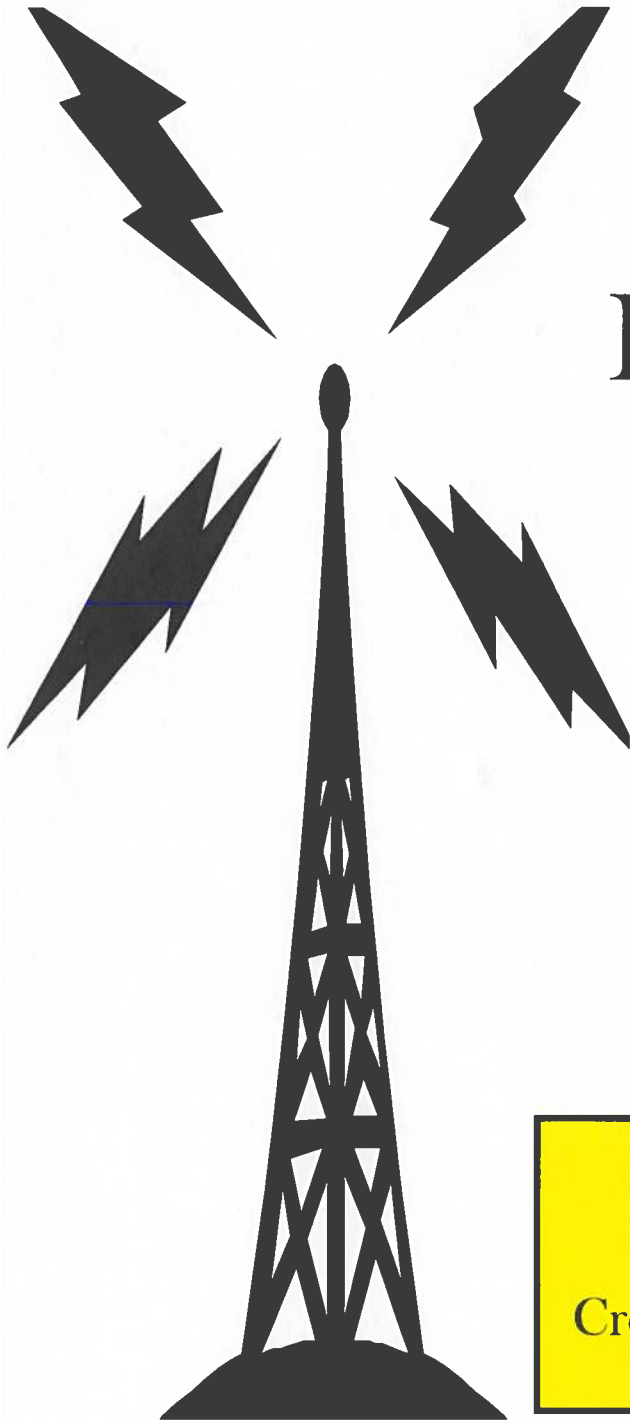


The Community Powerhouse A. R. Rucker Branch

2022-2023 School Year

Executive Survey



Sparking Hope.
Igniting Optimism.
Creating The Currents for A Brighter Future!

A.R. RUCKER POWERHOUSE INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

58 Respondents

Program Enrollment Date: August 2022-May 2023

1. How do you view the Powerhouse Class?

10% A class for bad students.

91% A class where you can share your problems.

5% Like a regular class.

83% A class to help you do better in school.

98% A class where you get support/motivation.

83% A class to keep you away from trouble.

2. What was your life, attitude, and behavior like **BEFORE** you came into the Powerhouse?

- Bad. (3 responses)

- Getting suspended.

- I did not like life.

- I used to get mad easily.

- I was a very problematic kid.

- Fighting & arguing with authority.

- In and out of trouble. (2 responses)

- I was very talkative in class.

- I wasn't open to sharing my feelings.

- I came into life nonchalantly and I didn't see the value of anything.

- I was having bad grades, but they taught me how to better myself.

- I would not listen or do what I was supposed to but now I do.

- Being a class clown and playing too much.

- Bad & had no respect for my elders, but now I do.

- I didn't think about the consequences of my choices.

- I had a nasty attitude and bad behavior. (2 responses)

- I always looked at myself as someone less than others.

- I was less responsible and didn't worry about my future.

- It was good but Powerhouse made it better. (2 responses)

- I was making bad choices and my grades were not good.

- Always getting into trouble and not caring about anything. (2 responses)

- I didn't care about getting into trouble and I didn't care about my life in the real world.

- I had an "I don't care" attitude and was always disrespectful, and always getting into trouble.

- I was being bad and being disrespectful, talking back to the teacher and calling the teacher 'Bruh'.

- Making bad choices, fighting, building up anger, and going to ISS (*In School Suspension*) or OSS (*Out of School Suspension*).

- I used to be depressed.

- Bad & getting into fights.

- Getting 'Blocks' now & then.

- I was sad & bad a lot of days.

- Getting into trouble every week. (2 responses)

- It was boring & not that entertaining.

- I used to call people the N-word and now I don't.

- I was in a state of confusion, anger, and sadness.

- I didn't care about my attendance and now I do.



3. What about you has improved because of the Powerhouse?

66% Attitude. (How I feel about myself)

79% Behavior.

64% Skills to help me stay in & complete high school.

45% New Friendships.

57% Grades.

43% Better Relationship with parent(s).

71% Behavior in class.

62% Ability to deal with difficult teachers/administrators.

43% Reading Skills.

57% Willingness/desire to come to school.

69% Ability to evaluate & make better choices.

71% Life Skills.

67% Motivational Skills.

67% Ability to interact or relate with people from different walks of life.

4. How did you feel about yourself BEFORE coming into the Powerhouse?

21% Not to good **67%** Aw'ight **12%** Real good

5. How do you feel about yourself NOW after coming into the Powerhouse?

___ Not to good **29** Aw'ight **71%** Real good

6. What behaviors have changed for the better since you came into the Powerhouse?

7% My frequency of selling drugs.

5% My frequency of using alcohol.

10% My frequency of having unprotected sex.

5% My frequency of smoking cigarettes.

14% My frequency of theft.

57% My frequency of getting into trouble.

22% My frequency of attending church.

55% My frequency of going to the Box/ISS.

43% My frequency of coming to school.

10% My frequency of using drugs.

10% My frequency of having sex.

7% My frequency of having *different* sex partners.

50% My frequency of violent/angry behavior.

7% My frequency of being locked up.

53% My frequency of fights.

52% My frequency of getting written up.

53% My frequency of "Going off" on teachers/staff.

24% My frequency of 'cutting' class.

8. On a scale of 1 to 5, how big of a difference has each of the Program Components made in your life?

(1) didn't make a difference (2) kind of made a difference (3) made a small difference (4) made a big difference (5) made a great difference

	1	2	3	4	5		1	2	3	4	5
Boardroom Sessions	5%	1%	22%	40%	31%	One-on-One Conversations	5%	5%	16%	29%	45%
Boardroom Discussions/Debates	3%	7%	19%	28%	43%	Quotes Learned	1%	10%	17%	24%	47%
Movies		10%	24%	34%	31%	Articles Read	3%	10%	31%	28%	28%
Boardroom Setup	10%	19%	28%	21%	22%	Accomplishment Card	5%	14%	31%	28%	22%
Eagles Club	21%	19%	21%	21%	19%						

9. What is one lesson or quote that you have learned from the Powerhouse that you will apply to your life?

- "Shortcuts lead to dead ends."
- "Boys play, men get the job done." (4 responses)
- "Birds fly in flocks, eagles fly alone." (6 responses)
- "Shortcuts lead to dead ends." (2 responses)
- Always keep going and never quit.
- "The man who thinks that he can, and the man who thinks that he can't are both right."
- "If you always do what you always done, you will always get what you always got."
- "A person who knows where he's going has no need to deny where he's been."
- "Work hard, play hard, but don't confuse the two." (4 responses)
- "Live in a confused world but never with a confused mind."
- "You can't keep doing the same thing expecting different results."
- "When the student is ready the teacher will appear."
- "You can't fix what you won't face." (5 responses)
- "A man that don't work, don't eat." (3 responses)
- Good choices + Good consequences = Good Life
- "Any job worth doing is a job worth doing well."



10. On a scale from 1 to 5, how important were each of the Program Sessions to you?

(1) N/A (2) not important (3) somewhat important (4) very important (5) extremely important

	1	2	3	4	5		1	2	3	4	5
Bag Chart	0%	3%	29%	40%	28%	4 th R		7%	36%	29%	28%
Manhood Sessions	0%	0%	21%	26%	53%	Making Choices Session		1%	19%	48%	31%
Films	1%	3%	41%	34%	19%	Genesis/Revelation Discussion	3%	3%	19%	38%	36%
Dear Daddy Letter N/A						Boardroom Discussions	0%	1%	24%	24%	50%

11. What made you continue to want to come to the Powerhouse?

- I like what we learned.
- The motivation I get from it.
- The movies and the Bag chart.
- The life lessons. (2 responses)
- I like the Powerhouse (3 responses)
- To have a place to talk when I need it.
- Having a safe place to speak my mind.
- The people involved and the activities.
- The instructors and the work environment.
- The Powerhouse motivated me to want to come to school, have a good day, and have a better relationship with my family and friends.
- How the instructors were motivated toward me and how they showed me to think about my future.
- It helped me with my studying problem and help me with my self-esteem.
- The way my opinions were respected, and no one judges you.
- The motivation they give to make us become a better person.
- To get motivational skills and to never give up on your dream.
- The instructors, movies, and boardroom discussions. (3 responses)
- Dr. Wright, and Dr. White, gaining self-confidence and incentives.
- Because they treated me with respect, though most teachers don't.
- The instructors are calm, and they help me when I make a mistake.
- I feel like I can be myself in the Powerhouse.
- It's a place to have fun and interact with each other.
- I love the energy, having fun, and learning new things.
- It is great, providing community, and it helps me a lot.
- The very detailed and controversial debates that we had.
- They make you feel secure and it's easy to communicate.
- They motivate me to keep my head up and never give up.
- I like that it's like a real job and getting paid. (2 responses)
- The love I feel from the instructors and learning life lessons.



12. Where do you feel you would be if you hadn't been enrolled in the Powerhouse?

- Jail and out on the streets. (4 responses)
- I feel I would have failed the 8th grade.
- Getting a lot of 'Blocks' every week.
- In class not listening.
- Expelled. (2 responses)
- In the streets doing bad things.
- Getting write-ups and into fights.
- Getting into trouble. (4 responses)
- Not doing my best.
- A class clown.
- Lost.
- I feel as if I would be lost, unsure, and I wouldn't know how to maneuver in the world.
- I feel like I would be working at McDonald's, with no thought of one day becoming an owner.
- I feel like I would still be in middle school because Powerhouse makes me feel like a college student.
- In-School Suspension (ISS). (3 responses)
- Thinking that I was lower than everyone.
- I feel I would be more closed-off toward people.
- Out-of-School Suspension (OSS). (3 responses)
 - ISS/Home because they make me value my choices.
- I feel like I would be in Bar Street. (4 responses)
- I feel like I would be making the same bad decisions.
- I would be in a lot of trouble and in worse circumstances.
- I feel like I would be skipping class and getting bad grades.
- I would still have a hard time communicating my problems.
- I feel I wouldn't know the things needed to live life as a man.

13. Now that you have experienced the Powerhouse where do you see yourself now in the next five years?

- NFL.
- College. (4 responses)
- Working at Nutramax.
- Being a successful young man.
- On TV, making millions of dollars.
- A professional contractor in college.
- Working and handling my business.
- Owning my own business. (6 responses)
- A good-paying career. (3 responses)
- Graduating high school. (8 responses)
- A good occupation with a happy family.
- The army and buying my family a house.
- Having a high credit score, looking nice.
- A Therapist, who helps teenagers and adults.
- Playing Basketball for Duke or football at LSU.
- Owning three cars and owning a football team.
- With a very nice occupation and a good perspective on life.
- Building my credit and making money to provide for my family.

14. Before entering the Powerhouse program how did you feel about your grades & academics?

40% Didn't care much about my grades **50%** Took my grades seriously **10%** Didn't see the importance



16. After completing the Powerhouse program how do you feel about your grades & academics?

5% Don't care much about my grades **90%** Take my grades seriously **5%** Still don't see the importance

15. Would you recommend the Powerhouse class to someone else? **100% Yes ___ No Why or why not?**

- Yes, it will help you through life.
- Yes, because we learn good lessons.
- Yes, because it helps you to be great.
- Yes, students need what we are learning.
- Yes, it teaches how to become more mature.
- Yes, because it's a good class to be in. You get paid and you don't get paid in any other class.
- Yes, it teaches you what you need to know to succeed in life and helps you improve.
- Yes, it helps with your internal struggles as well as finding value in your outer shell.
- Yes, because information is shared that you may not know, that you can learn.
- Yes, because young men without fathers can be positively supported.
- Yes, the Powerhouse shows life lessons and teaches how to be a man.
- Yes, because it teaches important things we need to know.
- Yes, it helps with family problems and helps you focus on your grades.
- Yes, because kids don't have the motivation that the Powerhouse gives.
- Yes, it helps get black males off the street keeping them from doing bad habits.
- Yes, it is a safe space, it's easy to make friends and learn communication skills.
- Yes, it helps with your personal development and contains valuable information.
- Yes, because other young men need this type of learning and help to get better in school.
- Yes, because you can come to the Powerhouse to talk about your problems, and you can talk about things that can help you in the real world.
- Yes, because it changes your life.
- Yes, because the lessons are valuable.
- Yes, because it helps you to stay out of trouble.
- Yes, Powerhouse prepares you for real life.
- Yes, it can help with issues and anger problems.



18. BEFORE you enrolled in the Powerhouse how did you feel about being in school?

22% I hated School **57%** School was OK **21%** Didn't matter one way or the other

19. After completing the Powerhouse program how do you feel about school?

7% I still hate School **83%** School is OK **10%** Doesn't matter one way or the other

20. What did you like BEST about The Powerhouse?

- Everything.
- The food: shared as incentives when we took care of our business.
- The incentives.
- Deep conversations where you can express yourself.
- The Bag Chart.
- The discussions, debates, and interactions in the boardroom.
- The life lessons.
- How they give advice when you're in a situation alone.
- The Breakfast Club.
- They helped me to improve my grades.
- The Code of Ethics.
- The quotes and the movies. (2 responses)
- How inspiring the class is.
- How the boardroom was conducted.
- The movies. (12 responses)
- Boardroom discussions. (4 responses)
- I like the way the instructors teach.
- Manhood portion of the curriculum.
- I like everybody in the Powerhouse, the activities, and the discussions.
- That it's a safe place to express your feelings and a judgment-free zone.
- That I am spoken to with respect and not spoken to like a little boy.
- The enlightened people and the genuine positivity in the boardroom.
- Getting paid to talk about many things and that we have our own office space.
- Meeting new friends and learning about important things that help in real life.
- Dr. Wright inspired me to keep going. Dr. White helped me through some things.
- The assistance and support from the instructors Dr. Wright and White. (2 responses)
- Healthy Relationships discussion, pulling the chairs to the middle of the Boardroom.
- I liked how we would all talk about problems and feelings, it was like a second family.
- I like the way they make learning fun, and they tell us about their lives as well. Giving us real-life scenarios.



17. Do you see yourself making better choices now? **85%** Yes ___ No **15%** Unsure

21. What did you like LEAST about The Powerhouse?

- Reading.
- The Mantra
- The Spell-offs.
- The incentive payouts.
- Learning the rules.
- Nothing (13 responses)
- Long lectures. (3 responses)
- That they get on us about little things.
- Vocabulary sheets. (2 responses)
- When we have to open up (and talk).
- How we are addressed for being late to class.
- When we learn the same topic for a long period.
- Sitting down most of the time. (3 responses)
- Having to wear shoes and when you didn't you had to sit in a hard chair.
- When we can't wear croc's and when you do that will affect our getting paid. (2 responses)
- When we have to stand to talk when being corrected about not taking care of our business. (3 responses)
- Learning about credit scores. But it was worth it. I paid attention because it's going to make a big difference in my life. (2 responses)

22. How would you rate your Instructor?

52% Outstanding **22%** They were alright **26%** Good ___ Not Good

23. Go The Extra Mile.....Tell us something else about this class that you would like for us or the administrators to know....

- It is important.
- The class is good.
- The class is great.
- I feel like it helps you in life.
- It is a good class for A. R. Rucker.
- Powerhouse should be at every school.
- I didn't like the class at first but now I do!
- This class is good for African-Americans.
- They should incorporate more outside work.
- Powerhouse gives very needed information.
- Powerhouse helps students see the bigger picture.
- The instructors made me feel like I was cared for.
- The quotes inspired me to make a clothing brand.
- It is a good class to open up and build new friendships.
- The Powerhouse is the best exploratory a kid can have.
- I wish we could have done more instruction on curriculum.
- The high-back leather office chairs we sit in give us motivation.
- I enjoyed it and I am grateful for the knowledge that was taught to me.
- That the instructors are great and being in the Boardroom changed my attitude.
- The number of chances and opportunities that the Powerhouse gives the youth.
- The class is so good and nice. I feel like we should be able to go on field trips.
- Powerbrokers need to get paid more because they teach young males how to become men.
- All classes should be like this, and we need teachers to understand young males like they do.
- It helped me change my mindset and how I see things. It makes me look forward to my future.
- I love how they are so real with us; even when I was doing badly, they were there to help me understand.
- That I love coming to the Powerhouse. Even if I looked bored and even if I got an answer wrong, they would not get mad but instead support me in finding the correct answer.
- Excuses only satisfy the one who makes them. This class is so fun and shows you the way to achieve success.
- I think we should have more breaks because it just feels like "Work, work, work" but I still Love the Powerhouse.
- I would like the admin to know that the debates we have in Powerhouse are actual real-world problems that need to be solved.
- That it helps young men complete high school, teaches us about the real world, motivates us, and pushes us to get a diploma. Teaches us how to be successful in life, teaches us about credit, and how to have good integrity being a man. The boring lessons are the most important.



THANK YOU

For Helping Us

Spark Hope. Ignite Optimism & Create the Currents for A Brighter Future!

Since Program Implementation January 1, 2021

186 students have been served (18 duplicates)

9 Transferred to a different school district.

9 or **6%** entered the Alternative Education setting.

159 or **100%** remain in school and on track toward graduation.

132/18 or **14%** experienced In-School Suspension (ISS).

132/21 or **16%** experienced Out of School Suspension (OSS)