

Executive Summary
2018 Satisfaction Survey
June 13, 2018

In February of 2018, RSU5 conducted a Satisfaction Survey to provide a means of input for parents and community members to identify areas of strength as well as areas for growth in our schools.

We received a total of 355 surveys which is approximately 18% of the families in the District. This assumes that only one person in the family completed the survey. Below is a summary of the most significant findings by district and school level. At the comment level, topics that appeared most frequently are noted.

Districtwide Results (355 surveys (18% of families) completed):

The following questions received 75% or more of strongly agreed/somewhat agreed:

- The school is clean and well-maintained *
- When reporting about my child's progress, teachers use language I can understand
- The school reflects the pride taken in educating our students
- The school provides quality teaching/learning materials and technology equipment
- I feel comfortable talking with my child's teacher(s)
- The school offers a broad range of co-curricular activities
- The atmosphere at school is positive and conducive to learning
- The school encourages students to show respect for each other
- Adults who work in the school treat students with respect
- I feel welcome at my child's school
- Parents have opportunities to participate in school activities
- Behavior expectations are made clear to students
- The school is safe and orderly

* Any question that received 90% or above has an asterisk at the end of the question.

The following questions received 20% or more of strongly disagreed/ somewhat disagreed:

- My child learns life skills such as managing time, prioritizing, meeting deadlines, responsibility, and communicating clearly.
- Teachers meet my child's needs by including a variety of teaching strategies and activities
- My child receives additional challenges as needed
- Special education services meet the needs of my child
- GT programming meets the needs of my child
- Teachers assign high-quality homework that supports learning
- Administrators and teachers communicate with parents/guardians effectively
- Teachers and administrators are responsive to my concerns and suggestions
- Teachers help me understand how my child's work is evaluated
- My child's emotional needs are understood and properly addressed
- The school helps me understand how to best support my child's learning at home

Morse Street School (28 surveys (10% of families) completed):

The following questions received 75% or more of strongly agreed/ somewhat agreed:

- When reporting about my child's progress, teachers use language I can understand *
- Special education services meet the needs of my child *
- The atmosphere at school is positive and conducive to learning *
- The school encourages students to show respect for each other *
- Parents have opportunities to participate in school activities *
- School staff have a positive impact on students' behavior *
- Teachers manage classroom behavior effectively *
- The school is safe and orderly *
- The school helps me understand how to best support my child's learning at home
- Teachers help me understand how my child's work is evaluated
- Staff proactively educates students about the impact and prevention of bullying
- Staff handles discipline fairly, consistently, and effectively
- Adults who work in the school treat students with respect
- Teachers have built strong relationships with my child
- I feel welcome at my child's school
- Behavior expectations are made clear to students
- The school tells me about behavior expectations for my child
- The school is clean and well-maintained
- The school reflects the pride taken in educating our students
- The school provides quality teaching/learning materials and technology equipment
- Administrators and teachers communicate with parents/guardians effectively
- I have opportunities to share my views about the school
- Teachers and administrators are responsive to my concerns and suggestions
- I feel comfortable talking with my child's teacher(s)
- Teachers meet my child's needs by including a variety of teaching strategies and activities
- The academic needs of my child are recognized by staff
- My child receives additional help as needed
- Teachers respect agreements and decisions reached at parent teacher meetings, and follow-up on those suggestions
- Support staff, including educational technicians and literacy and math strategists, help meet the needs of students

(Any question that received 90% or above has an asterisk at the end of the question.)

The following question received 20% or more of strongly disagreed/ somewhat disagreed:

- The academic program includes a wide selection of course offerings

Comments that appeared most frequently on what Morse Street is **doing well:**

- MSS has a caring, nurturing environment
- Great staff
- Communications are exceptional

Comments that appeared most frequently for **improving** Morse Street School:

- Better differentiation in instruction, ensuring that all students are growing academically
- Work on parent/teacher connections

Pownal Elementary School (21 surveys (18% of families) completed):

The following questions received 75% or more of strongly agreed/ somewhat agreed:

- The atmosphere at school is positive and conducive to learning *
- The school reflects the pride taken in educating our students *
- Administrators and teachers communicate with parents/guardians effectively *
- I feel comfortable talking with my child's teacher *
- I have opportunities to share my views about the school *
- Teachers have built strong relationships with my child *
- I feel welcome at my child's school *
- Parents have opportunities to participate in school activities *
- The school encourages students to show respect for each other *
- Adults who work in the school treat students with respect *
- The school offers a challenging, rigorous curriculum *
- The school is focused on academic achievement, setting high expectations for students *
- Teachers meet my child's needs by including a variety of teaching strategies and activities *
- The academic needs of my child are recognized by staff *
- Special education services meet the needs of my child *
- School staff have a positive impact on students' behavior *
- The school is safe and orderly *
- The school is clean and well-maintained *
- When reporting about my child's progress, teachers use language I can understand*
- Teachers and administrators are responsive to my concerns and suggestions
- The school provides quality teaching/learning materials and technology equipment
- My child receives additional help as needed
- The academic program includes a wide selection of course offerings
- My child's emotional needs are understood and properly addressed
- The school provides excellent support services
- My child learns life skills such as managing time, prioritizing, meeting deadlines, responsibility, and communicating clearly
- The school offers a broad range of co-curricular activities
- Students have access to a wide selection of sports through the school's athletic program
- Staff handles discipline fairly, consistently, and effectively
- Staff proactively educates students about the impact and prevention of bullying
- Teachers manage classroom behavior effectively
- Behavior expectations are made clear to students
- The school tells me about behavior expectations for my child

- The school helps me understand how to best support my child's learning at home
- Teachers respect agreements and decisions reached at parent teacher meetings, and follow-up on those suggestions
- Teachers help me understand how my child's work is evaluated

(Any question that received 90% or above has an asterisk at the end of the question.)

The following question received 20% or more of strongly disagreed/ somewhat disagreed:

- My child receives additional challenges as needed

Comments that appeared most frequently on what Pownal Elementary School is **doing well**:

- Warm, welcoming environment with a strong sense of community

Comments that appeared most frequently for **improving** Pownal Elementary School:

- There should be less or no homework given
- There should be foreign language in the elementary school

Mast Landing School (46 surveys (18% of families) completed):

The following questions received 75% or more of strongly agreed/somewhat agreed:

- The school is clean and well-maintained *
- Adults who work in the school treat students with respect *
- When reporting about my child's progress, teachers use language I can understand
- Teachers respect agreements and decisions reached at parent teacher meetings, and follow-up on those suggestions
- The school reflects the pride taken in educating our students
- I feel comfortable talking with my child's teacher(s)
- Teachers have built strong relationships with my child
- The atmosphere at school is positive and conducive to learning
- The school encourages students to show respect for each other
- The school provides quality teaching/learning materials and technology equipment
- I feel welcome at my child's school
- Parents have opportunities to participate in school activities
- The school is safe and orderly
- My child receives additional help as needed
- School staff have a positive impact on students' behavior

(Any question that received 90% or above has an asterisk at the end of the question.)

The following questions received 20% or more of strongly disagreed/somewhat disagreed:

- The academic needs of my child are recognized by staff

- Teachers assign high-quality homework that supports learning
- My child receives additional challenges as needed
- My child's emotional needs are understood and properly addressed
- Special Education services meet the needs of my child
- The school offers a broad range of co-curricular activities
- Students have access to a wide selection of sports through the school's athletic program
- Staff handles discipline fairly, consistently, and effectively
- Staff proactively educates students about the impact and prevention of bullying
- Teachers meet my child's needs by including a variety of teaching strategies and activities
- Teachers manage classroom behavior effectively

Comments that appeared most frequently on what Mast Landing School is **doing well:**

- The teachers and staff do their job well and are committed and caring
- Kids love going to school and have good things to say about the nurturing and caring atmosphere

Comments that appeared most frequently for **improving Mast Landing School:**

- More challenge for non-GT high achieving students/differentiation in the classroom is needed
- Improvement in management of disruptive behaviors and bullying is needed

Freeport High School (115 surveys (22% of families) completed):

The following questions received 75% or more of strongly agreed/ somewhat agreed:

- The school is clean and well-maintained *
- The school offers a challenging, rigorous curriculum
- The academic program includes a wide selection of course offerings
- The school offers a broad range of co-curricular activities
- Students have access to a wide selection of sports through the school's athletic program
- The school encourages students to show respect for each other
- I feel welcome at my child's school
- Parents have opportunities to participate in school activities
- The school is safe and orderly
- The school reflects the pride taken in educating our students
- The school provides quality teaching/learning materials and technology
- I feel comfortable talking with my child's teachers
- When reporting about my child's progress, teachers use language I can understand
- My child receives additional help as needed

(Any question that received 90% or above has an asterisk at the end of the question.)

Several questions received 20% or more of strongly disagreed and somewhat disagreed combined. Those questions included:

- Administrators and teachers communicate with parents/guardians effectively
- Teachers and administrators are responsive to my concerns and suggestions
- Teachers help me understand how my child's work is evaluated
- The school helps me understand how to best support my child's learning at home
- The school is focused on academic achievement, setting high expectations for students
- Teachers meet my child's needs by including a variety of teaching strategies and activities
- My child's emotional needs are understood and properly addressed
- Special education services meet the needs of my child
- GT programming meets the needs of my child
- The school provides excellent support services (guidance, nursing, college planning, etc)
- My child learns life skills such as managing time, prioritizing, meeting deadlines, responsibility and communicating clearly
- My child receives additional challenges as needed

Comments that appeared most frequently on what Freeport High School is **doing well:**

- FHS has a friendly, caring atmosphere
- Great teachers
- Good communication from Admin and in school announcements
- Good principal

Comments that appeared most frequently for **improving Freeport High School:**

- Revamp grading system: 1-4 grading system not clear/not calibrated/don't like it
- PBE is confusing: Need clarity and consistency. Needs to include teacher input
- Admin need to follow up with/be more responsive to parents
- More challenge/rigor is needed for GT students. GT program is non-existent
- Honors courses are needed in the SS Dept
- Improve coaching. Include student input in review.
- Respond more effectively to drug use and vaping
- Guidance needs to provide more info on course selection, college application and tech education
- School Board is out of touch- needs to become more familiar with schools

Freeport Middle School (79 surveys (22% of families) completed):

The following questions received 75% or more of strongly agreed/somewhat agreed:

- The school is safe and orderly*
- The atmosphere at school is positive and conducive to learning

- The school encourages students to show respect for each other
- Adults who work in the school treat students with respect
- I feel welcome in my child's school
- Behavior expectations are made clear to students
- The school is clean and well-maintained
- The school reflects the pride taken in educating our students
- The school provides quality teaching/learning materials and technology equipment
- I feel comfortable talking to my child's teacher(s)
- When reporting about my child's progress, teachers use language I can understand
- The school offers a broad range of co-curricular activities
- Students have access to a wide selection of sports through the school's athletic program

(Any question that received 90% or above has an asterisk at the end of the question.)

The following question received 20% or more of strongly disagreed/somewhat disagreed:

- The school is focused on academic achievement, setting high expectations for students
- The teachers meet my child's needs by including a variety of teaching strategies and activities
- Teachers assign high-quality homework that supports learning
- The academic needs of my child are recognized by staff
- My child receives additional challenges as needed
- My child's emotional needs are understood and properly addressed
- Special education services meet the needs of my child
- GT programming meets the needs of my child
- My child learns life skills such as managing time, prioritizing meeting deadlines, responsibility, and communicating clearly
- Administrators and teachers communicate with parents/guardians effectively
- Teachers help me understand how my child's work is evaluated
- The school helps me understand how to best support my child's learning at home

Comments that appeared most frequently on what Freeport Middle School is **doing well**:

- High quality teaching
- Great communication
- The positive way that staff interact and connect with students
- The abundance of co-curricular activities and enrichment activities, including Kiev and Fab Fridays

Comments that appeared most frequently for **improving** Freeport Middle School:

- More understandable, more nuanced, more consistent grading/evaluation system
- More teacher collaboration with parents

Durham Community School (67 surveys (16% of families) surveys completed:

The following questions received 75% or more of strongly agreed/somewhat agreed:

- The school is safe and orderly*
- The school is clean and well-maintained*
- Adults who work in the school treat students with respect
- I feel welcome at my child's school
- Parents have opportunities to participate in school activities
- The school reflects the pride taken in educating our students
- The school provides quality teaching/learning materials and technology equipment
- I feel comfortable talking with my child's teacher(s)
- When reporting about my child's progress, teachers use language I can understand

(Any question that received 90% or above has an asterisk at the end of the question.)

The following question received 20% or more of strongly disagreed/ somewhat disagreed:

- Teachers assign high quality homework that supports learning
- My child receives additional challenges as needed
- My child's emotional needs are understood and properly addressed
- Special education services meet the needs of my child
- Staff handles discipline fairly, consistently, and effectively
- Staff proactively educates students about the impact and prevention of bullying
- Teachers manage classroom behavior effectively
- I have opportunities to share my views about the school
- Teachers and administrators are responsive to my concerns and suggestions

Comments that appeared most frequently on what Durham Community School is **doing well:**

- A warm, caring staff that provides a welcoming, positive learning environment
- Appreciation for support/intervention programs
- Positive, effective communication
- A well-maintained school

Comments that appeared most frequently for **improving Durham Community School (DCS):**

- Do a better job of dealing with bullying and behavior issues
- Offer more challenging learning opportunities for higher-achieving students
- Offer more sports opportunities