

SUDBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS



2014 PARENT SURVEY SUMMARY

ANNE S. WILSON, PH.D.
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Participation



School	# of Responses	Enrollment (May 1 st)	Response Rate (%)
Haynes	57	402	14.18%
Loring	56	504	11.11%
Nixon	48	399	12.03%
Noyes	70	618	11.33%
ECMS	110	1023	10.75%
TOTAL	341	2946	11.56%

Survey Questions



Parents were asked questions in the following categories:

- Academics
- Communication
- Discipline and Respect
- Homework
- Monitoring Student Progress
- Outreach and Engagement
- Quality and Satisfaction
- Responsiveness
- School Climate
- School Pride

Identifying Strengths



- Scores of 67% favorable are generally considered strengths
- Scores of 75% + favorable are generally considered real strengths

Identifying Opportunities/Needs



- Scores of 20% - 30% unfavorable are generally considered an area for improvement
- Scores of 30%+ unfavorable are generally considered an area for immediate improvement.

Overall Favorable Results by Dimension



Dimension	Favorable%	Unfavorable %
Academics (8)	64%	15%
Communication (5)	83%	7%
Discipline and Respect (4)	63%	10%
Homework (3)	66%	18%
Monitoring Student Progress (2)	65%	17%
Outreach and Engagement (6)	81%	7%
Quality and Satisfaction (3)	68%	14%
School Climate (12)	79%	7%
Responsiveness (3)	79%	7%
School Pride (3)	77%	8%

Favorable Responses



- Communication
- Outreach and Engagement
- Responsiveness
- School Climate

“Top 10” Questions with Favorable Response



- I attend most school events offered to parents such as parent-teacher conferences and open houses. 95%
- I believe that parent/guardian involvement is positively related to a child’s achievement. 94% (94% national)
- There is an active Parent Association at my child’s school. 94%
- I am kept up-to-date on school activities and events. 93% (85% national)
- The school encourages students to be responsible. 93% (90% national)

“Top 10” Questions with Favorable Response



- School staff is courteous and helpful.
88% (84% national)
- My child’s school makes effective use of technology as a means of communication. 87%
- School staff is accessible. 87%
- I know how to get school information when I need it.
86% (87% national)
- Overall, school information is communicated effectively.
86%

Unfavorable Responses



- Academic
- Homework
- Discipline and Respect
- Outreach and Engagement
- Monitoring Student Progress
- Quality and Satisfaction

“Top 10” Questions with Unfavorable Response



- My child’s school offers him/her opportunities to explore areas of interest outside the core content areas.
32% (13% national)
- The school does a great job of challenging my child to his/her full potential. 28% (12% national)
- The amount of homework given to my child is appropriate.
21% (12% national)
- I am involved in the decisions that affect my child’s education.
20%
- My child’s school does a very good job of meeting the needs of all its students. 19% (10% national)

“Top 10” Questions with Unfavorable Response



- The level of difficulty associated with my child’s homework is appropriate. 18% (9% national)
- I am informed of my child’s academic progress on a regular basis. 17% (9% national)
- Oftentimes, my child’s homework assignment requires interaction with me or others in our family.
16% (14% national)
- My child’s school does an excellent job dealing with student bullying. 15% (11% national)
- It is very clear to me what the teacher(s) expect of my child in terms of school work. 15% (9% national)

opportunities to explore areas of interest outside the core content areas

Grade	Unfavorable	Neutral	Favorable
K	23%	44%	33%
1	20%	33%	47%
2	31%	24%	45%
3	42%	25%	33%
4	24%	29%	47%
5	37%	22%	41%
6	28%	12%	60%
7	48%	32%	20%
8	24%	29%	47%
No choice	76%	19%	5%

challenging my child to his/her full potential



Grade	Unfavorable	Neutral	Favorable
K	21%	21%	58%
1	25%	16%	59%
2	30%	20%	50%
3	38%	30%	32%
4	20%	15%	65%
5	28%	24%	48%
6	24%	24%	52%
7	32%	18%	50%
8	24%	31%	45%
No choice	76%	13%	11%

amount of homework given is appropriate



Grade	Unfavorable	Neutral	Favorable
K	8%	19%	73%
1	16%	11%	73%
2	18%	10%	72%
3	21%	9%	70%
4	20%	7%	73%
5	19%	17%	64%
6	29%	14%	57%
7	27%	18%	55%
8	31%	12%	57%
No choice	26%	19%	55%

I am involved in the decisions that affect my child's education



Grade	Unfavorable	Neutral	Favorable
K	13%	23%	64%
1	22%	27%	51%
2	8%	25%	67%
3	29%	28%	43%
4	14%	25%	61%
5	21%	20%	59%
6	19%	19%	62%
7	29%	29%	42%
8	24%	26%	50%
No choice	62%	25%	13%

My child's school does a very good job of meeting the needs of all its students

Grade	Unfavorable	Neutral	Favorable
K	6%	27%	67%
1	18%	13%	69%
2	18%	16%	66%
3	22%	36%	42%
4	12%	19%	69%
5	15%	15%	70%
6	19%	31%	50%
7	18%	29%	53%
8	23%	24%	53%
No choice	76%	19%	5%

Satisfied with overall quality of school my child attends



Grade	Unfavorable	Neutral	Favorable
K	2%	10%	88%
1	4%	9%	87%
2	8%	6%	86%
3	8%	13%	79%
4	2%	8%	90%
5	7%	11%	82%
6	12%	14%	74%
7	16%	18%	66%
8	20%	9%	71%
No Choice	51%	31%	18%

My child gets support needed at school



Grade	Unfavorable	Neutral	Favorable
K	6%	23%	71%
1	9%	7%	84%
2	8%	12%	80%
3	10%	19%	71%
4	7%	14%	79%
5	8%	11%	81%
6	12%	24%	64%
7	8%	24%	68%
8	21%	14%	65%
No Choice	37%	44%	19%

My child's school does an excellent job educating students



Grade	Unfavorable	Neutral	Favorable
K	2%	13%	85%
1	7%	13%	80%
2	10%	6%	84%
3	12%	19%	69%
4	7%	8%	85%
5	9%	13%	78%
6	12%	14%	74%
7	11%	32%	57%
8	16%	14%	70%
No Choice	63%	13%	24%

Effective use of technology for instructional purposes



Grade	Unfavorable	Neutral	Favorable
K	6%	21%	73%
1	7%	22%	71%
2	12%	14%	74%
3	13%	28%	59%
4	7%	12%	81%
5	13%	17%	70%
6	12%	17%	71%
7	21%	29%	50%
8	13%	26%	61%
No Choice	19%	44%	37%

Custom Question #1



I am satisfied with the services provided by school based mental health providers (if applicable).

- Results: Of the 99 responses to this question, 57% (56) responded favorably.

Custom Question #2



My child receives academic tutoring, training, or extra help, on a regular basis, outside of the help offered at school.

- Results: Of the 319 responses to this question, 21% (67) responded in the affirmative.

Custom Question #3



My child attends tutoring or help sessions at school with one of his/her teachers.

- Results: Of the 319 responses to this question, 30% (96) responded in the affirmative.

Open-Ended Question #1



- What could your child's school do better to involve you in your child's school life?

School	# Comment Responses	% of 5/1/14 enrollment
ECMS	43	4.20%
Haynes	20	4.98%
Loring	21	4.17%
Nixon	11	2.76%
Noyes	37	5.99%
TOTAL	132	4.48%

208 total responses, 76 responded nothing to do better.

Open-Ended Question #1



What could your child's school do better to involve you in your child's school life? (132 responses)

- 37% (50) identified enhanced opportunities to communicate regarding child's progress (academic/social/behavioral)
- 13.6% (18) identified more opportunity to help at school/classroom
- 7.6% (10) identified greater access for working parents

Open-Ended Question #2



- What do you like most about your child's school?

School	# Comment Responses	% of 5/1/14 enrollment
ECMS	77	7.53%
Haynes	42	10.44%
Loring	46	9.13%
Nixon	35	8.77%
Noyes	57	9.22%
TOTAL	257	8.72%

261 total responses. 4 responded that they liked nothing about their child's school.

Open-Ended Question #2



What do you like most about your child's school?

- 67% (172) identified teachers, staff and administrators
- 30% (77) identified safety, a sense of community, positive environment
- 7.4% (19) identified curriculum/academics

Open-Ended Question #3



- What would you change about your child's school to help him/her learn better?

School	# Comment Responses	% of 5/1/14 enrollment
ECMS	76	7.43%
Haynes	40	9.95%
Loring	39	7.74%
Nixon	27	6.77%
Noyes	54	8.74%
TOTAL	236	8.01%

259 total responses, 23 responded that there was nothing needed to help their child learn better.

Open-Ended Question #3



What would you change about your child's school to help him/her learn better?

- 28% (66) identified more challenge (ie: homework, leveled classes)
- 9% (21) identified smaller class size
- 5.5% (13) identified individual attention/student support

Open-Ended Question #3



What would you change about your child's school to help him/her learn better?

- Additional topics identified with multiple responses (4-12) include:
 - ✓ consistency among teachers
 - ✓ address behavior problems
 - ✓ more physical education/recess breaks
 - ✓ communication of progress/e-mail response
 - ✓ less homework
 - ✓ more homework

Open-Ended Question#4



- Please describe the academic tutoring, training, or extra help received outside of the help offered at school.

School	# Comment Responses	% of 5/1/14 enrollment
ECMS	38	3.71%
Haynes	11	2.74%
Loring	9	1.79%
Nixon	7	1.75%
Noyes	14	2.27%
TOTAL	79	2.68%

112 total responses, 33 responded that their child did not receive help outside of school.

Open-Ended Question #4



Please describe the academic tutoring, training, or extra help received outside of the help offered at school.

- 58% (46) identified help in mathematics
- 8.9% (7) identified help in reading/writing
- 8.9% (7) identified help in organization/executive function
- 7.6% (6) identified help with homework, test prep, general tutoring

Next Steps



- **FY15 Goals/Strategic Initiatives include emphasis on areas identified in survey**
 - Tiered system of support (social/emotional/behavioral)
 - Enhance opportunities for students to be appropriately challenged
- **Individual School Results**
- **Superintendent Chat Topics**
- **Spring 2015 Survey**