

## *The Truancy Court Program Year in Review (continued)*

### **What Students and Parents Had to Say About the TCP This Year**

CFCC surveyed 79 TCP participants and 21 parents/family members. The user survey results were overwhelmingly positive, with data indicating near unanimity among both students and parents on the TCP's effectiveness and the importance of the TCP judge and team.

According to user surveys, TCP participants believe:

- The TCP was effective in addressing the problems underlying truant behavior (95 percent). A substantial majority of students (75 percent) reported that the TCP had additional positive effects, including improved communication and support from teachers and parents (96 percent of those who reported additional positive effects) and increased self-awareness (88 percent).
- TCP students believed that the TCP judge and team had the authority necessary to demand a response and that they had an obligation to listen to the judge (95 percent). In addition, students believed that they were being heard (96 percent), that the TCP team truly cared about them (99 percent), and that they could rely on adults to help them while in the program (95 percent).
- Ninety-one percent of the students said they looked forward to the weekly sessions, 73 out of 79 students were glad they were in the TCP, and 70 out of 74 students would recommend the program to other students.

Similar positive feedback was received from parents who completed the survey:

- Parents unanimously reported that they felt that the judge, mentor, and other team members cared about them and their children.
- Seventy-five percent of the parents surveyed thought the program helped to improve their child's attendance.
- All but three parents said they saw improvements in their child in addition to school attendance, including changes in academics, behavior, communication, and attitude.
- All of the parents who participated in the survey said they would recommend the program to others