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Fall 11-30-2023

Assessment of Green Spaces in Metro Nashville Public High Schools

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Recommended Citation

Andrews, Webster G.; Lennon, Anna; and Panvini, Darlene, "Assessment of Green Spaces in Metro Nashville Public High Schools" (2023). *Science University Research Symposium (SURS)*. 73. https://repository.belmont.edu/surs/73

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Assessment of Green Spaces in Metro Nashville Public High Schools

Green spaces on and near school property have been correlated to student mental health and academic achievement. However, there is a gap in the literature investigating how quality and quantity of green space is related to socioeconomic status and school economic metrics in public high schools and the surrounding neighborhoods. Nashville public high schools located in higher socioeconomic areas and having greater financial resources were predicted to provide larger, higher quality green spaces. This study combined a quantitative analysis of neighborhood socioeconomic metrics, school socioeconomic metrics, and quantity of green space (assessed using iTree Canopy) with a qualitative field assessment using the Neighborhood Green Space Tool. Analysis reveals no correlation between green space quality and quantity with higher socioeconomic factors. However, there is evidence of disparities by schools in quality and quantity of green space raising questions of equality and equity.