



Inventing the Future: Leadership and Participation for the 21st Century AED Evaluation Summary of Student Outcomes

1. Students demonstrated statistically significant increases in the strength of their attitudes about civic engagement in the following areas:

- Their personal obligation to contribute in some way to the community
- Their plans to become actively involved in issues that positively affect the community
- Their feeling that state and local issues are everybody's responsibility
- Students increased their familiarity with all "IF" course content items including basic science principles, the "commons", community mapping, and sustainability

"I learned about being a citizen of your community, your city, of USA, and of the world."

"Because of this class I am 100% more interested in government."

"We did a description of our community and then came up with a plan that would make the community better."

2. "The course seemed to raise student consciousness about elements impeding sustainability and needing to be changed."

"I think about what I can do now that will make things better 20 years from now."

"We are the future; if we don't change it we are going to suffer the repercussions."

3. Students demonstrated a greater awareness of community, a greater appreciation of the democratic process, and an appreciation of how current actions affect the future.

4. "IF" students also demonstrated a keener awareness of the need to solve problems facing communities.

5. There were statistically significant increases in the number of post-survey students who felt that they "had more confidence and intelligence" than they did when they took the pre-survey.

6. There were also significant decreases in the number of students who selected "low grades" (from 38.5% to 15.8%) or "I don't think I can succeed" (29.9% to 6.0%) as barriers to their educational success.

* Teachers reported that their professional development activities increased their preparedness to teach the curriculum and further increased their own perceptions of themselves as educators who can teach others about sustainability and as citizens who can work with others toward a sustainable future.