Lead Peace
A school/community/university collaboration to promote healthy development for young adolescents.

**Goals:**
- Improve school connectedness and academic success
- Improve community involvement
- Reduce risks for violence

**Core Elements of Lead Peace Programming**
- Service learning programming during class time
- Non-traditional curriculum – experiential, responsive, ongoing formative assessment
- Focus on leadership, social and interpersonal skills
- Sustained small group working relationships with peers and adults
- Youth/student driven
- Involvement and leadership of adults from school and community
- Application of social group work principles: democracy, mutual aid, empowerment
- Formal student and facilitator reflection process

**Evaluation Methods**
- Student surveys
- Interviews with students, facilitators and school principals
- Classroom observations
- Weekly facilitator reflection reports

**Results**

**Lead Peace Students Report More Cooperative Behaviors**
Cooperative behaviors are an alternative to bullying and violent behaviors. Investigated through questions like “I helped other students solve a problem,” “I helped someone stay out of a fight” and “I cooperated with others.”

**What is Lead Peace?**
Lead Peace is a group where people get together and share their thoughts about peace in their community. Our Projects put out the word of peace.
We are trying to show that we are helping to lead peace in the world.
In our groups we get to know each other and we help one another be a leader.
We look at our community and school.
We look at what's not working and figure out ways to help.
We put our ideas together, organize our thoughts and plan out our project.
Often our projects help other younger kids.
We do this because if we can influence kids when they are young, they'll know what to do when they are older.

**Lead Peace Students Interpersonal Skills Increased**
Having strong social and emotional skills helps students to avoid violence and succeed academically.
Skills were measured through survey questions like: “I care what happens to other people” and “I am able to respect others”
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References


