

SCHOOL

Secondary Education

Middle Schools & Junior High Schools

Comprehensive High School

High rates of boredom, alienation, and disconnection from meaningful challenges are not signs of psychopathology, at least not in most cases but rather signs of a deficiency in positive development. . . . Many youth do their schoolwork, comply with their parents, hang out with their friends, and get through the day, but are not invested in paths into the future that excite them or feel like they originate from within. Larson (2000)

“Brainiacs”

Intrinsic Motivation

Part of this reflect that junior and high school classrooms provide fewer opportunities for students decision making compared to elementary school. (Larson 2000)

“Because they can’t pass algebra, thousands of students are denied diplomas. Many try again and again but still get F’s.” Helfand, 2006

Generally speaking, both students and teachers are more satisfied in classes that combine a moderate degree of structure with high student involvement and high teacher support; this finding has emerged in studies of both white and nonwhite students. Steinberg