Pittsburgh Public Schools | EXCELLENCE FOR ALL

The Pathway to the Promise.

Update on Clayton Academy
(August 2007 through February 2009)

Board Education Committee Meeting
March 2, 2009

Overview of Presentation

- The Board requested an update

- Overview of Clayton Academy

- Criteria for Student Referrals

- Enrollment Trend and Demographics

- Enrollment by Sending School

- Characteristics of Student Population

- Program Framework

- Status of Enrollees in February 2009

- Student Outcomes

- Pittsburgh Public Schools' Recommendations for Clayton Academy

Overview of Clayton Academy

- The purpose of Clayton Academy is to improve academic achievement and student behavior for a small percentage of district students who are behaviorally challenged and need to get "back on track" in their learning and behavior so they can return to our schools and be successful.

- The Clayton Academy Program began in August 2007 with the opening of two high school learning communities. In October 2007 two middle school communities were added.

Criteria for Student Referrals to Clayton Academy

- Grades 6 through 12

- Chronic behavioral challenges in school

- No adjudicated high school youths

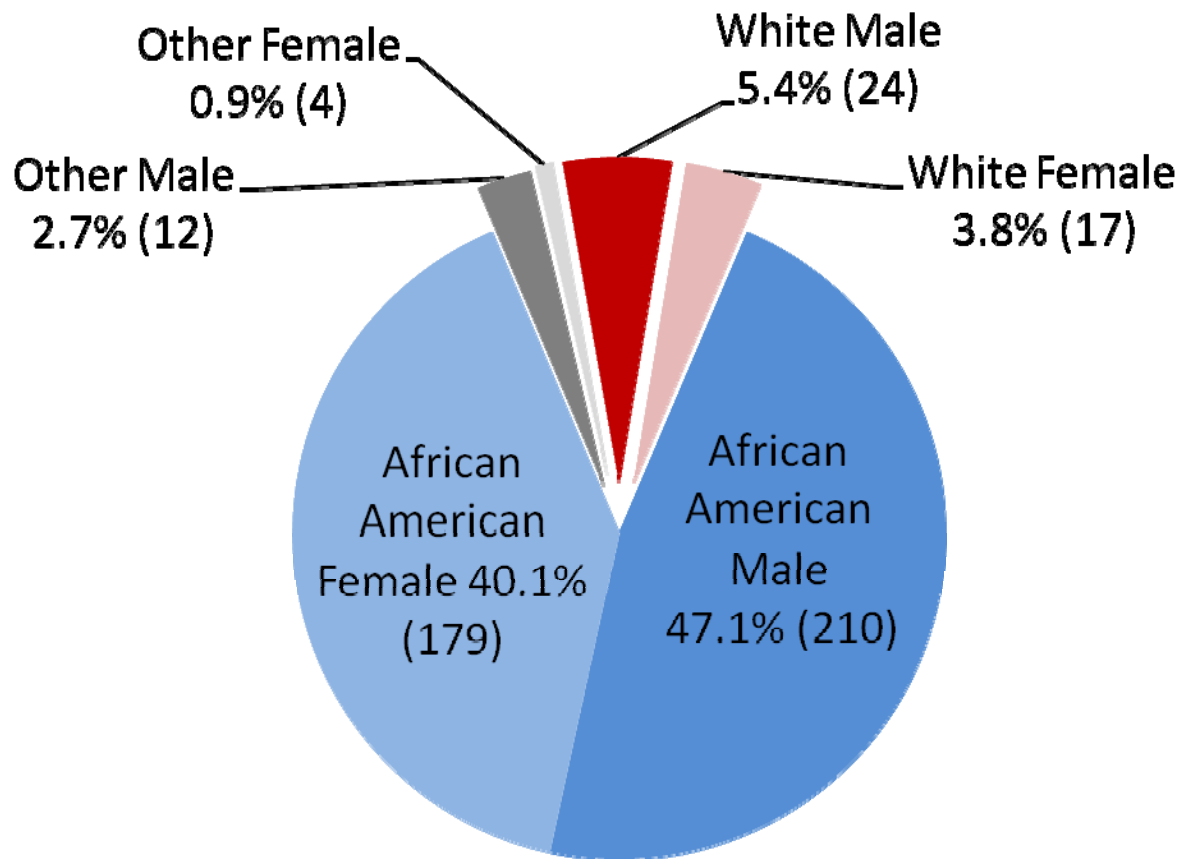- No students with Individual Education Plans (IEP)

Overall Enrollment Trend by Month: There are slightly fewer students enrolled in February 2009 (206) than in February 2008 (228).

Clayton Academy Enrollment Trend
October 2007 through February 2009

source: RTI
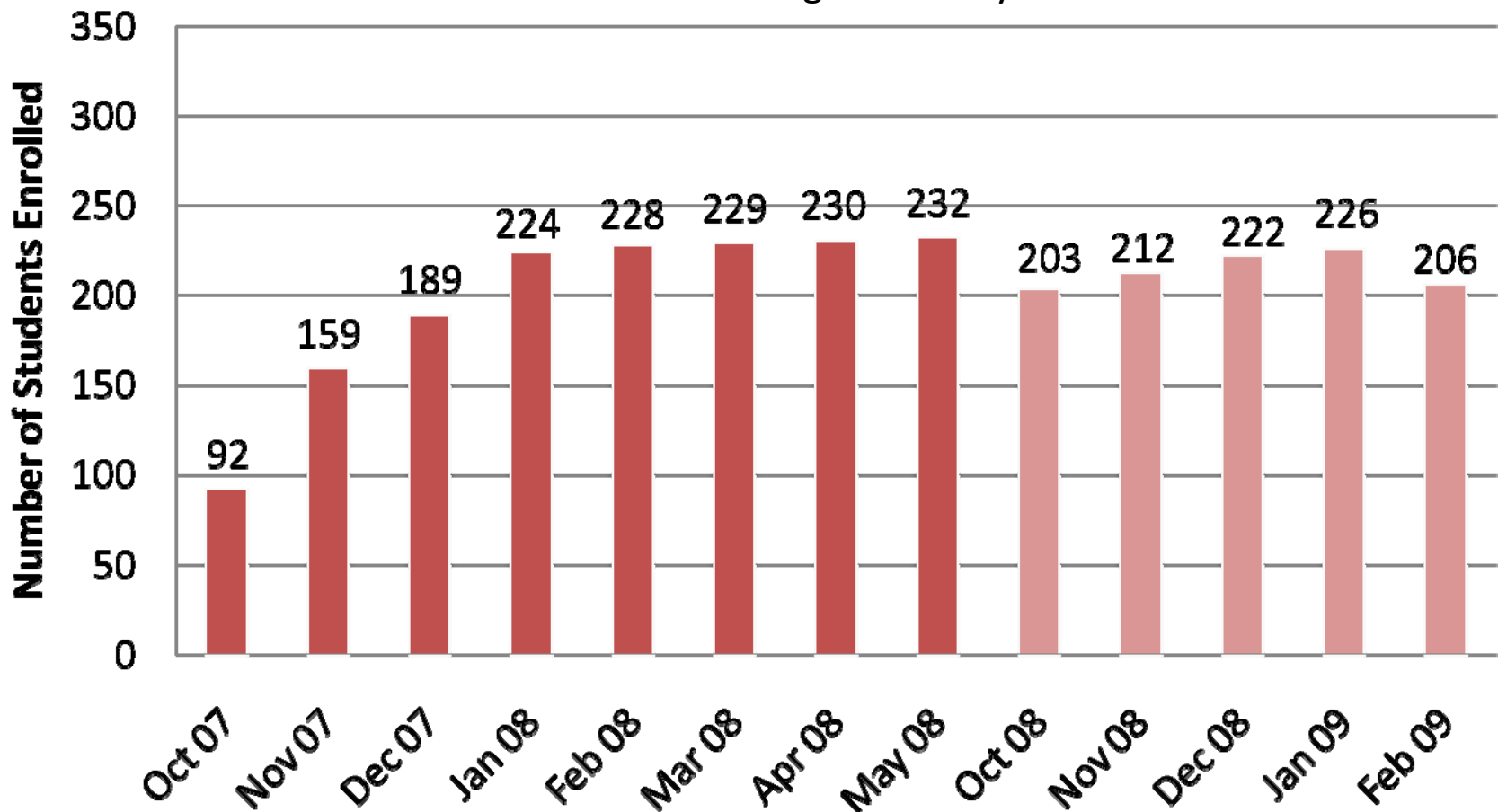
Overall Enrollment by Race and Gender: 446 students have enrolled in Clayton Academy since the school opened in August 2007. 87.2% of them are African American.

Clayton Academy Enrollment from August 2007 through February 2009 by Race and Gender(n=446)

Other Female 0.9% (4)

Other Male 2.7% (12)

White Male 5.4% (24)

White Female 3.8% (17)

African American Female 40.1% (179)

African American Male 47.1% (210)

Pittsburgh Public Schools | EXCELLENCE FOR ALL

Enrollment by Grade in February of 2008 and 2009: The ninth grade class is the largest class in February of both years. Clayton Academy provides an early intervention to ensure that students are on the best path for achieving success beyond high school.

Clayton Academy Enrollment by Grade Level

source: RTI

7
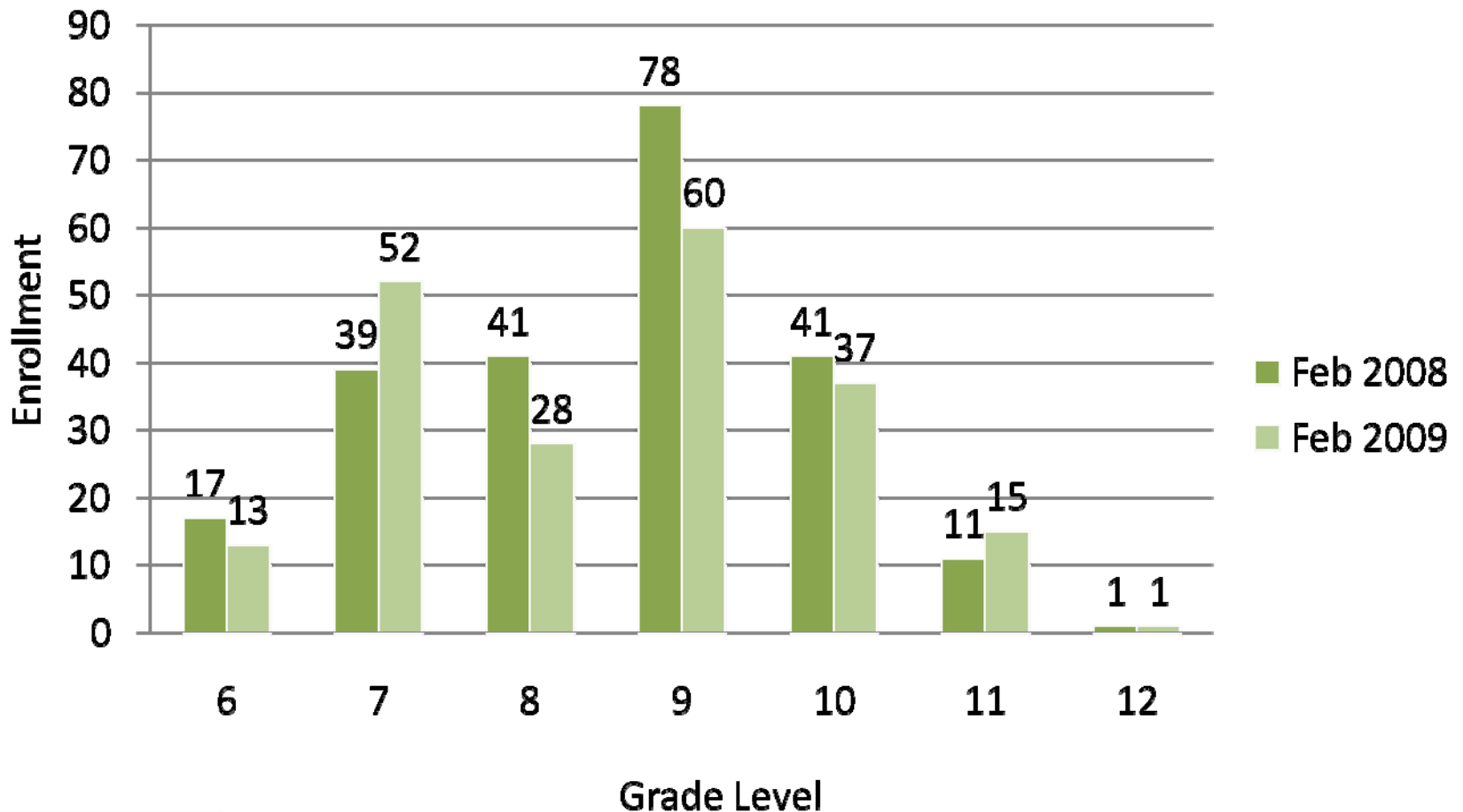
Sending Schools: 17 of 19 PPS K-8 schools have sent 118 students to Clayton Academy since fall 2007.

K-8 Schools
Number and Percent of Students Sent to Clayton Academy
August 2007 to February 2009
Grades 6 through 8*

School	Students Sent	Percent of Enrollment
PGH ARLINGTON	4	3.2%
PGH BROOKLINE	4	2.2%
PGH COLFAX	3	1.7%
PGH FAISON	10	5.5%
PGH GREENFIELD	1	0.6%
PGH KING	11	6.1%
PGH LINCOLN	14	8.5%
PGH MANCHESTER	6	9.7%
PGH MIFFLIN	6	5.1%

School	Students Sent	Percent of Enrollment
PGH MILLER	3	3.7%
PGH MURRAY	19	19.6%
PGH SCHAEFFER	8	8.8%
PGH STEVENS	3	3.1%
PGH SUNNYSIDE	6	3.9%
PGH VANN	6	9.2%
PGH WEIL	11	11.4%
PGH WESTWOOD	3	4.3%
TOTAL	**118**	

* October 2008 enrollment for grades 6 through 8 was used to calculate the percent of students that were sent to Clayton Academy

source: RTI

Pittsburgh Public Schools | EXCELLENCE FOR ALL

Sending Schools: 7 of 10 PPS middle schools have sent 79 students to Clayton Academy since fall 2007.

Middle Schools

Number and Percent of Students Sent to Clayton Academy from August 2007 to February 2009*

Grades 6 through 8

School	Students Sent	Percent of Enrollment
PGH ARSENAL	20	4.9%
PGH PITTSBURGH CLASSICAL	2	0.6%
PGH ROONEY	24	10.8%
PGH SCHILLER	5	2.1%
PGH SOUTH BROOK	4	0.9%
PGH SOUTH HILLS	19	4.2%
PGH STERRETT	5	1.3%
Total **	**79**	

* October 2008 enrollment for grades 6 through 8 was used to calculate the percent of students that were sent to Clayton Academy

**One student was home schooled prior to enrollment in Clayton Academy

Pittsburgh Public Schools | EXCELLENCE FOR ALL

source: RTI

Sending Schools: 10 of 11 PPS high schools have sent 248 students Clayton Academy since fall 2007.

High Schools

Number of 9th Through 12th Grade Students Sent to Clayton Academy from August 2007 to February 2009
Grades 9 through 12

School	Students Sent	Percent of Enrollment*
PGH ALLDERDICE	28	2.0%
PGH BRASHEAR	34	3.0%
PGH CARRICK	22	2.3%
PGH LANGLEY	21	4.2%
PGH MILLIONES (U PREP)	3	2.2%
PGH OLIVER	39	6.5%
PGH PEABODY	23	4.6%
PGH PERRY	20	2.6%
PGH SCHENLEY	43	6.2%
PGH WESTINGHOUSE	15	4.5%
TOTAL	**248**	

* October 2008 enrollment for grades 6 through 8 was used to calculate the percent of students that were sent to Clayton Academy

Pittsburgh Public Schools | EXCELLENCE FOR ALL

source: RTI

Characteristics of Clayton Academy Student Population

- Over age

- Performing below grade level in reading and/or math

- At high risk for dropping out of school

- Failing multiple subjects

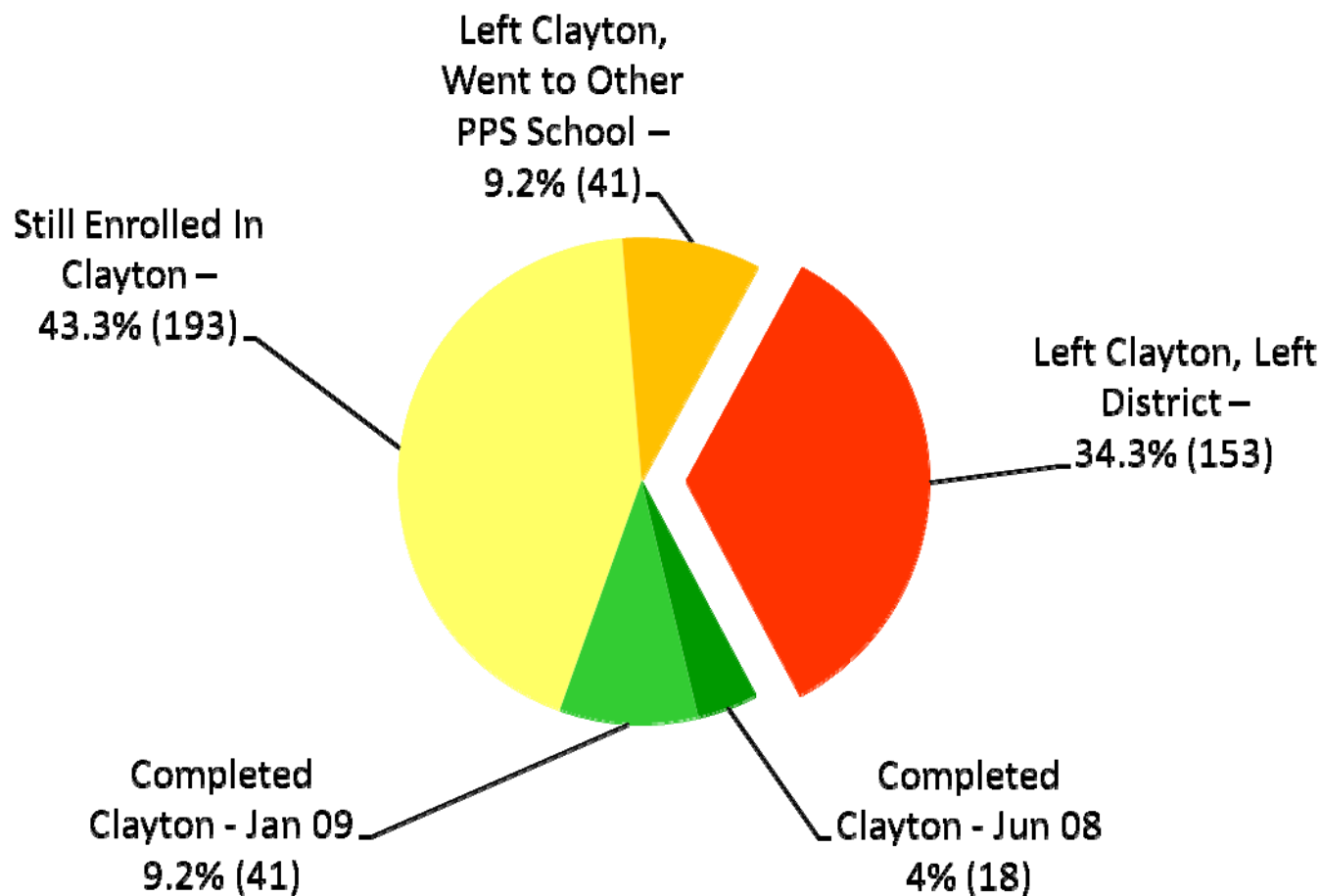- History of poor attendance, suspensions and expulsions

Program Framework

The program at Clayton Academy consists of the equivalent of a school year. During that time, students are expected to:

- Demonstrate academic progress

- Demonstrate improvement in behavior and attendance compared to the year prior to enrollment

- Earn promotion to the next higher grade level

- Successfully transition back to home schools

- Participate in community based support services within the school

Classroom instruction is focused on providing students an opportunity to earn academic credits utilizing the district's curricula, textbooks and instructional materials.

Status of Enrollees (n=446): Since enrolling in Clayton Academy, 13.2% of the students completed the program, 43.3% remain enrolled in the program, 9.2% left Clayton and went to another PPS school and 34.3% left the District.

Left Clayton, Went to Other PPS School – 9.2% (41)

Still Enrolled In Clayton – 43.3% (193)

Left Clayton, Left District – 34.3% (153)

Completed Clayton - Jan 09 9.2% (41)

Completed Clayton - Jun 08 4% (18)

source: RTI

Students Who Left The District (n=153): 29.4% of the students went to another school district, 18.3% quit school and 17.6% were sent to The Academy or Shuman.

Still Enrolled in Clayton
43.3% (193)

Left Clayton, Went to Other PPS School
9.2% (41)

Left Clayton, Left District
34.3% (153)

Completed Clayton Jan 09
9.2% (41)

Completed Clayton Jun 08
4% (18)

Academy or Shuman – 17.6% (27)
Certificate - .7% (1)
Correctional Institution – 4.6% (7)
Expelled - .7% (1)
Graduated – 3.9% (6)
Incapacitated – 1.3% (2)
Last Record at Clayton – 9.2% (14)
Last Record at Oliver .7% (1)
Quit – 18.3% (28)
Mercy Behavioral – 1.3% (2)
Moved 6.5% (10)
Child Care Agency .7% (1)
Other District – 29.4% (45)
Runaway – 5.2% (8)

source: RTI

Pittsburgh Public Schools | EXCELLENCE FOR ALL

Preliminary data suggest that Clayton Academy had a positive effect on the attendance, behavior and academic grades of the 18 students who completed the program in June 2008.

Pre and Post Outcomes for Students Completing the Program in June 2008 (n=18): Attendance rates increased slightly, suspensions declined and the percentage of E grades in core subjects decreased by half.

Attendance Rates

Pre-Clayton 2006-07	During Clayton 2007-08	Post-Clayton 2008-09*
77%	84%	81%

Number of Suspensions

Pre-Clayton 2006*	Post-Clayton 2008*
76	42

Suspensions Per Student

Pre-Clayton 2006*	Post-Clayton 2008*
4.2	2.3

% of A/B's among core subject grades

Pre-Clayton 2006-07	During Clayton 2007-08	Post-Clayton 2008-09*
11.2%	55.6%	10.6%

% of E's among core subject grades

Pre-Clayton 2006-07	During Clayton 2007-08	Post-Clayton 2008-09*
50.5%	1.4%	24.2%

* first semester only

Pittsburgh Public Schools | EXCELLENCE FOR ALL

source: RTI
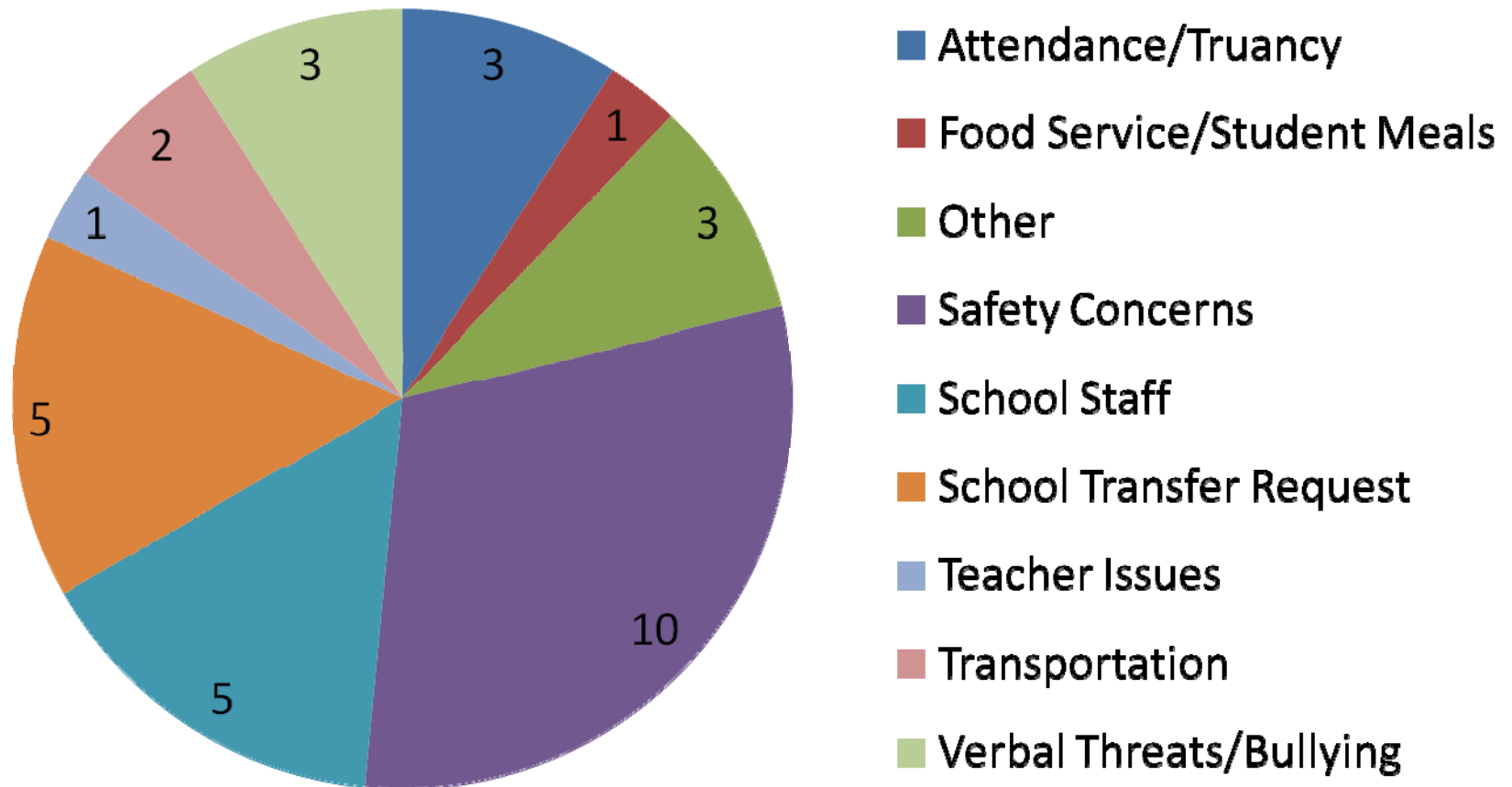
Program Benefits

- High Schools and Middle Schools clearly exhibit a more safe and orderly environment

- Reduction in PPS suspensions *
  - 1-3 day suspensions have decreased 20%
  - 4-10 day suspensions have decreased 28%
 - Weapon Expulsions have decreased 57%

  * Comparison of first semester data 2007-08 and 2008-09

Parent Hotline Inquiries Concerning Clayton Academy: There have been 33 inquiries from fall 2007 through January 2009.

Legend:
- Attendance/Truancy
- Food Service/Student Meals
- Other
- Safety Concerns
- School Staff
- School Transfer Request
- Teacher Issues
- Transportation
- Verbal Threats/Bullying

source: Parent Hotline Data

Pittsburgh Public Schools | EXCELLENCE FOR ALL

School Police Inquiries Concerning Clayton Academy: The number of calls to police decreased from 85 in the first semester of 2007-2008 to 58 in the first semester of 2008-2009.
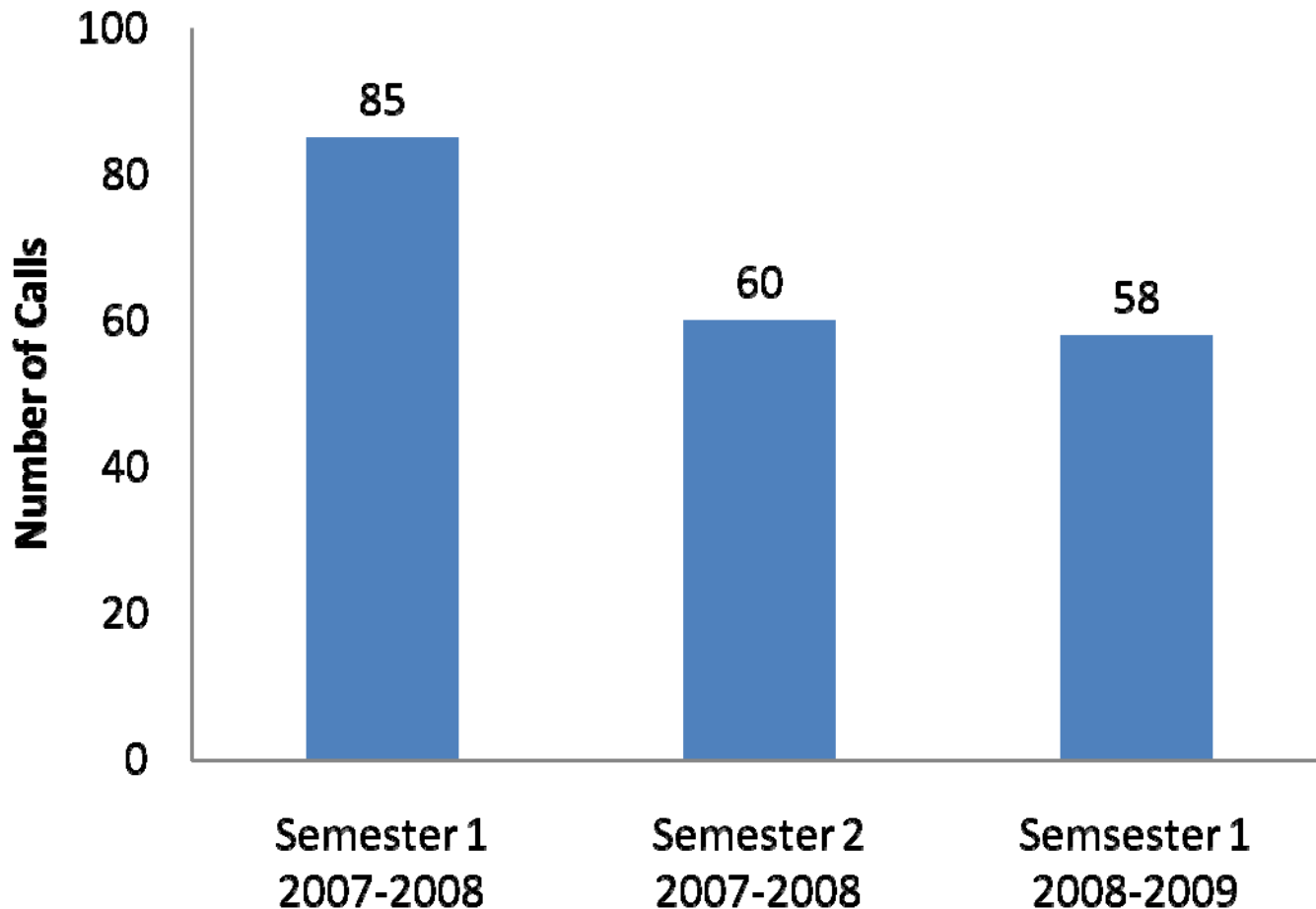
Student Perceptions

❖ "Happy to be back at Perry."

❖ "I hated Clayton. Boring. A long day. Appreciate Perry more. I'm more mature now."

❖ "CEP has helped me mature in the way that I think. It has helped me understand that I am still a kid and I am not grown. I understand that I can not make all my decisions by myself. "(Arsenal School student)

❖ "I did not like Clayton Academy and that is the reason I am maintaining good behavior at King."

❖ "I am doing good and glad to be back with my friends. I like the flexibility of my classes and the electives. I am passing all of my classes and Carrick is 'da bomb'."

Parent Perceptions

❖ Allderdice parent," Clayton started out rough at first, but my son realized he needed to improve his behavior and complete his assignments in order to return back to his school. He actually came home and talked to me about his progress."

❖ Oliver parent, "It taught my daughter how to make better decisions and mature. She's doing very well back at Oliver."

❖ Schaeffer parent," Clayton has helped my daughter with her behavior. She's back on track. I see a whole different child."

Pittsburgh Public Schools | EXCELLENCE FOR ALL

Principal Perceptions

❖ Schenley, "Very positive influence on my school…parents are glad there is another alternative placement".

❖ Arsenal, "Less classroom disruptions, reduced office referrals, 100-200 per month"

❖ Manchester, "Clayton has reduced office referrals, especially with the 8th grade class."

❖ South Hills Middle, "…Marginal students became more focused…Teachers are able to teach rather than discipline."

❖ Perry, "Clayton has done a good job of helping students identify areas where they need support and/or guidance. Clayton has allowed them to transition back to school and succeed academically and behaviorally."

PPS Recommendations for Clayton Academy

- Deepen implementation of PPS curriculum in order to increase the rigor of classroom instruction

- Explore opportunity to better integrate PPS professional development with Clayton Academy professional development.

- Improve staff recruiting and retention to provide consistent and effective personalized learning environments

- Deepen and expand community service provider partnerships to enhance personalized supports for student success

Community Service Providers

- **Mercy Behavioral Health** – Individual psychological services
- **Oasis Tutoring** -- Individual tutoring services in all content areas
- **Elect Teen Parenting Program** -- Parent awareness for teens
- **Gwen's Girls** -- Individual/Group sessions for social and life skills awareness
- **Dr. Saenz** -- Behavior modification services for students and staff
- **Dr. Dawud Akbar** -- Individual/Group counseling services dealing with self esteem and anger management
- **Keyes to Holistic Living** -- Individual/Group sessions involving social skills, job readiness, independent living and social awareness
- **Nurse-Family Partnership** -- Monitoring pregnant teens and preparing them for the birth of the child and life afterwards
- **Pittsburgh Project** -- Mentoring services and counseling dealing with inner city violence and ways to make peace
- **Urban League** -- Pilot program for Career Forward
- **YWCA** -- Robotics curriculum for middle school girls

Next Steps

- PPS will review the Clayton Academy's Annual Operations Plan earlier (Spring 2009 for 2009-10 School Year)

- Improve implementation of the District's Curriculum/rigor

- PPS to develop a standard set of supports for students who transition from Clayton Academy to PPS Schools

- PPS will conduct quarterly quality reviews that will include data analysis, classroom observations and a team meeting with Clayton Academy leadership

Pittsburgh Public Schools | EXCELLENCE FOR ALL