ED 113 392.

AUTHOR TITLE

Johnson, Lary

Reorganized Junior High School Program: Second Year

Evaluation 1972-73.

institutión

Minneapolis Public Schools, Minn. Dept. of Research

and Evaluation.

SPONS AGENCY

Bureau of Elementary and Secondary Education

(DHEW/OE), Washington, D.C.

REPORT NO PUB DATE NOTE

C-72-26 Aug 73 58p.

EDRS PRICE

MF-\$0.76 HC-\$3.32 Plus Postage

DESCRIPTORS

\*Cocounseling: \*Counseling Effectiveness: Counselor Evaluation: \*Counselor Role: \*Junior High Schools: Parent Participation; Participant Satisfaction:

Program Effectiveness; \*Program Evaluation; Secondary

School Teachers: Staff Utilization: Student

Attitudes: Teacher Attitudes: Teamwork

**IDENTIFIERS** 

Elementary Secondary Education Act Title III; ESEA, Title III; \*Minneapolis Public Schools; Minnesota

(Minneapolis)

#### ABSTRACT

The Reorganized Junior High School Program completed its second year of operation in June 1973. An additional counselor was hired for each of the two schools in the project, Jordan and Marsha'll-University. A major procedural objective called for the counselors to place greater emphasis on team member, implementer, and facilitator functions. The outcomé objectives of the project were increased counselor effectiveness as viewed by teachers and students, positive student attitudes toward school, and increased parent and student involvement in the school. Two seventh grade counselors at Jordan assumed responsibility for the usual administrative role in the area of student behavior. Working contacts between counselors and teachers were increased by team meetings held twice a week during the second semester, counselor visits to classrooms, and informal meetings in the seventh grade conference area. At Marshall-University teacher-counselor teams consisting of one counselor and four teachers, were set up to work with 160 eighth graders and 100 seventh graders. Daily team meetings during the team teachers common preparation time were the core of the project. Generally, both teachers and students expressed more favorable attitudes toward their counselors after implementation of the Reorganized Junior High School Program. (Author/BJG)

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Reorganized Junior High School Program: Second Year-Evaluation 1972-73

A Title III, ESEA Project

Lary Johnson

Ideas expressed in this report do not necessarily reflect the official position of the Minneapolis Public School Administration nor the Minneapolis School Board

August 1973 C'-72-26

Research and Evaluation Department Educational Services Division 807 N. E. Broadway Minneapolis, Minnesota 55413 n

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#### MINNEAPOLIS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Special School District, No. 1 Minneapolis, Minnesota 55413

An Equal Opportunity Employer

Ideas expressed in this report do not necessarily reflect the official position of the Minneapolis Public School Administration nor the Minneapolis School Board. Reorganized Junior High School Program: Second Year Evaluation 1972-73

#### Summary

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The Reorganized Junior High School Program, funded by Title III of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, completed its second year of operation in June 1973. ESEA Title III funds were used to hire an additional counselor for each of the two schools in the project, Jordan and Marshall University. A major procedural objective called for the counselors to place greater emphasis on team member, implementer, and facilitator functions. The outcome objectives of the project were increased counselor effectiveness as viewed by teachers and students, positive student attitudes toward school, and increased parent and student involvement in the school.

The two seventh grade counselors at Jordan assumed responsibility for the usual administrative role in the area of student behavior. All other seventh grade concerns also were funneled into the seventh grade office and the two counselors. Working contacts between counselors and teachers were increased by team meetings held twice a week during the second semester, counselor visits to classrooms, and informal meetings in the seventh grade conference area. Teacher opinions of counselor effectiveness were much better than in the year prior to the project. Sixty percent of the teachers said the counselors were very helpful in 1972-73, compared with twelve percent of the 1970-71 teachers.

Three-fourths of the Jordan students rated their counselor as very helpful or somewhat helpful. However, students in the second year of the project (1972-73) expressed more favorable attitudes toward their counselor than did the 1971-72 students, but not as favorable as did students in the year prior to the project (1970-71). Perhaps the less favorable attitudes reflected the counselors' behavior associated with their responsibility for handling student behavior problems.

At Marshall-University teacher-counselor teams were set up to work with 160 eighth graders and 100 seventh graders. Each team consisted of a counselor and four teachers, one each from English, mathematics, science, and social studies. Daily team meetings during the team teachers' common preparation time were the core of the project. Ninety-two percent of the team teachers rated the counselor as very helpful.

The students' attitudes toward their counselor were favorable and similar to ratings made by students in the two previous years. Eighty-eight percent of the students said their counselor was helpful.

More complete summaries of the Jordan and Marshall-University components with recommendations are included in this report.

Research and Evaluation Department

August 1973

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### Acknowledgements

The evaluator wishes to express his gratitude to the following individuals for their cooperation and assistance in conducting the evaluation: Lyle Baker and Ralph H. Johnson in the Minneapolis Public Schools' Department of Guidance Services; Lloyd Olson and Paul Potretzke, counselors at Jordan Junior High; Phil Cognetta and Otto Wirgau, counselors at Marshall-University Junior High; Lorraine Dunkley in the Minneapolis Public Schools' Research and Evaluation Department.

#### Minneapolis Public Schools

### Reorganized Junior High School Program: Second Year Evaluation 1972-73

The Reorganized Junior High School Program, funded by Title III of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, completed its second year of operation in June 1973. The general goal of the project was to develop a positive, student-centered program that would facilitate development of all students and that would utilize the expertise of all school personnel to their, fullest potential.

ESEA Title III funds were used to hire an additional counselor for each of the two Minneapolis junior high schools in the project, Jordan and Marshall-University. A major procedural objective of the project called for the counselors to place a greater emphasis on team member, implementer, and facilitator functions.

The project director for the Reorganized Junior High School Program was Dr. Ralph H. Johnson, Director of Guidance Services of the Minneapolis Public Schools. Lyle A. Baker, counselor on special assignment in the Guidance Services Department during the 1972-73 school year, handled many of the administrative tasks associated with the project. The evaluation of the project was conducted by the Minneapolis Public Schools' Research and Evaluation Department as a local commitment to the project.

ASince the project operated differently at the two schools, each component will be discussed separately after the section on the project budget.

#### Budget

Title III of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 provided \$36,900 for the Reorganized Junior High Program for the 1972-73 school year.

	Item				Budge	ted Amount
	Two counselors' salaries	•				\$28,830
	Staff development		•		•	1,599
	Dissemination	,	ر.	٠.		1,200
· es	Materials	•	, # °			008
1	Consultant services ,					500
	Audit				•	800
	Fringe benefits on salaries		,	•	•	3,171
			•••		4	\$36,900

The Minneapolis Public Schools provided the following funds or services as a local commitment to the project.

Item			Budgeted Amount
Director's salary (5%)			. \$1,500
Clerical	•		2,805
Evaluation	-	•	1,800
Paraprofessional salary	•		2,416
Staff development	·	4	7,500
	4		\$16,021

Jordan Component

#### Objectives

The following objectives were listed in the project proposal for Jordan Junior High school.

- 1. During the second project year the role of the counselor will continue to change from that of a traditional resource person to that of a team member with responsibilities for coordination and implementation. The counselor will show a measurable increase in effectiveness as a counselor, team member, coordinator and implementer as measured by the Student Evaluation of Counselor Helpfulness and the Teacher Evaluation of Counselor Helpfulness.
- 2. At the end of the second project year, the students involved in the program will respond positively to the counselors, teachers and school as measured by an attitude questionnaire, by observed stronger working relationships among students and faculty, and by a decrease in tardiness, truancy and student behavior problems.
- 3. At the end of the second project year students and parents will show increased interest and involvement in the total school program as measured by an opinion questionnaire.

#### Project Activities

Two counselors, each working with half of the 300 seventh grade students, were involved with the project at Jordan Junior High. A major process objective was to change the role of the counselor from a traditional helping and resource person to more of a team member, implementer, and facilitator. An organizational change was made in 1971-72 that actually forced the counselors to change their role. A seventh grade house was established by changing a third-floor classroom into a seventh grade area that included two offices for the counselors, a reception area, and a conference-meeting area. Although administrators were

available as resource persons when the counselors felt they were necessary, the counselors assumed responsibility for the usual administrative role in the area of student behavior. All other seventh grade concerns also were funneled into the seventh grade office and the two counselors.

Did the counselors function as team members and did they facilitate the development of teacher-counselor teams? During the first semester of the 1972-73 school year the master teaching schedule did not provide the appropriate teachers with a common preparation time during the school day. Therefore, no regularly scheduled team meetings were held, although many informal sessions were held in the seventh grade conference area. The master teaching schedule was changed at the beginning of the second semester to give the two English teachers, the two social studies teachers, and one math teacher a common zero hour preparation period. These five teachers and the two counselors met every Monday and Friday as a team. Occassionally the second math teacher and other non-team teachers came to these meetings.

According to the counselors, the team meetings were used to unify efforts in terms of policies and procedures, plan upcoming events, coordinate curriculum, and discuss individual students. Less time was spent discussing instructional techniques and classroom management.

In addition to the Monday-Friday team meetings, the counselors met with other groups of teachers during the year. One group of staff members met about ten times to plan the sixth grade orientation program held in the spring. A student evaluation committee revised the report card in the fall of 1972 and met again in June to discuss further revisions. The counselors met with the music and special education departments and helped members of the Spanish, English, and social studies departments plan an interdisciplinary unit for next year.

However, it appears that the majority of the teachers did not meet with a counselor and at least one other staff member more than once or twice during the year to discuss the seventh grade program, although, as individuals, the teachers had substantially more contact with the counselors. Thirty-one percent of the teachers who had at least one seventh grade class said they met with the counselor and at least one other staff member once a week or more to discuss the seventh grade program, eleven percent said they met once or twice a month, and fifty-nipe percent said they met once or twice a year or less (Table 1).

About half of the teachers had only one or two seventh grade classes.

Kable :

Frequency That Teachers Met With a Counselor and at Least One Other Staff Member to Discuss Seventh Grade Program

	Frequency	6 /5	N	•	%	1	
	Three times or more a-week	• .	'1	•	3% •	3 <b>4</b>	o,
	Once or twice a week		40		28	-	,
× 1 ·	Once or twice a month		4		11	•	•
• •	Once of twice during the year	. ,	15	,	42		•
	Never		6	•	17		,•

## Teacher Evaluation of Counselors

To obtain a more accurate estimate of the extent to which the counselors changed their working relationships with teachers, each teacher who had at least one seventh grade class completed a questionnaire at the end of the 1972-73 school year. Comparative data was available from the end of the first year of the project (1971-72) and for the year prior to the project (1970-71). The 1970-71 data was collected retrospectively in September 1971.

Compared with the year prior to the project (1970-71), the frequency of counselor-teacher contacts in 1971-72 and 1972-73 was greater for seven of eight listed areas, the exception being cooperatively planning curriculum (Table 2 on page 5). Half or more of the 1972-73 teachers said they had five or more contacts with counselors in the following areas: provided information about individual students, provided a referral resource for students who needed special help, offered suggestions to help cope with students who were not adjusting to class, observed the classroom, and participated in case conferences. Fewer contacts were made in less traditional areas. Only two teachers said a counselor suggested activities to help develop an appropriate classroom atmosphere more than twice, and five teachers said a counselor helped plan the curriculum more than two times.

The number of counselor-teacher contacts reported by the teachers in 1972-73 was somewhat less than in 1971-72. However, this may be related to

Frequency That Counselors Worked with Jordan Teachers on Several Areas as Reported by the Teachers (1970-71, N=27; 1971-72, N=29; 1972-73, N=36)

₹							
	Area		More Than.	5-10	Once or	2	1
	The Counselor:	Year	Ten Times N %:	Times		Never 7.	
	Provided information about individual students	1970-71	7		7 7 2	, 10	. 1
		1972-73			. 17	0 0	
	Provided a resource for referral of students who needed special help	1970-71 1971-72 1972-73	2 7 6 21 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 21	4 15 9 32 10 29	. 18 67 8 29 14 41	3 11 5 18 3 8	1
m (a)	Offered suggestions that helped me cope with students who were not adjusting to class	1970-71 1971-72 1972-73	0 0 6 21 8 23	11 41 12 41 12 34	18 #48 10 34 13 37	3 11 1 3 2 6	1
.,	Observed the classroom	1970-71 1971-72 1972-73	0 ′ σ 16 55 ' 15 43	2 *	8 1 3 6 17	15 60 0 0 1 3	,
	Actively participated in classroom activities and group discussions	. 1970-71 1971-72 1972-73	0 0	0 0 - 4 . 14 6 17	6 24 14 48 14 40	19 76 11 38 15 43	1 .
	Participated with teachers in conferences concerning students with problems	1970-71 1971-72 1972-73	2 8 7 24 7 20	11 42. 14 48 10 2 29	12 46 7 24 12 34	1 4 1 3 6 2 17	1
	Suggested or cooperatively planned activities and methods to develop appropriate classroom atmosphere	1970-71 1971-72 1972-73	0 0	0 00 3 -11 2 6	5 23 12 43、 12 35	17 77 13 46 20 59	1
· ·	Suggested or cooperatively planned curriculum to meet the needs of students	1970-71 1971-72 1972-73	1 0 0 1	2 13 4 11	3 13 8 28 7 20	17 71 19 66 23 66	,
	aSome teachers did not respond to all areas	; therefore,	Ns will not always	ys equal 27, 29	and 36.		

14

the 100% return of teacher questionnaires in 1972-73. Most of the ten teachers who did not return questionnaires in 1971-72 probably had only one or two seventh grade classes and, therefore, probably had fewer contacts with the counselors than the teachers who returned questionnaires.

Most of the 1972-73 teachers who worked with the counselors in the eight areas indicated that the counselors were helpful in each area (Table 3 or page 7). Simplar to the first year of the project, the counselors were seen as most helpful in the more traditional areas --- providing information about students, providing a referral/resource for special situations, offering suggestions on how to cope with students, and participating in case conferences. Results for 1972-73 and 1971-72 were similar and somewhat more favorable than in 1970-71.

Teachers were asked whether or not teachers and counselors should work together in each of the eight areas (Table 4 on page 8). All teachers agreed on the appropriateness of the counselor's role in the traditional areas 1, 2, 3, and 6. All but one teacher said counselors should observe the class-room activities, help develop an appropriate classroom atmosphere, and help plan curriculum. About ten teachers did not answer (and were probably unsure) for the last two areas.

On an overall rating of counselor helpfulness, 60% of the 1972-73 Jordan seventh grade teachers said the counselors were very helpful, 29% said somewhat helpful, and 11% said not very helpful. These results are similar to the 1971-72 results and substantially more positive than in 1970-71 (Table 5)

Jordan Teachers' Rating of Overall Counselor Helpfulness

, 0,	1970-71	1971-72	1972-73,
	N=26	N=29	N=36
	Percent	Percent	Percent
Very helpful  Somewhat helpful  Not very helpful  Of no help.	12% 61 27	55% - 41 - 4	60%

Table 3

Helpfulness of Counselors in Several Areas as Reported by Jordan Teathers Who Worked With the Counselor at Least Once in That Area (N970-71, N=27; 1971-72, N=29; 1972-73, N=36)

				Ž	Number of	1/4				A		
. n . in	Area	NP.	Year		ked W unsel	· ·	Very elpf	Som He 1	Somewhat Helpful	١,	No "Hælp	•
	ine counselor:		•	_		2		2	9	2	e /.	
<b>.</b>	Frovided information about individual students		1970-71 1971-72 1972-73	26 29 35 35	100.	11 16 21	42 57 . 60	14 12 14	54 43 40	.0 o		
	Provided a resource for referral of students, who needed special help		1970-71 1971-72 1972-73	23	3 85 3 82, 1 92,	4 9 15	. 17 39 48	. 15, 14° 16	65 61 52	<b>3</b> 00	17 0 0	
m and	Offered suggestions that helped me cope with students who were not adjusting to class	. 01	1970-71 1971-72 1972-73	3 2 2	24 89 28 97 33 94	3 14 14	13 50 42	18 13 18	75 46 55	, (n -i -i	13.	
4	Observed the classroom	,	- 1970-71 1971-72 1972-73	10 29 34	0 46 / 5 100 / 97 / 97	5 7	, 11 , 17 , 21	7 7 17 .	. 44 59 56	7 2 8	444. 224. 224.	( <del>•</del>
	Actively participated in classroom activities and group discussions	•	1970-71 1971-72 1972-73	6 18 20	5 24 8 62 0 57	9 7	. 35 . 35 . 35	200	433 40,	5.7	17 12 25	
و	Participated with teachers in conferences concerning students: with problems		1970-71 1971-72 1972-73	25 28 · 29	96 97	10 16 17	40 57 59	. 14 12 12	56 43 41	0 0 1	400	
7.	Suggested or cooperatively planned activities and methods to develop appropriate classroom atmosphere	ق و	1970-71 1971-72 1972-73	. 11	5 23 15 54 14 41	32	20 14 21	111	60 79 64	7 1 7	. 20 7 14	(s)
· ©	Suggested or cooperatively planned curriculum to meet the needs of students	-	1970-71 1971-72 1972-73		7 29 10 34 12 34	⊸ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	14 20 25	, / , o o o	86 60 •	0 1	, 20 	

<sup>a</sup>In a few cases, teachers did not rate degree of help; helpfulness percentages were calculated on the basis of the number of teachers who rated helpfulness.

**16** 7

Opinions of Jordan Teachers as to Whether Counselors and Teachers Should Work Together in Several Areas . (1970-71, N=27; 1971-72, N=29; 1972-73, N=36)

đ,		, ,	\$	0	
•			Yes	No	No
	Area	Year	<u> </u>	•	Adower
	or Sho	-	% . N	2 · N	22
1.		1970-71	4	, ,	6
	individual students	1971-72.	29 , 100	0,	. 0
		1972-73	34 100		. 2
2.	Provide a resource for referral	1970-71			C,
	of students who meed special help	1971-72	roo	0.	2
	the state of the s	1972-73	32, 100	0	***
(F)	Offer suggestions that help me	1970-71			, 6,
	gre.	1971-72	29 . 100	· :	Control of the Contro
	adjusting to class	1972-73	,		· •
4	Observe the classroom	1970-71	16 , 73	6 27	ď
	-	1971-72	.27	ţ	n 0
•		1972-73	32 ' 97 '	; en	(e)
بر رما	Actively participate in classroom	1970-71	,	9 29	0
	activities and group discussions	1971-72	23 88		) M
		1972-73	72	9	***************************************
ဖ	Participate with teachers in	1970-71	,		
	conferences concerning students	1971-72	29 , 100	0 0	
	with problems	1972-73		0,	* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
٠ <u>.</u>	Suggest or cooperatively plan	1970-71	15	7 42	·
	activities and methods to develop	1971-72			•
	appropriate classroom atmosphere	1972-73	:	. 5 . 19	10
œ	cooperatively plan	1970-71		. 6 , 25	11/5
	curriculum to meet the needs of	- 1971-72	16 -70	z. 7 ° 30.	9
	scudencs	1972-73		7 27	01
	· ·				

17

Did the five team teachers who met with the counselor twice a week respond differently than the thirty-one non-team teachers? As indicated in Table 6 on page 10, the team teachers had more contact than the non-team teachers with the counselors. The team teachers also gave the counselors higher ratings on help-fulness than did the non-team teachers. For example, all five team teachers participated in five or more case conferences with the counselors, compared with 57% of the non-team teachers who had 3-5 seventh grade classes and 25% of the non-team teachers who had 1-2 seventh grade classes. All five team teachers indicated the counselors were very helpful in this area, while 54% of the non-team teachers with 3-5 classes and 45% of the non-team teachers with 1-2 classes said the counselors were very helpful.

On the overall rating of counselor helpfulness, all five team teachers said the counselor was very helpful, compared with about half of the non-team teachers (Table 7).

Ratings of Overall Counselor Helpfulness by Three Groups of 1972-73 Jordan Teachers

	Team Teachers N=5	Non-Team 3-5 Classes N=15	Non-Team ° 1-2 Classes N=16
Very helpful	100%	50%	56%
Somewhat helpful	<b>0</b>	21.	44
Not very helpful	0	29	0
Of no help	0	0	0

The teachers also were asked to indicate whether or not they made changes in five areas during the year as a result of meetings with other staff members. About two-thirds of the teachers reported changes in student evaluation procedures and methods of working with, individual students, and about one-third to half of the teachers reported changes in the curriculum, instructional techniques, and classroom management (Table 8 on page 11).

Table 6

Frequency of Contact and Melpfulness of Counselors as Reported by Three Groups of 1972-73 Jordan Teachers (Team, N=5; Non-Team 3-5 classes, N=15; Non-Team 1-2 classes, N=16)

					•	ن
		1972-73	Worked With		10 1 m first 1 m 0 m 0	
•	Area	Teacher	Commsetor More		acourard au	
		Group	Than Five Times	Very	Somewhat	No Help
1	Provided information about individual .	Team	100%	208	202	20
``	students	N-T 3-5 classes	98	47	53	0
•		N-T 1-2 classes	75	.63	. 38	0
, (1)	Provided a resource for referral	Team	. 08	., 08.	20	0.
•	of students who needed special help	N-T 3-5 classes	050	9 %		) C
	•		40	. 97	54. 3	. 0
~	Offered suggestions that helped me	Team	80	1	0,7	4
•	cope with students who were not	N-T 3-5 classes	79	0 0	200	. 71
	adjusting to class	1-2	777	74	, m	0
	Observed the classroom	E de la constant de l	100	0.9		
		N-T 2-5. Classes				۰ پر د
		ا ا ا ا د	00 4	. 77	4.	ອີເ
		┥	. اور 40 ا	0	5. 5.0	
	Actively participated in classroom	Team	09,	040	09.	<b>d</b>
	activities and group discussions	N-T 3-5 classes	7	25	. H	່ ເຄື່ອ
		N-T' 1-2 classes	. 13	<b>64</b> 3	57	· •
٠.	Participated with teachers in	Team	100	100	c	1.
	conferences concerning students	N-T 3-5 classes	57°	75	97	) c
	with problems	-2	25	. 57	55	) O
	Suggested or cooperatively planned	Team :	20	0	75	, PO
-	activities and methods to develop	N-T 3-5 cfasses		<b>7</b> 07	\$ 9	, c
	appropriate classroom atmosphere	N-T 1-2 classes	0	17	67	<u> </u>
m	Suggested or cooperatively planned	Team	20	9	, 22	
•	curriculum to meet the needs of	N-T 3-5 classes	36	20/2	50	. 0
	students		0	, 0	1000	ő

Table .8

## Teacher Indications of Changes Made in 1972-73 as a Result of Meetings with Other Staff Members

	Was Change Made? . Percent Yes	Did Counselor Contribute Percent Yes
Content of seventh grade curriculum	37%	23%
Instructional techniques	43	33
Classroom management	47	75
Methods of working with individual students	68	74
Student evaluation procedures	60	95

The majority of the teachers who indicated that they made changes said that the counselors contributed to the changes made in classroom management, methods with individual students, and student evaluation procedures. One-fourth to one-third of the teachers said the counselors contributed to the changes made in the curriculum and instructional techniques.

Twelve teachers responded to an open-ended request for their perceptions of the strengths of the seventh grade counseling program. Five teachers responded to a similar request for weaknesses. Their responses are listed below.

#### Strengths:

- Being around, visiting classes, giving positive suggestions and helps when possible, contacting home, encouraging students.
- Accessibility, ability.
- . Overall, I am very satisfied -- I feel we have communicated.
- The major strength has been the availability of the counselors. They have helped with field trip activities and interacted with the students in a variety of situations. Since there are two of them, they are freer to attend to problems of individual students immediately. They have observed a student and then suggested ways of dealing with them.
- The main strengths of the 7th grade program lies in the solidarity of the teachers who meet together to discuss problems and plan strategies. Unfortunately, scheduling does not allow all 7th grade



teachers to attend. Some teachers who cross grade levels are left out or cannot gome. I have found many good things coming out of the House this year.

The seventh grade counselor program's biggest asset for students is the greater availability of their counselor when problems pop up for them. For teachers, the biggest asset is the team effort by teachers and counselors to get on problems and to make the 7th grade program the smoothest class in school.

The counselors are very fine people. Many seventh graders can accept the concept of counseling -- others cannot and maybe need to be dealt with a little more force. I like the facility afforded us.

Because of not being involved with the entire 7th grade program I cannot make a very honest statement about the program, pro or con, but I can say that from what I've observed, if there is any weakness, it's not very noticable.

I am really not sure. I had one class of 42 seventh graders. The counselors did what they could. Nothing could really be accomplished with this class -- even if God had run it.

I feel the seventh grade office did the best possible job, considering the situation here at Jordan. However, there is much to be desired concerning discipline measures in our seventh grade office. The question I seem to be asking myself is; who should discipline the child; teacher or counselor? Who should contact the parents? What discipline measures are taken after student is sent to the office. We should try to organize a more standard system of disciplining students, one that both teachers and students are aware of.

Our Jordan students need a lot of individual counseling, so it has been a major contribution to the smooth operation of the school and a big help to the students to have two counselers working with the seventh graders...and next year we will need them more than ever! I feel our counselors have taken an extremely active and a very personal role in guiding and counseling our seventh graders.

#### Weaknesses:

- . The Tack of facilities and personnel to isolate students who are having a traumatic experience. Somewhere along the line someone has to discipline.
- Need a female for girls to relate to.
- Not being available, unable to help with some students problems other than to remove them from the class or school, not wanting to do too much in way of disciplining students, not contacting home often.
- Not strict enough; kids use the seventh grade house to escape their duties in school.

They have had the major responsibility for the student problems in the 7th grade, and they did not want all of the responsibility that was given. Both counselors backed away from discipline problems, and were also reluctant to refer them to the principals. As a result I feel several students were permitted to just get worse and worse in their behavior and didn't receive the help they really needed -- as a teacher I felt as though I had no recourse when a student became very disruptive in class.

## Student Perceptions of the Counselors

In May 1973 about 80% of the seventh grade students completed a questionnaire that measured the kinds of contacts students had with their counselor, student perceptions of the counselor's job, and student perceptions of the counselor as a person. The same questionnaire was completed by the 1971-72 seventh graders at the end of the first year of the project and by eighth graders (1970-71 seventh graders) in September 1971.

Student contact with counselors. In both of the project years the students had more talks with their counselor in his office than in the year prior to the project (Table 9 on page 14). The counselors were also more visible to students outside their office in 1972-73 and 1971-72 than in 1970-71. Eighty-six percent of the 1972-73 seventh graders and 93% of the 1971-72 seventh graders, compared with 50% of the 1970-71 seventh graders, reported that they saw their counselor in the school hallways almost every day. Students in 1972-73 noticed more counselor visits to the classroom than did students in the year prior to the project; however, a decrease in the number of classroom visits occurred from 1971-72 to 1972-73.

More students in 1971-72 and 1972-73 than in 1970-71 indicated that they talked with their counselor because they had broken school rules (Table 10 on page 15). This increase would be expected because of the counselors' assumption of the responsibility for handling all student behavior situations. Fewer students in the second year of the project (14%) than in the first year of the project (23%) said they talked more than once with their counselor about breaking school rules.

The students' descriptions of their talks with the counselors about breaking the school rules were different in each of the three years that the data was collected (Table 11 on page 15). Compared with the year prior to the project (1970-71), more students in the first year of the project (1971-72)

Table 9

Amount of Contact Jordan Junior High Seventh Grade Students Had With Their Counselor in 1970-71, 1971-72, and 1972-73

	<u>\$</u> .	••		
		1970-71	1971-72	1972-73
Question	Response	N=337	N=298	N=239
•		Percent	Percent	Percent
How often have you talked	Never	26%	16%	15%
with your counselor in his office this year?	One time	22	23	19
	2-5 times	35	37	43
	More than 5	° -17	, 25	23
Did you ever go to the		'3	n	
counselor's office on your own that is, when	Yes	49	49	, 52
you were not sent or asked to come to his office?	No.	51	51	48
	* * *	<del> </del>		
How often have you seen	Almost every day	50	93	86
your counselor in the school hallways this year?	About once a week	31	5	9
mariwayo mari yani	About once a month	9	1	2
	Once or twice a year	6	.1	1
	Never	5	0	1
How often has your	Almost oromy day	4.	45	27
counselor visited your	Almost every day	.1	· 1	27
classroom this year?	About once a week	19	44	54
٧	About once a month	27	8	. 13
	Once or twice a year	34	. 2	4
•	Never	' .19	1'	1 -



Percentage of Students in Grade Seven Who Talked With Their Counselor Because They Broke School Rules Jordan Junior High: 1970-71, 1971-72, and 1972-73

	) (		•	•
Question	Response	1970-71 N=337 Percent	1971-72 N=298 Percent	1972-73 N=239 Parcent
Have you ever talked- with your counselor because you ve broken the school rules?	Never One time 2-5 times	* 85% 6 * 7	64% 13	65% 21 ,.
*	More than 5	2	11	5

Table 11.

Seventh Grade Students' Description of Student-Counselor Talks About Breaking School Rules at Jordan Junior High: 1970-71, 1971-72, and 1972-73

Check any of the following that describes	1970-71	1971-72	1972-73
your talks with the counselor about	N=51	N=105	N=82
breaking school rules	Percent	Percent	Percent
I was bawled out	18%	35%	7%
The counselor was interested in hearing what I had to say	<b>59</b>	69 B	40
I was afraid when I left the counselor's office	8	11	5
Together we tried to figure out a way for me to stay out of trouble	20	70	41
I found out it was up to me if I was going to stay out of trouble	49	69	39
We had a nice talk about why I broke the rules	39	50	35
I was suspended	- 4	35	16



indicated they were bawled out or suspended, but more 1971-72 students also reported that the talks were constructive. In the second year of the project (1972-73), compared with the first year, a smaller percentage of students described their rule-breaking talks as disciplinary and as constructive. For example, 7% of the 1972-73 students compared with 35% of the 1971-72 students said they were bawled out, while 41% of the 1972-73 compared with 70% of the 1971-72 students said the counselor helped them figure out a way to stay out of trouble. It appears that in 1972-73 the counselors spent less time than in 1971-72 talking with students about breaking rules.

Student perceptions of the counselor's job. The differences that existed between the first-year project students' (1971-72) and the non-project students' (1970-71) perceptions of the counselor's job continued in the second year of the project (Table 12 on page 17). A greater percentage of 1972-73 students (55%) than 1970-71 students (19%) thought it was the counselor's job to suspend students. Similarly, 38% of the 1972-73 students compared with 21% of the 1970-71 students said that it is the counselor's job to discipline students when they are in trouble. However, the 38 percent for 1972-73 was down from 54% in 1971-72.

Student perceptions of the counselor as a person. Students in 1970-71, 1971-72, and 1972-73 responded to 19 items concerning the relationship they had with their counselor and how they perceived him as a person (Table 13 on pages 18 and 19). The items were categorized into six groups based on judgement of similar content: understanding, interest-concern, liking, control-manipulation, congruence, and approach.

The majority of the students expressed favorable attitudes toward their counselor and the counseling relationship. However, first-year results (1971-72) showed that 1971-72 students had less favorable attitudes toward their counselor and the counseling realtionship than did 1970-71 students. Compared with 1970-71 students, the 1971-72 project-year seventh graders viewed the counselors as less understanding, less interested in them, less approachable, and more manipulative. Seventh graders in the second year of the project (1972-73) viewed their counselors more favorably than did 1971-72 students, but not quite as well as did students in the year prior to the project (1970-71). For example, 74% of the 1972-73 students, 64% of the 1971-72 students, and 82% of the 1970-71 students said their counselor understands them, while 17% of the 1972-73 students,

Table 12

Seventh Grade Students' Perceptions of the Counselor's Job at Jordan Junior High: 1970-71, 1971-72, and 1972-73

			<u>.</u>	_
Anariiha Gallanina agriciai	D	1970-71	1971-72	1972-73
Are the following activities .	Response	N=337 °	N=298	N=239
part of the counselor's job?	. 0	Percent	Percent	Percent
			*	1
Helps students get along	Yes	73%	82%	85%
with other students	No ~	8 .	9	8
Walter School School State of	Don't know,	19	10	•
	Don't know,	1,5	10	□ ° 7
			<b>3</b>	
Helps students plan and,	Yes	7 54	52	64
select otheir classes '	<sup>◊</sup> No. <sup>⋄</sup>	20	25	<b>⇒</b> 20
	Don't know	25	23	16
, 4		<u>-</u>		
Disciplines students	Yes	21	54	. 38
when they're in trouble	No	51	/29	34
	Don't know	27°	17	28
<u> </u>				
Walan and and and and and and and and and a			7	
Helps students understand	Yes	70	68	67 / 1
themselves	No	9	16	13
•	Don't know	21	· 16	-, 20
	<del>-</del>		<u> </u>	, .
Helps students improve 0	Yes	50	49	. ;
their schoolwork	No		<b>A</b> (	51
their schoolwork		24	27	23
*	Don't know	26	24	. 26
				· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Helps teacher's grade the	Yes	9∵.	13	14
students	No -	58	58 🗒 🕝	45
	Don't know	34	29	41
Suspends students when	Yes	· 19 🚜	52	. 55
they're in trouble	No	45	26	18
	Don't know	36	22	<b>" 27</b>
0				
Helps students who have	~ Yes	- 60	E/. ~	<b>E</b> 1
		60	54	51
personal and social	Nρ	14	. 24	17
concerns such as feeling	Dan't know	。25 .`	22 '	32
left out, shyness,	<b>₽</b> ₩ •	.,	, 1	
trouble with family		Į.		•
<u> </u>			•	<del></del>
Helps students get along	Yes ,	68	68	77
with teachers	No	9	19	7,7
wath ceachers				, 10 13
•	Don't know	22	13	• 13



Table 13

Seventh Grade Students' Perceptions of the Counselor at Jordan Junior High: 1970-71, 1971-72, and 1972-73

	<u>,                                    </u>	0 2/2	-	
		1970-71	1971-72	1972-73
		N=337	N=298	N=239
	Response	Percent	Percent	Percent
**. •	Response	refeelle	rercent	reitent
Understanding .				-
He tries to see things	Strongly Agr		21%	29%
the way I do and to	Agree	- 63	50	57
understand how I feel	Disagree	. 12	15	10
· ·	Strongly Dis		15	
			1	
He understands me	Strongly Agr	ee 21	15	20
	Agree	/ 61	49	54
	Disagree	12	24	16
	Strongly Dis		11	10
	Scrongly Dis.	ngree	1 11	10 %
			-	
Interest-Concern	,			1.
He is interested in	Strongly Agr	ee 16%	19%	21%
knowing how I look	Agree	67	55	• 62°
at things	•	14	. 16	
at turngs	Disagree		1	13
2	Strongly Dis	- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	<sub>0</sub> 10	4
No hurries me through	Cemanal Aam	ee \$\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\	10	
He hurries me through	Strongly Agr		12	/
when I talk with him	Agree	. ₩9	13	10
•	Disagree	58	52	50 、
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Strongly Disa	agree 27	23	33
I often feel that he	Ştrongly Disa	agree 5	17	13.
0		24		
has more important	Agree	1	28	26
things to do when I	Disagree	45	41	39 22
am talking to him	Strongly Disa	agree 25	14	22
-	<u> </u>			·
Liking ·				,
He doesn't seem to	Strongly Agre	ee 3% //	13% ,	.5%
like me very much	Agree .	6		î .
TIRE HE VELY HUCH	<u> </u>	, -	19 45	12
	Disagree	61	1 '- 1	49
•	Strongly Disa	agree 31	23	.34
I feel comfortable	Cemanal w Aana	ee 15	0 -	. 15
	Strongly Agre		9 -	15
talking with the	Agree	45	33 `	32
counselor about my-	Disagree	31.	34	35
self	Strongly Disa	agree 9	23.	18
77. 1. S.	Camana - 1 - 1 A 1	21	- 20	21
He is friendly	Strongly Agre		20 .	31
toward me	Agreè	63	58	57
ļ	Disagree	4	13	7
	Strongly Disa	agree 3.	10	,* ,5 ,
			• •	· · · · ·
I like talking with	Strongly Agre		13 .	`18 ,
my counselor	Agree	58	43	51 '
<u>-</u> ,	Disagree	15	22 .	23
· · ·	DIBORLES			
•	Strongly Disa	. 11	23	9

	·	v		
		1970-71	1971-72	1972-73
		N=337	_N=298	N=239°
		Percent	Percent	Percent
Control-Manipulative				
He likes to tell	Strongly Agree	4%	17%	9%
people what to do	Agree	22	30	22
•	Disagree	56	41	.53
	Strongly Disagree	18	12	16
He tells his opinions	Strongly Agree	5	18	10
more than I want to	Agree	23	27	2,7 /
know them .	Disagree	62	45	50
	Strongly Disagree	10	11	12
He always gives me a	Strongly Ages	. 25	•	۰
chance to explain my	Strongly Agree	· 25 · 62`	23	34
side of things	Disagree	8	56	55
or cutation	Strongly Disagree	8	i2 9	8
	octougly pragies.	"	<b>y</b>	4
He usually tells me	Strongly Agree	6	17	13
what I should do	Agree	26	21	28
rather than letting	Disagree	* - 54	47 ·	39
me decide for myself	Strongly Disagree	14	15	21
•				, •
le tries to get me to	Strongly Agree	. 10	16′′	19
ee responsible for	Agree	56	49	50
what I do	Disagree	29	27	21
e: pe	Strongly Disagree	5	. 8	10
		, t	<del>,</del> ,	
Congruence				u.
It is hard for me to	Strongly Agree	8%	13%	13%
mow what he is really	Agree	39	42	36
like as a person	→ Disagree	<b>42</b> ′	. 37	39
•	Strongly Disagree	11	8	12
		. 4		. 0
feel that he is	Strongly Agree	21 .	22	32
onest with me; he says	'. Agree	64	52	<b>\ 54</b>
hat he <u>really</u> thinks	Disagree	12	17	9
r feels	Strongly Disagree	3 ,	.6	.6 1
<u> </u>			w	<del></del>
pproach				•
am afraid to go to the	Strongly Agree	6%	9%	7%
ounselor when I am in	Agree	15	21	24
rouble in school	Disagree	54	°45	47
•	· Strongly Disagree	25	25	22
1.1			_	A
would go to the coun-	Strongly Agree	32	27 ,	29
elor on my own if I	Agree	55	50	<b>`53</b>
eeded help	Disagree '	. 8	14`	/ 13
	Strongly Disagree	. 4	9	, <u>5</u>
eing called to the coun-	Strongly Ages		16	11
elor probably means I	Strongly Agree Agree	20	16	11
	1 -	54	25	22
ave done something	Disagree	21	45 15	42 ~
rong	Strongly Disagree   19	ال ۲۲	ן עו	<b>25</b>

ERIC

32% of the 1971-72, and 9% of the 1970-71 students said their counselor doesn't seem to like them very much.

Overall student ratings of counselor helpfulness. On an overall rating of counselor helpfulness, about three-fourths of the students rated their counselor as very helpful or somewhat helpful in 1972-73, 1971-72, and 1970-71. Some small differences between the ratings for the three years did occur (Table 14). Both the 1970-71 and the 1972-73 seventh graders gave somewhat better helpfulness ratings to their counselors than did the 1971-72 seventh graders.

Table 14

Overall Rating of Counselor Helpfulness by Jordan Seventh

Grade Students in 1970-71, 1971-72, and 1972-73

	1970-71 N=337 Percent	1971-72 N≃298 Percent	1972-73 N=239 Percent
Very helpful to students	45%	37%	46%
Sometimes helpful to students	26	. 37	·33
Of no help to students	2	3	- 4
More harmful than helpful to students	2.	5	· <u> </u>
I don't know	25	18	16

Students who broke rules. Students who talked with their counselor about breaking school rules had different perceptions of the counselor than did students who did not talk to their counselor about breaking school rules. A greater percentage of students who talked about school rules than students who did not indicated it was the counselor's job to discipline and to suspend students, while a smaller percentage indicated it was the counselor's job to help students understand themselves (Table 15 on page 21). The students who talked about school rules also felt their counselor was less understanding and more controlling than did students who did not talk about school rules (Table 16 on page 22). No differences between the two groups' rating of overall counselor helpfulness occurred,



Table 15

1972-73 Jordan Seventh Grade Students' Perceptions of the Counselor's Job According to Whether They Talked With Counselor About Breaking School Rules

· · ·	<del></del> ·_		<u> </u>
Are the following activities	l' a	Talked About	Did Not Talk .
part of the counselor's job?	Response	School Rules	About School Rules
o job.	<del></del>	N=82 ∘	N=155
Helps students get along	Yes	85%	85%
with other students	No	10	
wath other students	Dom't Know	. 5	7
	DOM L KNOW	3	8
Helps students plan and	.Yes	59	66
select their classes	No	27	17,
•	Don't Know	14 .	17
	· · · · · ·		
Disciplines 'students	Yes	54	30
when they're in trouble	No	28	37
	Don't Know	19	34
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	1		
Helps students understand	Yes	54	73
themselves		,	1
tuemselves	No	20	9
	Don't Know	25	18
	7		
Helps students impaove	Yes .	54	. 50
their schoolwork '	No	28	20
•	Don't Know	18	30
Helps teachers grade the	Yes.	14	14
atudents	No	1 ' ,	44
u, cu du cu cu	Don't Know	38	42
	DOIL C KNOW		- 2
Constant and a second	V		
Suspends students when	Yes	64	50
they're in trouble	No	18	18
. 4	Don't Know	18	31 ,
		<b>*</b>	
Helps students who have	Yes	. 53	- 50
personal and social concerns	No .	22	14
such as feeling left out,	Don't Know	25	35
shyness, trouble with family			•
			,
Helps students get along	Yes	76	77
with teachers	No	18 .	6 ·
	Don't Know	. 6	17 .
	•		- <del>-</del> ·



Table 16

1972-73 Jordan Seventh Graders Perceptions of the Counselor According To Whether They Talked With Counselor About Breaking School Rules

	. 0	
	Talked About School Rules	Did Not Talk About School Rules
	N=82 Percent Agree	N=155 Percent Agree
He tries to see things the way I do and to understand how I feel	75%	91%
He understands me	65	80
He is interested in knowing how I look at things	81	84.
He hurries me through when I talk with him	19	16 .
I often feel that he has more important things to do when I am talking to him	47	35
He doesn't seem to like me very much	24	13
I feel comfortable talking with the counselor about myself	43	48
He is friendly toward me	- 84	90
I like talking with my counselor	66	70
He likes to tell people what to do	37	27
He tells his opinions more than I want to know them	48	31
He always gives me a chance to explain my $^{\mathfrak{g}}$ . side of things	86	90
He usually tells me what I should do rather than letting me decide for myself	46	· <sub>37</sub> )
He tries to get me to be responsible for what I do	70	<i>*</i> 69
It is hard for me to know what he is really like as a person	51	48
I feel that he is honest with me; he says what he <u>really</u> thinks or feels .	84	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
I am afraid to go to the counselor when I am in trouble in school	35	, 29
I would go to the counselor on my own if	79	83,
Being called to the counselor probably means I have done something wrong	48	, 26
<del></del>		-

## Student Attitudes Toward School and Teachers

As part of a city-wide assessment of seventh grade students' attitudes toward school, the Jordan seventh graders completed the Student Opinion Questionnaire in May 1973. The 93-item Student Opinion Questionnaire measures student attitudes in several school-related areas, including Liking of School, Interest in Learning, Self-Concept as a Learner, and Attitudes Toward Teachers. Results will not be available until the fall of 1973.

## Parent and Student Involvement

Although communications between the seventh grade staff and parents occurred through six newsletters, PTA meetings, a survey about the grading system, and many individual telephone contacts, the amount of parent involvement and input into the seventh grade program was not substantially greater in 1972-73 than in previous years. The parent registration for entering seventh graders that is being planned for the fall of 1973 is a step toward more organized parent involvement.

There is no evidence that student involvement and input has increased substantially over previous years. However, the counselors did visit the social studies classes twice to talk with the students about school policies and the students concerns. Student perceptions of their involvement in class and school decision making will be available in the fall of 1973 when results from the May 1973 administration of the Student Opinion Questionnaire have been analyzed.

#### Jordan Summary and Recommendations

. A major component of the second year of the Reorganized Junior High Program at Jordan Junior High involved changing the role of the seventh grade counselor from a supportive, referral person for individual students and staff members to a team member and coordinator-facilitator of the seventh grade program as well.

Definite changes were made in the previous supportive, referral role of the counselor. Although administrators were available as resource persons when the counselors felt they were necessary, the project counselors assumed responsibility for the usual administrative role in the area of student behavior. All other seventh grade concerns also were funneled into the seventh grade office and the two counselors.



Did the counselors function as team members and coordinator-facilitators? The counselors actively set out to increase their working contacts with teachers by visiting classrooms and meeting with teachers in the seventh grade conference room. However, the master teaching schedule hindered the development of teacher-counselor teams. No regularly scheduled team meetings were held the first semester. A change was made in the teaching schedule for the second semester that gave the two English teachers, the two social studies teachers, and one math teacher a common preparation period. These five teachers and the two counselors met every Monday and Friday as a team. The team meetings were used to unify efforts in terms of policies and procedures, plan upcoming events, coordinate curriculum, and discuss individual students. Less time was spent discussing instructional techniques and classroom management.

Although there were other teacher-counselor meetings and committees, the majority (59%) of the teachers did not meet with a counselor and at least one other staff member more than once or twice during the year to discuss the seventh grade program.

About two-fifths of the teachers said they made changes in curriculum content and instructional techniques as a result of meetings with other staff members; one-fourth to one-third of those who reported changes said the counselors contributed to the change. About half to two-thirds of the teachers reported making changes in evaluation procedures, methods of working with individual students, and classroom management; about three-fourths of those who made changes said the counselor contributed:

Recommendation one: continued efforts should be made to build a master teaching schedule that provides common meeting times for teacher-counselor teams.

Were the counselors viewed as effective staff members by the teachers? Individually the teachers had substantially more contact with counselors than in the year previous to the Title III project. Half or more of the 1972-73 teachers said they had five or more contacts with counselors in the following areas: provided information about individual students, provided a referral resource for students who needed special help, offered suggested to cope with students, observed the classroom, and participated in student case conferences. Few teachers indicated they had contacts with the counselors in the less

tradictional areas of planning curriculum and developing an appropriate classroom atmosphere. However, about three-fourths of the teachers said counselors should work in these two areas.

Most teachers who worked with the counselors in each area indicated that the counselors were helpful. On an overall rating of counselor helpfulness, 60% of the 1972-73 Jordan seventh grade teachers said the counselors were very helpful, 29% said somewhat helpful, and 11% said not very helpful. These results are similar to 1971-72 results and substantially greater than in 1970-71, the year prior to the Title III project. In 1970-71, 12% of the teachers rated the counselors as very helpful, 61% as somewhat helpful, and 27% as not very helpful.

Recommendation two: the counselors should continue their efforts to increase their working contacts with teachers, particularly in the areas of instructional methods, classroom management, and curriculum development.

Were the counselors viewed as effective staff members by the students? The counselors had more contact with students in 1971-72 and 1972-73 than in the year prior to the project (1970-71). The counselors also were rated as very helpful or somewhat helpful by three-fourths of the students in each of the three years. On a set of items designed to measure student perceptions of the counseling relationship and the counselor as a person, the majority of the students expressed positive attitudes. However, student attitudes on these items were less favorable at the end of each of the first two years of the project than in the year prior to the project. Compared with the 1970-71 students, the first-year (1971-72) students viewed the counselors as less understanding, less interested in them, less approachable, and more manipulative. It was speculated that the less favorable attitudes reflected the counselors' behavior associated with their responsibility for handling student behavior situations.

Seventh graders in the second year of the project (1972-73) viewed their counselors somewhat more favorably than did the 1971-72 students, but not as favorably as did students in the year prior to the project (1970-71). Correspondingly, fewer students in 1972-73 than in 1971-72, indicated that they talked with their counselor about breaking school rules. Also, of those students who did talk with their counselor about school rules, fewer students in 1972-73 than in 1971-72 indicated that the talks were disciplinary in nature. Some teachers in 1972-73 expressed concern that the disciplinary

policies were too lenient:

Recommendation three: the counselor's role in the handling of student behavior problems should be discussed thoroughly. Should an assistant principal be responsible for certain types of disciplinary action? Are the counselors spending too much time on daily, and possibly minor, individual student problems that prevent them from finding time to meet with other staff members to develop and implement positive classroom and individual student management techniques?

Did students have positive attitudes toward school and their teachers?

The Student Opinion Questionnaire results will not be available until the fall of 1973.

Did parent and student involvement in the school program increase? Although communications between the seventh grade staff and parents occurred through six newsletters, PTA meetings, a survey about the grading system, and many individual telephone contacts, the amount of parent involvement and input into the seventh grade program was not substantially greater in 1972-73 than in previous years. The parent registration for entering seventh graders that is being planned for the fall of 1973 appears to be a step toward more organized parent involvement.

There is no evidence that student involvement and input increased substantially over previous years. However, the counselors did visit the social studies classes twice to talk with the students about school policies and the students' concerns.

Recommendation four: efforts should be made to increase the involvement of parents and students in program development.



## Marshall-University Component

#### <u>Objectives</u>

The following objectives were listed in the project proposal for Marshall University Junior High School.

- During the seond project year the counselor will be accepted as an
  effective team member as measured by pre- and post-administration of
  the Student Evaluation of Counselor Helpfulness and the Teacher
  Evaluation of Counselor Helpfulness.
- 2. By the end of the second project year there will be increased student and parent interest in program development and evaluation as measured by increased participation in workshops, meetings and opinionnaire responses.
- 3. At the end of the second project year the students involved in the program will respond positively to the counselors, teachers and school as measured by an attitude questionnaire and by observed stronger working relationships among students and faculty involved.

## Project Activities

Two counselors and twelve teachers were directly involved in the project at Marshall-University Junior High School. One teacher-counselor team was set up to work with 100 of the 160 seventh graders and two teacher-counselor teams were set up to work with the 160 eighth graders. Each team consisted of a counselor and four teachers, one each from English, mathematics, science, and social studies. The seventh grade counselor also was assigned to work with the 60 seventh graders who were not on the team, while both the seventh and eighth grade counselors worked with their respective grade level teachers who were not members of one of the three teams.

The schedule for the team students and team teachers permitted flexibility in scheduling individual students and class periods. The students in each of the three teams were divided into four groups. Each team student was scheduled into English, math, science, and social studies in four consecutive 45-minute periods during the same three hours with the same teachers and with the same group of students in each class. In the sample schedule on the following page, the four groups of students are designated A, B, C, D.



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		-		_	٠
D۵	*	4	O	A	c

	<b>J</b>	_1	2	3	4
English / C		A	D	C.	В
Math	-	В	~ A ·	D	C
Science		С	а <u>В</u>	A	<b>D</b>
Social Studies		D	, C	В	A

The two most obvious advantages of this schedule were that the team teachers had the same students, and the classes could easily be reorganized within time periods or across time periods to meet instructional needs, such as interdisciplinary activities and field trips.

Team meetings. Team meetings were the core of the Reorganized Junior High Program at Marshall-University. The four teachers on each team had a common preparation time every day before they met with their four team classes. The seventh grade teams usually met three, and sometimes four, days a week. The two eighth grade teams met separately four days each week and jointly about once a week.

Much of the team meeting time was spent discussing individual team students and methods of working with them. Other common uses of the team meeting time were sharing instructional methods, coordinating teaching strategies, and discussing classroom management techniques. Parents of students and other school personnel such as the reading teacher, social worker, special education personnel, and administrators were included frequently. Student behavior problems within the classroom were handled by the team. An assistant principal handled the student disturbances that occurred outside the classroom.

Workshops. The following workshops were supported by funds from Southeast Alternatives, a federally-funded experimental schools project that encompassed all of southeast Minneapolis: planning with new seventh grade staff members, curriculum planning during the summer of 1972, group process training, writing a seventh grade unit on consumerism, and planning the junior high program for 1973-76.

Curriculum and instructional methods. The schedule for team teachers and students facilitated experimentation with curriculum and instruction. The seventh grade team teachers taught a three-week interdisciplinary unit on consumerism. They also scheduled several one-day activity periods where students selected their own academically-related interest activity. Twice during the

year the eighth grade team scheduled two-week mini-units that allowed students to choose a unit in each of the four team subject areas. During one quarter, four of the teachers offered one of their classes as a special section for students who could benefit from special attention. Both social studies teachers taught specially-developed units on values clarification and decision making. The flexibility of the team schedule made it possible to change classes for individual students readily. Several field trips were taken and attempts. were made to relate the trip to all subject areas.

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Planning. The team members spent substantial amounts of time on planning activities in addition to the workshops. Some of the activities were planning for the next three years of experimental school funds, planning for 1973 summer projects, planning the human relations day activities, and informally reviewing the Title III project's goals. The student evaluation forms developed in the first year of the Title III project were revised and used by both seventh and eighth grade team teachers.

#### Teacher Evaluation of Counselors

At the end of the second year of the project (1972-73), the twelve team teachers, plus a special education teacher who worked closely with the teams, completed a questionnaire on the effectiveness of the team counselor. The same questionnaire was completed at the end of the first year of the project (1971-72) by both the team and non-team teachers. It was also completed retrospectively by all seventh and eighth grade teachers in September 1971 for the year prior to the Title III project (1970-71). The responses for 1970-71 are not included in this report. The first-year evaluation report showed 1970-71 results to be very similar to the 1971-72 response of the non-team teachers.

The frequency of teacher-counselor contacts reported by the 1972-73 team teachers was greater than that reported by the 1971-72 non-team teachers in all of the eight areas listed on the questionnaire (Table 17 on page 30). Seventy-five percent or more of the 1972-73 team teachers reported five or more contacts with the counselor in the following areas: provided information about individual students, provided a referral resource, offered suggestions to help me cope with students, observed the classroom, and participated in conferences about students.



Frequency That Counselors Worked with Marshall-University Teachers in Several.Areas às Reported by the Teachers ,

(1972-73 Team Teachers, N=13; 1971-72 Team Teachers, N=8: 1971-72 NonTes

(19/2-/3 leam leachers, Nal3;	19/1-/2 Team Teachers,	rs, N≃8; 197	1-72 NonTeam	Teachers, N-36)	. e()	
ล ช.	•	More Than	5-10	Once ox		
3) 111	Year	Ten Times	Times	Twice	Never	J
The Counseler:		, N	N %	N %	N N	
Prowlded information about	1972-73 Team	11 85%		. 0	. `	
individual students	1971-72 Team	7 88		00		
	1971-72 NonTeam⁴	13- 36	15 42	6 17		
	-1972-73 Team	7. 54		2 15	0 0	2
students who needed special help	1971-72 Team	- 4 50	. 2 25	2 25	0 0	
	. 1971-72 NonTeam	1, 3	!	9	4 11	,
	1972-73 Team	4 31	97 9			
s L	971-72	. 3 38	3 38	2 . 25	0 0 0	
adjusting to class	1971-72 NonTeam	1 3				
Observed the classroom	1972-73 Team	7 54		3 23	0 0	,
	971-72		3. 38	2 - 25		
	.1971-72 WonTeam	0 0		9 26	22 63	
Actively participated in classroom	1972-73 Team		3 23,	5 38		
activities and group discussions	971-72	0 . 0	;	5 63	2 55	
	1971-72 NonTeam	0 0	0.	:	•	•
. Participated with teachers in	1972-73 Team	10 83	1 8		,	,
	1971-72 Team	,8 100	0.00	0 0	0.	
with problems	1971-72 NonTeam	4 11	4 11	20 57		
. Suggested or cooperatively planned	1972-73 Team	1 8	•	4 31	4 31	-
nd methods	71-72	3 38	5 63			٤
appropriate classroom atmosphere	1971-72 NonTeam	1 3		6 17	27 75	9
atively pl	2-73	0 0	4 31	7 54	2 15	, .
curriculum to meet the needs of	-72	$\frac{1}{1}$ , $\frac{13}{1}$	3. \$ 38.	4 50	0 0	
scuaence	1971-72 NonTeam	2 . % 6	ტ წ	5 15	24 -71	
SOUND FORCEON AND AND POLICE OF THE ALL ALL					<u> </u>	

"Some teachers did not respond to all areas; therefore, Ns will not always equal 13, 8, and 36.

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The team teachers reported fewer counselor contacts in the other three, less traditional, areas: actively participated in classroom activities, helped plan activities to develop the classroom atmosphere, and helped plan curriculum. The frequency of teacher-counselor contacts during the second year of the project (1972-73) was similar to the frequency of contacts during the first year (1971-72), except for somewhat fewer reported contacts in curriculum planning and substantially fewer reported contacts in developing the classroom atmosphere.

Teacher's who said they worked with the counselor at least once in a area were asked to indicate whether the counselor was helpful (Table 18 on page 32). The counselors were rated as more helpful by the 1972-73 team teachers than by 1971-72 non-team teachers in the four more traditional pupil personnel service areas: providing information about students, providing a referral resource, offering suggestions to cope with problem students, and participating in case conferences. On the other four less-traditional areas the 1972-73 team counselors were rated as helpful, but less helpful than on the traditional four areas, and no more helpful than indicated by the 1971-72 non-team teachers. The 1972-73 team teachers rated the counselors somewhat more helpful than did the 1971-72 team teachers on curriculum planning and offering suggestions to cope with students.

The teachers also were asked to indicate whether they thought teachers and counselors should work together in each of the eight areas (Table 19 on page 33). All three groups of teachers responded almost unanimously to the appropriateness of the counselor's role in the more traditional areas 1, 2, 3, and 6. About three-fourths of the 1972-73 team teachers, compared with about half of the 1971-72 non-team teachers, felt counselors should actively participate in the classroom, help develop the classroom atmosphere, and help plan curriculum.

On an overall rating of counselor helpfulness, the counselors were rated as more helpful by team teachers than by non-team teachers, and somewhat more helpful by 1972-73 team teachers than by 1971-72 team teachers (Table 20 on page 34). Ninety-two percent of the 1972-73 team teachers said the counselors were very helpful.

Helpfulness of Counsel

Helpfulness of Counselogs in Several Areas as Reported by Marshall-University Teachers Who Worked with the Counselor at Least Once in That Area (1972-73 Team Teachers, N=13; 1971-72 Team Teachers, N=8; 1971-72 NonTeam Teachers, N=36)a

		יין די דרמייי דרמייים	1-1/LT , N-O, 13/I-/	2 Nonleam leach	leachers, N=36)=		
•			Number of	•	•		
	Area	Vear	Teachers Who	•			
			Worked With	Very	Somewhat	No	
	The Counselor:		Counselor N %	Helpful N	Helpful 7	Help	
7	Provided information about individual	1972-73 Team		7		ļ	
	students	-7	7		1 13	000	
		1971-72 NonTeam	34 94	-		2 · 6	
2.		1972-73 Team	13 100	8 62	5 38.	0 0	
	students who needed special help	-72	Ľ	5 63		0 0	
`	7	1971-72 NonTeam	31 89	13 . 45	14 48	2 27	
3.	Offered suggestions that helped me	1972-73 Team	. 001, 18		97 9	0 0	
٠	cope with students who were not	-72	-	2 25	6. 75		
ı	adjusting to class	1971-72 NonTeam	30 83	•		3 10	74.
4.	Observed the classroom	1972-73 Team	10 ,100	2 20	7 70	1 10	
		1971-72 Team	8 100		3 4 38		
		1971-72 NonTeam	13 37	2 15		1 8	
IG	Actively participated in classroom	1972-73 Team	8 61	1 13	6 . 75	1 13	
	activities and group discussions	-72	6 75'	2 33	- 4	0	
		1971-72 NonTeam	5 14		4 80		
٠.	Participated With teachers in	1972-73 Team	12 100	11 92	.1 8	0 . 0	
•		-72	8 100		1 13	0 0	
	With problems	1971-72 NonTeam	28 80	13. 48	11 41		
7 :	Suggested or cooperatively planned	1972-73 Team	02 6.	2 22	7 78	0 0	
	and methods to develop		8 100	3 38	5 63		
	appropriate classroom atmosphere	1971-72 NonTeam	9 25		5 56		
<b>8</b>	Suggested or cooperatively planned.	-73			4 36 %	, 1 9	
1	curriculum to meet the needs of	-72	8 \ 100	3 38	3 38	. 2 25	, ·
	students	1971-72 NonTeam	10 29		• 07 7		
					4	***************************************	

<sup>a</sup>In a few cases, teachers did not rate degree of help; helpfulness percentages were calculated on the basis of the number of teachers who rated helpfulness.

Table 19

1972-73 and 1971-72 Opinions of Marshall-University Teachers as to Whether Counselors and Teachers Should Work Together in Several Areas

•	. (1972-73 Team Teachers N=13:	: 1971-72 Team Teachers	N=8: 1971-72	NonTeam Teachéra	M=36)		-5
			Yes		J	No	
	Area	,		,	'n	Answer	
	The Counselor Should:	Year	% %	×	. ~	×	-
1.	Provide information about	1972-73 Team '	13. 100%		20	0	
	individual students	1971-72 Team	7 100		0	-	
9		1971-72 NonTeam	33 97	, =-1	ب ش	7	٠.
2	Provide a resource for referral	1972-73 Team	13 100	O	0	0 .	
	of students who need special	72	2 100	, 0	0	H	
	help	1971-72 NonTeam	29 97	, ,	3 .	9	
ش	Offer suggestions that help	1972-73 Team	13 . 100	0	0	0	
	me cope with students who are	1-72	-	8	0		
•	not adjusting to class	, 1971-72 NonTeam	32 97	· H.	ო	ຕົ	.,
, 33 , 45	Observe the classroom	1972-73 Team	10 91	1	. 6	2	
3		-72	•	;== <b>!</b>	14	J 1	-
4		1971-72 NonTeam	25 . 83	5	17	9	
્ડ 2	Actively participate in classroom	1972-73 Team	8 73	ന	.27	2	
	activities and group discussions	₩971-72 Team	4 : 57		43 €		
		1971-72 NonTeam	14 56.	₩.	777		
9	Participate with teachers in	· 1972-73 Team	13 100	0	000	0	•
	conferences concerning students	72	•	0	0	.1	
	with problems ' $_{\it \wp}$	1971-72 NonTeam .	30 97		en En	ហ	
7.	Suggest or cooperatively plan	1972-73. Team	9 , 75	en	25	1	
	activities and methods to develop	1-72	98 9	F (	14	, ed (	,
	appropriate classroom atmosphere	19/1-/2 NonTeam	12 50	7.7	20	1.7	

22 14 40

101

86.09

15

1972-73 Team 1971-72 Team 1971-72 NonTeam

Suggest, or cooperatively plan curriculum to meet the needs of

students "

Table 20

#### Marshall-University Seventh and Eighth Grade Teacher Ratings of Overall Counselor Helpfulness

	Team 1972-73 N=13 Percent	Team 1971-72 N=8 Percent	NonTeam 1971-72 N=36 Percent
Very helpful	j, <sup>19</sup> 2%	75%	56%
Somewhat helpful	8	25 .	28
Not very helpful	0	0	. 17
Of no help	0*	0	0

All or most of the 1972-73 team teachers felt that being organized as a team had a positive effect in several areas: awareness of individual students, methods for dealing with individual students, working relationships among staff members, staff-student relationships, parent contacts, and staff planning (Table 21 on page 35). Eighty percent of the team teachers said that the team organization had a positive effect on student attitudes toward school, 60% said the team positively effected an awareness of classroom management techniques, and 45% said the team had a positive effect on relationships with the administration.

Twelve of the thirteen 1972-73 team teachers said they made changes during the year in instructional materials, subject matter organization, or instructional methods as a result of the team organization. All twelve who indicated that changes were made reported that the team counselor had an effect on the change. They described the changes as follows:

- . Working on a three-week unit together in all four academic areas.
- . Consumer unit.
- . We attempted to coordinate a team unit on the consumer and consumer problems.
- . Some writing and working sessions together.
- The team counselor brought to the forum several individual students who came to him and indicated insecurity, inability, negative attitudes, etc: about math. I made, with the help of the team counselor, individual decisions which I feel brought about a more positive effect for these



Table 21

1972-73 Marshall-University Team Teachers Ratings as to Whether
Team Organization Had a Positive Effect on Several Areas

,	Ye	28 -	, R	io`	No Answer
	N_	%	N_	%	N
wareness of individual students and their problems	12	92%	1	8%	· ′0
lethods for dealing with individual students	13	100	0	0	. 0,
Support from and among staff members	13	100	- 0	0	. 0
Jorking relationships among staff members	13	100	°o	0 :	. 0
Staff-student relationships .	13	100	0	0	0
elationships with administration	5	45	6	55	2
wareness of classroom management techniques	8	62	5	38.	0
Contacts with parents	12	92	1.	8	.0
staff planning	12	.92	1	8	·· ` o
Student attitudes toward school	8	80	2	20	3

students much more quickly than if I alone had dealt with the students. The team counselor helped me get to the specific problem very quickly.

- . Interdisciplinary unit on consumerism.
  - . Mini-units, independent study projects, special services (referrals).
  - . Changes in methods, materials used with groups and individual kids.
  - . Mini-units offered to 8th graders-offered new subject matter unit to students.
  - Flexible length of class periods--field trips--special section to meet certain needs of student--mini-units.
  - . We used some units which were developed jointly by the counselor and one of the teachers which came partially as a result of team meetings last summer.

Strengths. The team teachers listed the fellowing as main strengths of the team organization.

- Teacher's awareness of individual students and increased methods for dealing with individual students.
- Teachers and counselors working together and dealing with kids.



- . Helps teachers to understand and work with individual students, Kelps teachers plan class activities, and provides forum for exchange of ideas (reduces isolation).
- Learning to know each other better. Feeling free to make constructive comments to improve relations helps to coordinate efforts in behalf of students.
- . All areas listed in questionnaire (see Table 21). In addition, I might add that the team structure gives additional individual secruity to its members.
- . Zero in as a team of professionals with various expertise on specific student needs.
- . Just getting together, knowing what is being taught in other classes, and discussing individual student problems.
- . Facilitates communication between staff who meet the same students every day.
- . Support for each other, communication between members, problem facing and solving, increased awareness of total junior high program, greater understanding of individual student's progress in school.
- I see the ability to share experiences (curriculum content, etc.) as valid and helpful—thes is definitely a strength of the team structure. The exchange of valuable information, insight, etc. as related to specific student performance is most valuable and perhaps ranks as my most beneficial strength of the team approach. The additional rapport which develops between teachers is a positive strength.
- . Chance to exchange information, ideas, feelings.
- . Awareness of individual student problems, improved working relationships among the staff, contacts with parents, staff planning, student attitudes toward school.

Suggestions for improvement. The team teachers gave the following suggestions for improving the team organization.

- . Better coordination between supplementary programs and the team.
- . Better communication between assistant principal and team.
- . Someone, and I would suggest the counselor, must assume somewhat of a leadership role in the team. This would make for easier communications and would certainly facilitate the decision-making process.
- . Too much Mickey-Mouse "housecleaning" duties. Better cooperation with administration--administrator attends one team meeting per week.
  - More in-service and summer opportunity to grow in our skills as team members.

- Fewer daily meetings with a meet on a need basis with option for 5 days a week.
- More positive action to correct such things as absences and tardiness.
- All academic subjects should <u>not</u> be together in one block of time; academic classes should alternate with activity classes (gym, home economics, art, choir).

### Student Perceptions of the Counselors

About 83% of the 1972-73 team students at Marshall-University completed a questionnaire in May 1973 that measured the kinds of contact they had with their counselor and the students' perceptions of the counselor as a person. The same questionnaire had been given to the 1971-72 team and non-team students in May 1972 and to the 1970-71 seventh graders in May 1971. Data for the 1970-71 eighth graders was no collected.

Student contact with counselors. The 1972-73 team students reported about the same number of talks with their counselor in his office as reported by the students in the two previous years (Table 22 on page 38). However, a greater percentage of 1972-73 team students --- compared with 1971-72 team, 1971-72 non-team, and 1970-71 seventh grade students --- said they went to their counselor's office on their own, saw their counselor in the school hallways, and were inclassrooms visited by their counselor.

Student perceptions of the counselor as a person. Nineteen items on the student questionnaire measured the students' perceptions of the counseling relationship and the counselor as a person (Table 23 on pages 39 and 40). The items were placed in six categories based on judgement of similar content: understanding, interest-concern, liking, control-manipulation, congruence, and approach.

Student attitudes toward their counselor were favorable. Seventy-five percent or more of the team students felt their counselor tried to understand them, was interested in them, liked them, was approachable, and was not manipulative. There were few differences between the attitudes of 1972-73 team students, 1971-72 students, and 1970-71 seventh graders.

Overall student rating of counselor helpfulness. Fifty two percent of the 1972-73 team students rated their counselor as very helpful, 36% rated their counselor as somewhat helpful, 1% said their counselor was of no help, and

Table 22

Amount of Contact Marshall-University Seventh and Eighth Grade Students
Had With Their Counselor in 1970-71, 1971-72, and 1972-73

<del></del>					
Question	Response	1970-71 Grade 7	1971-72 Team	1971-72 Non-Team	1972-73 Team
	,	N=138	N≈149	N=123	N=216
How often have you	Never	8%	17%	14%	11% a
talked with your counselor in his	One time	25	. 26	16	19
office this year?	2-5 times	49	39	52	49
	More than 5 times	18	· 19	19	<sup>-</sup> 21
Did you ever go to			٥		-
the counselor's office on your ownthat is,	Yes	. 59	64 -	. 59	70
when you were not sent or asked to come to- his office?	No	41	36	° 41	30
How often have you	Almost every day	58	63	62	82
seen your counselor in the school hall-	About once a week	31	27 <sup>.</sup>	<b>31</b> ′	16 "
ways this year?	About once a month	´5	7	4	1
• :	Once or twice a year	₹ 5	· i2	3	0
	Never	1	2 _	0	0
How often has your	Almost every day	9	1 .	2	14
counselor visited your classroom this	About once a week	36	24	38	52
year?	About once a month	33	53	45	24
	Once or twice a year	21	19	14	10 .
<u> </u>	Never	1	/ 3	1	0



\*Marshall-University Seventh and Eighth Grade Students' Perceptions of Their Counselor in 1970-71, 1971-72, and 1972-73

	Response a	1970-71 Grade 7 N=138	1971-72 Team N=149	1971-72 Non-Team N=123	1972-7 Team N=216
Understanding	0				
He tries to see	SA	37%	17%	14%	23%
things the way I do	. A	56	74	72	67
and to understand	D D	7	8	ii	8
now I feel ,	SD	Ó	1 . 1	4	3
	. :	,	-	1	<b>J</b> .
He understands me	SA	20	9	. 10	9
	A	64	63	64	68
was a second of the second of	<u> </u>	13	25	20	18
	SD	3	3	6	6
• 5	Ð				
Interest-Concern					•
le is interested in	SA	21	11	7	19
cnowing how I look	A	63	78	67	67
at things	D	• 11	6	19	13
	SD ·	5	4	7	2 ,
		. [		<i>-</i> i	
le hurries me through	SA	5	0	6	3
hen I talk with him	A	13	19	14	13
_	d D	56	64	62	·62
u.	SD	25	16	19	23
I often feel that he	SA	~ 10	, 3	8	. 7
nas more important 0	A	26	25	26	26
things to do when I	D	39	59	53	53
am talking to him	SD	24	12	13	14
		1	<u> </u>		_
iking		,	•		,
He doesn't seem to	SA .	2	3	4 -	2
like me very much	A	6	. 6	11	8
. Later me very meet	D	52	69	. 61	63
0	SD	38	23	24	27
		•			
l feel comfortable	SA	26	11	5	` 11
alking with the	A .	37	51	C 49	52
counselor about my-	D	26 🔻	3 <b>i</b>	33	29
elf	SD	10	31 7	13	8
					,
le is friendly toward	SA	32	22	21	26
ne .	A	, 56	73	פס	69
	D	9	4	8	4
	SD	2	1	2 -	1
like talking with	SA	25	14	. 12	21
ny counselor	A	58	57	: 54	62
iy competor	D"	. 14	24	26	13
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	SD	3	6	8	4

aSA=Strongly Agree, A=Agree, D=Disagree, SD=Strongly Disagree



	Response	1970-71 Grade 7 N=138	1971-72 Team N=149	1971-72 Non-Team N=123	1972-73 Team N=216
Control-Manipulation					
He likes to tell people what to do	SA A D SD	5% 18 55 22	2% 20 20 60 18_	27. 21 62 15	2% 20, 61 17
He tells his opinions more than I want to know them	· SA Ä D SD	2 18 58 21	3 16 69 13	20 63 13	3 14 68 15
He always gives me a chance to explain my side of things	SA A - D SD .	38 56 6 1	21 72 5	26 60 9 5	30 63 6
He usually tells me what I should do rather than letting me decide for myself	SA & A D SD	6 22 48 24	4 14 67 14	4 17 64 16	2 21 58 19
He tries to get me me to be responsible for what I do	SA A D SD	18 49 ` 24 9	12 80 8 0 <sub>/</sub>	6 63 25 7	16 56 23 5
Congruence	,				
It is hard for me to know what he is like as a person	SA A D SD	8 25 48 19	1 41 45 13	11 35 47.	4 30 58
I feel that he is honest with me; he says what he really thinks or feels	SA A D SD	·31 ' 56 11 2	17 70 12 0	21 60 16 3	26 60 10 4
Approach					`
I am afraid to go to the counselor when I am in trouble in school	SA A D SD	8 18 45 29	4 12 58 27	2 11 62 26	1 14 54 31
I would go to the . counselor on my own if I needed help	SA A D SD	34 53 9	26 61 10 4	26 60 10 4	33 55 9 3
Being called to the counselor probably means I have done to lag wrong ERIC	SA .A D SD	5 15 55 23	7 20 55 18	5 23 52 21	1 15 57 26

11% said they did not know (Table 24 on page 42). The overall rating by 1972-73 team students was fairly similar to student ratings made at the end of the year prior to the project (1970-71).

Team student reactions to the project. A majority of the 1972-73 team students (57%) felt that the team concept was better for students than not having teachers and counselors work as a team (Table 25 on page 42). Six percent of the students said a team was worse for the students, 16% said it made no difference, and 21% said they did not know. Fifty-seven percent of the students also indicated that they would like to have their teachers work together as a team next year. After the first year of the project, 68% of the students said they would like to have their teachers work together as a team next year.

Student evaluation of the mini-units. The eighth grade team students reacted positively to the two-week mini-units that were offered during the 1972-73 school year. Ninety percent of the students said they liked the mini-units and 90% said they preferred having a choice of classes such as mini-units rather than being assigned to classes (Table 26 on page 43).

Comparing mini-units with assigned classes, 80% of the students said they liked mini-units better, 6% said they liked assigned classes better, and 13% said there was no difference. Thirty-seven perpent of the students said they learned more in the mini-units, and 32% said they learned more in the assigned classes. A somewhat greater percentage of the 1972-73 students said their fellow students goofed off more in the mini-units (38%) than in the assigned classes (29%).

#### Student Attitudes Toward School and Teachers

The seventh grade team students were given the Student Opinion Questionnaire in May 1973 as part of a city wide assessment of seventh graders attitudes toward various aspects of school. Results from this questionnaire will not be available until early fall 1973.

The eighth grade team students were given several items from the Student Opinion Questionnaire in May 1973. Table 27 on page 45 shows the percentage of eighth grade students who either strongly agreed or agreed with each statement for each of the last three years. The attitudes of the 1972-73 eighth



Overall Rating of Counselor Helpfulness by Marshall-University Seventh and Eighth Grade Students in 1970-71, 1971-72, and 1972-73

	1970-71 Grade 7 N=138	1971-72 Team N=149	1971-72 Non-Team N=123	1972-73 Team N=216
Very helpful	60%	44%	52%	S 52%
Sometimes helpful	25,	36.	27	`36
Of no help	1	1	1	1
I don't know	15	19	20	11

Table 25
Team Students' Opinions of the Team Organization

Question	Response	1971-72 Team N=149	1972-73 Team N=216
Do you think the team of teachers and a counselor	Yes, better for students No, worse for students	59% 13	57% 6
is better for students than not having teachers and counselors work as a	Makes no difference	15	16
team?	I don't know	13	21
Would you like to have	Yes	68%	57%.
your teachers work together as a team	· No	12	<b>11</b>
next year?	Makes no difference	20	32 、

Table 26 Reactions of Eighth Grade Team Students to the Mini-Units

INGETION I KASHONSA I I I I			1 1971-72	1972-73
Once of classes such as the minimits or be assigned to classes (as it was before minimits)?  Overall, how well did you like the minimits?  I liked them wery much 33% 46% I liked them 57 44  I neither liked nor disliked them 7 3 66  I did not like them 7 3 66  I did not like them 7 3 67 67 67 67 67 67 67 67 67 67 67 67 67	Question	Response	ľ	N=100
mits or be assigned to classes (as it was before mini-units)?  Makes no difference 1 7  Deverall, how well did you like the mini-units?  I liked them 57 44  I neither liked nor disliked them 7 3  Compared with assigned classes before mini-units), how well did you like the mini-units?  I liked the mini-units better 7 8% 80% before mini-units), how well did you like the mini-units?  I liked the mini-units better 7 8% 80% better 80% better 1 liked the assigned classes better 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1		Assigned to classes	6%	2%
Assigned Classes from the mini-units?  Noterall, how well did you like the mini-units?  I liked them very much interest liked them in item into the mini-units?  I liked them interest liked nor disliked them interest liked them	•	Choice of classes	93	90
I liked them 57 44  I neither liked nor dis- liked them 3 6  I did not like them 7 3  Compared with assigned classes (before mini-units), how well lid you like the mini-units?  No difference between assigned and mini-units better  I learned something 70 72  I did not learn anything 3 4  Compared with the assigned classes, how much did you learn from the mini-units?  I learned more in the assigned classes, how much did you learn from the mini-units?  I learned more in the mini-units 50 37  No difference between assigned classes  A. The students learned more in the assigned and mini-units 31 30  Assigned Classes 21% 40%  Mini-Units 49 34  No Difference 30 26  Assigned Classes 7% 2%  Mini-Units 90 95  No Difference 3 2  C. The students goofed off more in the signed Classes  Mini-Units 90 358  Mini-Units 90 37  Assigned Classes 77% 2%  Mini-Units 90 358  Mini-Units 90 37  Assigned Classes 17% 2%  Mini-Units 90 358  Mini-Units 90 368  Mini-Units 90 37  Assigned Classes 17% 27%  Assigned Classes 17% 27%  Mini-Units 90 37  Assigned Classes 17% 27%  Mini-Units 90 37  Assigned Classes 17% 27%  Mini-Units 90 37  Assigned Classes 17% 29%  Mini-Units 90 38		Makes no difference	1	7
I liked them I neither liked nor dis- liked them I neither liked nor dis- liked them I neither liked the mini-units neither liked the assigned classes better neither liked the mini-units neither liked t		I liked them very much	33%	46%
liked them I did not like them 7 3  Compared with assigned classes before mini-units), how well lid you like the mini-units?  I liked the mini-units better 78% 80% 1 liked the mini-units better 1 liked the assigned classes better 1 1 6  No difference between assigned and mini-units 1 1 13  Overall, how much did you learn from the mini-units?  I learned a lot 27% 24% I learned something 70 72  I did not learn anything 3 4  Compared with the assigned classes, how much did you learn from the mini-units?  I learned more in the assigned classes 19% 32% I learned more in the mini-units 50 37  No difference between assigned and mini-units 31 30  Cooking at the entire class of tudents, compare the mini-units 50 37  No difference between assigned and mini-units 31 30  Cooking at the entire class of tudents, compare the mini-units 50 37  No difference between assigned Classes 21% 40% Mini-Units 49 34  No Difference 30 26  B. The students learned Mini-Units 90 95  No Difference 3 2 2  C. The students goofed off Mini-Units 90 95  More in the Mini-Units 90 95  More in the Mini-Units 30 38	the mini-units?	I liked them	, 57	44
Compared with assigned classes before mini-units), how well lid you like the mini-units?  I liked the assigned classes better 1 liked the assigned classes limit liked the assigned liked the mini-units liked the assigned lasses liked the assigned classes liked the mini-units liked the assigned lasses liked the assigned lasses liked the assigned classes liked th		j	3	6
The fore mini-units), how well id you like the mini-units?  I liked the assigned classes better  No difference between assigned and mini-units  I learned a lot I learned something I learned something I did not learn anything  I learned more in the assigned classes, how much did you earn from the mini-units?  I learned more in the mini-units I learned more in th		I did not like them	7	3
The tree assigned classes better		I liked the mini-units better	78%	80%
and mini-units   11			11	6
I learned something	<b>v</b> -		11	13
I did not learn anything   3		I learned a lot	27%	24%
Compared with the assigned classes, how much did you earn from the mini-units?	earn from the mini-units?	I learned something	,70 ·	72
assigned classes   19%   32%		I did not learn anything	3	4
No difference between assigned and mini-units 31 30  Looking at the entire class of students, compare the mini-units with the assigned classes.  A. The students learned more in the Mini-Units 49 34 No Difference 30 26  B. The students enjoyed classes more in the Mini-Units 90 95 No Difference 3 22  C. The students goofed off more in the Mini-Units 30 38	classes, how much did you	1	19%	32%
assigned and mini-units   31   30	learn from the mini-units?	1	50	37
A. The students learned more in the mini-Units No Difference No Differen	4	1	31	30 <sup>'</sup>
more in the         Mini-Units No Difference         49 34 30 26           B. The students enjoyed class more in the class more in the classes more in the	students, compare the mini-			
No Difference   30   26	A. The students <u>learned</u>		T I	
class more in the         Mini-Units No Difference         90 95 3           C. The students goofed off more in the         Assigned Classes Mini-Units         17% 29% 38	more in the		1	
No Difference         3         2           C. The students goofed off more in the         Assigned Classes Mini-Units         17% 29% 30		-		
more in the Mini-Units 30 38	<u>class</u> more in the			
			7	
•	<u>more</u> in the			



grade team students were less favorable than the attitudes of the 1971-72 eighth grade team students, but were fairly similar to the attitudes expressed by the 1970-71 eighth graders and the 1971-72 non-team eighth graders. For example, 67% of the 1972-73 team students, 82% of the 1971-72 team students, 66% of the 1971-72 non-team students, and 71% of the 1970-71 students indicated that they liked school.

A more complete analysis of student attitudes will be made when the seventh grade and city-wide results become available.

#### Parent and Student Involvement

Four seventh grade parent meetings were held in the fall of 1972 to actively involve parents in the educational program. Parents also participated in a human relations day program and in the eighth grade mini-unit registration. However, most parent involvement at both seventh and eighth grade came through individual parent contacts with team staff members. Teachers and counselors contacted parents frequently. About one parent conference was held each week at school. The internal evaluation unit of the Southeast Alternatives project conducted several surveys of Marshall-University parents and provided the seventh and eighth grade staff with the data.

There is little evidence that team students had substantially greater opportunities for involvement and input in the school program than in previous years. The team students were given opportunities to select mini-units and special activities, were asked to give feedback on a number of questionnaires, and met with the community to plan extra-curricular activities. Seventy-six percent of the eighth grade team students said teachers are willing to listen to suggestions from students, and 30% said they are never involved in making decisions about their school or class (Table 27 on page 45). The picture of students' involvement in classroom and school decision making will be clearer when the seventh grade Student Opinion Questionnaire results become available.

#### Marshall-University Summary and Recommendations

The Reorganized Junior High Program at Marhall-University was centered around two teacher-counselor teams that worked with the 160 eighth grade students and one teacher-counselor team that worked with about 100 of the 160 seventh grade students. Each team consisted of a counselor and four teachers, one



Table 27

Marshall-University Eighth Grade Students'
Attitudes Toward Various Aspects of School

1970-71   1971-72   1971-72   1972-73   Grade 8   Team   Non-Team   N=132   N=77   N=130     1 like school   71%   82%   66%   67%   67%   66%   66%   67%   66%   66%   67%   66%   66%   67%   66%   66%   67%   66%   66%   67%   66%   66%   66%   67%   66%	- 1			
I like school  I think school is fun  62  70  64  53  I don't like schoolwork  41  43  41  40  I like most of my teachers  80  85  76  81  I think my teachers understand me  53  75  70  55  I find my teachers to be fun and cexciting  Most of my teachers seem to like me  72  95  80  80  My teachers really know how to teach  55  70  69  60  My teachers are willing to listen to suggestions from students  I am never: involved in making	Grade 8	Grade 8	Grade 8 Non-Team	Grade 8 Team
I think school is fun  I don't like schoolwork  I like most of my teachers  I think my teachers understand me  I find my teachers to be fun and exciting  Most of my teachers seem to like me  My teachers really know how to teach  My teachers are willing to listen to suggestions from students  I am never: involved in making	N-132		N-70	N-150
I think school is fun  I don't like schoolwork  I like most of my teachers  80 85 76 81  I think my teachers understand me 53 75 70 55  I find my teachers to be fun and exciting  Most of my teachers seem to like me 72 95 80 80 My teachers really know how to teach 55 70 69 60  My teachers are willing to listen to suggestions from students  I am never: involved in making	71%	82%	66%	67%
I like most of my teachers  80 85 76 81 I think my teachers understand me 53 75 70 55 I find my teachers to be fun and exciting  48 64 57 52 Most of my teachers seem to like me 72 95 80 80 My teachers really know how to teach 55 70 69 60  My teachers are willing to listen to suggestions from students  a a 76 I am never involved in making	62	7.0	<b>Ø</b> 64	53
I think my teachers understand me  I find my teachers to be fun and exciting  Most of my teachers seem to like me  My teachers really know how to teach  My teachers are willing to listen to suggestions from students  I am never: involved in making	41	43	41	40
I think my teachers understand me  I find my teachers to be fun and exciting  Most of my teachers seem to like me  My teachers really know how to teach  My teachers are willing to listen to suggestions from students  I am never: involved in making				
I think my teachers understand me  I find my teachers to be fun and exciting  Most of my teachers seem to like me  My teachers really know how to teach  My teachers are willing to listen to suggestions from students  I am never involved in making	80	4	76	81
I find my teachers to be fun and exciting  48 64 57 52  Most of my teachers seem to like me 72 95 80 60  My teachers really know how to teach 55 70 69 60  My teachers are willing to listen to suggestions from students a a 76  I am never involved in making	53	I .	70	55
exciting  48 64 57 52  Most of my teachers seem to like me 72 95 80 60  My teachers really know how to teach 55 70 69 60  My teachers are willing to listen to suggestions from students a a 76  I am never involved in making				شد
My teachers really know how to teach  My teachers are willing to listen to suggestions from students  I am never involved in making	48	64	57	· 52
My teachers are willing to listen to suggestions from students a a 76  I am never involved in making	72	95	80	80
suggestions from students a a 76  I am never involved in making	55	70	69	60
suggestions from students a a 76  I am never involved in making				
suggestions from students a a 76  I am never involved in making			- ,	. ′
	`-a •	a	a	76
decisions about my school or class 30 23 33 30				
	30	23	33	30
		N=132 71% 62 41 80 53 48 72 55	Grade 8	Grade 8       Grade 8       Grade 8       Grade 8       Non-Team N=76         71%       82%       66%         62       70       64         41       43       41         80       85       76         53       75       70         48       64       57         72       95       80         55       70       69

 $<sup>^{\</sup>mathbf{a}}$ This question was not asked in years prior to 1972-73.



each from English, mathematics, science, and social studies. Daily team meetings during the team teachers' common preparation time were the core of the project. The team used this meeting time to discuss individual students, to share techniques, to discuss instructional methods, and to plan future activities.

All, or all but one, of the team teachers felt the team organization had a positive effect in several areas: awareness of individual students, methods for dealing with students, working relationships among staff, staff-student relationships, parent contacts, and staff planning. All but one of the team teachers said they made changes during the year in instructional materials, subject matter organization, or instructional methods as a result of the team organization.

Recommendation one: continue the teacher-counselor team organization with a common meeting time during the school day for the team members.

Did the teachers view the counselor as an effective team member? The evidence is positive. Seventy-five percent or more of the 1972-73 team teachers reported five or more contacts with the counselor in the following areas: provided information about individual students, provided a referral resource, offered suggestions to cope with students, observed the classroom, and participated in conferences about students. The team teachers reported fewer contacts with the counselor in three less traditional areas: actively participated in classroom activities, helped develop an appropriate classroom atmosphere, and helped plan curriculum. Fewer teacher-counselor contacts were reported in the latter two areas in 1972-73 than in the first year of the project (1971-72), although about three-fourths of the 1972-73 team teachers felt counselors should help develop an appropriate classroom atmosphere and should help plan curriculum. However, the twelve 1972-73 teachers who indicated that they made changes in instructional materials, subject matter organization, or instructional methods also reported that the team counselor had an effect on the change.

On an overall rating of counselor helpfulness, \$2% of the team teachers rated the counselor as very helpful and one teacher rated the counselor as helpful. The counselors were rated as more helpful by 1972-73 and 1971-72 team teachers than by 1971-72 non-team teachers, and somewhat more helpful by 1972-73 team teachers than by 1971-72 team teachers.

Recommendation two: continue the counselor as a member of the team organization.



Recommendation three: although many commitments and requests for the staff's time exist at Marshall-University, more counselor time should be spent helping the team teachers develop classroom methods, materials, and teaching behaviors that promote a positive learning environment.

Did the students view the counselor as an effective staff member: Eightyeight percent of the 1972-73 team students rated their counselor as very helpful
or helpful. This overall rating was fairly similar to ratings made by students
in the first year of the project (1971-72) and by students in the year prior
to the project (1970-71). Seventy-five percent or more of the 1972-73 team
students felt their counselor tried to understand them, was interested in them,
liked them, was approachable, and was not manipulative.

Did parent and student participation in the program increase? Most parent involvement came through individual contacts by team members. Teachers and counselors contacted parents frequently, and about one parent conference was held at school each week. Four seventh grade parent meetings were held in the fall of 1972 to actively involve parents in the school program.

There is little evidence that team students had substantially greater opportunities for involvement and input in the school program than in previous years. The team students were given opportunities to select mini-units and special activities, and were asked to give feedback on several questionnaires. Seventy-six percent of the eighth grade team students said teachers are willing to listen to suggestions from students, and 30% said they are never involved in making decisions about their school or class.

Recommendation four: continued efforts should be made to involve the parents and students in program development.

Did the students have a positive attitude toward school and their teachers? Fifty-seven percent of the 1972-73 team students felt the team concept was better for students, 6% of the students said it was worse, 16% said it made no difference, and 21% said they did not know. Although the school-related attitudes of the 1972-73 eighth grade team students were more positive than negative, and were more favorable than previous city-wide results, they were less favorable than the attitudes of the 1971-72 eighth grade team students and were fairly similar to the attitudes expressed by the 1971-72 non-team eighth graders and the 1970-71 eighth graders. For example, 67% of the 1972-73 team students, 82% of the 1971-72 team students, 66% of the 1971-72 non-team students, and 71% of

the 1970-71 students indicated that they liked school. A more complete analysis of student attitudes will be made when seventh grade and city-wide results on the Student Opinion Questionnaire become available.

Recommendation five: continued efforts should be made to develop and use student feedback systems to identify sources of positive and negative student attitudes.

## Minneapolis Public Schools

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