



2022-2023
Staff & Family Survey Questions

YouthTruth harnesses student and stakeholder perceptions to help educators accelerate improvements. Through validated survey instruments and tailored advisory services, YouthTruth partners with schools and districts to enhance learning for all students.

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STUDENT SURVEY

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Family Survey Questions

The Family Survey includes questions that gather parents' and guardians' feedback about their child's school and takes on average about 15 minutes to complete (additional topic modules add about 5 minutes each in survey length and are limited to 2). Overall strengths and areas for improvement, recommend rate, and indexed qualitative comments are also included.

So far this school year, how has your child attended classes? (*In-person at school, Virtually, Both in-person at school and virtually*)

General

- What do you like most about this school? (*Friendly and supportive teachers and staff; Strong academic programs; Support services and programs for parents and families; Strong extracurricular programs; Great supplies and/or facilities; Nothing; Other*)
- What is one area in which this school could improve? (*Teachers and staff could do more to be more friendly and supportive; Stronger academic programs; More/better support services and programs for families; Stronger extracurricular programs; Better supplies and/or facilities; Nothing; Other*)
- Is there anything else you would like to tell us about your school? Please provide any comments that you'd like to share below. (*Open text*)
- My child is getting a high-quality education at this school. (*1 = Strongly disagree; 2 = Disagree; 3 = Neither agree nor disagree; 4 = Agree; 5 = Strongly agree*)
- I would recommend this school to parents seeking a school for their child. (*1 = Strongly disagree; 2 = Disagree; 3 = Neither agree nor disagree; 4 = Agree; 5 = Strongly agree*)

Culture – *Describes the degree to which families believe their school fosters shared goals, respect, fairness, and diversity.*

How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements? (*1 = Strongly disagree; 2 = Disagree; 3 = Neither agree nor disagree; 4 = Agree; 5 = Strongly agree*)

- I am proud of my school.
- Discipline in this school is fair.
- My school runs smoothly.
- My school respects people of different:
 - Religions, faiths or spiritual beliefs.
 - Sexual orientations.
 - Abilities. (e.g. people with disabilities)
 - Genders.
 - Incomes. (how much money someone makes)
 - Races and/or ethnicities.
 - Countries of origin.
- I feel valued by my school.
- My school creates a friendly environment.
- My school's policies are administered fairly and consistently.
- I believe in my school's mission.

Engagement – *Describes the degree to which families are engaged in their school and empowered to influence decision-making.*

How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements? (1 = Strongly disagree; 2 = Disagree; 3 = Neither agree nor disagree; 4 = Agree; 5 = Strongly agree)

- Parent/family members are included in planning school activities.
- I feel engaged with my school.
I feel represented by parent/family groups (i.e. Parent-Teacher Association) at my school.
- I feel empowered to play a meaningful role in decision-making at my school.
- I feel informed about important decisions regarding my school.

Relationships – *Describes the degree to which families experience positive relationships in their school based on respect, care, and approachability.*

How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements? (1 = Strongly disagree; 2 = Disagree; 3 = Neither agree nor disagree; 4 = Agree; 5 = Strongly agree)

- Teachers treat families with respect.
- Families and teachers care about each other.
- Teachers and students care about each other.
- I feel comfortable approaching the school administration about my concerns.
- School administrators treat families with respect.
- I feel comfortable approaching teachers about my child's progress.

Communication & Feedback – *Describes the degree to which there are open and effective lines of communication between families and schools.*

How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements? (1 = Strongly disagree; 2 = Disagree; 3 = Neither agree nor disagree; 4 = Agree; 5 = Strongly agree)

- I receive information about what my child should learn and be able to do.
- I receive regular feedback about my child's progress.
- Teachers clearly communicate expectations for my child's progress.

School Safety – *Describes the degree to which families believe that their school is a safe place for students.*

How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements? (1 = Strongly disagree; 2 = Disagree; 3 = Neither agree nor disagree; 4 = Agree; 5 = Strongly agree)

- My child is safe from bullying during school.
- My child's learning environment is safe.

Related:

My child is safe from violence at school. (*not asked of families whose students are attending school virtually.*)

Resources – Describes the degree to which families believe that their school deploys the necessary resources to support students.

How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements? (1 = Strongly disagree; 2 = Disagree; 3 = Neither agree nor disagree; 4 = Agree; 5 = Strongly agree)

- My school sets high expectations for students.
- My school provides the guidance necessary to help my child succeed.
- My school has the resources necessary to achieve learning goals.
- My school has the resources necessary to prepare my child for the future.

Demographics

- How many children do you have attending this school? (Just to remind you: if you have multiple children at this school, you may complete the survey again so you have the opportunity to respond about each child that attends the school.) (One (1); Two (2); Three (3); Four or more (4+))
- What grade is your child in? (Preschool; Transitional Kindergarten (TK); Kindergarten (K); First Grade (1st); Second Grade (2nd); Third Grade (3rd); Fourth Grade (4th); Fifth Grade (5th); Sixth Grade (6th); Seventh Grade (7th); Eighth Grade (8th); Ninth Grade (9th); Tenth Grade (10th); Eleventh Grade (11th); Twelfth Grade (12th); Other (please specify))
- What is your relationship with your child? (Parent; Other (please specify))
- Gender identity:*
 - Option 1 (Recommended): How do you describe yourself? (Man; Woman; Non-binary or gender non-conforming; I Prefer to self-describe/identify (optional, please describe); Prefer not to say)
 - Option 2: How do you describe yourself? (Man; Woman; I Prefer to self-describe/identify (optional, please describe); Prefer not to say)
- How would you describe your race and/or ethnicity? (Please check one) (American Indian, Alaska Native or Indigenous; Asian or Asian American; Black or African American; Hispanic or Latino/a/x; Middle Eastern or North African; Multi-racial and/or Multi-ethnic; Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, White; Race or ethnicity not included above (optional, please describe); Prefer not to say)
- Do you identify as a person of color? (Yes; No; Prefer not to say)
- Does your child have an IEP (individualized education program or plan), receive special education services, or receive 504 services? (Yes; No; I'm not sure; Prefer not to say)
- What is the primary language spoken in your home? (Chinese; English; Korean; Spanish; Tagalog; Russian; Vietnamese; Other (please specify))
- What is the highest level of education that you have completed? (Some high school; High school/GED; Some college; Associate degree or technical certificate; Bachelor's Degree; Graduate Degree; Prefer not to say)
- **At school, is your child able to receive lunch for free or at a lower price? (Yes; No; I'm not sure; Prefer not to say)
- ***Do you consider yourself to be: (Please check one) (Gay or lesbian; Straight or heterosexual; Bisexual*; Another identity not included above (optional, please describe); I am not sure; Prefer not to say) *A person who is attracted to people of the same or other genders.
- ***Do you identify as a member of the LGBTQ+ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer) community? (Please check only one) * (Yes; No; Prefer not to say)
- ***Are you transgender? (Please check only one) (Yes; No; Prefer not to say)

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**Clients choose their preferred gender survey question version prior to surveying.*

***Districts or networks with fully implemented free lunch programs are invited to exclude this question.*

****Clients choose whether to include or exclude these optional demographic survey questions.*

Family Survey Additional Topics

Additional topic modules can be added to customize the core Family Survey. Each additional topic module adds about 5 minutes in survey length. To keep surveys a manageable length, the maximum number of additional topic modules that can be added is 2.

Distance Learning – *Describes parents’/guardians’ experiences with their child’s virtual learning.*

So far this school year, how has your child attended classes? (*In-person at school, Virtually, Both in-person at school and virtually*) *

**Only respondents who answer “Virtually” or “Both in-person and virtually” to the above question will be presented with the rest of the distance learning questions.*

My child’s school has provided helpful resources to support my child’s distance learning. (*1 = Strongly disagree; 2 = Disagree; 3 = Neither agree nor disagree; 4 = Agree; 5 = Strongly agree*)

While distance learning, my child’s school has provided helpful resources to support my child’s Individualized Education Plan (IEP). (*1 = Strongly Disagree; 5 = Strongly Agree; My child does not have an IEP*)

I am comfortable with the online interactions my child is having during distance learning. (*1 = Strongly disagree; 2 = Disagree; 3 = Neither agree nor disagree; 4 = Agree; 5 = Strongly agree*)

While distance learning, do any of the following make it hard for your child to do their best in school? (*please check all that apply*)

- No access, or limited access, to internet
- No access, or limited access, to a computer or device
- Lack of a quiet space
- There is not an adult who can help my child with their schoolwork
- Teachers are not as available to help
- Too many learning applications
- Distractions from siblings or family members
- The health of family members
- My job
- Family stress
- My child feeling depressed, stressed, or anxious

How would you rate your experience with distance learning so far this school year? (*1 = Very Dissatisfied; 2 = Dissatisfied; 3 = Neither Satisfied nor dissatisfied; 4 = Satisfied; 5 = Very Satisfied*)

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion – *Assesses parents’ and guardians’ school experiences through the lens of value, representation, and social justice.*

My school puts practices in place that include families of diverse backgrounds in community conversations (e.g. state of the school, town hall, listening sessions, etc.). (*1 = Strongly disagree; 2 = Disagree; 3 = Neither agree nor disagree; 4 = Agree; 5 = Strongly agree*)

Think about your school. How often do you see people of diverse backgrounds: (1= *Very rarely*; 2= *Somewhat Rarely*; 3 = *Sometimes*; 4 = *Somewhat often*; 5 = *Very often*)

- In artworks, posters and/or pictures?
- In publications (e.g. newsletter, newspapers, yearbooks, etc.)?
- In materials sent by the school?
- During school events (e.g. virtual school activities, school fairs, sporting events, etc.)?

Adults from my school value people of different: (1 = *Strongly disagree*; 2 = *Disagree*; 3 = *Neither agree nor disagree*; 4 = *Agree*; 5 = *Strongly agree*)

- Religions, faiths or spiritual beliefs.
- Sexual orientations. (e.g. gay, straight, bisexual, etc.)
- Abilities. (e.g. people with disabilities)
- Genders.
- Incomes. (how much money someone makes)
- Races and/or ethnicities
- Countries.

My school provides resources in the language(s) my family needs. (1 = *Strongly disagree*; 2 = *Disagree*; 3 = *Neither agree nor disagree*; 4 = *Agree*; 5 = *Strongly agree*)

My school encourages families to speak out against racism. (1 = *Strongly disagree*; 2 = *Disagree*; 3 = *Neither agree nor disagree*; 4 = *Agree*; 5 = *Strongly agree*)

My school clearly communicates how to report acts of discrimination. (1 = *Strongly disagree*; 2 = *Disagree*; 3 = *Neither agree nor disagree*; 4 = *Agree*; 5 = *Strongly agree*)

Staff Survey Questions

The Staff Survey includes questions that gather instructional and non-instructional school staff members' perspectives about their school experience and takes on average about 15 minutes to complete (additional topic modules add about 5 minutes each in survey length and are limited to 2). Overall strengths and areas for improvement, recommend rate, and indexed qualitative comments are also included.

General

What is your primary role? * *(instructional staff, support staff, other)*

* *Instructional staff are defined as individuals who instruct pupils in classes or courses, or in classroom situations. Some examples of instructional staff roles are K-12 teachers, ELL/ELD teachers, special education teachers, instructional assistants/paraprofessionals, and speech therapists.*

Support staff are defined as individuals who do not primarily engage in teaching activities. Some examples of support staff roles are administrators, counselors, custodial/janitorial staff, librarians, and technology coordinators.

What kind of instructional staff are you?* *(Teacher, other)*

* *Only asked to those that answered instructional staff to the above question.*

What do you like most about your school? *(My school administrators are friendly and supportive; My work at this school gives me a feeling of personal accomplishment; I am treated with respect by school administrators and other staff; I have access to high-quality professional development opportunities; My school has great supplies and/or facilities; Nothing; Other)*

What is one area in which your school could improve? *(My school administrators could do more to be friendly and supportive; I would like the work that I do at this school to give me more of a feeling of personal accomplishment; I would like to be treated with more respect by the school administration and other staff; I would like more access to high-quality professional development opportunities; My school needs better supplies and/or facilities; Nothing; Other)*

Is there anything else you would like to tell us about your school? Please provide any comments that you'd like to share below. *(Open text)*

Students are getting a high-quality education at this school. *(1 = Strongly disagree; 2 = Disagree; 3 = Neither agree nor disagree; 4 = Agree; 5 = Strongly agree)*

I would recommend this school to a friend or colleague as a great place to work *(1 = Strongly disagree; 2 = Disagree; 3 = Neither agree nor disagree; 4 = Agree; 5 = Strongly agree)*

I am not seriously considering leaving [School Name] next academic year. *(1 = Strongly disagree; 2 = Disagree; 3 = Neither agree nor disagree; 4 = Agree; 5 = Strongly agree)*

Culture – Describes the degree to which staff believe that their school fosters a culture of shared vision, respect, and effective communication.

How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements? (1 = *Strongly disagree*; 2 = *Disagree*; 3 = *Neither agree nor disagree*; 4 = *Agree*; 5 = *Strongly agree*)

- Information about school policies is disseminated to staff clearly.
- Discipline in this school is fair.
- My school communicates a clear direction for the future.
- My school respects people of different:
 - Religions, faiths and spiritual beliefs.
 - Sexual orientations.
 - Abilities. (e.g. people with disabilities)
 - Gender.
 - Incomes. (how much money someone makes)
 - Races and/or ethnicities.
 - Countries of origin.
- I feel informed about important decisions regarding my school.
- My school is managed effectively.
- My school sets high expectations for students.
- My school creates a positive work environment.
- My school runs smoothly.
- My school's employees are committed to the success of our school.
- My school's policies are administered fairly and consistently.

Relationships – Describes the degree to which staff experience positive relationships in their school based on respect, care, and approachability.

How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements? (1 = *Strongly disagree*; 2 = *Disagree*; 3 = *Neither agree nor disagree*; 4 = *Agree*; 5 = *Strongly agree*)

- Staff and families care about each other.
- My school is cooperative and team oriented.
- Staff treat each other with respect.
- Teachers in my school work together to improve instructional practice.
- Staff treat families with respect.
- Staff treat administrators with respect.
- Families treat staff with respect.
- Staff and students care about each other.
- Administrators treat staff with respect.
- Staff and administrators care about each other.
- I feel comfortable approaching the administration if I need help solving a problem.
- Students treat staff with respect.
- Staff treat students with respect.
- I feel comfortable approaching other staff members if I need help solving a problem.
- I feel comfortable speaking honestly to families about their child's progress. (*Instructional Staff Only*)

Engagement – Describes the degree to which staff feel engaged in their work and empowered to influence their schools.

How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements? (1 = *Strongly disagree*; 2 = *Disagree*; 3 = *Neither agree nor disagree*; 4 = *Agree*; 5 = *Strongly agree*)

- My school empowers me to use creativity in how I do my work.
- I am proud of my school.
- My job makes good use of my skills and abilities.
- I feel that my work contributes to the goals of my school.
- I feel that my work at my school is valued.
- I understand my school's goals.
- I feel empowered to play a meaningful role in decision-making at my school.
- My work gives me a feeling of personal accomplishment.

Professional Development & Support – Describes the degree to which staff receive meaningful feedback, have opportunities to grow professionally and feel supported in their work.

How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements? (1 = *Strongly disagree*; 2 = *Disagree*; 3 = *Neither agree nor disagree*; 4 = *Agree*; 5 = *Strongly agree*)

- I have the necessary resources to do my job well.
- The feedback I receive from my colleagues helps me improve my work.
- My professional development over the last year has been closely connected with my school's priorities.
- I have opportunities to learn at work.
- I receive regular feedback from my supervisors.
- I receive regular feedback from my colleagues.
- The feedback I receive from my supervisors helps me improve my work.
- I have opportunities to grow professionally at work.
- I have access to meaningful professional development.
- My professional development over the last year has provided me with content support.
(*Instructional Staff Only*)
- My professional development over the last year has provided me with teaching strategies to better meet my students' needs. (*Instructional Staff Only*)
- My school supports me in implementing what I have learned in professional development.
(*Instructional Staff Only*)
- My school encourages me to seek professional development opportunities to improve my practice.
(*Instructional Staff Only*)

School Safety – Describes staff members' level of perceived safety for themselves and students on campus, as well as of the rules and protocols in place to address violence at school.

How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements? (1 = *Strongly disagree*; 2 = *Disagree*; 3 = *Neither agree nor disagree*; 4 = *Agree*; 5 = *Strongly agree*)

- Students are safe from bullying at my school.
- Adults at my school try to stop bullying and harassment.

- During school, there are clear rules for students against hurting other people (for example bullying, hitting, or pushing).
- I feel safe from harm during school.

Related:

- Students are safe from violence at my school. *(Not asked of staff who are working remotely.)*

Demographics

- How long have you worked at this school? *(0-4 years; 5-9 years; 10-20 years; More than 20 years)*
- Gender identity:
 - Option 1 (Recommended): How do you describe yourself? *(Man; Woman; Non-binary or gender non-conforming; I Prefer to self-describe/identify (optional, please describe); Prefer not to say)*
 - Option 2: How do you describe yourself? *(Man; Woman; I Prefer to self-describe/identify (optional, please describe); Prefer not to say)*
- How would you describe your race and/or ethnicity? (Please check one) *(American Indian, Alaska Native or Indigenous; Asian or Asian American; Black or African American; Hispanic or Latino/a/x; Middle Eastern or North African; Multi-racial and/or Multi-ethnic; Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, White; Race or ethnicity not included above (optional, please describe); Prefer not to say)*
- Do you identify as a person of color? *(Yes; No; Prefer not to say)*
- What kind of teacher training did you receive? (Instructional Staff only) *(University Certification; Alternative Certification (Teach for America, etc.); Other Training/Non-Certified)*
- How many years of teaching experience do you have? (Instructional Staff only) *(0-4 years; 5-9 years; 10-20 years; More than 20 years)*
- How many years of experience do you have in your role? (Support Staff or Other only) *(0-4 years; 5-9 years; 10-20 years; More than 20 years)*
- What is your role? *(Instructional staff; Support staff; Other (please specify))*
- **Do you consider yourself to be: (Please check one) *(Gay or lesbian; Straight or heterosexual; Bisexual*; Another identity not included above (optional, please describe); I am not sure; Prefer not to say)* *A person who is attracted to people of the same or other genders.
- **Do you identify as a member of the LGBTQ+ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer) community? (Please check only one) * *(Yes; No; Prefer not to say)*
- **Are you transgender? (Please check only one) *(Yes; No; Prefer not to say)*

**Clients choose their preferred gender survey question version prior to surveying.*

***Clients choose whether to include or exclude these optional demographic survey questions.*

Staff Survey Additional Topics

Additional topic modules can be added to customize the core Staff Survey. Each additional topic module adds about 5 minutes in survey length. To keep surveys a manageable length, the maximum number of additional topic modules that can be added is 2.

Distance Learning – Describes instructional staff members’ experience teaching virtually. (These questions will only be asked of teachers.)

So far this school year, I work ... (*In-person; Virtually; Both in-person and virtually*) *

**Only instructional staff that answered “Virtually” or “Both in-person and virtually” will be able to answer the rest of the questions.*

While teaching online... (*1 = Strongly disagree; 2 = Disagree; 3 = Neither agree nor disagree; 4 = Agree; 5 = Strongly agree*)

- I have received clear communication from my school leadership about expectations for my role.
- I have been able to provide meaningful distance learning.
- I have had the technology necessary to support students’ distance learning.
- My professional development opportunities have helped me with virtual teaching and learning.

While teaching online, do any of the following make it hard for you to do your best? (*Please check all that apply.*)

- No access, or limited access, to internet
- No access, or limited access, to a computer or device
- Lack of a quiet space
- Supporting my own child/children with their distance learning
- Challenges using the distance learning applications
- Lack of training on systems and tools
- Distractions from other family members
- Taking care of relatives
- Family stress
- Feeling depressed, stressed, or anxious

How would you rate your experience with distance learning so far this school year? (*1 = Very Dissatisfied; 2 = Dissatisfied; 3 = Neither Satisfied nor dissatisfied; 4 = Satisfied; 5 = Very Satisfied*)

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion – Assesses staff members’ school experiences through the lens of value, representation, and social justice.

My school puts practices in place that include staff of diverse backgrounds in decision making processes. (*1 = Strongly disagree; 2 = Disagree; 3 = Neither agree nor disagree; 4 = Agree; 5 = Strongly agree*)

Think about your school. How often do you see people of diverse backgrounds...: (*1= Very rarely; 2= Somewhat Rarely; 3 = Sometimes; 4 = Somewhat often; 5 = Very often*)

- In artwork, posters and/or pictures around the school?
- In instructional materials?
- In student work and projects?
- During school events (e.g. virtual school activities, school fairs, sporting events, etc.)?
- In staff leadership roles (e.g. committee or department chair, school site council representative, special assignment)?

Students from my school value people of different: *(1 = Strongly disagree; 2 = Disagree; 3 = Neither agree nor disagree; 4 = Agree; 5 = Strongly agree)*

- Religions, faiths or spiritual beliefs.
- Sexual orientations. (e.g. gay, straight, bisexual, etc.)
- Abilities. (e.g. people with disabilities)
- Genders.
- Incomes. (how much money someone makes)
- Races and/or Ethnicities
- Countries.

Adults from my school value people of different: *(1 = Strongly disagree; 2 = Disagree; 3 = Neither agree nor disagree; 4 = Agree; 5 = Strongly agree)*

- Religions, faiths or spiritual beliefs.
- Sexual orientations. (e.g. gay, straight, bisexual, etc.)
- Abilities. (e.g. people with disabilities)
- Genders.
- Incomes. (how much money someone makes)
- Races and/or Ethnicities
- Countries.

My school encourages staff to speak out against racism. *(1 = Strongly disagree; 2 = Disagree; 3 = Neither agree nor disagree; 4 = Agree; 5 = Strongly agree)*

My school clearly communicates how to report acts of discrimination. *(1 = Strongly disagree; 2 = Disagree; 3 = Neither agree nor disagree; 4 = Agree; 5 = Strongly agree)*

My school provides professional development that helps me learn about culturally relevant teaching strategies. *(1 = Strongly disagree; 2 = Disagree; 3 = Neither agree nor disagree; 4 = Agree; 5 = Strongly agree)*

The curriculum and materials my school provides me are culturally relevant. *(1 = Strongly disagree; 2 = Disagree; 3 = Neither agree nor disagree; 4 = Agree; 5 = Strongly agree)*

I am comfortable implementing culturally relevant teaching practices. *(1 = Strongly disagree; 2 = Disagree; 3 = Neither agree nor disagree; 4 = Agree; 5 = Strongly agree)*