



2016 Core Survey Questions

Prepared for the Delaware Department of Education
by UChicago Impact.

The 5Essentials survey content is for non-commercial research use only, and specifically not for third-party use. Please contact UChicago Impact at impact-surveys@uchicago.edu or 866.440.1874 for more information about using the 5Essentials.

POWERED BY

UCHICAGOImpact The University of Chicago
Urban Education Institute

Student Questions

5Essentials Survey - Student

1) How safe do you feel:				
	Not safe	Somewhat safe	Mostly safe	Very safe
a) In the hallways of the school.				
b) In the bathrooms of the school.				
c) Outside around the school.				
d) Traveling between home and school.				
e) In your classes.				

2) How much do you disagree or agree with the following:				
	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
a) When my teachers tell me not to do something, I know they have a good reason.				
b) I feel safe and comfortable with my teachers at this school.				
c) My teachers always keep their promises.				
d) My teachers will always listen to students' ideas.				
e) My teachers treat me with respect.				

(Target = English or Math)

3) How many of the students in your [TARGET] class:						
	None	A few	Some	About half	Most	All
a) Feel it is important to come to school every day.						
b) Feel it is important to pay attention in class.						
c) Think doing homework is important.						
d) Try hard to get good grades.						

5Essentials Survey - Student

4) How much do you disagree or agree with the following statements about your [TARGET] class:				
	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
a) This class really makes me think.				
b) I'm really learning a lot in this class.				

5) In my [TARGET] class, my teacher:				
	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
a) Expects everyone to work hard.				
b) Expects me to do my best all the time.				
c) Wants us to become better thinkers, not just memorize things.				

6) In your [TARGET] class, how often:				
	Never	Once in a while	Most of the time	All the time
a) Are you challenged?				
b) Do you have to work hard to do well?				
c) Does the teacher ask difficult questions on tests?				
d) Does the teacher ask difficult questions in class?				

5Essentials Survey - Student

7) How much do you agree with the following statements about your [TARGET] class: The teacher for this class:				
	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
a) Helps me catch up if I am behind.				
b) Is willing to give extra help on schoolwork if I need it.				
c) Notices if I have trouble learning something.				
d) Gives me specific suggestions about how I can improve my work in this class.				
e) Explains things in a different way if I don't understand something in class.				

(Grades 9-12)

8) How much do agree with the following? At my high school:				
	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
a) Teachers make sure that all students are planning for life after graduation.				
b) Teachers work hard to make sure that all students are learning.				
c) High school is seen as preparation for the future.				
d) All students are encouraged to go to college.				
e) Teachers pay attention to all students, not just the top students.				
f) Teachers work hard to make sure that students stay in school.				

5Essentials Survey - Student

(All Students)

9) In your ENGLISH/READING/LITERATURE class this year, how often do you do the following:					
	Never	Once or twice a semester	Once or twice a month	Once or twice a week	Almost every day
a) Debate the meaning of a reading.					
b) Discuss connections between a reading and real life people or situations.					
c) Discuss how culture, time, or place affects an author's writing.					
d) Improve a piece of writing as a class or with partners.					
e) Rewrite a paper or essay in response to comments.					
f) (Grades 9-12 Only) Explain how writers use tools like symbolism and metaphor to communicate meaning.					

5Essentials Survey - Student

10) In your MATH class this year, how often do you do the following:					
	Never	Once or twice a semester	Once or twice a month	Once or twice a week	Almost every day
a) Apply math to situations in life outside of school.					
b) Discuss possible solutions to problems with other students.					
c) Explain how you solved a problem to the class.					
d) Write a few sentences to explain how you solved a math problem.					
e) Write a math problem for other students to solve.					
f) (Grades 9-12 Only) Solve a problem with multiple steps that takes more than 20 minutes.					

Teacher Questions

5Essentials Survey - Teacher

11) This school year, how often have you:					
	None	Some	About half	Most	Nearly all
a) Observed another teacher's classrooms to offer feedback?					
b) Observed another teacher's classroom to get ideas for your own instruction?					
c) Gone over student assessment data with other teachers to make instructional decisions?					
d) Work with other teachers to develop materials or activities for particular classes?					
e) Worked on instructional strategies with other teachers?					

12) How many teachers in this school:					
	None	Some	About half	Most	Nearly all
a) Help maintain discipline in the entire school, not just their classroom.					
b) Take responsibility for improving the school.					
c) Feel responsible to help each other do their best.					
d) Feel responsible that all students learn.					
e) Feel responsible for helping students develop self-control.					
f) Feel responsible when students in this school fail.					

13) How many teachers at this school feel good about parents' support for their work?					
	None	Some	About half	Most	Nearly all

5Essentials Survey - Teacher

14) For the students you teach this year, how many of their parents:

1)	None	Some	About half	Most	All
a) Support your teaching efforts.					
b) Do their best to help their children learn.					

15) To what extent do you feel respected by the parents of your students?

	Not at all	A little	Some	To a great extent
--	------------	----------	------	-------------------

16) Please indicate the extent to which you disagree or agree with each of the following statements about your school:

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
a) Teachers and parents think of each other as partners in educating children.				
b) Staff at this school work hard to build trusting relationships with parents.				

17) To what extent do you feel respected by your principal?

	Not at all	A little	Some	To a great extent
--	------------	----------	------	-------------------

5Essentials Survey - Teacher

18) Please mark the extent to which you disagree or agree with each of the following:				
	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
a) The principal has confidence in the expertise of the teachers.				
b) I trust the principal at his or her word.				
c) It's OK in this school to discuss feelings, worries, and frustrations with the principal.				
d) The principal takes a personal interest in the professional development of teachers.				
e) The principal looks out for the personal welfare of the faculty members.				
f) The principal places the needs of children ahead of personal and political interests.				
g) The principal at this school is an effective manager who makes the school run smoothly.				

19) To what extent do you feel respected by other teachers?				
	Not at all	A little	Some	To a great extent

20) Please mark the extent to which you disagree or agree with each of the following:				
	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
a) Teachers in this school trust each other.				
b) It's OK in this school to discuss feelings, worries, and frustrations with other teachers.				
c) Teachers respect other teachers who take the lead in school improvement efforts.				
d) Teachers at this school respect those colleagues who are experts at their craft.				

5Essentials Survey - Teacher

21) Please mark the extent to which you disagree or agree with each of the following:				
	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
a) I usually look forward to each working day at this school.				
b) I wouldn't want to work in any other school.				
c) I feel loyal to this school.				
d) I would recommend this school to parents seeking a place for their child.				

22) For the students you teach this year, how many of their parents:					
	None	Some	About half	Most	All
a) Attended parent-teacher conferences when you requested them.					
b) Volunteered time to support the school (e.g., volunteer in classrooms, help with school-wide events, etc.).					
c) Contacted me about their child's performance.					
d) Respond to my suggestions for helping their child.					

23) For how long does a student have to be absent before you contact his or her parents/ guardians?					
	I never contact parents/ guardians because of absences	1 month or longer	2-4 weeks	About a weeks	1 or 2 days

5Essentials Survey - Teacher

24) How often do you?				
	Never	1-2 times a year	About once a month	Weekly or almost daily
a) Solicit information from parents/ guardians about their child?				
b) Send home correspondence to parents/ guardians about the work students are doing in class?				

25) In a <i>typical</i> week, how much total time do you spend talking or emailing with individuals parents/ guardians about their child's performance in your class (e.g., calling home or emailing about missed assignments?						
	None	5-15 minutes	15-45 minutes	About an hour	2-3 hours	4 hours or more

26) How much influence do parents/ guardians have on school improvement plans?				
	No influence	A little influence	Some influence	A great deal of influence

5Essentials Survey - Teacher

27) To what extent does this school:				
	Not at all	A little	Somewhat	A great deal
a) Involve parents in the development of programs aimed at improving students' academic outcomes?				
b) Involve parents in commenting on school curricula?				
c) Include parent leaders from all backgrounds in school improvement?				
d) Develop formal networks to link all families with each other (for example: sharing parent directories, providing a website for parents to connect with one another, etc.)?				
e) Encourage more involved parents to reach out to less-involved parents?				

28) How often does this school:				
	Never	Once a year	2-3 times a year	More than 3 times a year
a) Conduct workshops or trainings for parents on student learning?				

5Essentials Survey - Teacher

29) Please indicate the extent to which you disagree or agree with each of the following.

2) A member of the school leadership team:

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
a) Makes clear to the staff the leadership's expectations for meeting instructional goals.				
b) Communicates a clear vision for our school.				
c) Presses teachers to implement what they have learned in professional development.				
d) Knows what's going on in my classroom.				
e) Participates in instructional planning with teams of teachers.				
f) Provides me with useful feedback to improve my teaching.				

30) How much influence do teachers have over school policy in each of the areas below?

	No influence	A little influence	Some influence	A great extent
a) Planning how discretionary school funds should be used.				
b) Determining which books and other instructional materials used in classrooms.				
c) Establishing the curriculum and instructional program.				
d) Determining the content of in-service programs.				
e) Setting standards for student behavior.				

5Essentials Survey - Teacher

31) To what extent do you disagree or agree with the following:				
	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
a) Once we start a new program in this school, we follow up to make sure that it's working.				
b) We have so many different programs in this school that I can't keep track of them all.				
c) Many special programs come and go at this school.				
d) Curriculum, instruction, and learning materials are well coordinated across the different grade levels at this school.				
e) There is consistency in curriculum, instruction, and learning materials among teachers in the same grade level at this school.				

32) Overall, my professional development experiences this year have:				
	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
a) Been sustained and coherently focused, rather than short-term and unrelated.				
b) Included enough time to think carefully about, try, and evaluate new ideas.				
c) Been closely connected to my school's improvement plan.				
d) Included opportunities to work productively with colleagues in my school.				
e) Included opportunities to work productively with teachers from other schools.				

5Essentials Survey - Teacher

(Grades 9-12)

33) Please mark the extent to which you disagree or agree with each of the following:				
	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
a) Teachers expect most students in this school to go to college.				
b) Teachers at this school help students plan for college outside of class time.				
c) The curriculum at this school is focused on helping students get ready for college.				
d) Most of the students in this school are planning to go to college.				
e) Teachers in this school feel that it is a part of their job to prepare students to succeed in college.				

(All Teachers; Target= Primary Subject and Specified Period)

34) To what extent do the following characteristics describe discussions that occur in your [TARGET] or [Self-contained] class:				
	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Almost always
a) Students build on each other's ideas during discussion.				
b) Students use data and text references to support their ideas.				
c) Students show each other respect.				
d) Students provide constructive feedback to their peers and to me.				
e) Most students participate in the discussion at some point.				

Parent Survey

Parent Questions*

**Questions from the parent survey do not affect a school's performance on the 5Essentials*

Parent Survey

1) How many children do you have attending this school?

1	2	3	4	5 or more
---	---	---	---	-----------

2) Please select the grade level of your child. If you have multiple children at this school, please select the grade for your youngest child.

PK	K	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	

3) To what extent do you feel that this school is preparing your child for college?

Not at all	A little	Some	To a great extent	Not applicable
------------	----------	------	-------------------	----------------

4) How likely are you to recommend this school to a parent looking for a school for their child?

Not at all likely	Somewhat likely	Extremely likely	Not applicable
-------------------	-----------------	------------------	----------------

5) Overall, how satisfied are you with the education your child is receiving at this school?

Very dissatisfied	Somewhat dissatisfied	Somewhat satisfied	Very satisfied
-------------------	-----------------------	--------------------	----------------

6) How often does the staff at this school do the following?

	Never	Rarely	Often	Every time there is an event
a) Invite you to school events.				
b) Make you aware of the important information and news about the school.				
c) Offer opportunities to participate in making decisions that affect the school community.				

Parent Survey

7) To what extent do you feel:				
	Not at all	A little	Some	To a great extent
a) Your voice is valued at the school?				
b) Comfortable sharing your concerns with the school leadership?				
c) Welcomed when you enter the school?				
d) That you are an important part of improving the school?				

8) How often do you do the following?						
	Never	Rarely	Occasionally	Usually	Always	Not applicable
a) Attend scheduled PTA (parent, teacher and staff) meetings.						
b) Volunteer at the school.						
c) Attend scheduled Parent-Teacher conferences.						
d) Attend scheduled school events/ performances.						
e) Raise funds for the school.						
f) Chaperone field trips.						
g) Participate in parent safety/patrol.						

Parent Survey

9) How often does the following keep you from being involved with this school?						
	Never	Rarely	Occasionally	Usually	Always	Not applicable
a) Access to child care.						
b) Transportation.						
c) Work obligations.						
d) Program and event relevance.						
e) Events are scheduled when I cannot attend.						
f) Attitudes of other parents.						
g) School administration.						

10) How often do teachers at this school do the following:				
	Never	Once or twice a semester	2-3 times a month	Once a week or more
a) Let me know what my child is working on in class.				
b) Contact me personally to discuss my child's academic achievement.				
c) Provide suggestions for how to support my child on school.				
d) Listen to my suggestions about how to best support my child.				

Parent Survey

11) To what extent do you feel:				
	Not at all	A little	Some	To a great extent
a) Like a partner with the teachers at the school in your child's education?				
b) It is easy to contact your student's teachers when you need to?				

12) How often do you do the following with your child at home?						
	Never	Rarely	Occasionally	Usually	Always	Not applicable
a) Read.						
b) Supervise homework.						
c) Talk about their day.						
d) Practice math problems.						

13) How true is the following statement?				
	Not at all	A little	Some	To a great extent
a) My child feels safe at this school.				
b) My child is affected by bullying at this school.				
c) This school addresses bullying.				
d) The teachers and the principal could do more to make the school a safe place.				
e) A teacher or other staff member lets me know if there is a problem with my child's behavior.				

Parent Survey

14) How would you rate the quality of the following facility at this school?					
	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent	Does not apply
a) Your child's classrooms.					
b) Computer lab(s).					
c) Library.					
d) Gym.					
e) Food Services.					
f) Overall cleanliness of the school.					

15) Do you have access to a computer that connects to the internet at home?		
	Yes	No

16) How often do you use the following devices to access the internet:					
	Never	1 day a week	A few days a week	Almost every day	Every day
a) Desktop or laptop computer.					
b) Handheld device (including smartphones).					
c) Gaming device (Wii/Playstation/Xbox).					
d) Tablet computer (iPad/Android).					

17) How do you prefer to receive information about the school/school events?		
	Yes	No
a) Via email.		
b) Via text message.		
c) Via telephone.		
d) Via mail.		