



Important But Not For Me:

Parents and students in Kansas and Missouri talk about Math, Science and Technology Education, a report from Public Agenda

1. Parents are aware of the importance of Math, Science and Technology but remain complacent about the need for those subjects for their own children.

Except, 8 in 10 parents viewed algebra as a subject essential for student success after high school

2. Satisfaction with teachers and curriculum underlies many parents' complacency

3. Minority parents and students are less satisfied with student learning, teacher quality and resources in their local public schools

4. Students pay lip service to the Importance of higher level Math, Science and Technology but most find it irrelevant

5. However, students do not buy into negative stereotypes and give their teachers high marks.

Vis a vis improvement:

6. Parents are attracted to ideas that focus on helping struggling students

7. Establishing urgency is key

8. Driving home the opportunity equation motivates students: learning about concrete opportunities in college and the work place warmed students to taking Math and Science courses

For full report go to: <http://www.publicagenda.org/reports/important-not-me>