

The Public Schools of Brookline

2014-2015 School Surveys

Final School Report



Dear Brookline Community,

The PSB School Surveys were administered online in January, 2015 to all parents, guardians, and active school-based staff members in the system. Respondents were asked to share feedback on school culture, excellence in education, school leadership, and staff/student engagement.

The surveys were designed to be used alongside many other sources of data to provide constructive feedback to enable individual schools and the system to reflect on areas of strength and areas for growth. The information included here, along with open-text comments, has been shared with all school and system leaders.

This is the first time we have conducted a standard system-wide school survey; as such, these results serve as baseline indicators. We thank you for your participation and look forward to using this and related information to enable continuous improvement efforts in your school and the entire school system.

Bill Lupini, Superintendent

Lawrence School

School Type: K-8

Enrollment: 673

Respondent Profile:

Responses: 65 staff (74%)
308 families (65%)

Family Respondents:

Grades: 49% K-2nd
39% 3rd-5th
29% 6th-8th

Years at School: 25% 1st Year
32% 2-4 Years
18% 5-7 Years
15% 8+ Years

How to read this report

This report is a single piece of information about a complex system. It is designed to give some information on opportunities and challenges in our schools and our system. This report can tell a reader how a subset of families and staff felt about various aspects of their school at the time they completed the survey. This report does not provide facts and cannot tell a reader whether or not a school is “good”.

Percent Agree or Disagree indicates the percent of respondents who answered Agree/Strongly Agree or Disagree/Strongly Disagree to a given statement.

School Average indicates the average numerical response among all respondents. These averages can help the reader understand how strongly respondents felt about a statement. Small differences between averages are not meaningful. The scale used was:

1
Strongly
Disagree

2
Disagree

3
Neutral

4
Agree

5
Strongly
Agree

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Not Applicable
(N/A)

Staff Survey

School Culture

<i>% Respondents who:</i>	Agree	Disagree	School Average
As a staff member, I trust this school's administration.	97%	2%	4.6
Staff at this school trust each other.	91%	0%	4.3
In general, teachers at this school are allowed to focus on educating students with minimal interruptions.	72%	11%	3.7
Staff morale is high at this school.	82%	2%	4.2
This school is sensitive to issues regarding race/ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, disabilities, & socioeconomic status.	97%	0%	4.6
This school is a learning community in which ideas & suggestions for improvement are encouraged.	94%	0%	4.6
Order & discipline are consistently maintained at this school.	95%	0%	4.5
This school uses information from parents/guardians to meet student learning needs.	93%	0%	4.4
Parents/guardians are given opportunities to be meaningfully involved at this school.	98%	0%	4.6

Staff Survey

Excellence in Education

<i>% Respondents who:</i>	Agree	Disagree	School Average
This school's facilities are used to support teaching & learning.	97%	0%	4.4
I have sufficient access to technology, including computers, printers, software, and internet access.	85%	8%	4.1
I have the materials & equipment I need to do my job well.	82%	8%	4.0
I have sufficient access to appropriate instructional materials.	80%	5%	4.0
I believe students are getting a high-quality education at this school.	98%	0%	4.7
All students at this school are capable of high achievement.	88%	5%	4.3
This school has clear measures of progress for student achievement throughout the year.	80%	5%	4.0

Staff Survey

School Leadership

	<i>% Respondents who:</i>	Agree	Disagree	School Average
I feel supported by this school's administration.		92%	3%	4.5
Administrators at this school know what's going on in classrooms.		93%	3%	4.3
Administrators at this school support my efforts to maintain discipline in the classroom.		94%	0%	4.5
Administrators at this school give me regular & helpful feedback about my teaching.		88%	3%	4.0
I receive timely feedback from administrators on my performance & progress toward goals.		88%	3%	4.4
I have an opportunity to participate in leadership roles at this school.		84%	3%	4.3
Teachers are trusted to make sound professional decisions about instruction at this school.		94%	3%	4.4

Respondents may recall answering a series of questions regarding the leadership of the principal or headmaster of this school. The purpose of these questions was to provide data for each leader's annual evaluation by the Superintendent and, therefore, the results are not a part of this report.

Staff Survey

Staff Engagement

	<i>% Respondents who:</i>	Agree	Disagree	School Average
I am provided with appropriate training opportunities to enable me to be successful with new initiatives and/or tools.		66%	8%	3.8
Professional development in the PSB enhances my ability to improve student learning.		70%	13%	3.8
At this school, I have the opportunity to do what I do best every day.		88%	5%	4.3
I know what is expected of me in my role at this school.		94%	0%	4.4
I like working at this school.		98%	2%	4.7
Overall, I am satisfied with my professional experience at this school.		89%	2%	4.4

Percent of respondents who have done each of the following this school year:

Taken part in a professional development opportunity offered by the district or this school.	85%
Used data to drive instructional decisions.	94%
Been given the opportunity to work collaboratively with colleagues at this school.	100%
Received constructive feedback from supervisors regarding your practice.	94%

Family Survey

School Culture

<i>% Respondents who:</i>	Agree	Disagree	Average
Adults at this school treat students with respect.	95%	1%	4.6
This school is sensitive to issues regarding race/ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, disabilities, & socioeconomic status.	90%	1%	4.4
This school acknowledges and celebrates student achievements.	87%	4%	4.2
I feel welcome at this school.	91%	0%	4.5
Order & discipline are consistently maintained at this school.	91%	1%	4.4
My child is safe at this school.	97%	1%	4.5
Arrival & dismissal procedures at this school provide for a safe & orderly environment.	91%	3%	4.3
Parents/guardians are given opportunities to be meaningfully involved at this school.	92%	2%	4.3
This school makes it easy for all parents/guardians to be engaged in their child's education.	86%	4%	4.2

Family Survey

Excellence in Education

<i>% Respondents who:</i>	Agree	Disagree	Average
I am satisfied with the technology and other instructional resources available to my child.	79%	6%	4.1
This school's facilities are used to support teaching & learning.	90%	1%	4.3
My child's teachers help me understand how I can best support my child's learning at home.	81%	5%	4.2
Overall, I am satisfied with my child's educational experience at this school.	93%	1%	4.4
My child is challenged to meet high expectations at this school.	75%	8%	3.8
At this school, students' individual learning needs are met.	76%	7%	4.0
This school is:			
<i>(gr. K-5)</i> teaching my child what s/he needs to know to succeed in later grades.	84%	2%	4.2
<i>(gr.6-8)</i> preparing my child for success in high school and beyond.	90%	3%	4.3
Teachers at this school have helped my child to develop effective work and study habits. <i>(Gr. 3-8 only)</i>	80%	4%	4.1
At this school, homework is productive and supports learning in the classroom.	74%	9%	3.9

Family Survey

School Leadership

<i>% Respondents who:</i>	Agree	Disagree	Average
Members of this school's administration effectively collaborate with families to address student needs & concerns.	87%	4%	4.3
Adults at this school use culturally sensitive practices in their interactions with students.	88%	1%	4.3
I talk with my child's teacher(s) about his/her academic progress & challenges.	89%	3%	4.4
I am well-informed about what is going on at this school.	89%	3%	4.4
Teachers at this school communicate feedback about performance and grades to their students in a timely manner.	87%	3%	4.2
I know how my child is doing in school before I receive his/her			
... report card (<i>Grades 6-8</i>)	67%	10%	3.9
... progress report. (<i>Grades 3-5</i>)	76%	6%	4.0

Family Survey

Student Engagement

<i>% Respondents who:</i>	Agree	Disagree	Average
My child has sufficient opportunities to engage in extracurricular activities at this school.	83%	7%	4.2
My child has a close relationship with at least one adult at this school.	83%	3%	4.3
This school offers a variety of learning experiences and activities to keep my child interested in school.	90%	3%	4.3
At this school, my child is motivated to learn.	91%	1%	4.3
My child likes to go to school.	92%	2%	4.5

Percent of respondents who have done each of the following this school year:

Attended a workshop, program, performance, or other event at this school.	85%
Attended a meeting with your child's teacher(s).	96%
Received information about what your child was learning in school.	97%
Been told by a teacher or other school professional about your child's achievements in school.	89%

Family Survey

Curriculum

To what degree are your child(ren)'s individual learning needs met in each of the following curricular areas at this school?

<i>% Respondents who said:</i>	Completely Met (100%)	Somewhat Met (75%)	Somewhat Unmet (25%)	Completely Unmet (0%)
Literacy	47%	40%	5%	1%
Mathematics	40%	42%	6%	2%
Science	49%	36%	3%	0%
Social Studies	52%	35%	1%	1%
Specials/Enrichment/ Electives	43%	40%	5%	0%
World Language	37%	38%	6%	2%
Health & Fitness	44%	41%	4%	1%
Sports/ Extracurriculars	36%	39%	5%	1%

The difference between the total of the displayed percentages and 100% equals the percentage of respondents who answered "Neither Met nor Unmet (50%)".