

TOGETHER, LET'S MAKE SCHOOLS SAFER PLACES!

We asked more than 700 youth what problems needed to be fixed and their ideas for solutions. Here is what we learned...



Solano Youth Voices

A partner of the Children's Network of Solano County

Solano Youth Voices is a group of youth who want to help make our county better for young people ages 10-25.

We need to work together

Schools shouldn't have to fix problems by themselves. Youth, officials, businesses, non-profits, parents, school staff, and other leaders all need to be part of the solution.

Mental Health

Expand Mental Health services at school and make them easy to access. For example:

- ✓ Safe spaces at school where students can get support if they are stressed out or having a bad day.
- ✓ A student group on campus whose job is to educate other students about the importance of emotional health and how to help each other be healthier.
- ✓ Youth, school staff, parents, and community leaders get together to figure out how there can be more mental health support at schools.

Bullying Prevention

Increase skills and knowledge about how to prevent bullying. For example:

- ✓ A student group on campus whose job is to make a plan for preventing bullying among students.
- ✓ Youth and adults lead trainings together about how to communicate with each other in positive ways, and about how to prevent or stop bullying. Students, school staff, and parents all get this training.

Homeless Youth

Homeless students feel respected and get their needs met at school. For example:

- ✓ Help homeless youth with everyday needs (like food, a place to wash their clothing, hygiene supplies, and haircuts). Do these things on school campuses after school, and do not make youth prove they are homeless in order to get help.
- ✓ Youth, school staff, parents, and community leaders should get together to figure out how campuses can be open later so homeless students have a safe place to hang out and get help after school.

“Ask yourself... if we don't take action on these issues now, what will our future look like?”

—Nathen and Zahraya Youth Council Members