School Climate Surveys District Results for 2009-10

Miami-Dade County Public Schools Research Services 1500 Biscayne Boulevard Miami, Florida 33132 August, 2010

Overview

Each school year, the School Climate Survey is administered to gather information on the perceptions that students, their parents, and school staffs hold concerning their schools and their performance. In 2009-2010, the survey was distributed to approximately 85,000 parents, 45,000 elementary, secondary, and adult students, and 25,000 staff. This report summarizes selected major points from the results of that survey, as they pertain to the Pre-K through 12th grade program. In addition to districtwide averages, results are broken down by regional center. Information identical to that summarized for the district is reviewed for the regular schools of each region. Alternative, special education, and vocational/adult schools are treated elsewhere in separate item-specific reports.

Results continue to be very similar to those in past years. Although there is variation from region to region, the majority of respondents from the three groups surveyed (parents, students, and staff) were satisfied with their schools in Miami-Dade County. An analysis of selected survey items indicates an overall increase in satisfaction over the past five years. As in previous survey administrations, at the district level parents, students, and staff from all educational levels (elementary, K-8, middle, and senior high) provided overall school grades in the "A" to "B" range.

About the 2009-10 Surveys

School Climate Surveys of parents, students, and staff have been regularly administered in the Miami-Dade County Public School district since the early 1990s. The purpose of these surveys is to gather information regarding what these groups think about the school and their perceptions concerning how the school can be improved. Results from several of the most recent years are available by school on the Department of Research Services website: http://drs.dadeschools.net. In addition to providing information to the public, survey results are intended to assist schools in the identification of priorities for their annual School Improvement Plans.

The 2010 surveys were administered in January and February. Forty-four percent of the parents who were surveyed in 2010 responded; considerably higher than last year's 37 percent. Student returns increased by five percent to 87 percent. The staff response rate also remained steady at 72 percent. Detailed by-school results were provided to the schools at the end of the school year. The primary purpose of these reports was to facilitate an in-depth view of the learning climate at each school. The present report represents a byproduct of these by-school reports and summarizes selected districtwide and regional results.

The patterns of the responses for all groups were very similar to the previous year's patterns, and do not deviate greatly from the response patterns of earlier administrations. All groups were generally positive in their responses, as they have been in previous years, expressing general agreement with the survey items. On average, parents and staff have a high percent of agreement with the items indicating a high degree of satisfaction with their schools. Students at the elementary level also have a high average agreement on the items, but middle and senior high students are less likely to express satisfaction with their school. In the appendices the itemby-item results are listed by educational level (elementary, K-8, middle and senior) for each of the three responding groups—parents, staff, and students—for the district, and separately for the regional centers and the charter schools as a group.

The results for selected items reported below pertain to the Pre-K through 12th grade program. Results for the K-8 schools have now been calculated as a distinct level for the seventh year. However, the K-8 schools are still relatively few, and the summary results are more volatile than are those for the other levels. Charter school results, presented as a separate "region," are also less reliable, due in part to difficulties in obtaining accurate counts regarding the number of staff working at some schools.

Results for Selected Items

Safety, Quality, and Overall Climate

Of the items that are comparable across all the groups surveyed (students, parents, and staffs), three are most often the source of queries. One is the item on school safety ("The school is safe and secure;" Table 1). Another is the item concerning quality of education ("Students are getting a good education at this school;" Table 2). The third is the general item about whether the school's overall climate is positive and promotes learning (Table 3).

The breakdown of these three responses by regional center for 2010 is displayed in the following three tables. Several patterns are observable across all the items — districtwide and within their respective regions. Taken by region, some variation is observed, with Regional Center IV usually exhibiting the highest ratings. Charter schools, while diverse in composition, fare quite well on the surveys and outperform district averages at almost all levels. The variation across regions is much larger for the middle and senior levels than for the elementary and K-8, for each of the three respondent groups. The greatest across-region variation is at the middle school level, where ratings can vary by 30 percentage points.

Table 1
Responses Concerning School Safety in 2010
Percent Agreeing at the Regional and District Levels

		Region I	Region II	Region III	Region IV	Region V	Charter	District
Staff			_		_			
Е	lementary	90	86	88	95	89	94	90
	K-8	95	92	97	98	91	90	94
	Middle	87	75	83	96	80	90	86
S	enior High	91	86	87	89	84	96	88
Pare	nts							
E	lementary	92	88	88	92	89	95	90
	K-8	93	86	91	92	89	92	91
	Middle	79	67	79	85	75	87	81
S	enior High	82	79	79	86	81	88	82
Stude	ents							
Е	lementary	86	80	87	92	82	93	86
	K-8	90	76	89	88	79	81	84
	Middle	63	51	66	81	59	76	67
S	enior High	75	69	74	85	73	80	76

Note: Percentages refer to the degree that respondents agree or strongly agree that the school is safe and secure. Higher percentages reflect more satisfaction with this aspect of school climate.

Taken by educational level, going from elementary down the rows through the senior level, there is a tendency for approval to decrease. Respondents of each group at the elementary and K-8 levels show the highest percent agreement, and the middle school respondents the lowest, with senior high respondents averaging only a few points higher.

Table 2
Responses Concerning Quality of Education 2010
Percent Agreeing at the Regional and District Levels

	Region I	Region II	Region III	Region IV	Region V	Charter	District
Staff							
Elementary	91	89	91	96	91	97	92
K-8	97	93	96	97	90	89	94
Middle	89	79	80	95	80	95	86
Senior High	90	81	82	89	85	90	86
Parents							
Elementary	95	93	93	96	93	97	94
K-8	94	88	93	95	92	92	92
Middle	83	79	88	88	83	90	87
Senior High	84	82	84	88	85	86	85
Students							
Elementary	90	90	90	94	87	90	90
K-8	90	81	87	86	80	78	83
Middle	64	68	72	77	65	77	71
Senior High	73	70	71	82	72	70	73

Note: Percentages refer to the degree that respondents agree or strongly agree that the student is receiving a good education. Higher percentages reflect more satisfaction with this aspect of school climate.

Table 3
Perceptions of Overall School Climate in 2010
Percent Agreeing at the Regional and District Levels

		Region I	Region II	Region III	Region IV	Region V	Charter	District
Staff				_		_		
E	Elementary	85	81	84	92	84	96	86
	K-8	94	90	97	96	88	86	93
	Middle	82	69	71	88	71	94	78
S	Senior High	85	78	77	79	80	91	81
Paren	ts							
Е	Elementary	94	92	93	96	91	97	93
	K-8	94	88	93	94	90	92	91
	Middle	77	71	80	85	77	86	82
S	Senior High	76	77	77	82	81	82	79
Stude	nts							
Е	Elementary	77	72	79	86	73	84	78
	K-8	77	64	71	70	65	64	67
	Middle	44	42	54	61	43	60	52
S	Senior High	57	54	68	71	58	58	60

Note: Percentages refer to the degree that respondents agree or strongly agree that the overall school climate is positive. Higher percentages reflect more satisfaction with this aspect of school climate.

At the K-8 level, students in grades comparable to both the elementary (K-5) and the middle (6-8) levels are surveyed, inviting a comparison to the ratings at both those levels. At the K-8 level both staff and parent ratings are much higher across all the items than at the middle school level, and only slightly lower than the elementary level.

Considered by responding group, students tend to rate their school lower than their parents and teachers. In a few instances, the student level of agreement falls below half at the middle and senior levels. Parents tend to show greater satisfaction, frequently averaging higher than staff on overall climate at the elementary and K-8 levels. Staff respondents, however, tend to show the highest degree of satisfaction with their school across all educational levels. Staffs in K-8 schools seem to be particularly satisfied with their schools.

Over time, the general trend for all groups is one of increased satisfaction. Table 4 displays the percent agreeing with the same three items as mentioned above in two-year intervals over the past five years. It is easily seen that the majority of the triads (sets of three percentages) show an increase in agreement over the past five years. Among middle school and senior high students, where the lowest levels of agreement are found, there is a consistent increase at each point for all the items. There were also consistent increases at the senior high level for all reporting groups.

Table 4 Trends for Three Important Items Tracked Over the Past Five Years **Percent Agreeing at Two-Year Intervals**

	ducational Level Elementary K-8 Middle Senior														
	Year of Survey	2006	2008	2010	2006	2008	2010	2006	2008	2010	2006	2008	2010		
Staff															
	Safe & Secure	91	90	90	96	96	94	88	88	86	85	85	88		
	Good Education	92	91	92	95	95	94	85	86	86	81	83	86		
	Positive Climate	88	88	86	91	93	93	81	81	78	77	78	81		
Parer	nts														
	Safe & Secure	86	88	90	89	90	91	74	78	81	75	76	82		
	Good Education	93	94	94	92	94	92	82	84	87	79	80	85		
	Positive Climate	92	93	93	91	93	91	73	77	82	70	73	79		
Stude	ents														
	Safe & Secure	84	84	86	81	81	84	64	66	67	66	72	76		
	Good Education	87	89	90	81	81	83	69	70	71	65	70	73		
Positive Climate		75	77	78	67	66	67	50	51	52	49	56	60		
		Note: Pe	rcentages	s refer to	the degre	ee that re	spondent	s agree	or strongly	y agree to	the item	. Higher	-		
		percenta	iges refle	ct more s	atisfactio	n w ith th	e stateme	ent.							

= improvement from 2006 to 2008 = improvement from 2008 to 2010

Grading the School

The last item in each survey asks the respondent to give his or her school a grade analogous to the grade that students receive for their work. This grade may be regarded as a summary of the attitudes that the respondent holds toward the school. The district and regional averages of those school grades, by responding group and by level, are shown in Table 5. At the district level, there is no grade below "B-." At the regional level, the results are also overall quite favorable. Among the regional grades, approximately 82% are in the "B" range, 13% in the "A" range and 5% in the "C" range.

Table 5
2010 Rating of Overall School Grade, Averaged by Region and District

				Regiona	l Center			
		I	II	III	IV	V	Charter	District
Staff								
	Elementary	B+	В	В	A-	В	A-	B+
	K-8	A-	B+	Α	Α	B+	В	A-
	Middle School	В	B-	B-	A-	B-	A-	В
	Senior High	В	B-	B-	В	В	B+	В
Parents								
	Elementary	B+	B+	B+	A-	B+	A-	A-
	K-8	B+	B+	B+	A-	B+	B+	B+
	Middle School	В	В	В	B+	В	B+	В
	Senior High	В	В	В	B+	В	В	В
Students								
	Elementary	B+	B+	B+	A-	В	B+	B+
	K-8	B+	В	В	В	В	В	В
	Middle School	C+	C+	B-	В	C+	В	B-
	Senior High	B-	B-	B-	В	В	В	В

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Selected Items

In most years, the percentages agreeing to the survey items rarely change by more than a few percentage points from previous years for summaries at the district level. However, this year four items on the Staff survey changed by more than five percentage points. Last year the item concerning Job security dropped considerably. This year the staff responses recovered about half of that loss, but the agreement levels remain below the 2008 levels. The item about insufficient resources remained much worse than the 2008 staff opinions. The other two items showed slight increases in negative opinions at some educational levels. These are all considered serious matters by the staff and are noteworthy both in their relevance to school reform and budget issues.

Table 6
Items of Greatest District-Level Change 2010

	Elementary	K-8	Middle	Senior
	% Agree	% Agree	% Agree	% Agree
Staff				
I have a feeling of job security in my pr	esent position.			
201	0 76	76	70	69
200	9 68	68	62	59
200	8 84	86	80	79
I am limited by insufficient resources	(e.g., funds, book	ks, equipment, s	supplies, etc.).	
201	0 34	33	39	46
200	9 35	34	41	52
200	8 24	23	28	39
Annual teacher evaluations are fair an	d reasonable.			
201	0 84	85	76	74
200	9 88	85	82	81
200	8 86	87	83	79
I am limited by too many students in e	ach class.			
201	0 29	30	36	41
200	9 23	27	32	41
200	8 22	29	28	39

References

- Cronbach, L. (1951). Coefficient alpha and the internal structure of tests. *Psychometrica*, *16*, 527-530.
- Romanik, D., & Froman, T. (1992, December). Results from the 1991-92 administration of the school report card survey. Miami, FL: Dade County Public Schools, Office of Educational Accountability.

Appendices

Methodological Notes
District Summary of Parent, Student, and Staff Responses

Methodological Notes

Survey Reliability

All measurement involves some error. However, there are several methods of estimating how accurate or reliable responses are to a survey. Reliability coefficients for the parent, student, and staff forms of the *School Climate Survey* were estimated from an internal consistency measure referred to as Cronbach's Alpha (Cronbach 1951). The value of an alpha depends on the average inter-item correlations (i.e., similarity or consistency in responses from item to item) and the number of items on the survey. The average correlation among items on a survey increases as the consistency of ratings across the various items increase. The closer the value of alpha approaches 1.00, the higher the survey's reliability. The total reliability estimate for the parent form (alpha = 0.96), student form (alpha = 0.88), and for the staff form (alpha = 0.88) support the usefulness of the surveys as reliable instruments.

Caveats

Several methodological factors must be considered when interpreting these survey results. In general, the larger the sample is, the more accurate the results. The districtwide results reported here are based on sample sizes of several tens of thousands. These sample sizes may be excessive for insuring district-level reliability, but they are the result of aggregating the individual school samples necessary for intended interpretations at that level.

In theory, with district-level samples of these sizes, one can say with 95 percent certainty that the results have a statistical precision of plus or minus one percentage point of what they would be if the entire population had been surveyed with complete accuracy. In the school-level applications of the data derived from the *School Climate Surveys*, as the sample size decreases, the margin of error increases.

Other possible sources of error include wording and question order, inadequate weighting of the data, and (perhaps most important for this survey process) the refusal of sample members to respond to survey items or the survey as a whole. While it is difficult or impossible to quantify the errors that may result from these influences, there are some mitigating factors.

The response rates for this survey process are among those generally considered by the field to be more than minimally adequate for providing meaningful data. Follow-up telephone survey studies conducted in previous years by Research Services regarding similar procedures suggest that districtwide survey results are exceedingly reliable (Romanik & Froman 1992). Also, consistent patterns of response across similar items can substantially contribute to the readers' confidence in the reported opinion percentages. In addition, it is reasonable to assume that whatever factors contribute to response bias, they are consistent from one year to the next. Thus, yearly changes in reported opinions (except in cases of extremely aberrant response levels) are advanced as representing real changes worthy of serious consideration.

Additionally, the opinions offered in the survey represent anonymous and self-reported perceptions by parents, students, and staff and may not precisely describe the actual situation in the district. However, these opinions represent a reality to the respondents and should afford insight into the impression the district is making on the local community.

District Summary of Parent Responses

3 The school is overcrowded to the degree that it affects learning.				1			Perce	ent Re	•	-		,	2 !	
The school is safe and secure.		0			_	۸		<u> </u>					senior	r D
2 The school is kept clean and in good condition.	4	·											10	_
3 The school is overcrowded to the degree that it affects learning. 4 The school maintains high academic standards. 5 The school uses adequate disciplinary measures in dealing with disruptive students. 6 The school uses adequate disciplinary measures in dealing with disruptive students. 7 The school uses adequate disciplinary measures in dealing with disruptive students. 7 The school acrees tunches that are nutritious and taste good. 8 1 am satisfied with the choice of educational programs offered at my child's school. 8 1 am satisfied with the choice of educational programs offered at my child's school. 9 Teachers are friendly and easy to talk to. 9 Teachers are friendly and easy to talk to. 9 Teachers make learning interesting and relevant. 9 Teachers make learning and relevant. 9 Teachers make learning and relevant. 9 Teachers make learning and relevant. 9 T	1											-		7
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Teachers make learning interesting and relevant.	8		87	7			9	8			8			9
Teachers motivate students to learn.			-			92			-			-		8
Teachers take an interest in students' educational future.	10		93	5		89	8	4			8			10
Teachers are knowledgeable and understand their subject matter.	11	Teachers motivate students to learn.	93	5	2	88	9	4	79		8	72	18	10
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17 The school teaches students basic academic skills in mathematics. 95 4 2 93 3 4 89 7 4 86 8 18 The school teaches students to speak and write correctly in English. 94 4 1 93 4 3 89 7 4 86 8 19 The school teaches how to solve problems in science. 85 13 2 85 11 4 83 12 6 77 16 20 The school teaches use of computers. 88 9 4 83 11 5 77 13 11 76 15 21 The school teaches students to think critically and reason out problems. 87 10 3 85 11 4 80 15 6 79 14 22 The school teaches students to develop good study and work habits. 90 6 2 87 8 5 80 12 8 75 15 23 The school teaches students to get along with different kinds of people. 90 8 3 87 9 3 79 14 7 76 16 24 The school is free of violence. 83 11 6 84 10 6 74 13 13 75 14 25 The school is free of gang activity. 82 13 5 83 13 4 73 16 11 74 17 26 The school is free of substance abuse. 84 11 5 84 12 5 72 16 11 65 18 27 The principal does an effective job running my child's school. 89 8 4 87 9 4 81 12 7 77 15 28 The principal is available and easy to talk to. 79 15 6 72 20 8 69 21 10 61 26 29 The assistant principals are effective administrators. 81 16 3 79 17 4 74 19 7 67 23	15	Teachers do their best to include me in matters directly affecting my child's progress in school.	90	5	6	85	7	8	74	13	13	63	19	18
18 The school teaches students to speak and write correctly in English. 94 4 1 93 4 3 89 7 4 86 8 19 The school teaches how to solve problems in science. 85 13 2 85 11 4 83 12 6 77 16 20 The school teaches use of computers. 88 9 4 83 11 5 77 13 11 76 15 21 The school teaches students to think critically and reason out problems. 87 10 3 85 11 4 80 15 6 79 14 22 The school teaches students to develop good study and work habits. 90 6 2 87 8 5 80 12 8 75 15 23 The school teaches students to get along with different kinds of people. 90 8 3 87 9 3 79 14 7 76 16 24 The school is free of violence. 83 11 6 84 10 6 74 13 13 75 14 25 The school is free of gang activity. 82 13 5 83 13 4 73 16 11 74 17 26 The school is free of substance abuse. 84 11 5 84 12 5 72 16 11 65 18 27 The principal does an effective job running my child's school. 89 8 4 87 9 4 81 12 7 77 15 28 The principal is available and easy to talk to. 79 15 6 72 20 8 69 21 10 61 26 29 The assistant principals are effective administrators. 81 16 3 79 17 4 74 74 19 7 67 23	16	The school teaches students the basic academic skills in reading.	95	3	1	95	3	2	90	7	3	89	7	4
19 The school teaches how to solve problems in science. 85 13 2 85 11 4 83 12 6 77 16 20 The school teaches use of computers. 88 9 4 83 11 5 77 13 11 76 15 21 The school teaches students to think critically and reason out problems. 87 10 3 85 11 4 80 15 6 79 14 22 The school teaches students to develop good study and work habits. 90 6 2 87 8 5 80 12 8 75 15 23 The school teaches students to get along with different kinds of people. 24 The school is free of violence. 83 11 6 84 10 6 74 13 13 75 14 25 The school is free of gang activity. 82 13 5 83 13 4 73 16 11 74 17 26 The school is free of substance abuse. 87 The principal does an effective job running my child's school. 88 9 4 87 9 4 81 12 7 77 15 28 The principal is available and easy to talk to. 79 15 6 72 20 8 69 21 10 61 26 29 The assistant principals are effective administrators.	17	The school teaches students basic academic skills in mathematics.	95	4	2	93	3	4	89	7	4	86	8	6
20 The school teaches use of computers. 88 9 4 83 11 5 77 13 11 76 15 21 The school teaches students to think critically and reason out problems. 87 10 3 85 11 4 80 15 6 79 14 22 The school teaches students to develop good study and work habits. 90 6 2 87 8 5 80 12 8 75 15 23 The school teaches students to get along with different kinds of people. 90 8 3 87 9 3 79 14 7 76 16 24 The school is free of violence. 83 11 6 84 10 6 74 13 13 75 14 25 The school is free of gang activity. 82 13 5 83 13 4 73 16 11 74 17 26 The school is free of substance abuse. 84 11 5 84 12 5 72 16 11 65 18 27 The principal does an effective	18	The school teaches students to speak and write correctly in English.	94	4	1	93	4	3	89	7	4	86	8	5
21 The school teaches students to think critically and reason out problems. 87 10 3 85 11 4 80 15 6 79 14 22 The school teaches students to develop good study and work habits. 90 6 2 87 8 5 80 12 8 75 15 23 The school teaches students to get along with different kinds of people. 90 8 3 87 9 3 79 14 7 76 16 24 The school is free of violence. 83 11 6 84 10 6 74 13 13 75 14 25 The school is free of gang activity. 82 13 5 83 13 4 73 16 11 74 17 26 The school is free of substance abuse. 84 11 5 84 12 5 72 16 11 65 18 27 The principal does an effective job running my child's school. 89 8 4 87 9 4 81 12 7 77 15 28 The principal is available and easy to talk to. 79 15 6 72 20 8 69 21 10 61 26 29 The assistant principals are effective administrators. 81 16 3 79 17 4 74 19 7 67 23	19	The school teaches how to solve problems in science.	85	13	2	85	11	4	83	12	6	77	16	7
22 The school teaches students to develop good study and work habits. 90 6 2 87 8 5 80 12 8 75 15 23 The school teaches students to get along with different kinds of people. 90 8 3 87 9 3 79 14 7 76 16 24 The school is free of violence. 83 11 6 84 10 6 74 13 13 75 14 25 The school is free of gang activity. 82 13 5 83 13 4 73 16 11 74 17 26 The school is free of substance abuse. 84 11 5 84 12 5 72 16 11 65 18 27 The principal does an effective job running my child's school. 89 8 4 87 9 4 81 12 7 77 15 28 The principal is available and easy to talk to. 79 15 6 72 20 8 69 21 10	20	The school teaches use of computers.	88	9	4	83	11	5	77	13	11	76	15	9
22 The school teaches students to develop good study and work habits. 90 6 2 87 8 5 80 12 8 75 15 23 The school teaches students to get along with different kinds of people. 90 8 3 87 9 3 79 14 7 76 16 24 The school is free of violence. 83 11 6 84 10 6 74 13 13 75 14 25 The school is free of gang activity. 82 13 5 83 13 4 73 16 11 74 17 26 The school is free of substance abuse. 84 11 5 84 12 5 72 16 11 65 18 27 The principal does an effective job running my child's school. 89 8 4 87 9 4 81 12 7 77 15 28 The principal is available and easy to talk to. 79 15 6 72 20 8 69 21 10	21	The school teaches students to think critically and reason out problems.	87	10	3	85	11	4	80	15	6	79	14	7
23 The school teaches students to get along with different kinds of people. 90 8 3 87 9 3 79 14 7 76 16 24 The school is free of violence. 83 11 6 84 10 6 74 13 13 75 14 25 The school is free of gang activity. 82 13 5 83 13 4 73 16 11 74 17 26 The school is free of substance abuse. 84 11 5 84 12 5 72 16 11 65 18 27 The principal does an effective job running my child's school. 89 8 4 87 9 4 81 12 7 77 15 28 The principal is available and easy to talk to. 79 15 6 72 20 8 69 21 10 61 26 29 The assistant principals are effective administrators. 81 16 3 79 17 4 74 19 7	22		90	6	2	87	8	5	80	12	8	75	15	10
24 The school is free of violence. 83 11 6 84 10 6 74 13 13 75 14 25 The school is free of gang activity. 82 13 5 83 13 4 73 16 11 74 17 26 The school is free of substance abuse. 84 11 5 84 12 5 72 16 11 65 18 27 The principal does an effective job running my child's school. 89 8 4 87 9 4 81 12 7 77 15 28 The principal is available and easy to talk to. 79 15 6 72 20 8 69 21 10 61 26 29 The assistant principals are effective administrators. 81 16 3 79 17 4 74 19 7 67 23	23		90	8	3	87	9	3	79		7			8
25 The school is free of gang activity. 82 13 5 83 13 4 73 16 11 74 17 26 The school is free of substance abuse. 84 11 5 84 12 5 72 16 11 65 18 27 The principal does an effective job running my child's school. 89 8 4 87 9 4 81 12 7 77 15 28 The principal is available and easy to talk to. 79 15 6 72 20 8 69 21 10 61 26 29 The assistant principals are effective administrators. 81 16 3 79 17 4 74 19 7 67 23	24		83	11	6	84	10	6	74	13	13	75	14	12
26 The school is free of substance abuse. 84 11 5 84 12 5 72 16 11 65 18 27 The principal does an effective job running my child's school. 89 8 4 87 9 4 81 12 7 77 15 28 The principal is available and easy to talk to. 79 15 6 72 20 8 69 21 10 61 26 29 The assistant principals are effective administrators. 81 16 3 79 17 4 74 19 7 67 23	25	The school is free of gang activity.	82	13	5	83	13	4	73		11	74	17	10
28 The principal is available and easy to talk to. 79 15 6 72 20 8 69 21 10 61 26 29 The assistant principals are effective administrators. 81 16 3 79 17 4 74 19 7 67 23	26		84	11	5	84	12	5	72	16	11	65	18	17
28 The principal is available and easy to talk to. 79 15 6 72 20 8 69 21 10 61 26 29 The assistant principals are effective administrators. 81 16 3 79 17 4 74 19 7 67 23	27	The principal does an effective job running my child's school.	89	8	4	87	9	4	81	12	7	77	15	8
29 The assistant principals are effective administrators. 81 16 3 79 17 4 74 19 7 67 23	28		79	15	6	72	20	8	69	21	10	61	26	13
	29													9
30 Guidance counselors are concerned about and try to help students with educational and personal problems. 175 21 3 171 24 5 175 18 6 171 18	30	Guidance counselors are concerned about and try to help students with educational and personal problems.	75	21	3	71	24		75	18	6	71	18	11
31 Staff in the principal's office treat me with respect when I contact my child's school. 92 4 4 91 5 4 86 8 6 78 13		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			4			4	-					9
32 School staff respond to my needs and concerns in a reasonable period of time. 89 6 4 86 8 6 78 13 9 71 17		•												13
33 My child is getting a good education at this school. 94 4 2 92 5 3 87 8 5 85 9				4										6
34 The overall climate or atmosphere at my child's school is positive and helps my child learn. 93 4 2 91 5 3 82 12 7 79 13				•		-			-					8
35 What overall grade would you give to your child's school? A B+ B B					_						•			

^{*}A = strongly agree + agree, D = strongly disagree + disagree, U = undecided/unknown. Item percents for an educational level may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

District Summary of Student Responses

						Perce	ent Re	espon	ding*				
		Ele	ement	ary		K-8		ı	Middle)	;	Senior	ſ
	Survey Item	Α	U	D	Α	U	D	Α	U	D	Α	U	D
1	I feel safe at my school.	86	8	6	84	10	6	67	17	15	76	13	10
2	My school building is kept clean and in good condition.	61	14	25	59	19	21	45	19	36	61	15	24
3	Students in my school usually follow school rules.	39	22	39	34	27	39	20	25	54	40	24	36
4	There are too many students in my classroom and that affects how much I learn.	18	9	72	15	12	73	17	15	68	20	14	66
5	My teachers require that I work very hard for the grades I get.	91	6	3	87	10	3	82	12	7	81	12	7
6	My school has enough books and equipment to help me learn.	84	7	8	76	12	12	63	15	22	58	15	26
7	Food served for lunch at my school looks good and tastes good.	38	20	42	26	21	53	23	20	57	26	24	50
8	I like the choice of classes I have at this school.	68	22	10	61	21	18	54	18	28	61	14	24
9	My teachers are friendly and easy to talk to.	82	10	8	75	15	10	58	21	20	69	18	13
10	My teachers make learning fun and interesting.	85	8	6	69	17	14	49	24	28	51	26	24
11	My teachers make me want to learn.	85	9	6	70	18	13	53	24	23	51	27	23
12	My teachers know a lot about the subjects they teach.	94	5	3	88	9	3	80	13	8	77	14	9
13	My teachers give me meaningful homework that helps me learn.	86	8	6	69	17	13	56	22	22	52	23	24
14	My teachers are interested in how I do in the future.	80	14	6	69	21	10	59	24	18	57	25	18
15	My teachers let me know how I am doing on my schoolwork.	90	6	5	82	10	9	73	13	14	66	15	19
16	Violence is a problem at my school.	30	12	57	27	20	54	37	23	41	20	19	62
17	Gangs are a problem at my school.	17	10	73	12	14	74	20	21	59	11	18	71
18	Student drug and alcohol use are problems at my school.	11	6	83	13	13	74	22	23	55	27	24	49
19	My principal does a good job running the school.	86	8	6	75	15	10	62	20	18	63	21	15
20	The assistant principals are available when needed.	74	17	9	64	22	14	55	26	19	47	32	22
21	My guidance counselor helps me with school and personal problems.	73	20	7	59	29	12	56	28	16	52	27	21
22	Adults at my school care about me as an individual.	74	18	9	59	27	14	45	32	23	43	32	24
23	Adults at my school help me when I need it.	83	11	7	69	19	11	58	25	18	55	27	18
24	I like coming to my school.	74	12	14	61	18	21	52	20	29	55	19	26
25	I am getting a good education at my school.	90	7	3	83	12	5	71	18	10	73	16	10
26	The overall climate or feeling at my school is positive and helps me learn.	78	15	7	67	21	11	52	29	19	60	25	16
27	What overall grade would you give to your school?		B+			В			B-			В	

^{*}A = strongly agree + agree, D = strongly disagree + disagree, U = undecided/unknown. Item percents for an educational level may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

District Summary of Staff Responses

					Per	cent Re	espond	ing*				
	El	lementa	ry		K-8			Middle			Senior	
Survey Item	Α	U	D	Α	U	D	Α	U	D	Α	U	D
1 At my school I feel safe and secure.	90	4	5	94	3	3	86	6	9	88	5	7
2 At my school the school building is kept clean and in good condition.	78	6	16	81	4	15	78	5	17	73	6	22
3 At my school personnel work together as a team.	83	7	10	89	4	7	77	8	15	76	9	14
4 At my school administrators solve problems effectively.	80	9	12	85	7	8	74	10	17	73	11	15
5 At my school I feel that my ideas are listened to and considered.	79	9	12	83	9	8	72	13	15	70	15	15
6 At my school adequate disciplinary measures are used to deal with disruptive behavior.	73	10	18	78	8	13	66	9	25	69	9	22
7 My principal is an effective administrator.	84	8	8	91	6	3	80	9	11	81	9	10
8 My principal represents the school in a positive manner.	88	6	7	94	4	2	86	7	7	90	6	4
9 My principal demonstrates good interpersonal skills.	81	7	12	89	5	6	79	9	13	80	8	12
10 My principal deals with conflict constructively.	79	10	11	85	9	5	75	13	13	76	14	10
11 My principal responds in a reasonable time to my concerns.	86	7	7	89	7	4	83	8	9	80	12	8
12 My principal treats me with respect.	89	5	6	94	3	3	88	5	6	89	5	5
13 My principal is receptive to constructive criticism.	73	16	11	78	15	7	68	19	12	67	23	11
14 My principal is supportive of teachers.	83	9	9	89	7	4	79	10	10	80	11	8
15 I am limited by too many students in each class.	29	8	63	30	7	63	36	9	55	41	11	47
16 I am limited by student deficiencies in basic academic skills.	52	9	39	40	8	51	60	8	31	62	11	28
17 I am limited by lack of concern/support from parents.	53	8	39	34	7	58	56	10	35	53	12	35
18 I am limited by lack of concern/support from the principal.	9	8	82	5	6	89	11	10	80	9	12	78
19 I am limited by lack of concern/support from the district administration.	14	25	61	12	23	65	17	30	53	19	31	51
20 I am limited by insufficient resources (e.g., funds, books, equipment, supplies, etc.).	34	9	57	33	8	59	39	9	52	46	11	42
21 I am limited by school violence.	6	5	89	3	4	93	14	9	76	10	12	78
22 I am limited by student gang activity.	2	5	94	2	4	95	6	13	80	7	15	78
23 I am limited by student substance abuse.	1	5	94	2	4	94	9	17	75	15	20	65
24 Students come to my class at the beginning of the term prepared for the grade level or courses I teach.	48	11	41	61	10	28	40	11	48	38	15	46
25 I feel satisfied concerning how my career is progressing at this school.	77	12	10	84	9	7	73	13	13	74	13	13
26 I have a feeling of job security in my present position.	76	12	12	76	12	12	70	15	16	69	15	16
27 I like working at my school.	88	7	5	91	5	4	85	7	8	88	7	5
28 Staff morale is high at my school.	63	15	21	73	13	13	54	17	29	55	19	25
29 I frequently feel overloaded and overwhelmed while working at my school.	44	12	45	42	11	47	43	12	46	41	12	46
30 Annual teacher evaluations are fair and reasonable.	84	12	4	85	12	3	76	19	6	74	21	6
31 Annual teacher evaluations are used to improve teacher performance.	78	15	6	80	15	5	68	22	10	62	26	12
32 Inservice programs keep me informed of the latest educational strategies.	86	8	5	85	8	7	80	10	11	74	13	13
33 I believe children attending my school are receiving a good education.	92	5	3	94	4	2	86	9	5	86	9	5
34 The overall climate or atmosphere at my school is positive and helps students learn.	86	7	7	93	4	4	78	10	11	81	11	9
35 What overall grade would you give to this school?		B+			A-		100 1	В			В	

^{*}A = strongly agree + agree, D = strongly disagree + disagree, U = undecided/unknown. Item percents for an educational level may not sum to 100 due to rounding.