

# Asset Building Concepts Relevant to School Communities

- ✓ The majority of the key developmental assets related to academic success involve relationships MORE than they involve programs.
  
- ✓ 53% of the adolescents who report having 31–40 assets earn “mostly A’s” on their report cards.
  
- ✓ Students’ academic success can be directly impacted by building assets, especially through these collective efforts:
  - Promoting supportive and caring relationships among students, and among students, teachers, and other school staff;
  - Increasing student motivation and engagement;
  - Increasing the value that students attach to education;
  - Increasing the effectiveness of students’ study habits
  - Strengthening social norms and expectations that promote achievement; and
  - Increasing parent involvement and student attendance.\*
  
- ✓ Aspects of School Structure in Which Assets CAN be Built:
  - Curriculum and instruction (what’s taught and how it’s taught);
  - Organization (the structure of the building and the school day);
  - Co-curricular programs (after-school and before-school programs)
  - Community partnerships (relationships with families, neighbors, volunteers, community organizations and businesses); and
  - Support services (health care, counseling).\*

\* Adapted from [Great Places to Learn](#), Starkman, Scales and Roberts, Search Institute, 1999