

ALBANY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT PERCEPTIONS: Finding shared meaning in education systems change

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Eugene, OR 97401

INTRODUCTION

In 1990 the Commission on the Skills of America's Workforce published *Americas Choice: High skills or low wages!*. The Commission shared the view of Dr. Deming that our system of education needs to change to prepare students to work in high performance work organizations. High performance work organizations shift decision making authority throughout the workforce requiring that workers "think for a living".

We believe that preparing students for work in high performance work organizations will be expedited as schools become high performance work organizations themselves. We used action research techniques to review social and economic Oregon Benchmark data with Sheldon High School seniors in 1994. In this study, students used Mizuno management and planning tools to develop their own, new school system. Using the Sheldon High School data we formatted electronic voting for use in South Albany High School in May, 1995 and West Albany High School in September, 1995. The results are presented to you in this report.

In approaching the education system, systems theory reminds us that there are subsystems nested with larger systems. Greater Albany Public Schools is a subsystem of the State of Oregon's K-12 education system. Likewise, the two high schools are subsystems of Greater Albany Public Schools. We are reminded of this in the similarities in the voting profiles from both high schools. This raises new and exciting questions for us. Would the voting profile of students in other high schools reflect the same perceptions? Can the voting profiles be used to create a customer focus approach to systems change? We hope that this report stimulates similar questions and helps to create a learning opportunity to all concerned with the education of Oregon's students.

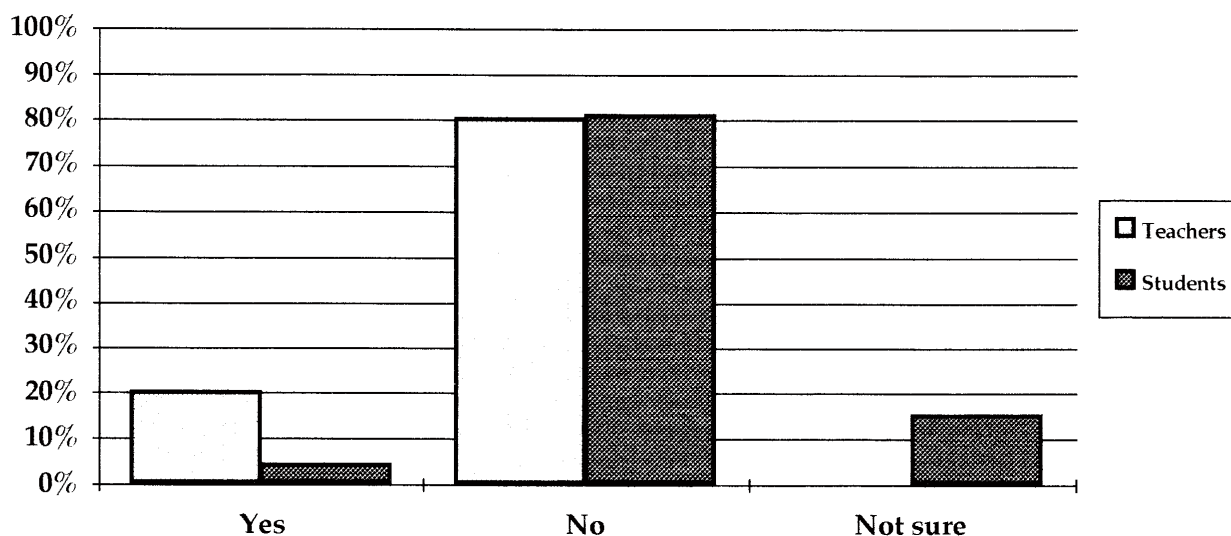
In his 1982 book Dr. Deming indicated that top managements job was to "find problems". In this spirit we would like to express our appreciation for Albany's students, teachers, District administrators and high school principals for showing the leadership to identify problems in education systems change.

We invite your feedback on this report and offer you copies of the full reports this data was extracted from. Please direct your inquiries to:

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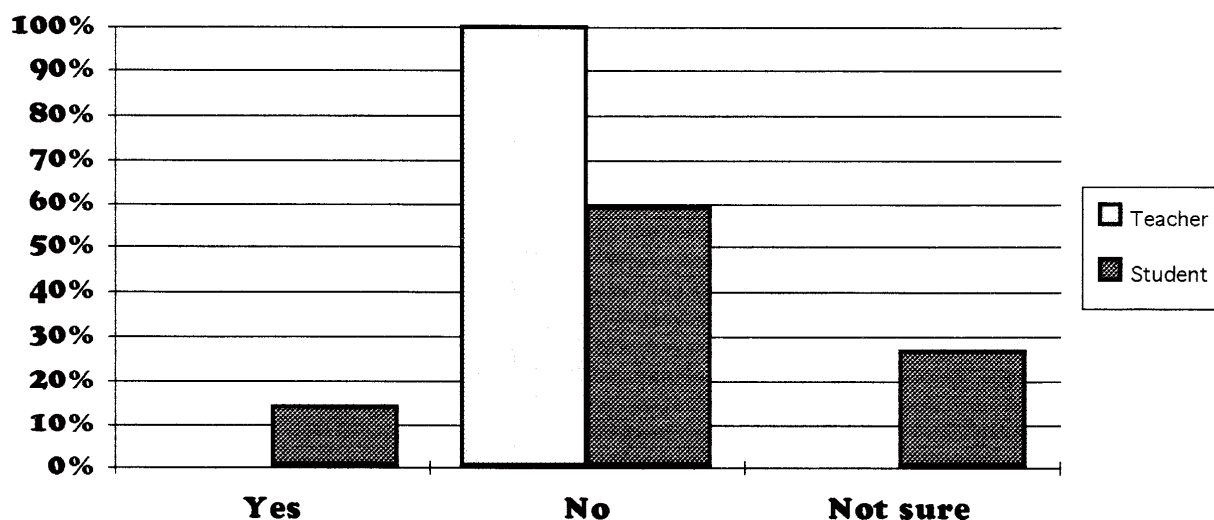
WHY THE EDUCATION SYSTEM SHOULD CHANGE: KNOWLEDGE OF OREGON BENCHMARK DATA SOUTH ALBANY HIGH SCHOOL

Have you seen this information before?



WEST ALBANY HIGH SCHOOL

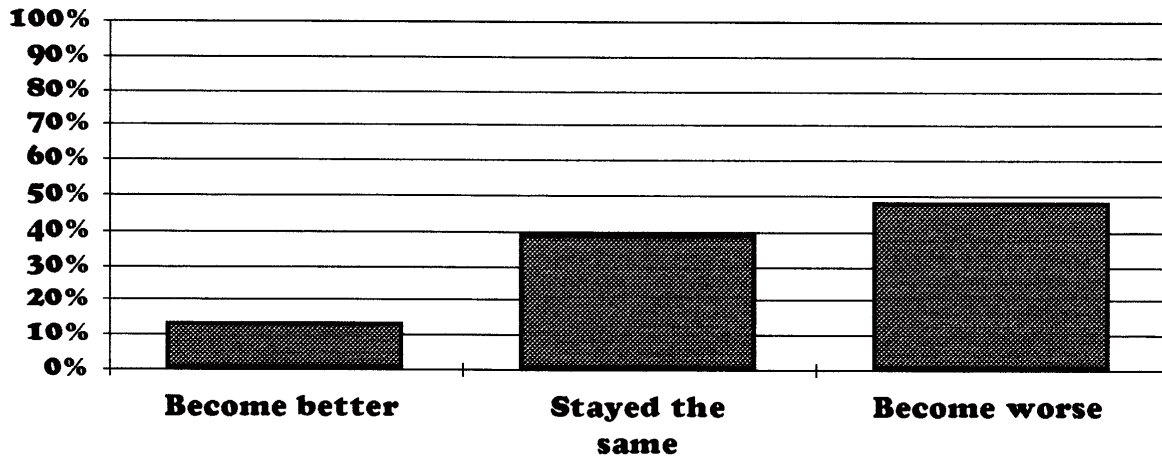
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QUALITY OF LIFE IN LINN COUNTY

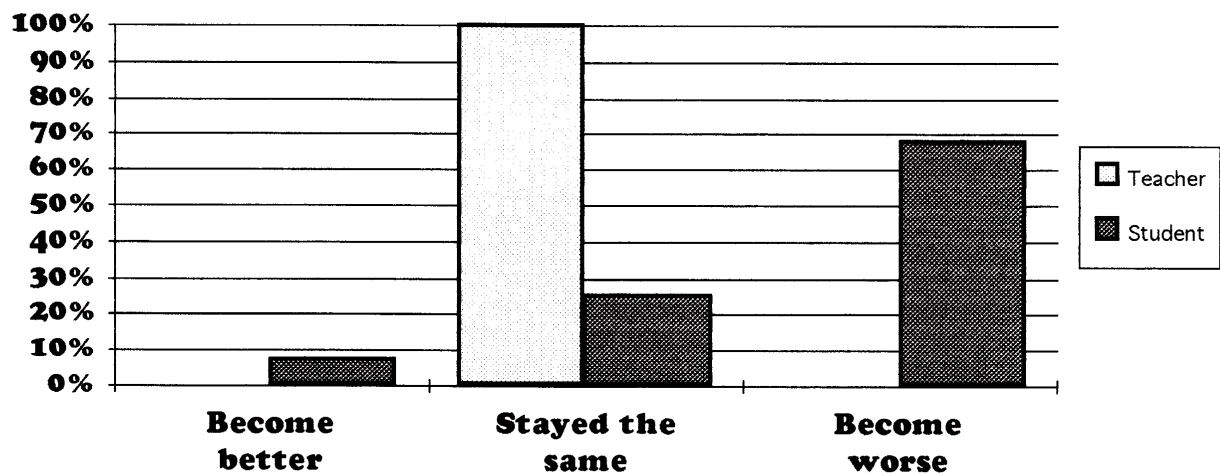
SOUTH ALBANY HIGH SCHOOL

In the past four years, do you think that the quality of life in Linn County has:



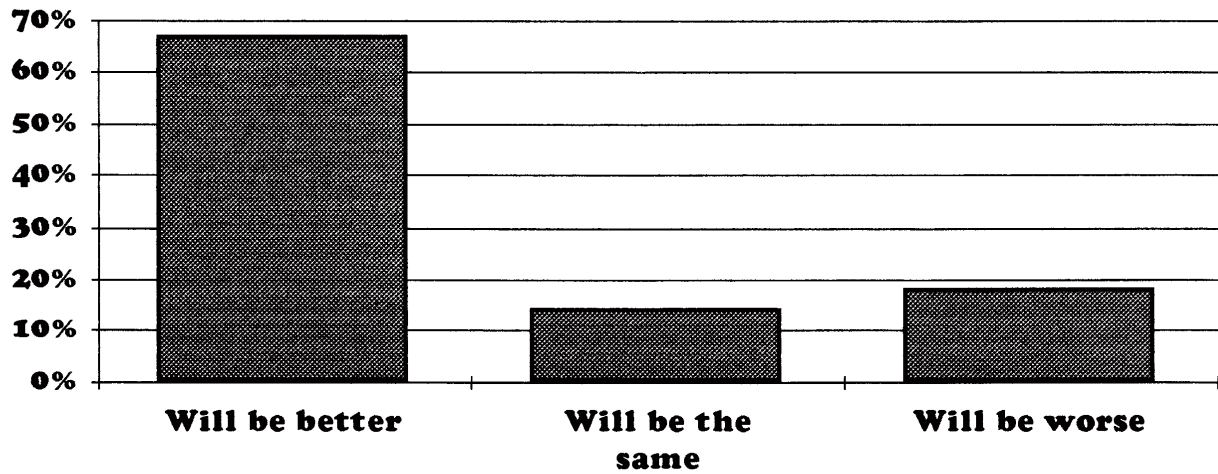
WEST ALBANY HIGH SCHOOL

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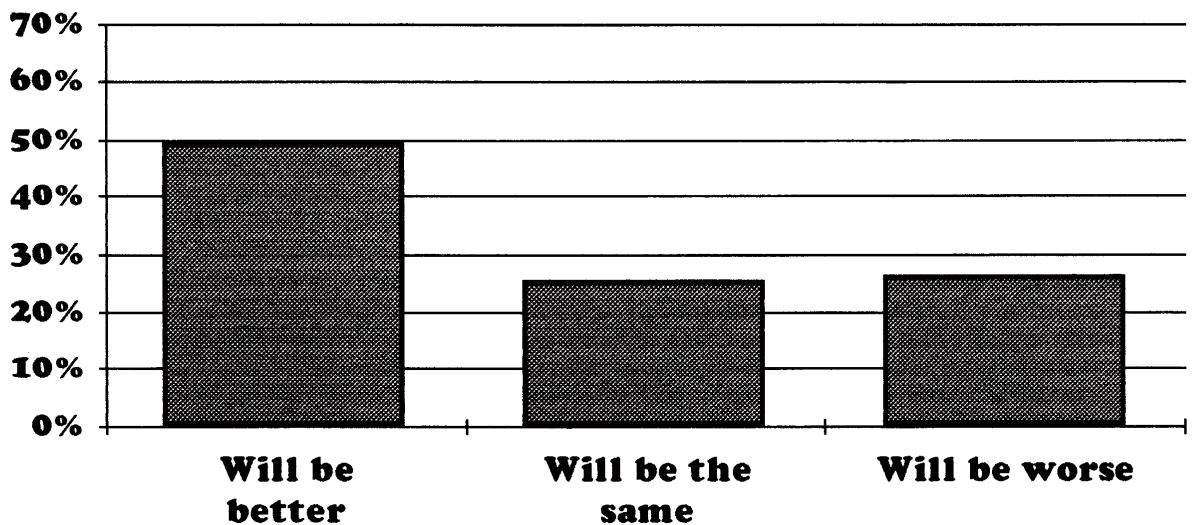
SOUTH ALBANY HIGH SCHOOL

How do you think your quality of life will compare to that of your parents?



WEST ALBANY HIGH SCHOOL

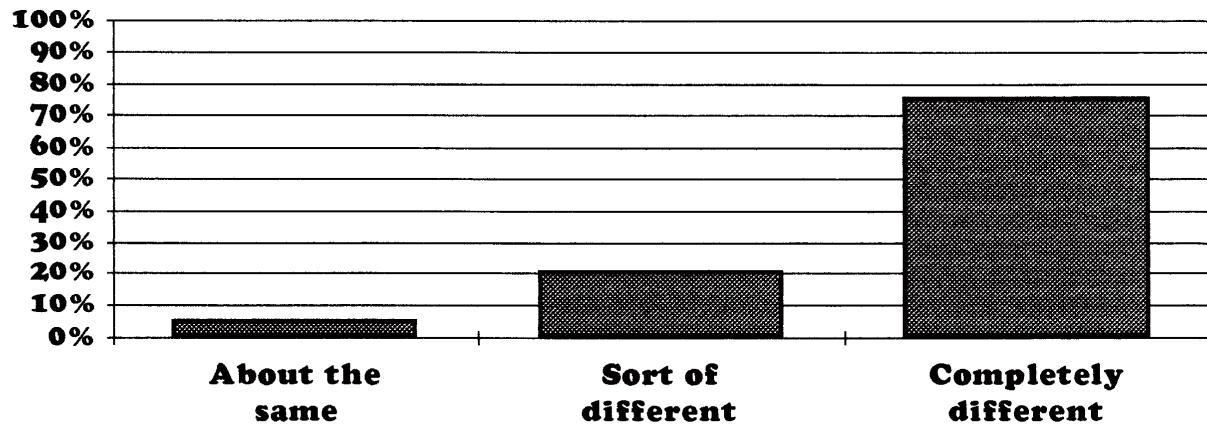
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FUTURE OF WORK

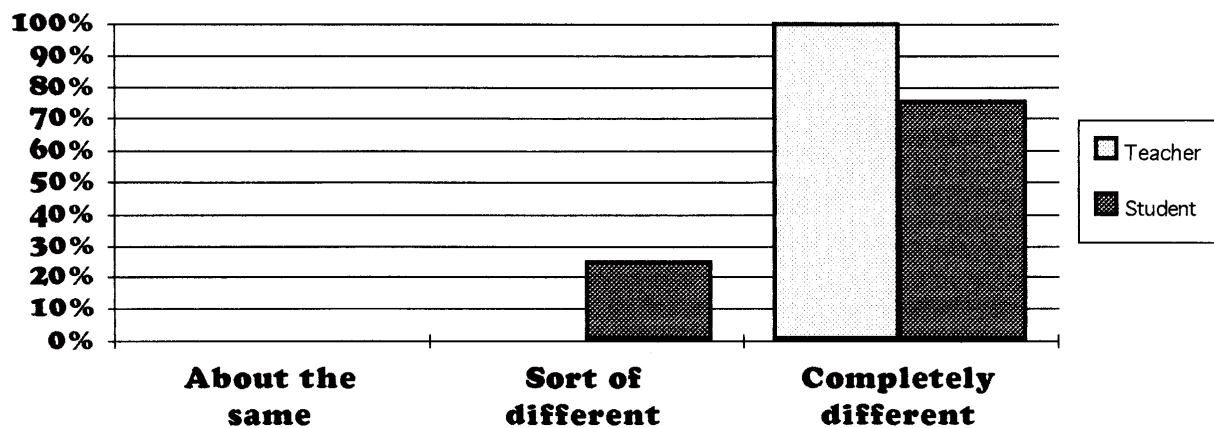
SOUTH ALBANY HIGH SCHOOL

How do you think the world of work will be compared to what it was like for your parents?



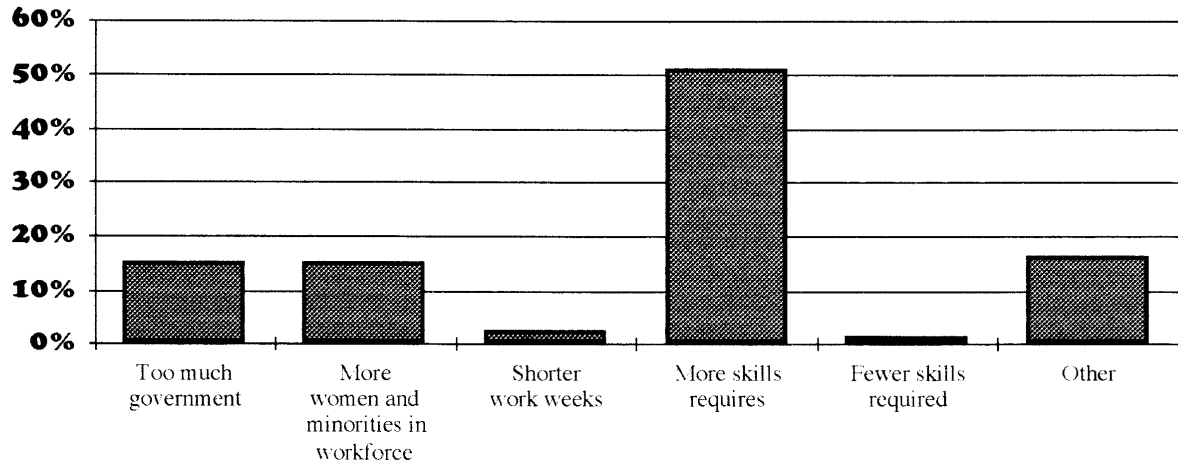
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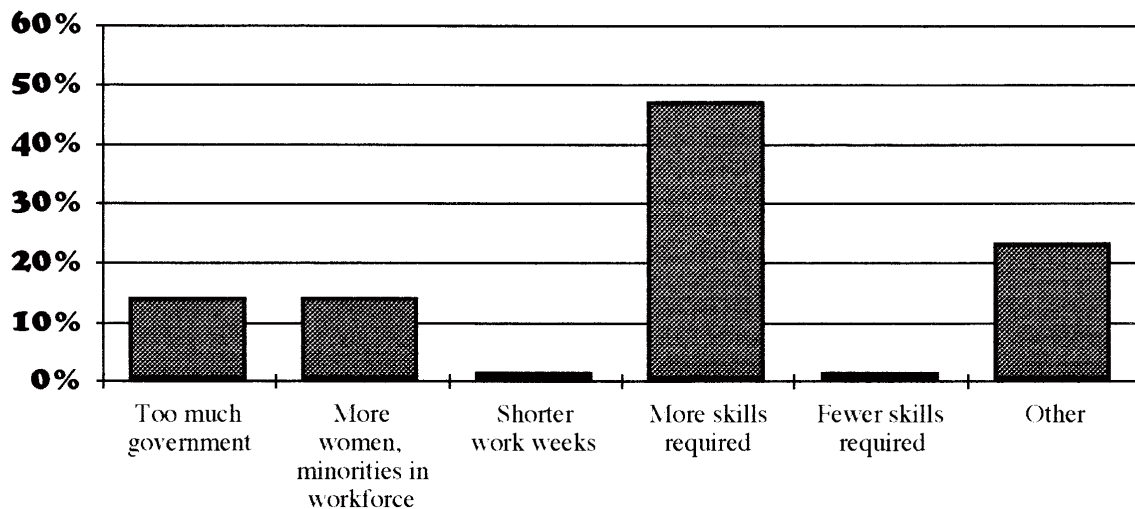
SOUTH ALBANY HIGH SCHOOL

If you think it will be different... what is your best guess why?



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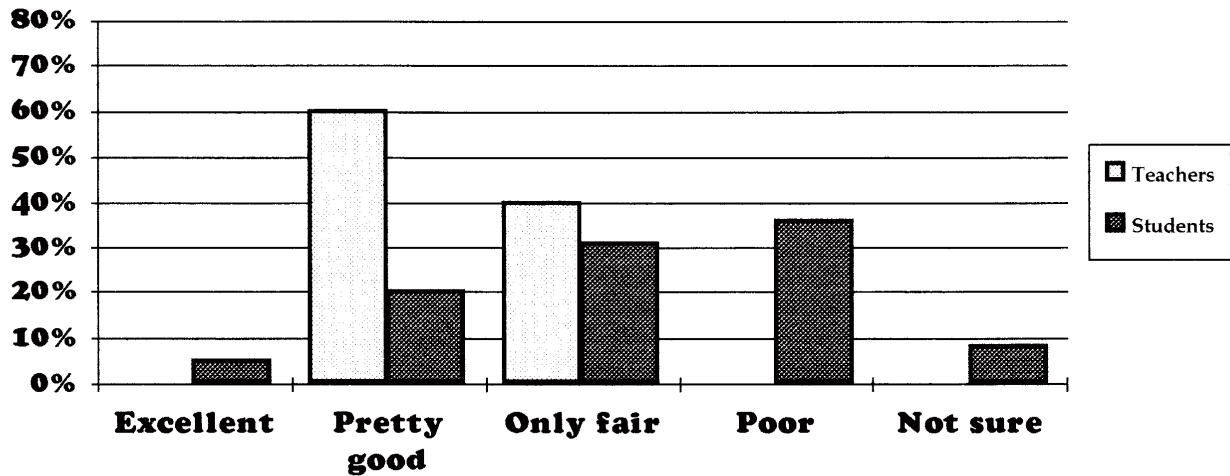
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QUALITY OF EDUCATION

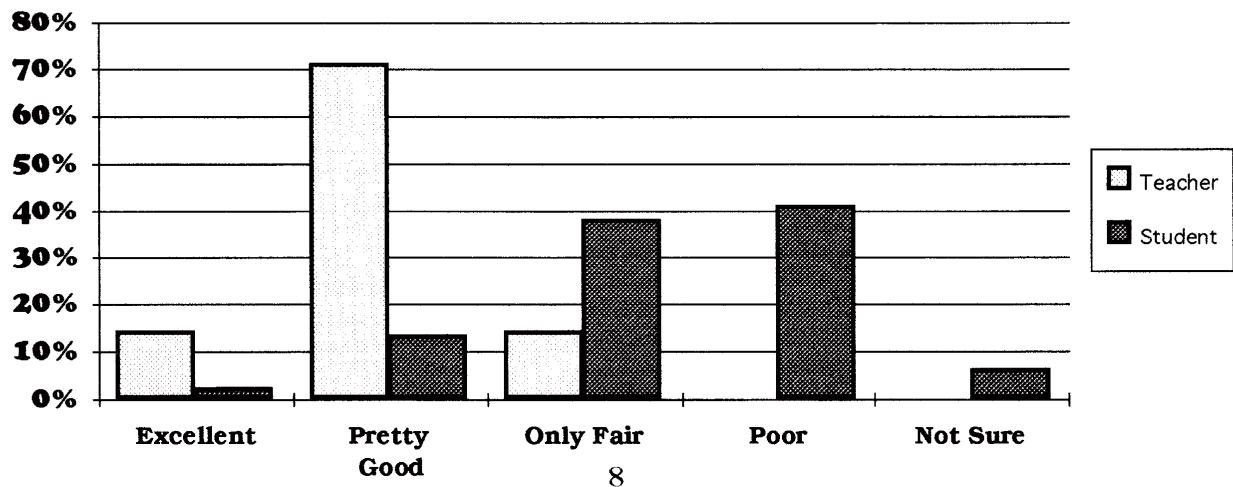
SOUTH ALBANY HIGH SCHOOL

Overall, how would you rate the public school system in Oregon?



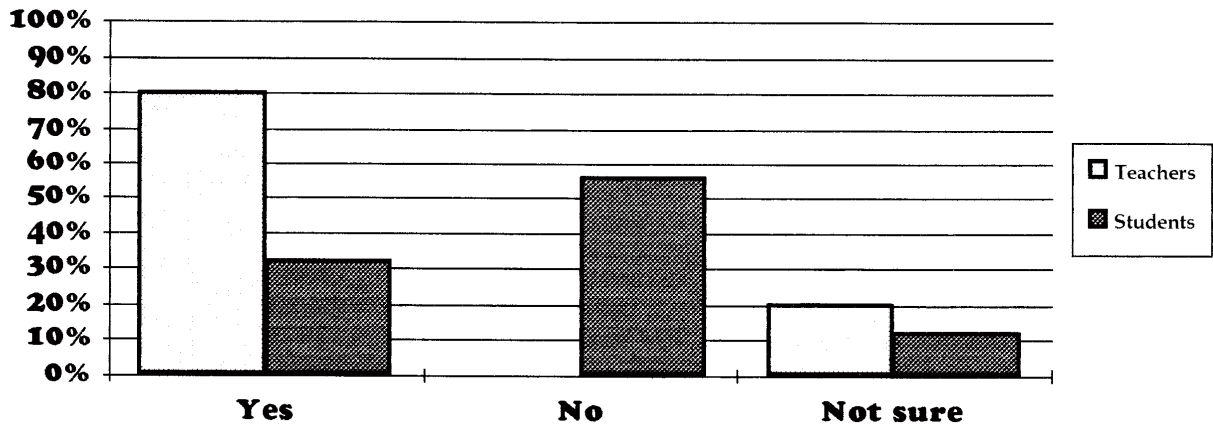
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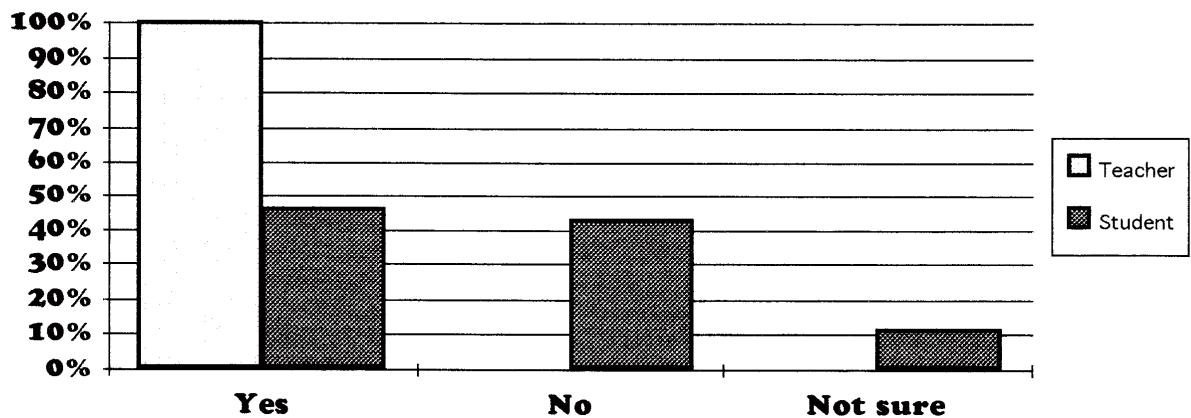
SCHOOL-TO-WORK
SOUTH ALBANY HIGH SCHOOL

**Have you heard about HB 3565, known as
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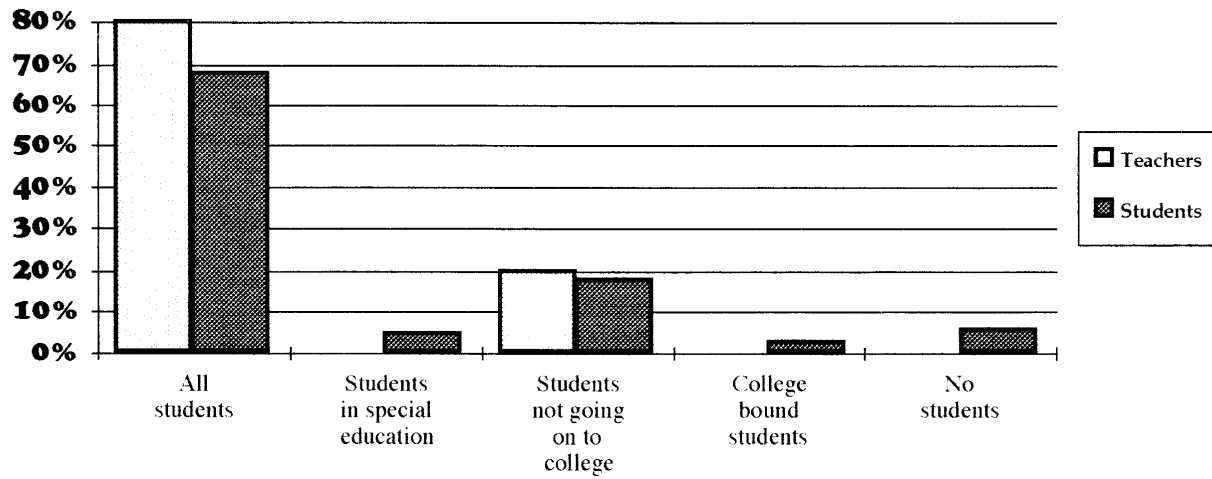
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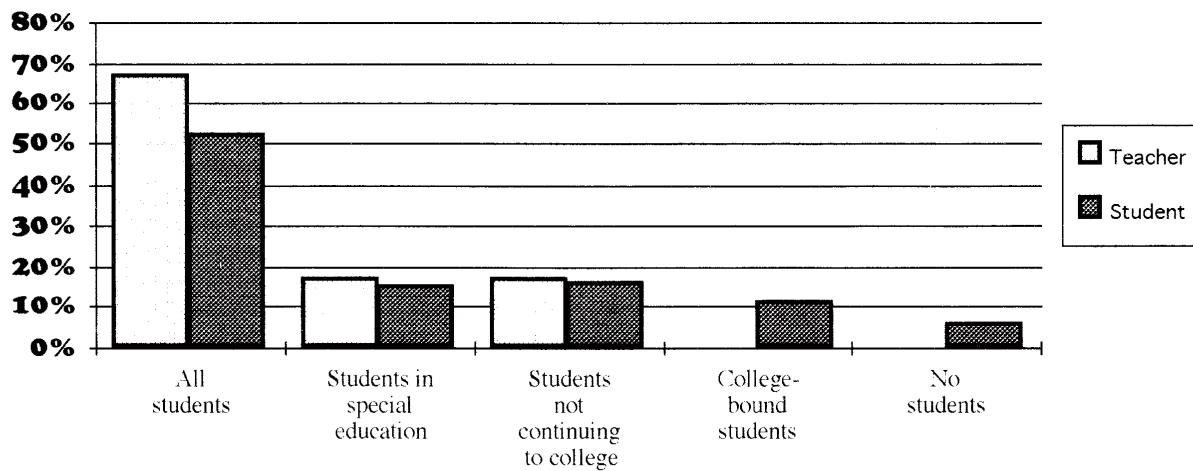
SOUTH ALBANY HIGH SCHOOL

Who can benefit the most from work based learning?



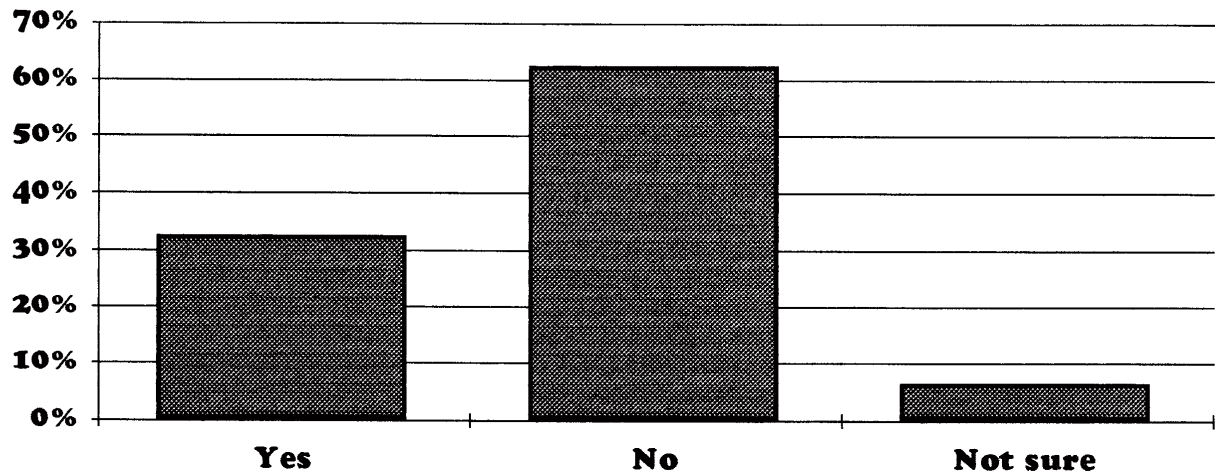
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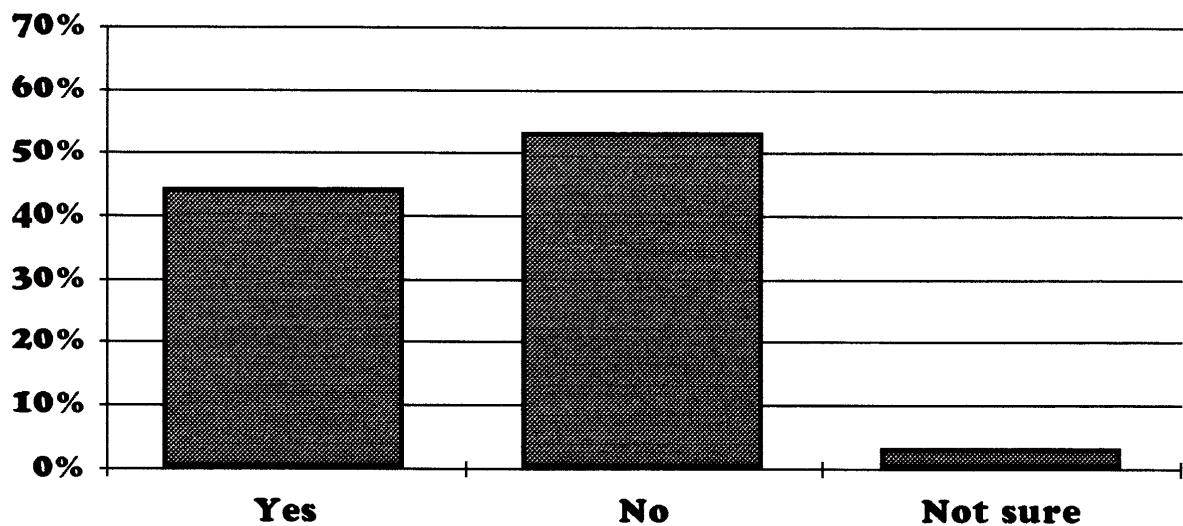
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Have you had a work based learning experience through your school?



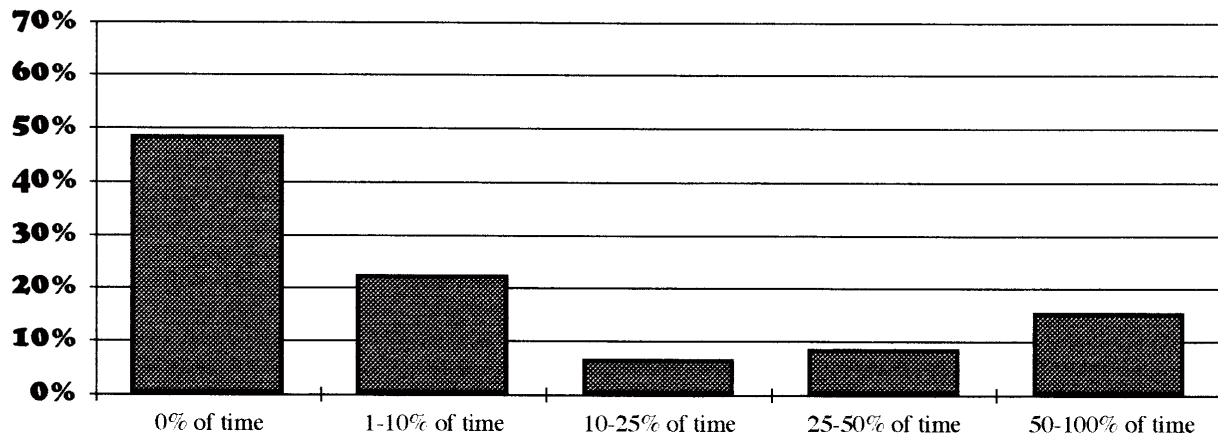
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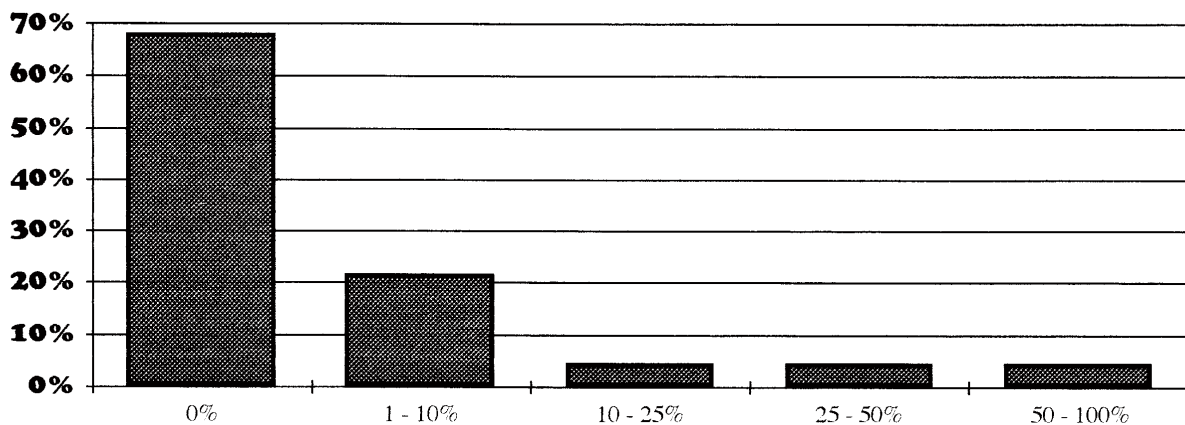
SOUTH ALBANY HIGH SCHOOL

How much of your Junior or Senior year would you have liked to have spent in a business (without pay) instead of school?



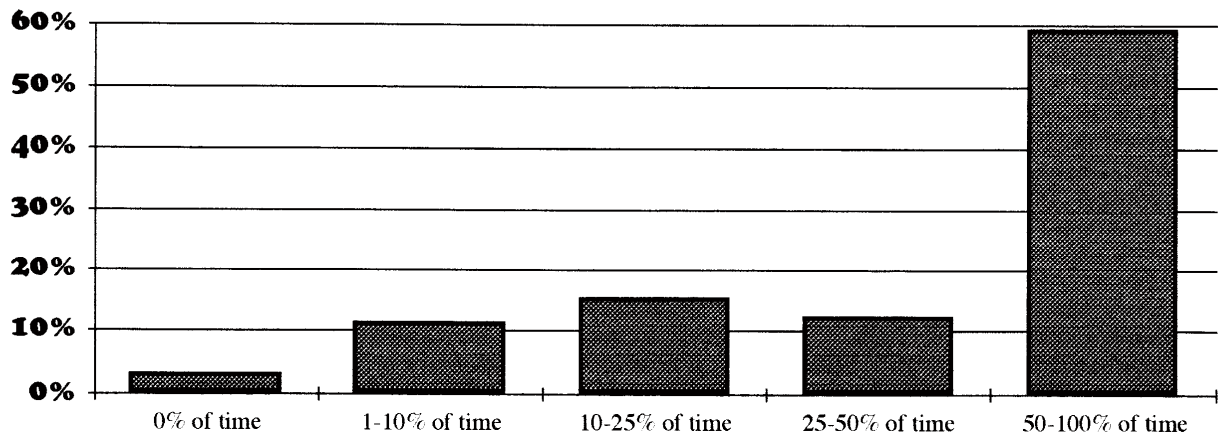
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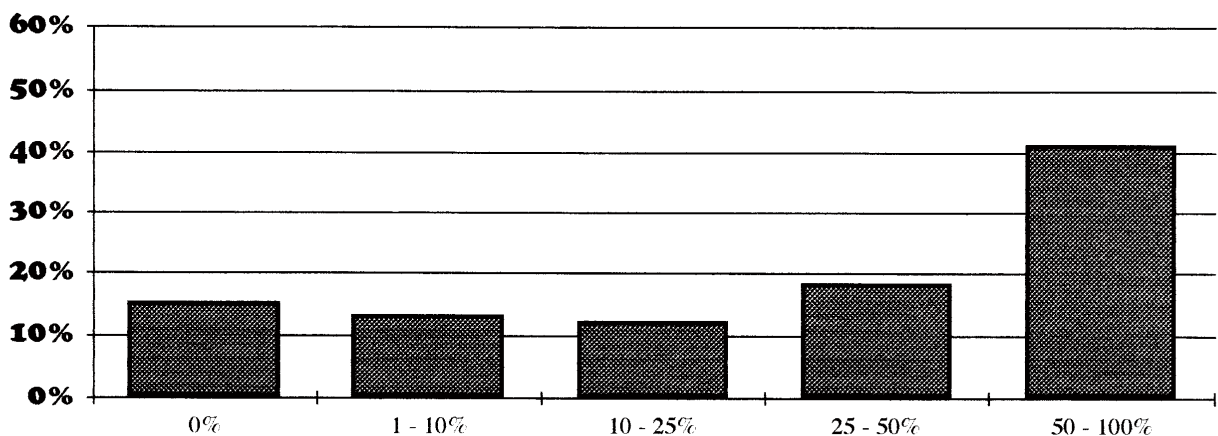
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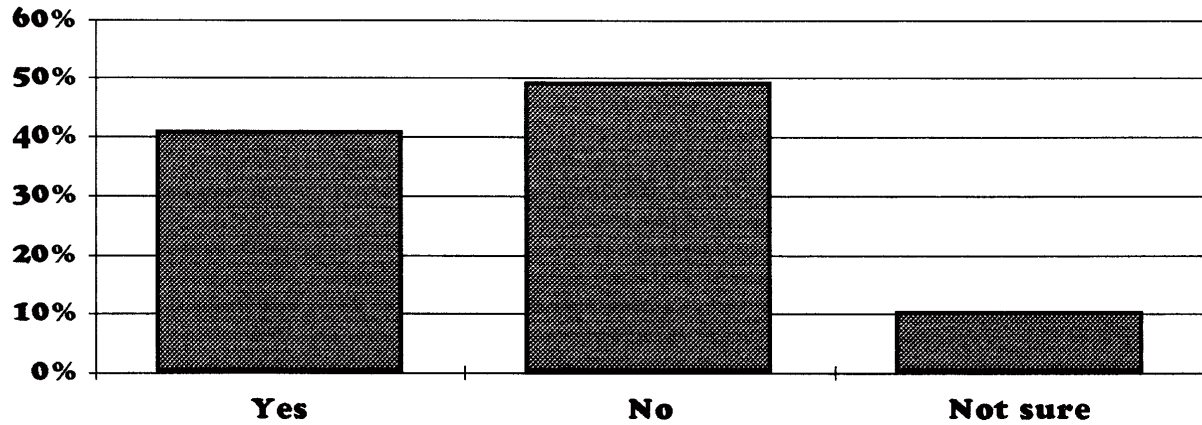
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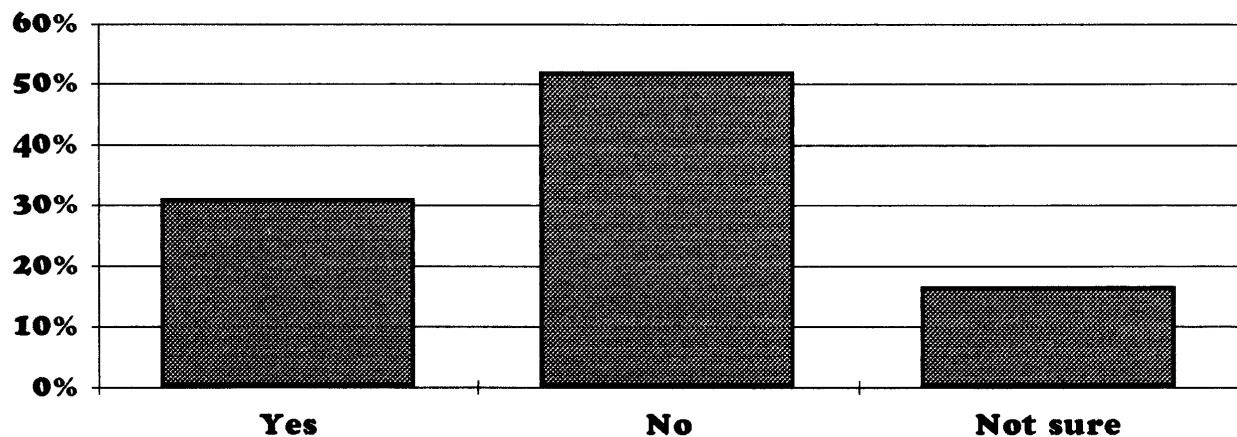
SOUTH ALBANY HIGH SCHOOL

Have you learned skills in high school that are related to the type of job you hope to get?



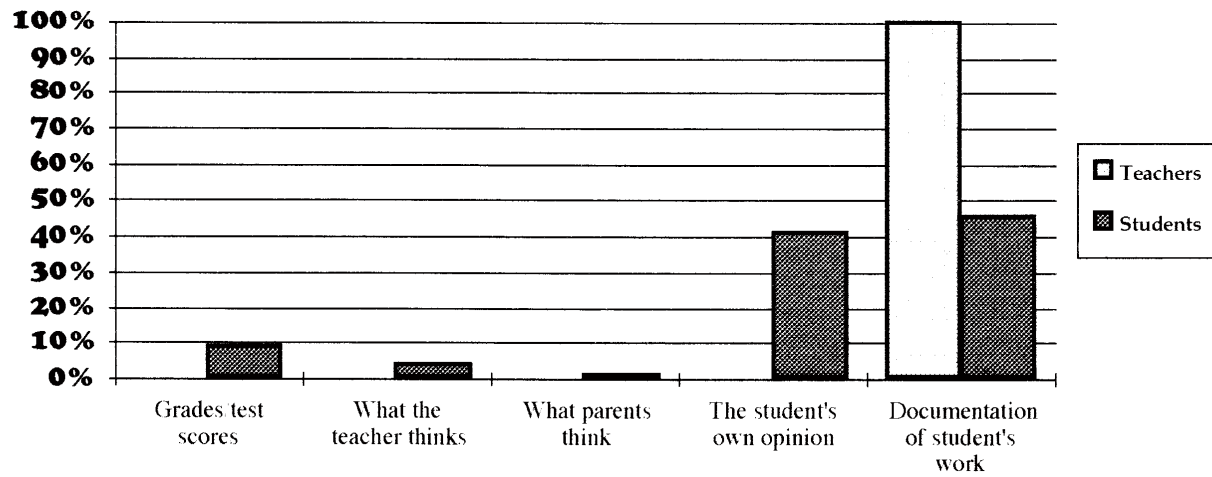
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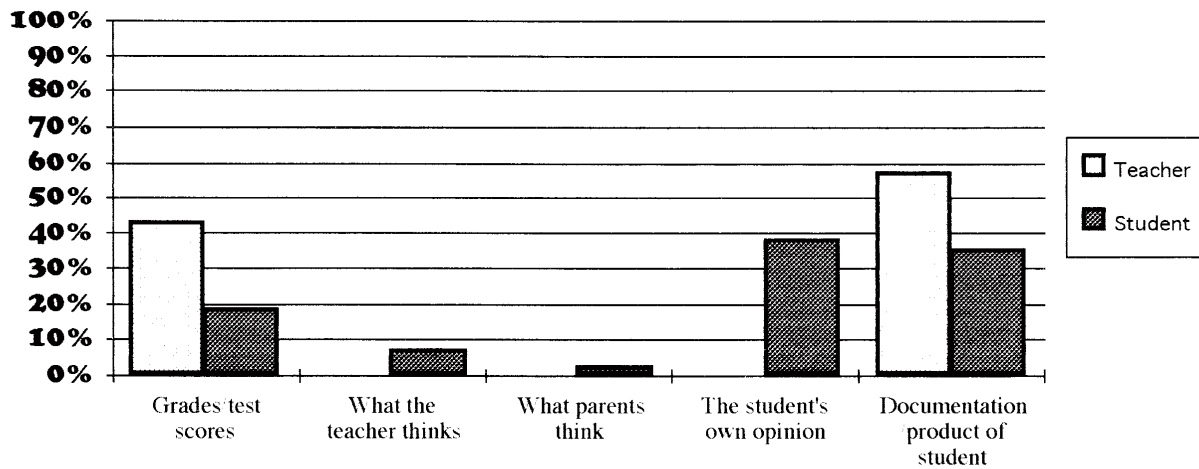
SOUTH ALBANY HIGH SCHOOL

What is the best indicator of a student's performance?



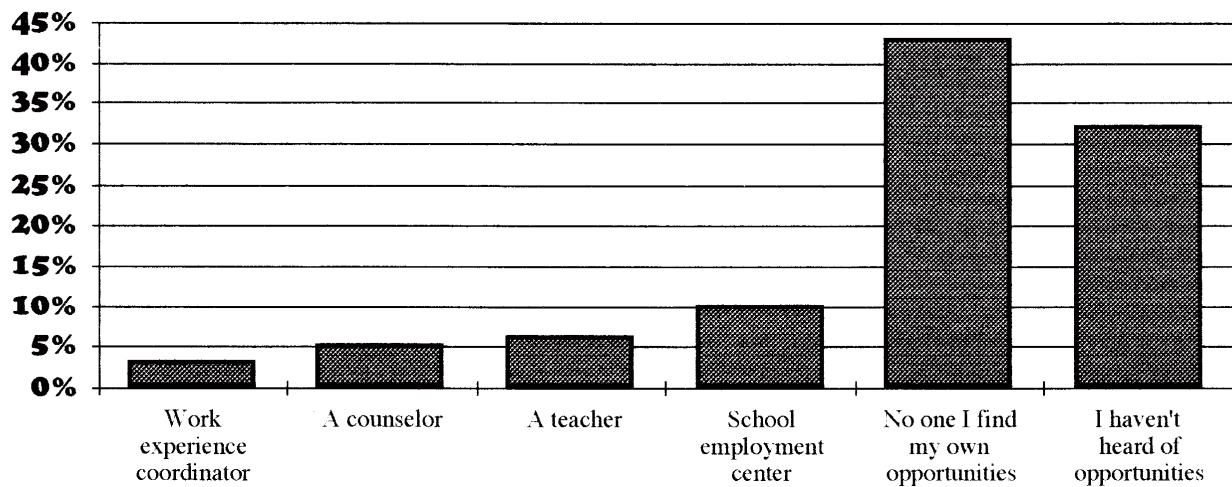
WEST ALBANY HIGH SCHOOL

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SOUTH ALBANY HIGH SCHOOL

At school I learn about current work based learning opportunities from



WEST ALBANY HIGH SCHOOL

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