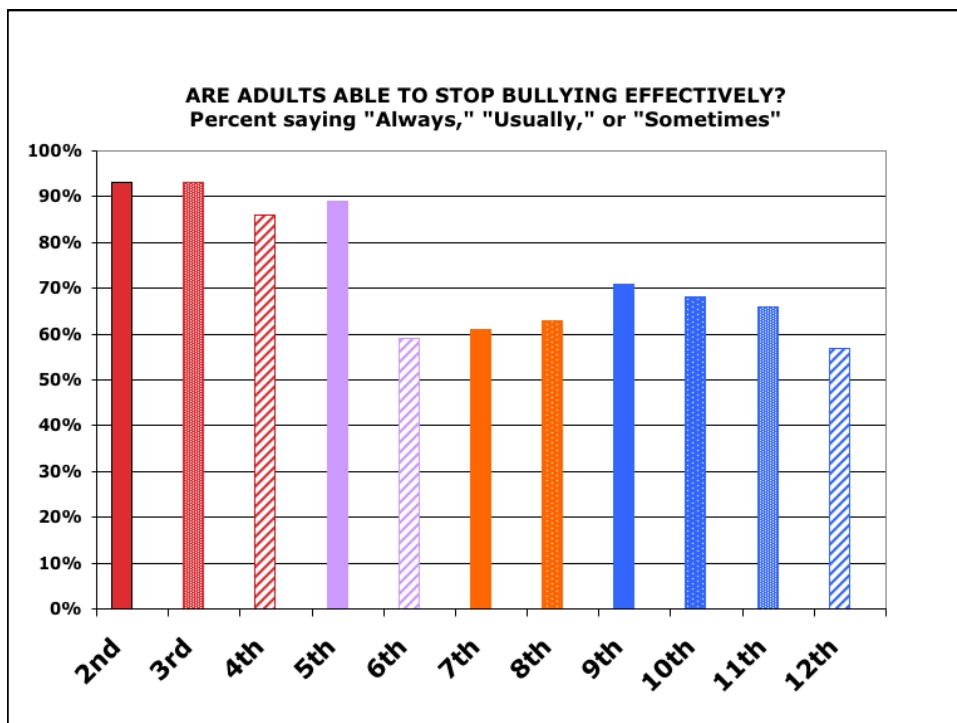
No, never

No, most of the time they can't

Sometimes teachers can make it stop

Yes, teachers can often make it stop

Yes, teachers always make it stop



**How serious are each of the following problems  
in your school?**

(Grades 7-12)

**Pressure to look a certain way to fit in**  
**Cliques, social exclusion**  
**Name-calling**  
**Physical aggression**  
**Prejudice based on race, ethnicity, religion**  
**Prejudice against lesbian, gay, or bisexual students**  
**Gangs**  
**Students taking unwanted photos/videos of other students**  
**Students posting hurtful things online**  
**Weapons**  
**Adults insulting students or putting students down**  
**Adults treating each other with disrespect**

Answer Choices:

Not at all serious  
 Not very serious  
 Somewhat serious  
 Very serious  
 Extremely serious

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Answer Choices:

Not at all serious  
 Not very serious  
 Somewhat serious  
 Very serious  
 Extremely serious

**Which of these things do you think are problems  
at your school?**

(Grades 2-6)

Answer Choices:

Checked

Not Checked

**Fighting**

**People calling each other mean names**

**People leaving each other out**

**Some people don't have friends**

**Gangs**

**Prejudice**

**People don't like you if you don't look a certain way**

**Some people make "clubs" and won't let others join**

**People sending mean text messages on their phones**

**People telling rumors about other people**

**Teachers not being fair to everyone**

**Some students are mean and don't get in trouble for it**

**Some teachers say things that are mean to students**

**Which of these things do you think are problems  
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### How serious are each of the following problems in your school?

(Comparing 2011 and 2012 findings within grade levels)

- The percentage of students who said that **“name-calling”** is a problem decreased in middle and high school, including a decrease from 55% to 20% in tenth grade.
- The percentage of students who said that **“some people don’t have friends”** decreased in *every grade from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup>, including decreases of 57% to 28% in 5<sup>th</sup> grade and 52% to 26% in 6<sup>th</sup> grade.*
- Student concern about **online posting of hurtful material** decreased dramatically in several grades, including 29% to 5% in 7<sup>th</sup> grade, 36% to 12% in 10<sup>th</sup> grade, and 22% to 7% in 12<sup>th</sup> grade.
- Perception of **“cultural prejudice”** (race/ethnicity/religion) decreased in several grades, including 23% to 4% in 10<sup>th</sup> grade, and dropped to 0% among 12<sup>th</sup> graders.
- Perception of **disrespect toward sexual orientation diversity** decreased from 31% to 8% among 10<sup>th</sup> graders, and dropped to 0% in both 9<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grades.

### What Aspects of Peer Behavior are Students Most Concerned about in Each Grade?

(Not all students were asked about all issues)

- Second grade: Fighting (57%)
- Third grade: Exclusive “clubs” (48%) and Name-calling (48%)
- Fourth grade: Rumor-spreading (53%)
- Fifth grade: Name-calling (58%), Social exclusion (54%), and Rumor-spreading (56%)
- Sixth grade: Name-calling (77%) and Rumor-spreading (68%)
- Seventh grade: Name-calling (27%) and Social exclusion (19%)
- Eighth grade: Name-calling (22%) and Social exclusion (20%)
- Ninth grade: Name-calling (17%)
- Tenth grade: Social exclusion (28%) and Name-calling (20%)
- Eleventh grade: Online posting (47%) and Social exclusion (25%)
- Twelfth grade: Name-calling (21%)

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### During this school year, how often have you heard other students make the following types of remarks at school?

**Derogatory comments about**  
**...someone’s race or ethnicity**  
**...other religions**  
**...girls/boys**  
**...how someone looks**  
**...gay, lesbian, or bisexual people**  
**Use the expression “so gay”**  
**Call someone a “retard,” or “dumb” or “stupid”**

Answer Choices:  
 Never  
 Rarely  
 Sometimes  
 Often  
 Daily  
 More than once/day

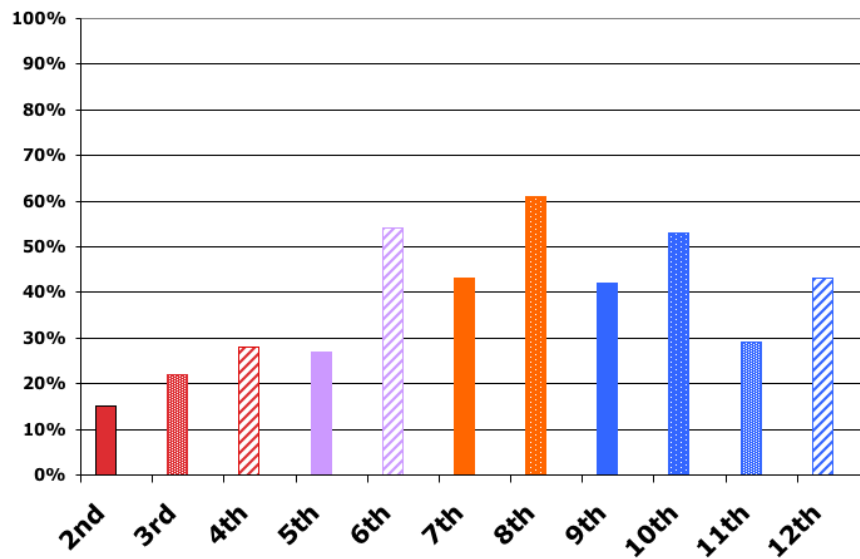
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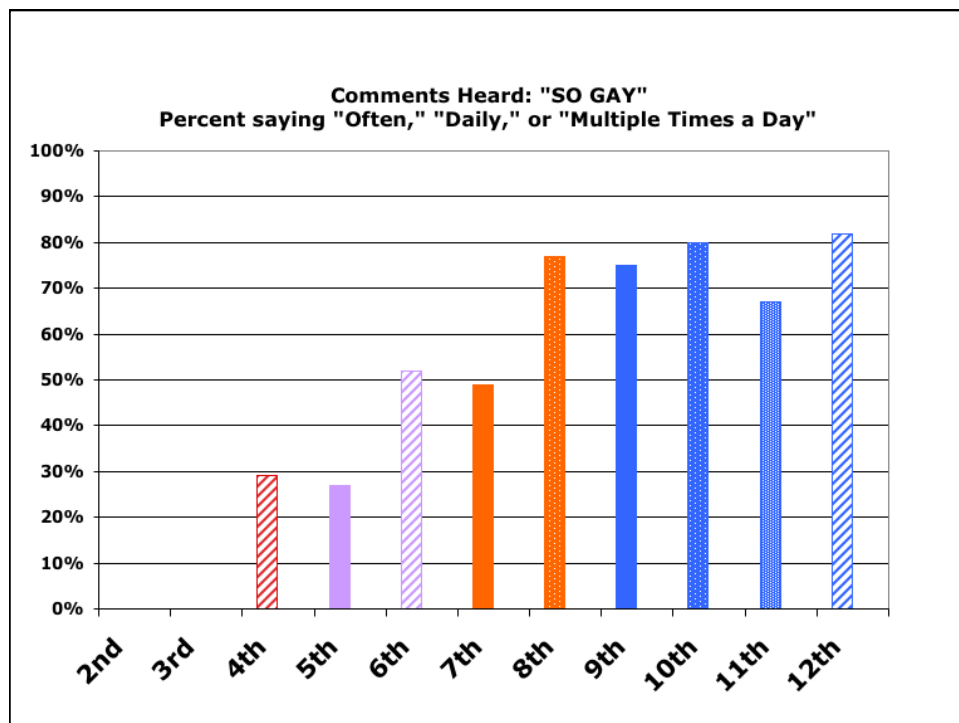
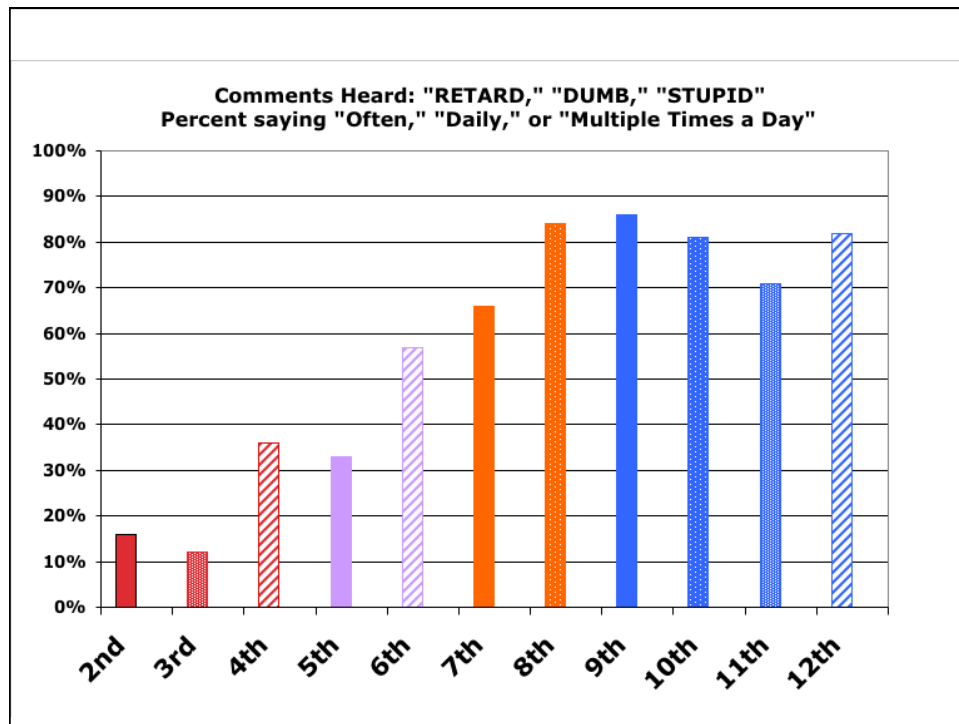
Derogatory comments about  
 ...someone's race or ethnicity  
 ...other religions  
 ...girls/boys  
 ...how someone looks  
 ...gay, lesbian, or bisexual people  
 Use the expression "so gay"  
 Call someone a "retard," or "dumb" or "stupid"

Answer Choices:

Never  
 Rarely  
 Sometimes  
 Often  
 Daily  
 More than once/day

**Comments Heard: DEROGATORY ABOUT APPEARANCE**  
 Percent saying "Often," "Daily," or "Multiple Times a Day"





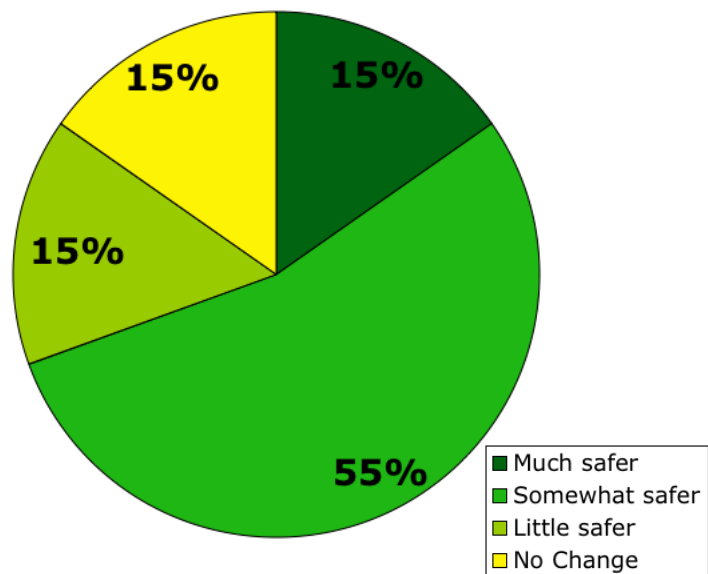
**Whether or not you have noticed an actual difference in the amount of bullying in school, have your teachers' efforts to stop bullying made a difference in how safe you feel in school?**

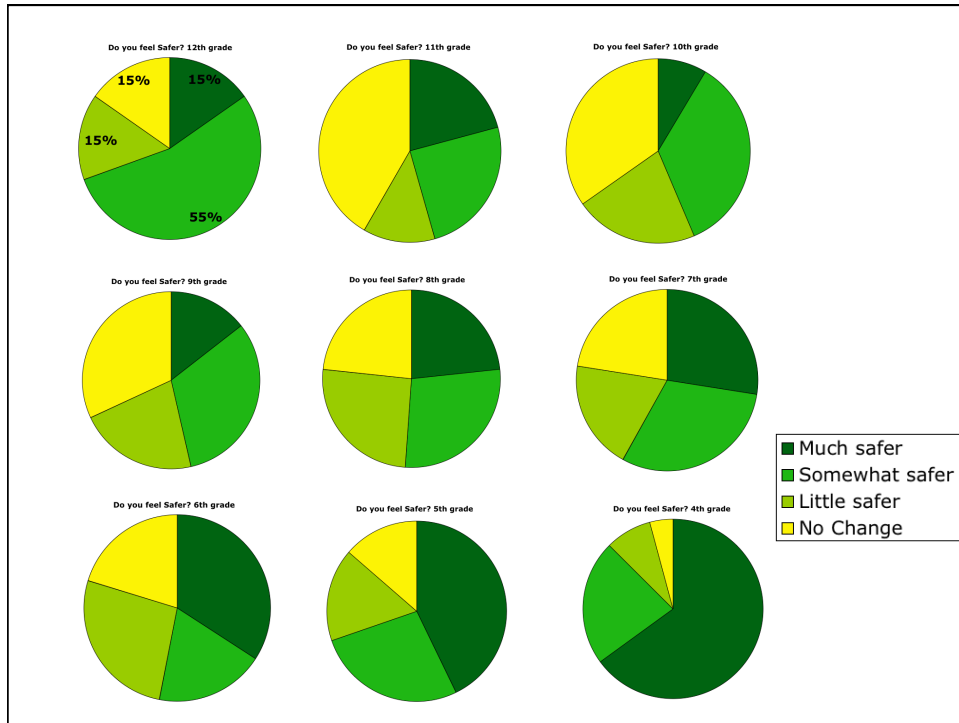
Answer Choices (Grades 2-12):

Yes, I feel much safer  
Yes, I feel somewhat safer  
Yes, I feel just a little bit safer  
No, I don't feel any safer at school

■ Much safer  
■ Somewhat safer  
■ Little safer  
■ No Change

**Do you feel Safer? 12th grade**





**Working Together  
to Address  
Bullying  
Effectively**

## WHAT CAN YOU EXPECT YOUR SCHOOL TO DO?

- Take all forms of hurtful behavior by students seriously, whether or not the behavior is bullying, and whether or not it is legally defined and reportable as bullying
- Teach students that they share responsibility for creating a school climate that is safe and respectful for all
- Encourage students to tell an adult if they know of someone who is being hurt by someone else
- Respond to all reported incidents with *appropriate* remedial or disciplinary consequences
- Implement strategies to create a positive school climate to discourage bullying and other hurtful behaviors
- Teach all students to respect diversity, and to be able to disagree with others respectfully

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## WHAT DO YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE SCHOOL'S PROCEDURES?

- School personnel must protect the confidentiality of all students. The school cannot provide you with information about discipline given another student.
- The school's jurisdiction is limited. If an incident occurred off campus, your recourse might be with law enforcement, and not through the school
- "Tough on Bullying" means appropriate, not extreme, responses; remedial responses are often more effective
- School staff are required to report certain types of incidents within the district, and at the state level.

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## WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP?

- Be familiar with your district's anti-bullying policy
- Know that bullying today is different than it used to be; take it seriously. Listen/talk about it.
- Tell your son/daughter what to do if s/he is bullied (tell an adult). Do not give advice that will put your child in a difficult situation in school (e.g. do not advise to "hit back")
- Teach your son/daughter what to do if someone else is bullied (tell an adult, stand up for them, help them walk away, etc.)
- Teach about cultural diversity; teach the difference between Respect and Agreement
- If you learn of a situation or incident in the school, tell a member of the school staff immediately

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