



Project Arrive Research Highlights

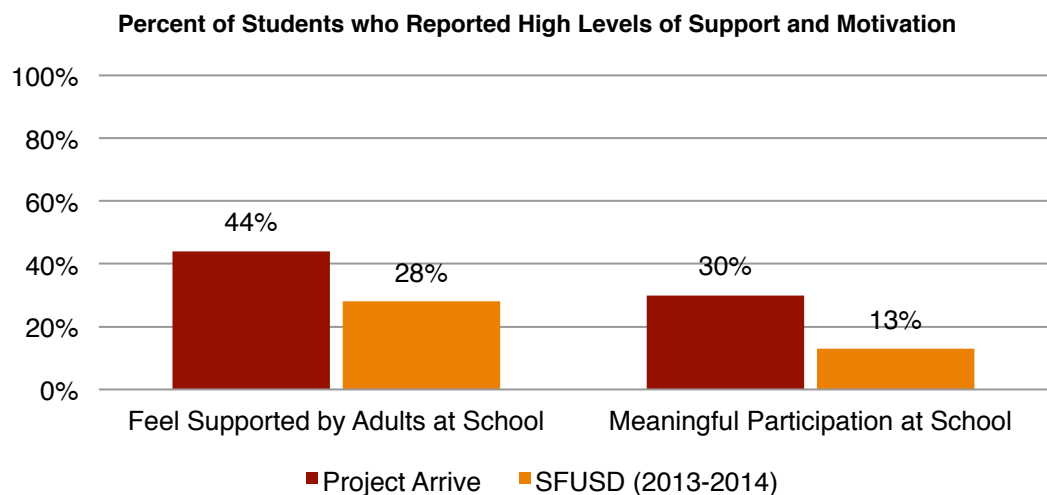
Using Research to Improve the Lives of SFUSD Students¹ – September 2015

How Motivated and Supported do Project Arrive Participants Feel?

The ultimate goal of *Project Arrive* is to help set students on a trajectory of academic success. Students who have strong connections with teachers and other adults and a feeling that their work is meaningful are likely to succeed. Through Project Arrive, students who are often disengaged and neglected have the opportunity to develop close relationship with their mentor and their peers.

In this highlight, we look at end-of-year data for 55 students that participated in Project Arrive. For comparison, we also include data from the 2013-2014 California Healthy Kids Survey (CHKS).

Compared to the SFUSD students overall, a greater percentage of Project Arrive students reported *high* levels of adult support and being involved in meaningful ways at school.



Measuring support and motivation

Support from Adults:

- I have a Teacher/Adult who:
 - cares about me
 - notices when I am gone
 - listens to me when I speak

Meaningful Participation:

- I do interesting activities
- I have a choice in these activities
- I make a difference with my actions

These are paraphrased examples of items taken from the survey. Students rated how true these statements are on a scale of 1 to 4. A score of 3 or more was considered "high".

The Take-Home Message

- Project Arrive provides structured time for students and mentors to develop close relationships. Mentors establish mutual respect and a collaborative environment.
- The structure of Project Arrive may help students feel more supported and motivated.
- Though these are findings encouraging, there is still room from improvement. It is important to continue devoting attention to this area so that all students feel a sense of connection at school.

¹ *Project Arrive Research Highlights* are developed through a partnership between SFUSD and Georgia State University to support, further develop, and evaluate the effectiveness of Project Arrive. For information about the Project Arrive program, contact Vida Sanford (SanfordV@sfusd.edu); for information about the research, contact Gabriel Kuperminc (gkuperminc@gsu.edu). Visit the Project Arrive website at <http://sites.gsu.edu/project-arrive>.