

# PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT SURVEY

Our school system is working to strengthen partnerships between schools and families in order to help children perform better in school. In order to continue to do so, we need to collect information regarding the involvement of parents in the schools their children attend. The purpose of this survey is to get your opinion on how well schools have met your families' and child's needs and how you feel about the school's parental involvement activities. There are no right or wrong answers. We are only interested in your opinions. The findings of the survey will be summarized and used to make improvements.

**DIRECTIONS: Please check the selection that most closely matches your answer for each item. The last page provides room for written comments.**

School: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Children: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade level(s): Pre-K – K – 1 – 2 – 3 – 4 – 5 – 6 – 7 – 8 – 9 – 10 – 11 – 12 *[Circle all that apply.]*

Language(s) Spoken at Home: \_\_\_\_\_

## A. PARENTING

1. Last year, did the school sponsor workshops or courses to help parents understand the learning needs of their child and strategies for working with their child?  
☐ Yes   ☐ No   ☐ Do not know
2. Approximately how many workshops or courses did the school provide for parents on parenting skills (e.g., discipline, child development) last year?  
☐ 1   ☐ 2–3   ☐ 4–5   ☐ 6 or more   ☐ Do not know
3. How many workshops or courses did you or your family attend last year?  
☐ 1   ☐ 2–3   ☐ 4–5   ☐ 6 or more
4. If you did attend workshops or courses, overall, were they well prepared and interesting?  
☐ Yes, always   ☐ Usually   ☐ Not usually   ☐ Never
5. If you did attend workshops or courses, overall, did they provide you with useful information?  
☐ Yes, always   ☐ Usually   ☐ Not usually   ☐ Never
6. Are workshops or courses provided in different languages? Are interpreters used?  
☐ No, workshops are only in English  
☐ Yes, workshops are in different languages. *[Specify other languages: \_\_\_\_\_.]*  
☐ Yes, interpreters are available *[Specify other languages: \_\_\_\_\_.]*  
☐ I do not know
7. If you did not attend any workshops, please specify why. *[Check all that apply.]*  
☐ I was not provided with enough information or notice

- ☐ Workshops were not held at convenient times
- ☐ Childcare was not available
- ☐ Workshop information provided is difficult for parents to understand
- ☐ I am not interested in workshop topics

8. If you attended workshops, respond to the following statements by the indicators to the right, marking how much you agree or disagree with the statement.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
The workshops helped me better understand my child's needs.				
I have used the techniques offered in the workshops.				
I believe that my child has improved his/her skills and/or behaviors as a result of using the techniques suggested in the workshops.				

9. How much of the following information has the school provided to you or your family? *[Respond to the information topics below by using the indicators to the right.]*

	A Lot	Some	Very Little	None
Child development and parenting.				
How to support learning at home.				
Discipline techniques.				

## B. COMMUNICATION

1. When you visit your child's school: *[Respond to the questions below by using the indicators to the right.]*

	Yes	Somewhat	No
Is the reception staff friendly and helpful?			
Are the teachers easy to talk to?			
Is the principal easy to talk to?			
Do you feel comfortable interacting with parents of cultural and ethnic backgrounds different from yours?			

2. Are written communications from the school, such as report cards and newsletters available in a language you understand? ☐ Yes ☐ No

3. Clearly written? ☐ Yes ☐ No

4. The best way to communicate with you and/or your family is: *[Check your two preferred methods.]*
- ☐ School memos   ☐ Child's teachers   ☐ PTA newsletter   ☐ Parent representative (of any given culture)
- ☐ Parent liaison   ☐ Counselor   ☐ Parent representative (your own culture)
5. How many parent-teacher conferences did you attend last year?   ☐ None   ☐ 1   ☐ 2 or more
6. Did you receive sufficient information about: *[Respond to the questions below by using the indicators to the right.]*

	Yes	Some	No
English-as-a-second language programs?			
Special education programs?			
Gifted and talented programs?			
Bilingual education programs?			
Title I programs?			
Migrant education programs?			
Report cards?			
Standardized testing?			

7. How often do you communicate with teachers about your child's performance?
- ☐ Often   ☐ A little   ☐ Never
8. Are report card grades fully explained to you?   ☐ Yes   ☐ Somewhat   ☐ No
9. Are standardized tests fully explained to you?   ☐ Yes   ☐ Somewhat   ☐ No
10. Does the school provide translators, when needed, for: *[Respond to the information topics below by using the indicators to the right.]*

	Yes	No	Not Sure
Parent conferences?			
Private individual meetings?			
When requested by parent?			

### C. VOLUNTEERING

1. Were you asked about your interests, talents, and availability for volunteering at school?
- ☐ Yes   ☐ No
2. Last year, did you volunteer at school?   ☐ Yes   ☐ No

3. If you did volunteer, please indicate for what type of activity and the frequency. *[Respond to the information topics below by using the indicators to the right.]*

	Never	1 Time	2–3 Times	3+ Times
Helping on trips or at parties.				
Sharing food, stories, and customs from your culture.				
Assisting in the classroom (e.g., tutoring, grading papers).				
Leading club and/or activities.				
Other (please specify). _____				

4. If you have not volunteered at school, please indicate why:

- ☐ Have never been asked  
☐ I don't know how  
☐ Conflict with work schedule  
☐ Have other children to care for  
☐ I do not feel comfortable  
☐ Not interested  
☐ Other *[please specify: \_\_\_\_\_]*

#### D. LEARNING AT HOME

- Do teachers suggest homework activities for you and your child?  
☐ Often    ☐ Sometimes    ☐ Very little    ☐ Never
- Do you listen to your child read or read aloud to your child?  
☐ Often    ☐ Sometimes    ☐ Very little    ☐ Never
- Is the information related to home learning activities provided in different languages?  
☐ No, information is only in English.  
☐ Yes, information is in different languages *[specify other languages: \_\_\_\_\_]*.  
☐ I do not know.

#### E. DECISION MAKING

- Does the school have an active parent–teacher organization? *[e.g., PTA, PTO]*  
☐ Yes    ☐ No    ☐ Do not know
- If yes, how many parent–teacher organization meetings have you attended?  
☐ 1    ☐ 2 or more    ☐ None
- Are parents involved in planning and evaluating school programs?

☐ Yes      ☐ No      ☐ Do not know

4. If yes, have you participated on any school councils or committees?

☐ Yes. *[Please specify: \_\_\_\_\_]*

☐ No, I have not participated on any school councils or committees.

5. Does the school actively seek ideas from parents on school-related issues? *[e.g., selecting staff, developing program]*      ☐ Yes      ☐ No      ☐ Do not know

6. If yes, have you given your ideas or advice on school-related issues?

☐ Yes (please specify: \_\_\_\_\_)

☐ No, I have not offered my ideas or advice on school-related issues.

☐ No, I have not been asked for my ideas or advice on school-related issues.

7. Which of these statements best reflect your opinion and/or level of participation? ***Respond to the information topics below by using the indicators to the right.***

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
I feel my opinion is taken into consideration when it comes to school policy decisions.				
I actively participate in PTA meetings.				
I actively participate in school committees and/or school improvement teams.				
School staff consider my opinion when it comes to decisions concerning my child.				
I don't feel part of the decision-making body at the school at any level.				
I believe parents are very involved in decision making at the school.				
I have not been asked for my ideas or advice on school-related issues.				

8. Would you like to participate more in school decisions? *[Check all that apply.]*

- ☐ Yes, I would like to participate more, but I don't feel encouraged by the school.
- ☐ Yes, I would like to participate more, but I do not know how to get involved.
- ☐ Yes, I would like to participate more, but I do not have time.
- ☐ Yes, I would like to participate more, but communicating in English is difficult for me.
- ☐ Yes, I would like to participate more, but I do not understand the issues very well.
- ☐ Yes, I would like to participate more, but I do not feel comfortable.
- ☐ No, I am not interested in participating in school decision making.
- ☐ No, I would rather become involved in other school activities.
- ☐ Other reasons: \_\_\_\_\_

#### F. COMMUNITY COLLABORATION

1. Does the school participate in events planned by members of the ethnic community?

- ☐ Yes      ☐ No      ☐ Do not know

2. Does the district or school provide any of the following support programs for families of diverse educational and linguistic backgrounds?

*Respond to the information topics below by using the indicators to the right.*

	Yes	No	Don't Know
Family literacy programs			
English-as-a-second-language programs			
G.E.D. programs			
Computer training programs			

3. In which of these support programs have you participated? *[Respond to the information topics below by using the indicators to the right.]*

	Yes	No	Don't Know
Family literacy programs			
English-as-a-second-language programs			
G.E.D. programs			
Computer training programs			

4. What kind of support programs would you like the district or school to offer to you and your family?

- ☐ Family literacy programs
- ☐ GED programs
- ☐ English-as-a-second language programs
- ☐ Computer training programs
- ☐ Other programs: (1) \_\_\_\_\_ (2) \_\_\_\_\_

5. What is your opinion about the following statements? *[Respond to the information topics below by using the indicators to the right.]*

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
The school provides information about community organizations that support my child's learning.				
The school participates in community events organized by diverse ethnic groups.				
The parent liaison assists parents and communities to become more involved in the school.				

6. What best describes your education level?

- ☐ Informal education
- ☐ Elementary school
- ☐ High school
- ☐ Trade school/community college degree
- ☐ College degree
- ☐ Master's/doctorate degree

7. What best describes your household?

- ☐ Two parents or guardians, both working outside the home
- ☐ Two parents or guardians, one working outside the home
- ☐ Two parents or guardians, none working outside the home
- ☐ One parent or guardian, working outside the home
- ☐ One parent or guardian not working outside the home
- ☐ Other, please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

8. Do any other relatives *[or other persons]* live in your home? Please specify.

\_\_\_\_\_

9. Other comments or suggestions on how the school can create better connections with families:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION IN COMPLETING THIS SURVEY.