Appendix B: 2009 School Climate Survey – High School Version 12.15.10

Appendix B: 2009 School Climate Survey - High School Students Version
University of Illinois
School Climate Research Team

### **Appendix C: School Climate Survey- High School Version**

The School Climate Survey – High School Version (SCSHSV) is a multi-dimensional assessment tool that measures high school students' perceptions of their school's social climate. The SCSHSV is comprised of 7 demographic questions, 68 statements regarding students' perceptions of their school, and a 4-item experiences of racism section. The survey concludes with questions asking whether or not students were aware of the consent decree, had received a suspension during the school year, how many detentions they had in the last year, and whether they would be willing to work to end inequities in the school district.

When presented with the 64 statements, respondents rated whether they strongly agree, agree, are neutral/not sure, disagree, or strongly disagree with each. The experience of racism subscale has a slightly different response system, with options ranging between never, a few times, monthly, weekly, and daily. The question about the consent decree and recent suspensions provides a yes/no format for the answer, while the detention question provides a range of numbers to choose between. Students indicated whether they were interested in working to end inequities by filling in the bubble next to the statement.

### **Executive Summary**

African American and White high school students had <u>very</u> disparate views of the social climate in Champaign's public schools concerning: 1) Need to Address Racial Issues. Mean score differences labeled as "very disparate" were statistically significant and had large effect sizes (> .8) as measured by Cohen's D.

African American and White high school students had disparate perspectives of the social climate in Champaign's public schools concerning: 1) Racial Fairness; 2) Family Attributions for Misbehavior; 3) Teacher Expectations; 4) School Resource Officers. Mean score differences labeled as "disparate" were statistically significant and had moderate effect sizes (between .45 and .8) as measured by Cohen's D.

African American and White high school students had only slightly disparate views of the social climate of Champaign's public schools concerning: 1) Future Possibilities. Mean score differences labeled as "slightly disparate" were statistically significant and had large effect sizes (between .25 and .45) as measured by Cohen's D.

## Trust and Respect (p. B9)

(Comparison data from 2000 Climate Survey provided – p. B10) The overall mean of <u>all</u> respondents was in the neutral range (mean = 3.47). White students are slightly more likely to agree or strongly agree

### **Teacher Expectations (p. B11):**

The overall mean for <u>all</u> respondents was in the agree range (mean = 4.00). White students are slightly more likely to agree or strongly agree than African American students on the Teacher Expectation subscale.

## Racial Fairness (p. B12):

(Comparison data from 2000 Climate Survey provided – p. B13) The overall mean for <u>all</u> respondents was in the neutral range (mean = 3.17). White students are three times more likely as African American students to agree or strongly agree on the Racial Fairness scale. African American students are two times more likely as White students to disagree or strongly disagree on this scale.

### **Experiences of Racism** (p. B14)

(Comparison data from 2000 Climate Survey provided – p. B15)

The overall mean subscale for <u>all</u> respondents was in the "a few times" range (mean = 2.1).

No appreciable differences were found between African American and White high school students on this scale.

### Need to Address Racial Issues - (p. B16):

(Comparison data from 2000 Climate Survey provided – p. B17)

The overall mean for <u>all</u> respondents was in the neutral range (mean = 2.89). African American students are over four times more likely as White students to agree or strongly agree with the items on the Need to Address Racial Issues scale. White students are four times more likely as African American students to disagree or strongly disagree on this scale.

### Family Attributions to Misbehavior (p. B18):

(Comparison data from 2000 Climate Survey provided – p. B19)

The overall mean for all respondents was in the neutral range (mean = 3.14).

White students are twice as likely as African American students to agree or strongly agree with the items on the Family Attributions for Misbehavior scale. African American students are also about twice as likely as White students to disagree or strongly agree on this scale.

### School Resource Officers (p. B20)

The overall mean subscale for <u>all</u> respondents was in the neutral range (mean = 3.0). White students are more than twice as likely to agree or strongly agree with items on the School Resource Officers scale. African American students are twice as likely as White students to disagree or strongly disagree on this scale.

### **Teachers' Preparedness for Diversity (p. B21)**

The overall mean subscale for <u>all</u> respondents was in the neutral range (mean = 3.2). African American students are slightly more likely as White students to disagree or strongly disagree with the items on the Teachers Prepared for Diversity scale.

### Future Possibilities (p. B22)

The overall mean subscale for <u>all</u> respondents was in the "strongly agree" range (mean = 4.33).

No appreciable differences were found between White and African American students on this scale.

## **Demographic Summary of High School Respondents**

The following number of surveys was collected from each school:

School	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Centennial	1038	58%
Central	733	40%
Champaign Academic	29	2%
Academy		
All Respondents	1800	100%

The number of students reported at each grade level:

Number of students at each	Frequency	Percentage of Respondents
grade level		
Ninth grade	503	28%
Tenth grade	474	26%
Eleventh grade	435	24%
Twelfth grade	380	21%
Did not answer/Marked more	2	1%
than one answer		
All Respondents	1794	100%

The gender breakdown of respondents was:

Student's	Frequency	Percentage of Respondents	
Gender			
Male	951	53%	
Female	843	47%	
Did not answer	6	0%	
All Respondents	1800	100%	

The race/ethnicity breakdown of respondents was:

Race/ethnicity	Frequency	Percentage of Respondents
Black/African American	422	24%
White	914	51%
Latino/a	60	3%
Asian/Asian American/ Pacific Islander	129	7%
American Indian	7	0%
Other	62	3%
Bi-Racial White	88	5%
No Race	13	1%
Bi-Racial Black	99	6%
Bi-Racial Latino	2	0%
Bi-Racial Asian	3	0%
All Respondents	1799	100%

The number of respondents who reported having free, reduced, or full priced lunch:

Child lunch	Frequency	Percentage of
payment/status		Respondents
Full Priced Lunch	1204	68%
Free or Reduced Lunch	378	21%
Not Sure	201	11%
Did not answer/marked more	17	0%
than one answer		
All Respondents	1800	100%

The typical academic grades reported by respondents:

Grades	Frequency	Percentage of Respondents
Mostly A's	697	39%
Mostly B's	636	35%
Mostly C's	339	19%
Mostly D's	55	3%
Mostly F's	13	1%
Did not answer/Marked more	60	3%
than one answer		
All Respondents	1800	100%

Respondents who reported being enrolled in at least one honors/AP class:

Response:	Frequency	Percentage of Respondents
Yes	1357	75%
No	428	24%
Did not answer/Marked	15	1%
more than one answer		
Did not answer/Marked	1800	100%
more than one answer		

Have you received a suspension during the 2008-2009 school year:

Number of Detentions	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Yes	154	9%
No	1616	90%
Did not answer/Marked more	30	1%
than one answer		
All Respondents	1800	100%

Number of disciplinary referrals (DR's) you have received during the 2008-2009 school year:

Response:	Frequency	Percentage of Respondents	
Zero	1362	76%	
1-4	295	16%	
5-9	60	3%	
10+	49	3%	
Did not answer/Marked	34	2%	
more than one answer			
All Respondents	1800	100%	

Fill in the bubble to the left if you are interested in working to end inequities in Champaign schools:

Response:	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Yes	507	28%
Did not answer/Marked more	1293	72%
than one answer		
All Respondents	1800	100%

The SCSHSV contains 9 subscales. Each is listed below accompanied by a brief definition.

Subscale Name	Scale Description	
Trust and Respect	Students' perception that they can trust teachers, principal, and	
	other staff and are respected by them.	
<b>Teacher Expectations</b>	Perceptions of teachers' expectations for students.	
Racial Fairness	Perceptions that students of all races are treated fairly.	
Experience of Racism	How often a respondent has experienced racism.	
Need to Address Racial	Perceptions of the need to change the school system to better	
Issues	address racial inequities.	
Family Attributions for	Perceptions that student misbehavior at school results from	
Misbehavior	families not valuing education.	
School Resource Officers	Perceptions that the presence of School Resource Officers makes	
	the schools safer.	
Teachers' Preparedness	Students' perceptions of teachers' preparedness to work in a	
for Diversity	diverse environment.	
<b>Future Possibilities</b>	Students' perceptions of the likelihood of success beyond school.	

In addition to these subscales, the survey contained several "stand-alone" items that were repeatedly mentioned as important to ask by stakeholders during the survey construction phase of the project.

### <u>Trust and Respect – Subscale Summary</u>

The Trust and Respect subscale measures students' perceptions that they can trust teachers, principal, and other staff and are respected by them. This subscale contains 3 items:

The overall mean subscale for <u>all</u> 1758 respondents who filled out this subscale was in the "neutral" range. Overall student and racial group scores break down as follows:

	African	White	All Others	All
	American			Students
Strongly	5%	2%	2%	3%
Disagree				
Disagree	9%	7%	6%	7%
Neutral/	45%	34%	30%	37%
Not Sure				
Agree	30%	39%	45%	37%
Strongly	11%	18%	17%	16%
Agree				
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

<sup>&</sup>quot;My teachers understand my point of view."

<sup>&</sup>quot;My teachers respect me."

<sup>&</sup>quot;I trust teachers to keep their promises."

## <u>Trust and Respect 2000 – Subscale Summary</u>

The Trust and Respect subscale measures students' perceptions of trust and respect. This subscale contains 3 items:

The overall mean subscale for <u>all</u> 2128 respondents who filled out this subscale was in the "neutral" range. Overall student and racial group scores break down as follows:

	African	White	All Others	All
	American			Students
Strongly	4%	4%	5%	4%
Disagree				
Disagree	15%	11%	8%	11%
Neutral/	38%	34%	34%	35%
Not Sure				
Agree	28%	36%	40%	35%
Strongly	15%	15%	13%	15%
Agree				
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

<sup>&</sup>quot;My teachers understand my point of view."

<sup>&</sup>quot;My teachers respect me."

<sup>&</sup>quot;I trust teachers to keep their promises."

### **Teacher Expectations - Subscale Summary**

The Teacher Expectations subscale measures students' perceptions of teachers' expectations for them. This subscale contains 7 items:

The overall mean subscale for <u>all</u> 1775 respondents who filled out this subscale was in the "agree" range. Overall student and racial group scores break down as follows:

	African	White	All Others	All
	American			Students
Strongly	1%	0%	0%	0%
Disagree				
Disagree	2%	1%	0%	1%
Neutral/	27%	10%	16%	17%
Not Sure				
Agree	40%	43%	49%	43%
Strongly	30%	46%	35%	39%
Agree				
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

<sup>&</sup>quot;My teachers expect me to go to college."

<sup>&</sup>quot;My teachers care about academic success."

<sup>&</sup>quot;My teachers think I am going to get good grades."

<sup>&</sup>quot;My teachers think I am intelligent."

<sup>&</sup>quot;My teachers expect me to graduate from high school."

<sup>&</sup>quot;My teachers think African American students are going to get in trouble a lot."

<sup>&</sup>quot;I feel like I have been labeled as a bad kid."

### Racial Fairness - Subscale Summary

The Racial Fairness subscale measures students' perceptions that students of all races are treated fairly. This subscale contains 5 items:

The overall mean subscale for <u>all</u> 1756 respondents who filled out this subscale was in the "neutral" range. Overall student and racial group scores break down as follows:

	African	White	All Others	All
	American			Students
Strongly	14%	4%	7%	7%
Disagree				
Disagree	24%	14%	15%	17%
Neutral/	39%	38%	39%	38%
Not Sure				
Agree	18%	30%	30%	27%
Strongly	5%	14%	9%	11%
Agree				
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

<sup>&</sup>quot;At my school, students are disciplined fairly regardless of their race."

<sup>&</sup>quot;African American students are treated fairly at my school."

<sup>&</sup>quot;The Champaign School System treats students of all races fairly."

<sup>&</sup>quot;My school treats students of all races fairly."

<sup>&</sup>quot;My teachers treat students of all races fairly."

### Racial Fairness 2000 – Subscale Summary

The Racial Fairness subscale measures students' perceptions of racial fairness. This subscale contains 5 items:

The overall mean subscale for <u>all</u> 2126 respondents who filled out this subscale was in the "strongly disagree" range. Overall student and racial group scores break down as follows:

	African	White	All Others	All
	American			Students
Strongly	11%	3%	5%	5%
Disagree				
Disagree	16%	10%	11%	11%
Neutral/	41%	37%	44%	39%
Not Sure				
Agree	21%	36%	32%	32%
Strongly	11%	14%	8%	13%
Agree				
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

<sup>&</sup>quot;At my school, students are disciplined fairly regardless of their race."

<sup>&</sup>quot;Black students are treated fairly at my school."

<sup>&</sup>quot;The Champaign School System treats students of all races fairly."

<sup>&</sup>quot;My school treats students of all races fairly."

<sup>&</sup>quot;My teachers treat students of all races fairly."

### **Experience of Racism – Subscale Summary**

The Experience of Racism subscale measures how often students have experienced racism. This subscale contains 4 items:

- "I have felt uncomfortable in school because of my race."
- "How often has a teacher treated you badly because of your race?"
- "How often has another student treated you badly because of your race?"
- "How often have you experienced racism at your school?"

The overall mean subscale for <u>all</u> 1651 respondents who filled out this subscale was in the "a few times" range. Overall student and racial group scores break down as follows:

	African	White	All Others	All
	American			Students
Never	42%	46%	38%	44%
A few	33%	36%	38%	36%
times				
Monthly	20%	15%	18%	16%
Weekly	3%	3%	5%	3%
Daily	2%	0%	1%	1%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

## Experience of Racism 2000 - Subscale Summary

The Experience of Racism 2000 subscale measures students' perceptions of experiences of racism. This subscale contains 4 items:

The overall mean subscale for <u>all</u> 2073 respondents who filled out this subscale was in the "a few times" range. Overall student and racial group scores break down as follows:

	African	White	All Others	All
	American			Students
Never	59%	73%	58%	69%
A few	25%	17%	24%	20%
times				
Monthly	10%	8%	10%	7%
Weekly	4%	1%	5%	2%
Daily	2%	1%	3%	2%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

<sup>&</sup>quot;I have felt uncomfortable in school because of my race."

<sup>&</sup>quot;How often has a teacher treated you badly because of your race?"

<sup>&</sup>quot;How often has another student treated you badly because of your race?"

<sup>&</sup>quot;How often have you experienced racism at your school?"

### Need to Address Racial Issues – Subscale Summary

The Need to Address Racial Issues subscale measures students' perceptions of the need to change the school system to better address racial inequities. This subscale contains 7 items:

- "If teachers and principals had a better understanding of their students' ethnic backgrounds, there would be fewer disciplinary problems."
- "My school should spend more time teaching about non-White cultures."
- "Hiring more non-White teachers and administrators will better address the needs of students."
- "At my school, we need to talk more about racism."
- "The school district should reduce the difference in gifted and talented enrollment that exists between Black and White students."
- "The school district should reduce the difference in special education enrollment that exists between Black and White students."
- "The school district should reduce the difference in suspension rates that exist between Black and White students."

The overall mean subscale for <u>all</u> 1758 respondents who filled out this subscale was in the "neutral" range. Overall student and racial group scores break down as follows:

	African	White	All Others	All
	American			Students
Strongly	2%	14%	5%	9%
Disagree				
Disagree	8%	25%	18%	19%
Neutral/	47%	51%	55%	51%
Not Sure				
Agree	31%	9%	19%	17%
Strongly	12%	1%	3%	4%
Agree				
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

### Need to Address Racial Issues 2000 – Subscale Summary

The Need to Address Racial Issues 2000 subscale measures students' perceptions of a need to address racial issues. This subscale contains 7 items:

- "If teachers and principals had a better understanding of their students' ethnic backgrounds, there would be fewer disciplinary problems."
- "My school should spend more time teaching about non-White cultures."
- "Hiring more non-White teachers and administrators will better address the needs of students."
- "At my school, we need to talk more about racism."
- "The school district should reduce the difference in gifted and talented enrollment that exists between Black and White students."
- "The school district should reduce the difference in special education enrollment that exists between Black and White students."
- "The school district should reduce the difference in suspension rates that exist between Black and White students."

The overall mean subscale for <u>all</u> 2128 respondents who filled out this subscale was in the "strongly disagree" range. Overall student and racial group scores break down as follows:

	African	White	All Others	All
	American			Students
Strongly	1%	15%	5%	11%
Disagree				
Disagree	9%	26%	15%	21%
Neutral/	46%	51%	57%	51%
Not Sure				
Agree	33%	6%	19%	13%
Strongly	11%	2%	4%	4%
Agree				
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

## Family Attributions for Misbehavior - Subscale Summary

The Family Attributions for Misbehavior subscale measures students' perceptions that student misbehavior at school results from families not valuing education. This subscale contains 3 items:

- "Students have problems at school because their parents do not value education enough."
- "One of the main reasons more Black students than White students are suspended is because their parents do not stress the importance of education."
- "Students who get suspended tend to come from families who do not value education."

The overall mean subscale for <u>all</u> 1747 respondents who filled out this subscale was in the "neutral" range. Overall student and racial group scores break down as follows:

	African	White	All Others	All
	American			Students
Strongly	21%	5%	6%	10%
Disagree				
Disagree	23%	13%	16%	16%
Neutral/	35%	39%	38%	38%
Not Sure				
Agree	14%	24%	23%	21%
Strongly	7%	19%	17%	15%
Agree				
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

## Family Attributions for Misbehavior 2000 – Subscale Summary

The Family Attributions for Misbehavior subscale measures students' perceptions of family attributions for misbehavior. This subscale contains 3 items:

- "Students have problems at school because their parents do not value education enough."
- "One of the main reasons more Black students than White students are suspended is because their parents do not stress the importance of education."
- "Students who get suspended tend to come from families who do not value education."

The overall mean subscale for <u>all</u> 2109 respondents who filled out this subscale was in the "neutral" range. Overall student and racial group scores break down as follows:

	African	White	All Others	All
	American			Students
Strongly	22%	9%	10%	12%
Disagree				
Disagree	25%	18%	22%	19%
Neutral/	36%	47%	47%	45%
Not Sure				
Agree	11%	17%	14%	16%
Strongly	6%	9%	7%	8%
Agree				
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

### **School Resource Officers – Subscale Summary**

The School Resource Officers subscale measures students' perceptions that the presence of School Resource Officers makes the schools safer. This subscale contains 2 items:

"The Police Officers in Champaign's middle and high schools help to reduce the number of discipline issues in these schools."

"I feel safer in my school because of the presence of the Police Officer."

The overall mean subscale for <u>all</u> 1735 respondents who filled out this subscale was in the "neutral" range. Overall student and racial group scores break down as follows:

	African	White	All Others	All
	American			Students
Strongly	25%	10%	12%	15%
Disagree				
Disagree	32%	17%	22%	22%
Neutral/	30%	40%	37%	37%
Not Sure				
Agree	7%	18%	14%	14%
Strongly	6%	15%	15%	12%
Agree				
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

### **Teachers' Preparedness for Diversity – Subscale Summary**

The Teachers Prepared for Diversity subscale measures students' perceptions of teachers' preparedness to work in a diverse environment. This subscale contains 5 items:

The overall mean subscale for <u>all</u> 1754 respondents who filled out this subscale was in the "neutral" range. Overall student and racial group scores break down as follows:

	African	White	All Others	All
	American			Students
Strongly	5%	2%	4%	3%
Disagree				
Disagree	15%	12%	12%	13%
Neutral/	51%	52%	53%	52%
Not Sure				
Agree	24%	28%	25%	26%
Strongly	5%	6%	6%	6%
Agree				
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

<sup>&</sup>quot;Teachers at my school are well prepared to teach students of all races."

<sup>&</sup>quot;My teachers make me feel like they understand people of different races."

<sup>&</sup>quot;I can take special classes (e.g., Latino studies, African American History) if I want to."

<sup>&</sup>quot;I feel prepared by my teachers to talk about race with adults at my school."

<sup>&</sup>quot;My teachers make it easy to talk about race in class."

### **Future Possibilities – Subscale Summary**

The Future Possibilities subscale measures students' perceptions of the likelihood of their success beyond school. This subscale contains 3 items:

- "I believe I will be able to do most jobs that I would want when I finish school."
- "I believe I can choose my own future pathway in life."
- "I believe there are many good possibilities for me in the future."

The overall mean subscale for <u>all</u> 1749 respondents who filled out this subscale was in the "strongly agree" range. Overall student and racial group scores break down as follows:

	African	White	All Others	All
	American			Students
Strongly	1%	1%	0%	1%
Disagree				
Disagree	0%	0%	1%	1%
Neutral/	8%	9%	14%	8%
Not Sure				
Agree	20%	35%	30%	30%
Strongly	71%	55%	55%	60%
Agree				
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%