

Sample Projects on Display at Mikva's Annual Action Civics Showcase 2015

School	Project Title	Description
Washington High School	Ending School Vandalism	Students are working together to improve the engagement of their peers with their school - specifically targeting vandalism as a visible symptom and consequence of such disengagement. Through facilitating communication between decision makers and youth, Washington students aim to create more student-centered classrooms as a way to improve student investment in their education environment - and thereby decrease vandalism.
Mather High School	Mather's Green Initiative	Concerned by their school's lack of recycling (especially of milk cartons) and compost opportunities, students collaborated with issue experts and a CPS employee to create a school-wide paper and milk carton recycling action plan that is now in the process of being implemented. (They also plan to build and use a compost area.)
Sullivan High School	Take a Seat	After noticing the lack of bus stop benches in Rogers Park, students at Sullivan used the participatory budgeting process to solve this issue. With support and advice from the 49th ward office and PB Chicago staff, they wrote surveys, held focus groups, presented at community events, and collaborated with community partners (the Spanish Language Committee and the Bike/Transit/Safety Committee) both to get their proposal on the ballot AND to get out the vote in support of it.

<p>North Lawndale College Prep (Collins)</p>	<p>Police Peace Project</p>	<p>Seeking to build and improve relationships between youth and police, students at NLCP collaborated with community activists to survey their peers, record interviews with youth concerning their interactions with police, attend a youth/police conference at the University of Chicago and hold a meeting with the Deputy Chief.</p>
<p>Lindblom Math & Science Academy</p>	<p>Student Stress: Sleep it away</p>	<p>Students at Lindblom used survey writing and focus groups to discover that stress was a serious issue in their school community. They are now using this data and collaborating with Health in Your Neighborhood to promote and host an event that will showcase different stress-reduction strategies that interest students. Examples include: making stress balls, yoga & meditation, zumba, a water balloon toss and art workshops.</p>
<p>Westinghouse High School</p>	<p>Peace Community Garden</p>	<p>Concerned by both the violence in their community and how others perceive their school's neighborhood, these Westinghouse students are collaborating with outside organizations and seeking meetings with decision makers in order to bring a peace community garden to the area surrounding their school.</p>
<p>Tilden High School</p>	<p>Dress Down Days</p>	<p>Frustrated by Tilden's school uniform policy, students surveyed nearly 200 of their peers and brought the resulting data to their administration as evidence to support their call for change. Together with their administration, they changed the policy to institute Dress Down Days when any student with good behavior, attendance and grades can come out of uniform.</p>