

The Principal of Spring Valley High School, Ms. Karen Pinel, looked at the failure percentages in classrooms where the NICE staff conducted community-building circles. Here is a sample of four classrooms that have experienced a decrease in failures as a result of the NICE Program's presence:

Decrease in Failure Percentages

First School Quarter
Without the NICE Project

Teacher	Subject	Percentage of Students With Failing Grades
Mr. Carey	Economics	24%
Mr. Carey	Constitutional Law	15%
Mr. Leonard	English	58%
Mr. Ogbonna	English	62%

First School Quarter
With the NICE Project

Teacher	Subject	Percentage of Students With Failing Grades
Mr. Carey	Economics	0%
Mr. Carey	Constitutional Law	4%
Mr. Leonard	English	35%
Mr. Ogbonna	English	9%

Decrease in Student Trips to Principal's Office For Behavioral Issues

Month	Number of Trips 2016-2017 (Without NICE Project)	Number of Trips 2017-2018 (With NICE Project)	Percentage of Drop
September	9	3	66%
October	15	6	60%
November	17	9	47%
December	18	11	39%
January	12	11	8%
February	9	3	60%

Since the beginning of the school year and inception of the program, the NICE team has increased the number of students and staff involved in the project. We are currently creating methods to collect data on increases in program participation and hope to present it in our next report. Many students are personally seeking additional support of the NICE team for both counseling and mediations. School administrators are relying on the NICE team to remedy student disciplinary issues. Furthermore, teachers are approaching the NICE team to implement community-building circles in their classes as a method to decrease student behavioral problems. This is indicative of an increased level of acceptance within the schools for the NICE program, since in the beginning there was skepticism on the part of the teachers to invite NICE staff into their classrooms.

One ENL (English as a New Language) teacher from Ramapo HS stated:

*"NICE has helped to widen the doors of our classrooms and of our school for many students. NICE is offering a safer place for students to express (in their first languages) their fears, joys, experiences, and concerns. I am very happy to have this new program in our school. My students and I are fortunate to be able to participate in the circles, share our experiences, and express our ideas."*¹

¹Please note that all quotes recorded from NICE staff members are to be used solely for the purpose of meeting grant reporting requirements for the Wege Foundation. Please contact WOVEN staff prior to releasing any staff quotes to the public.