

**School Climate Survey 2016
Vancouver Public Schools (VPS)
Executive Summary**

Highlights

Overall Perceptions of School Quality

- District staff members and parents have favorable perceptions of school quality. Eighty-eight percent of staff members and eighty-four percent of parents responding to the survey rate their school as very good or excellent.

Academic Preparation

- Ninety-four percent of staff members say that school staff are expected to collaborate and work together to ensure student success;
- Eighty percent of students say that their teachers give them additional support when they need it.

Student Support

- Eighty-eight percent of parents say there is an adult at school who is available to help their child with a school concern; seventy-three percent of students agree with this statement.

School Leadership

- Eighty-seven percent of staff members and eighty-four percent of parents say the administrative team of their school listens and responds to issues or concerns in a professional manner, whether or not he or she agrees with their views.
- Eighty-six percent of staff say that their school's administrative team works collaboratively with staff to improve teaching and learning.

Parent Engagement

- Ninety-three percent of parents say that they feel welcomed in their child's school. Eighty-nine percent of parents say their child's teachers are available to discuss their child's learning needs with them.

Safety and Behavior

- Ninety-three percent of parents say their child feels safe at school.
- Eighty-four percent of students state that they know what to do in the event of an emergency; and, ninety-one percent of staff members believe that safety procedures are effective.

Opportunities and District Commitments

On June 10, 2014, the VPS Board of Directors adopted the Design II, Chapter 2 Strategic Plan, which sets the direction of the district through 2020. The plan continued the district's focus on six goal areas: Instructional Quality, Flexible Learning Environments, Programs of Choice, Early Learning, Family Engagement/Family-Community Resource Centers, and Safe and Supportive Schools. More information about the plan is available at www.vansd.org/design2chapter2.

The district's leadership team, including central and school-level administrators will use the data from the 2016 Climate Survey to examine opportunities for growth and improvement and to address them through the Design II, Chapter 2 work plans and annual School Improvement Process.

In the goal area of Family Engagement and Family-Community Resource Centers, for example, survey results indicated the following:

- Seventy-seven percent of parents say that teachers give them useful information about how to help my child do well in school;
- Eight-four percent of staff members report that they reach out to parents to encourage their participation and input;
- While eighty-two percent of parents believe that the administrative team at their school communicates effectively with parents, twenty-five percent of parents responding either don't know or disagree with the statement, "I know someone on the administrative team that I can go to with an issue of concern."

Participation Rates

- On average, sixty-seven percent of staff, sixty-nine percent of students, and fifteen percent of parents in each school responded to the 2016 Climate Survey. These participation rates reflect an increase from the 2015 Climate Survey for which participation rates were forty-nine percent of staff, fifty-four percent of students, and eleven percent of parents.

District Commitment: In 2016-17, the district will continue its focus on educational equity and excellence for all students and will endeavor to increase levels of family and community engagement in all schools.

The board of directors, superintendent and leadership team for VPS would like to thank the staff members, parents, and students who responded to the 2016 Climate Survey. Your feedback is important to us and helps to advance progress throughout the district.