STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

Uvikkavut Qanuippat? 2022 | Health Survey of High School Students in Nunavik

Education is important for Nunavimmiut. Students learn at school, at home, on the land and in their community. Families, elders, teachers, employers and community members all help youth learn, build skills and prepare for the future. Young people also play an important role in keeping Inuit knowledge, culture and language strong.

What students told the survey team in 2022

Students Want to Learn

62% said they like school

70% said good grades are important*

81% said learning traditional skills is important

90% hoped to graduate

55% hoped to finish high school and 35% hoped to continue to college or university



Many students already help their families and communities

58% had paid work*

59% had important responsibilities at home

* These proportions were higher among girls and lower among boys.

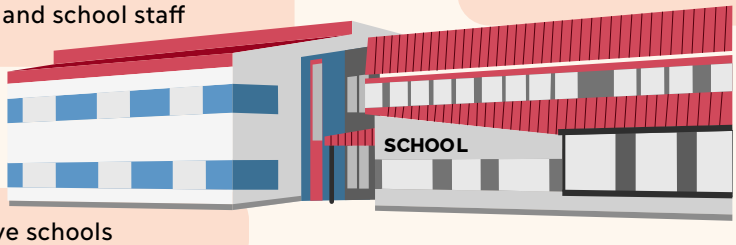
What did region-wide consultations highlight in 2024 and 2025



As they grow up, many teenagers begin helping more at home, at work and in their community. These responsibilities are important, but balancing them with school can be difficult at times. For some students, planning for the future can also be very challenging because college and university programs are not yet available in Nunavik. As a result, some youth may feel torn between continuing their studies and remaining close to their community and the responsibilities they have taken on over time.

The consultations highlighted that key factors in helping youth stay engaged in their education are:

- strong partnerships between families, communities, elders, and school staff
- valuing Inuit knowledge and culture



- safe and supportive schools

Uvikkavut Qanuippat
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School is a good place for students to discover what they enjoy, what they are good at and how they want to contribute to their family and community as adults. When schools reflect Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit (traditional Inuit knowledge), they become places where students can better value themselves, their future and their community. Parents and trusted adults are essential in making this possible.

How to support teenagers while in high school?



Take part in school life.
Attend school activities and meet teachers and school staff when possible.



Talk about school at home and encourage involvement.
Ask about your teenager's experiences, interests, challenges and goals. Help them get involved in sports, cultural activities, camps, leadership opportunities and school projects.



Share your knowledge and experiences.
Stories, life experiences, cultural knowledge, language and time spent together can support learning and confidence.



Recognize their contributions.
Emphasize and praise the responsibilities they take on at home, at work and in the community.



Help them find a balance and adjust responsibilities when needed.
Support a balance between school, work, family responsibilities and personal time.



Ask for support.
Reach out to the school, family members, or community services when responsibilities become too difficult to manage alone.

KEY MESSAGES

Parents and trusted adults play an important role in young people's learning and school engagement. Regional findings show that many students want to succeed in high school and beyond, but context plays an important role in achieving these goals. By sharing your experiences, stories, knowledge and skills, you can help youth connect what they learn in school to everyday life, stay engaged in their education, discover their interests and prepare for healthy and fulfilling adult lives.

Resources

Uvikkavut Qanuippat ? 2022 is a population health survey adapted from the Québec Health Survey of High School Students (QHSHSS) carried out in Nunavik from September to October 2022. Its results are based on the voluntary and informed participation of 699 high school students.

ESUMA's 2024 report, Supporting School Retention and Educational Success in Nunavik, presents the results of a research study conducted in Nunavik in 2023 with youth, parents, school staff, officials, and community members. The consultations shed light on factors that influence school perseverance and educational success, particularly parent involvement, community support, culture, sense of belonging, and access to educational opportunities.

The KI Postsecondary Education Public Consultations Report (2025) summarizes consultations held in all 14 Nunavik communities about the development of post-secondary education in the region. Participating students, Elders, families, educators and community members emphasized the importance of Inuit culture, Inuktitut, learning from elders, locally relevant education and increased access to post-secondary opportunities in Nunavik.

Several of the recommended actions in this infographic draw on research-based practices identified in Determinants of School Perseverance and Educational Success.

Regional organizations are committed to working with communities to foster living conditions that promote well-being in all its forms.

Nakurmiik to all who shared their stories, knowledge and experiences. By listening and learning from one another, we can better support the next generation of Nunavimmiut.

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