

2019 Parent Survey Results

Kenilworth Board of Education

9-24-19



JOSEPH SEARS

EST. 1899

RESPONSIBILITY KINDNESS HONESTY RESPECT

Parent Survey Background

- Survey was issued during May, 2019. Changes to the administrative team at this time likely skewed some of the data.
- 35 multiple-choice questions and six open-ended questions. Five multiple choice were grade specific for each child enrolled at Joseph Sears.
- Consistently high number of respondents, 2019 participation up 13% over 2018

Year	Responses	Total # Sears Families
2019	262	275
2018	235	286
2017	247	278

Survey Elements

Multiple-choice questions were grouped into six measurable categories of school climate:

- **Curriculum/Instruction/Teaching**
- **Student Behavior and Engagement**
- **Administration**
- **School Climate**
- **General Satisfaction**
- **Overall Ratings**

Survey responses were collected anonymously. Survey settings prevented multiple survey attempts from coming from the same IP address. Survey responses were not associated to any identifiable information.



6 Measurable Categories of School Climate

Questions were grouped according to their weighted average scores, so we can better understand parent responses in each category

	Excellent 7.0-6.0	Good 5.9-5.0	Neutral 4.9-4.0	Needs Improvement 3.9 to 0
Curriculum/Instruction/Teaching	3	4		
Student Behavior & Engagement	1	5		
Administration		2	3	
School Climate	5	3	1	
General Satisfaction	1	4	1	
Overall Ratings	1	1		

Curriculum/Instruction/Teaching

Areas of Stability

- Homework assignments reinforce what is learned in the classroom
- Students are sufficiently challenged
- Retention of the best teachers and staff at the school
- Curriculum that is preparing students for challenges of 21st century and promoting their critical thinking skills

Opportunities for Growth

- Innovative learning methods
- Quality of teaching
- Some grade levels showed decline in satisfaction in homework assignments reinforcing learning (6-8) and students being sufficiently challenged

Student Behavior & Engagement

Areas of Stability

- Students care about learning

Opportunities for Growth

- Students are encouraged to try new ideas, and respect each other's differences
- Practice the four cornerstones
- Students feel safe from verbal abuse, teasing and exclusion
- Students treat teachers and staff with respect

Administration

Areas of Stability

- Administration communicates with parents in a timely matter

Opportunities for Growth

- Roles and responsibilities of each administrator are clear and parents know who to contact
- Level of transparency of Administration on key issues
- Administration follows through effectively on matters of student discipline

School Climate

Areas of Stability

- Parents respect teachers and staff
- The school community has high expectations for all students
- Teachers and staff treat students with respect
- Joseph Sears School (JSS) is a safe place to be
- School building is clean and well maintained

Opportunities for Growth

- School rules are communicated effectively and are fair
- JSS has an effective policy to deal with disruptive students
- JSS encourages students to develop good character traits

General Satisfaction



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Especially Good at Sears	Would Like to See Changed / Improved
<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Teachers✓ Community atmosphere✓ Class sizes✓ Curriculum	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Board/administrative communication✓ Principal turnover✓ Clearer definition of administrative roles✓ Longer lunch/play✓ Student homework load✓ Discipline procedures and systems✓ More extra-curricular options

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Additional Feedback

General responses touched on many areas of school culture:

- Focus on students first
- Administrative structure
- Roles and responsibilities
- More transparency
- Leadership
- School culture
- Expectations of students
- Bullying

Second Cup of Coffee Events:

- Useful, relevant topics, good summary data
- Would like to see them recorded
- Present grade level topics
- Get community topic suggestions

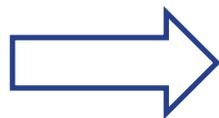
Remote Learning Days:

- Difficult for working parents
- Need home technology and supervision
- Generally like if done on rare occasions

Key Takeaways and Next Steps

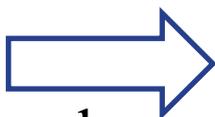
AREAS OF FOCUS

- Better define administrative roles and responsibilities



NEXT STEPS

- Explanation of administrative roles included in announcement of new hires, and all back to school communications and presentations
 - Updated Contact Us page of website with details on on who to contact for specific issues
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- Increase board and administrative transparency and proactive communication

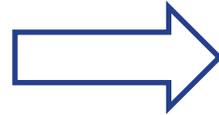


- Concerted effort by Board to proactively communicate about key issues on an ongoing basis (emails, meeting announcements, etc.)

Key Takeaways and Next Steps

AREAS OF FOCUS

- Seek a deeper understanding of discipline issues and develop solutions with administrators, faculty and parents
- Accentuate Personal Learning in the curriculum across all grades and subjects



NEXT STEPS

- Continue the work of the Positive Behavior Supports committee to analyze discipline systems and data, and refine and create consistency in our procedures and communication around them
- Continue to work with faculty and staff to define personalized learning at JSS, incorporating current research and best practices already in use here

Key Takeaways and Next Steps

AREAS OF FOCUS

- Utilize specific parent feedback in curricular areas of particular interest to our community



NEXT STEPS

- Unpack parent survey data with teaching teams in order to identify trends and develop action steps for improvement in specific subjects

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND FEEDBACK



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