

## ***Student Research Supporting Professional Learning Communities (PLCs)***

A Character Education Partnership (CEP) Promising Practice

Colonia High School  
Colonia, New Jersey

Demonstrating Principles 3, 5, 6, 7 & 9 of CEP's 11 Principles where students connect core values to academic studies with moral action in support of engaging research where intrinsic motivation is developed along with student leadership.

Grade Levels: 11 – 12



Colonia High School's AP Psychology students have taken on the task of studying student learning. In faculty Professional Learning Communities, the question of what "turns students onto learning" arose in almost every meeting. The staff sought how to gain insight into how and why learning occurs in Colonia students and why it differs among students. The AP Psychology students were asked to take on a research task for the PLC planning team to assist them in developing strategies to enhance learning. Once they studied student learning and different influences and factors of learning,

the students turned their focus to studying the experience of classes and learning in the high school by interviewing their peers. The students reported their findings to the entire staff. This project is having a significant impact on our school. The students were given a voice in their learning. All the students involved felt that this project would enhance their learning in some way.

### Contact

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<http://www.woodbridge.k12.nj.us/SchoolsHS/Colonia-HS/html/main/index.htm>

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