


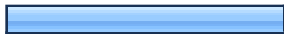

2011 Washington West Supervisory Union Parent Survey





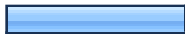

1. What school does your child attend?

| | | Response Percent | Response Count |
|---|--|--------------------------|----------------|
| Crossett Brook Middle School | | 0.0% | 0 |
| Fayston Elementary School | | 0.0% | 0 |
| Harwood Union Middle School (Grade 7-8) | | 0.0% | 0 |
| Harwood Union High School (Grade 9-12) | | 100.0% | 58 |
| Moretown Elementary School | | 0.0% | 0 |
| Thatcher Brook Primary School | | 0.0% | 0 |
| Waitsfield Elementary School | | 0.0% | 0 |
| Warren School | | 0.0% | 0 |
| | | answered question | 58 |
| | | skipped question | 0 |





2. How many of your children attend this school?

| | | Response Percent | Response Count |
|--------------------------|--|------------------|----------------|
| 1 |  | 74.1% | 43 |
| 2 |  | 24.1% | 14 |
| 3 |  | 1.7% | 1 |
| 4+ | | 0.0% | 0 |
| answered question | | | 58 |
| skipped question | | | 0 |





3. The school is a bright and inviting place for children to learn.

| | | Response Percent | Response Count |
|--------------------------|--|------------------|----------------|
| Strongly Agree |  | 8.6% | 5 |
| Agree |  | 74.1% | 43 |
| Disagree |  | 15.5% | 9 |
| Strongly Disagree |  | 1.7% | 1 |
| answered question | | | 58 |
| skipped question | | | 0 |


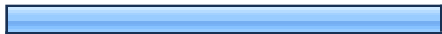




4. The school administrator(s) set(s) a positive tone and provides effective leadership.

| | | Response Percent | Response Count |
|-------------------|--|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Strongly Agree |  | 19.6% | 11 |
| Agree |  | 75.0% | 42 |
| Disagree |  | 3.6% | 2 |
| Strongly Disagree |  | 1.8% | 1 |
| | | answered question | 56 |
| | | skipped question | 2 |




5. The school administrative assistant is helpful and resourceful. (Fayston: Callie Schober. Moretown: Pam Kathan. TBPS: Sue Premore. Waitsfield: Connie Hartshorn. Warren: Laurie Jones. CBMS: Ellen Barillaro. HUMS: Liz Hepp. HUHS: Wendy Gilbert).

| | | Response Percent | Response Count |
|--------------------------|--|---------------------|-------------------|
| Strongly Agree |  | 27.6% | 16 |
| Agree |  | 50.0% | 29 |
| Disagree |  | 3.4% | 2 |
| Strongly Disagree | | 0.0% | 0 |
| No Opinion |  | 19.0% | 11 |
| N/A | | 0.0% | 0 |
| answered question | | | 58 |
| skipped question | | | 0 |





6. The school secretary is helpful and resourceful. (TBPS: Faith Raymond. CBMS: Em Lamson; HUHS: Nancy Myrto)

| | | Response Percent | Response Count |
|-------------------|--|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Strongly Agree |  | 50.0% | 29 |
| Agree |  | 37.9% | 22 |
| Disagree |  | 1.7% | 1 |
| Strongly Disagree |  | 1.7% | 1 |
| No Opinion |  | 6.9% | 4 |
| N/A |  | 1.7% | 1 |
| | | answered question | 58 |
| | | skipped question | 0 |




7. The school board sets the right direction for the school.

| | | Response Percent | Response Count |
|--------------------------|--|---------------------|-------------------|
| Strongly Agree |  | 2.0% | 1 |
| Agree |  | 68.6% | 35 |
| Disagree |  | 29.4% | 15 |
| Strongly Disagree | | 0.0% | 0 |
| answered question | | | 51 |
| skipped question | | | 7 |





8. Student discipline is handled fairly and effectively.

| | | Response Percent | Response Count |
|--------------------------|--|---------------------|-------------------|
| Strongly Agree |  | 5.8% | 3 |
| Agree |  | 80.8% | 42 |
| Disagree |  | 11.5% | 6 |
| Strongly Disagree |  | 1.9% | 1 |
| answered question | | | 52 |
| skipped question | | | 6 |




9. Students are learning useful social skills at school.

| | | Response Percent | Response Count |
|--------------------------|--|------------------|----------------|
| Strongly Agree |  | 1.9% | 1 |
| Agree |  | 77.4% | 41 |
| Disagree |  | 20.8% | 11 |
| Strongly Disagree | | 0.0% | 0 |
| answered question | | | 53 |
| skipped question | | | 5 |




10. Staff at school want to know what I think and listen to my concerns when I express them.

| | | Response Percent | Response Count |
|--------------------------|--|------------------|----------------|
| Strongly Agree |  | 9.1% | 5 |
| Agree |  | 76.4% | 42 |
| Disagree |  | 9.1% | 5 |
| Strongly Disagree |  | 5.5% | 3 |
| answered question | | | 55 |
| skipped question | | | 3 |

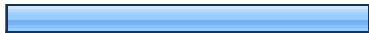



11. I feel welcomed at school and am treated with respect when I visit or call.

| | | Response Percent | Response Count |
|--------------------------|--|------------------|----------------|
| Strongly Agree |  | 21.1% | 12 |
| Agree |  | 75.4% | 43 |
| Disagree |  | 3.5% | 2 |
| Strongly Disagree | | 0.0% | 0 |
| answered question | | | 57 |
| skipped question | | | 1 |






12. How easy is it to contact someone at school by telephone?

| | | Response Percent | Response Count |
|---------------------------|---|------------------|----------------|
| Usually No Problem |  | 69.6% | 39 |
| Usually Takes Time |  | 23.2% | 13 |
| Difficult |  | 7.1% | 4 |
| answered question | | | 56 |
| skipped question | | | 2 |





13. Meals served in the school lunch program are satisfying, appealing and nutritious.

| | | Response Percent | Response Count |
|--------------------------|--|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Strongly Agree |  | 31.6% | 18 |
| Agree |  | 49.1% | 28 |
| Disagree |  | 5.3% | 3 |
| Strongly Disagree | | 0.0% | 0 |
| N/A |  | 14.0% | 8 |
| answered question | | | 57 |
| skipped question | | | 1 |


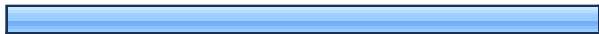



14. Safe and engaging after school activities and programs are offered for my child.

| | | Response Percent | Response Count |
|-------------------|--|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Strongly Agree |  | 22.4% | 13 |
| Agree |  | 56.9% | 33 |
| Disagree |  | 5.2% | 3 |
| Strongly Disagree |  | 1.7% | 1 |
| N/A |  | 13.8% | 8 |
| | | answered question | 58 |
| | | skipped question | 0 |





15. Bus transportation is safe and reliable.

| | | Response Percent | Response Count |
|-------------------|--|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Strongly Agree |  | 19.0% | 11 |
| Agree |  | 51.7% | 30 |
| Disagree |  | 15.5% | 9 |
| Strongly Disagree | | 0.0% | 0 |
| N/A |  | 13.8% | 8 |
| | | answered question | 58 |
| | | skipped question | 0 |



16. Bus transportation meets my needs.

| | | Response Percent | Response Count |
|--------------------------|--|------------------|----------------|
| Strongly Agree |  | 10.3% | 6 |
| Agree |  | 51.7% | 30 |
| Disagree |  | 19.0% | 11 |
| Strongly Disagree |  | 1.7% | 1 |
| N/A |  | 17.2% | 10 |
| answered question | | | 58 |
| skipped question | | | 0 |





17. Recess is safe and fun for my child.

| | | Response Percent | Response Count |
|--------------------------|--|------------------|----------------|
| Strongly Agree |  | 7.7% | 2 |
| Agree |  | 84.6% | 22 |
| Disagree |  | 3.8% | 1 |
| Strongly Disagree |  | 3.8% | 1 |
| answered question | | | 26 |
| skipped question | | | 32 |





18. My child knows and follows the rules.

| | | Response Percent | Response Count |
|--------------------------|--|------------------|----------------|
| Strongly Agree |  | 23.6% | 13 |
| Agree |  | 76.4% | 42 |
| Disagree | | 0.0% | 0 |
| Strongly Disagree | | 0.0% | 0 |
| answered question | | | 55 |
| skipped question | | | 3 |





19. My child is appropriately challenged and highly engaged in learning.

| | | Response Percent | Response Count |
|--------------------------|--|------------------|----------------|
| Strongly Agree |  | 14.3% | 8 |
| Agree |  | 58.9% | 33 |
| Disagree |  | 19.6% | 11 |
| Strongly Disagree |  | 7.1% | 4 |
| answered question | | | 56 |
| skipped question | | | 2 |

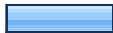



20. I like the way the day is scheduled for my child.

| | | Response Percent | Response Count |
|--------------------------|--|------------------|----------------|
| Strongly Agree |  | 7.1% | 4 |
| Agree |  | 69.6% | 39 |
| Disagree |  | 19.6% | 11 |
| Strongly Disagree |  | 3.6% | 2 |
| answered question | | | 56 |
| skipped question | | | 2 |



21. Parents contribute positively to the school.

| | | Response Percent | Response Count |
|--------------------------|--|------------------|----------------|
| Strongly Agree |  | 5.7% | 3 |
| Agree |  | 71.7% | 38 |
| Disagree |  | 20.8% | 11 |
| Strongly Disagree |  | 1.9% | 1 |
| answered question | | | 53 |
| skipped question | | | 5 |


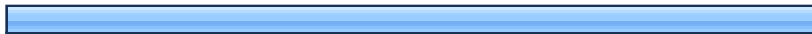


22. Report cards tell me what I need to know about my child's progress.

| | | Response Percent | Response Count |
|--------------------------|--|------------------|----------------|
| Strongly Agree |  | 9.1% | 5 |
| Agree |  | 56.4% | 31 |
| Disagree |  | 27.3% | 15 |
| Strongly Disagree |  | 7.3% | 4 |
| answered question | | | 55 |
| skipped question | | | 3 |



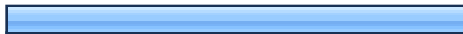

23. Do you have enough information about the school's programs and services? Please list suggestions:

| | | Response Percent | Response Count |
|--------------------------|---|------------------|----------------|
| Yes |  | 67.9% | 36 |
| Not Enough |  | 32.1% | 17 |
| Comments/Suggestions | | | 16 |
| answered question | | | 53 |
| skipped question | | | 5 |





24. School sponsored community events and parent nights are well organized and help me feel connected.

| | | Response Percent | Response Count |
|--------------------------|--|------------------|----------------|
| Strongly Agree |  | 9.8% | 5 |
| Agree |  | 70.6% | 36 |
| Disagree |  | 17.6% | 9 |
| Strongly Disagree |  | 2.0% | 1 |
| answered question | | | 51 |
| skipped question | | | 7 |





25. I feel I know what's going on in my child's class.

| | | Response Percent | Response Count |
|--------------------------|--|------------------|----------------|
| Stongly agree |  | 1.8% | 1 |
| Agree |  | 47.3% | 26 |
| Disagree |  | 40.0% | 22 |
| Strongly Disagree |  | 10.9% | 6 |
| answered question | | | 55 |
| skipped question | | | 3 |




26. School newsletters and bulletins keep me informed of school events.

| | | Response Percent | Response Count |
|--------------------------|--|------------------|----------------|
| Strongly Agree |  | 10.7% | 6 |
| Agree |  | 69.6% | 39 |
| Disagree |  | 16.1% | 9 |
| Strongly Disagree |  | 3.6% | 2 |
| answered question | | | 56 |
| skipped question | | | 2 |





27. Parent teacher conferences help me monitor my child's progress.

| | | Response Percent | Response Count |
|--------------------------|--|------------------|----------------|
| Strongly Agree |  | 7.7% | 3 |
| Agree |  | 41.0% | 16 |
| Disagree |  | 41.0% | 16 |
| Strongly Disagree |  | 10.3% | 4 |
| answered question | | | 39 |
| skipped question | | | 19 |

28. My child knows what is expected of him/her academically.

| | | Response Percent | Response Count |
|--------------------------|--|------------------|----------------|
| Strongly Agree |  | 9.1% | 5 |
| Agree |  | 83.6% | 46 |
| Disagree |  | 7.3% | 4 |
| Strongly Disagree | | 0.0% | 0 |
| answered question | | | 55 |
| skipped question | | | 3 |

29. The school holds high expectations for the quality of work done by the children.

| | | Response Percent | Response Count |
|--------------------------|--|------------------|----------------|
| Strongly Agree |  | 10.7% | 6 |
| Agree |  | 64.3% | 36 |
| Disagree |  | 21.4% | 12 |
| Strongly Disagree |  | 3.6% | 2 |
| answered question | | | 56 |
| skipped question | | | 2 |





30. The amount of classwork that is expected from my child is appropriate.

| | | Response Percent | Response Count |
|--------------------------|--|------------------|----------------|
| Too much | | 3.5% | 2 |
| Just right | | 75.4% | 43 |
| Not enough | | 7.0% | 4 |
| Not sure | | 14.0% | 8 |
| answered question | | | 57 |
| skipped question | | | 1 |




31. The amount and type of homework assigned is appropriate for my child's age.

| | | Response Percent | Response Count |
|--------------------------|--|------------------|----------------|
| Too much | | 15.8% | 9 |
| Just right | | 64.9% | 37 |
| Not enough | | 7.0% | 4 |
| Not sure | | 12.3% | 7 |
| answered question | | | 57 |
| skipped question | | | 1 |





32. My child is recognized for his/her effort and quality of work.

| | | Response Percent | Response Count |
|--------------------------|--|------------------|----------------|
| Strongly Agree |  | 7.7% | 4 |
| Agree |  | 71.2% | 37 |
| Disagree |  | 17.3% | 9 |
| Strongly Disagree |  | 3.8% | 2 |
| answered question | | | 52 |
| skipped question | | | 6 |




33. My child feels safe at school.

| | | Response Percent | Response Count |
|--------------------------|--|------------------|----------------|
| Strongly Agree |  | 23.2% | 13 |
| Agree |  | 71.4% | 40 |
| Disagree |  | 5.4% | 3 |
| Strongly Disagree | | 0.0% | 0 |
| answered question | | | 56 |
| skipped question | | | 2 |





34. My child wants to come to school every day.

| | | Response Percent | Response Count |
|--------------------------|--|------------------|----------------|
| Strongly Agree |  | 14.3% | 8 |
| Agree |  | 53.6% | 30 |
| Disagree |  | 26.8% | 15 |
| Strongly Disagree |  | 5.4% | 3 |
| answered question | | | 56 |
| skipped question | | | 2 |

35. My child likes his/her teachers.

| | | Response Percent | Response Count |
|--------------------------|--|------------------|----------------|
| Strongly Agree |  | 10.5% | 6 |
| Agree |  | 63.2% | 36 |
| Disagree |  | 26.3% | 15 |
| Strongly Disagree | | 0.0% | 0 |
| answered question | | | 57 |
| skipped question | | | 1 |

36. I have been able to make arrangements that work for my child during the early release days.

| | | Response Percent | Response Count |
|--------------------------|--|------------------|----------------|
| Strongly Agree |  | 15.7% | 8 |
| Agree |  | 72.5% | 37 |
| Disagree |  | 5.9% | 3 |
| Strongly Disagree |  | 5.9% | 3 |
| answered question | | | 51 |
| skipped question | | | 7 |

37. Please share any additional comments you have about your child's school.

| | Response Count |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| | 30 |
| answered question | 30 |
| skipped question | 28 |

Q23. Do you have enough information about the school's programs and services? Please list suggestions:

| | | |
|----|---|----------------------|
| 1 | I would like to have more input about programs available to my student in order to make her a more appealing candidate to college admissions. Perhaps guidance counselors could meet with parents to discuss how student could become more well-rounded as college approaches | Mar 16, 2011 9:10 AM |
| 2 | Powerschool is not uniformly and regularly updated by teachers. | Mar 16, 2011 3:40 PM |
| 3 | would like to know the chain of command, names of Dept. Heads, Supervisors and Administrator available for contact when needed. | Mar 16, 2011 3:55 PM |
| 4 | I think your newsletter is set up to be easy to manage, but it rarely gives me a lot of information I'm looking for. Most of the time it's not worth reading. That's particularly true for the email edition. | Mar 16, 2011 5:40 PM |
| 5 | Harwood newsletter needs to include more information. Deadlines, dates for sports signups, outside opportunities for students (i.e. governor's institute, etc.) | Mar 16, 2011 5:59 PM |
| 6 | I think this is true because I go searching for information about the programs and services. | Mar 16, 2011 6:57 PM |
| 7 | I do not feel there is enough information about graduation shared with parents | Mar 16, 2011 9:01 PM |
| 8 | It would be nice for the teachers to use the comments boxes. Any concerns . | Mar 17, 2011 8:32 AM |
| 9 | Information is hard to get. Don't always know when it's available. | Mar 17, 2011 8:52 AM |
| 10 | Some resources are not readily evident to parents. | Mar 17, 2011 9:22 AM |
| 11 | Education for both boys and girls around appropriate actions toward each other. Boys: respectable behavior and legal consequences of inappropriate behavior. Girls: self esteem and self defense | Mar 17, 2011 1:24 PM |

Q23. Do you have enough information about the school's programs and services? Please list suggestions:

| | | |
|----|---|-----------------------|
| 12 | Had I been able to, I would have sent my child to a private school. Financially it would have been a hardship. So, I sent my child to HUHS and hoped for the best despite what I would hear from people. I am EXTREMELY worried about the teaching of advanced placement courses. My child's experience in the science courses, for example, have been dismal, unexciting, not engaging, or appropriate. My worries have come true. The very reasons I wanted to send my child to a private school have become a reality. It appears that it doesn't matter how a teacher performs, he or she will remain on staff. It doesn't matter how much children say about those same teachers year after year, he or she will remain on staff. It doesn't matter how much reliable feedback that is given by concerned parents, those same teachers will remain on staff. This leads me to ask the question, "Where does the buck stop?" Is it embarrassing or concerning to the powers that be at HUHS that a family is told to not have its most brightest, highly achieving child to just not take AP courses to avoid those who teach them. How sad for us all. I would like to know about the supervision of what is being taught. I recently spoke to a teacher at the HS. I asked what the curricula and scope and sequence was for the AP English classes 9th - 12th. That person agreed there should be one, but currently there is not. The only way I could describe my child's academic experience thus far at HUHS is fragmented. I am sorry to be writing this. I am sorry to feel the need to write this. I am sorry...I am saddened to do so. | Mar 20, 2011 11:14 PM |
| 13 | too many different venues to go to...website, powerschool, and too many emails with different pieces of info. Too many things for parents to check so parent miss a lot of dates etc. | Mar 21, 2011 3:43 PM |
| 14 | More information would be helpful for incoming freshman parents on grades, parent teacher conferences (or lack of), what to do when a new trimester starts for kids, that quarter grades are averaged in to trimester grades etc. | Mar 23, 2011 4:09 PM |
| 15 | Would have liked more information early in the school year about clubs. | Mar 24, 2011 1:46 PM |
| 16 | I would appreciate parent teacher conferences and written comments on report cards. I am very concerned about the quality of math instruction at HUHS. My child has been challenged in some classes and not at all in others. | Mar 30, 2011 1:37 PM |

Q37. Please share any additional comments you have about your child's school.

| | | |
|---|---|-----------------------|
| 1 | my child has special needs and is on an iep I am tired of being told lies at iep meetings. I am tired of harwood only being concerned about meeting the graduation goals that THEY THINK ARE IMPORTANT and not making the educational goals meet the needs of the individual. | Mar 15, 2011 11:52 AM |
| 2 | When I have tried to contact certain teachers to discuss my child some of them do not respond at all and some of them are not willing to be helpful. I have been a teacher for 23 years and it is my goal for all of my students to succeed! One time when my son did some extra math work to try to improve his grade the teacher wrote on his papers, "Thanks for playing, but it's all wrong." How does this help him in anyway what so ever?! She did not try to help him learn from his mistakes, nor did she try to encourage him with a comment like this! I am very disappointed with some of the teachers at Harwood but also very impressed with some of them as well. | Mar 15, 2011 11:53 AM |
| 3 | At the HS level a student does not want the parent to be involved in their school- but parents need to be. It would be a huge help to involve parents in conferences or school workshops to interact with the HS teachers. Not simply have one back to school night and then leave it up to parents to contact teachers if a problem arises. Parents and teachers coming together when it's initiated by the school is the optimal support system. When students see committed parents they feel better about being committed themselves. but parents won't do that unless it's initiated by the school | Mar 16, 2011 9:10 AM |
| 4 | Concerned about substance abuse issues at the school that administration doesn't appear to be aware of or is not directly addressing. Classes are too short and lead to a disjointed learning experience- the lack of instructional class time seems to be remedied by piling on too much homework that requires busy stressed out kids to do a "second shift" of school each night. School is not "fun" or "engaging" - it is just work and lots of it. Some staff seem resentful and defensive when questioned about student's work or grades. | Mar 16, 2011 10:14 AM |
| 5 | I have a few concerns: The dedication of some of the teachers is exemplary. Other teachers seem to show up with little or no planning. My child had a math teacher who seemed unprepared and had no control over the class. In addition the subject was ridiculously easy (adding coins). Why is it that many times when my child has a sub the class watches a movie that is completely unrelated to anything academic? Subs often show up late or not at all to a class. I am disappointed that my child tried to start a club (against bullying) and despite support from one teacher (Mr. B.) there was no support or repsonse from the person in charge of extracurricular activities. I'd prefer this be kept confidential as this employee would know who my child is. I am waiting for a response re a request I made for testing. The people I contacted (Duane and Cindy) responded immediately that they referred my concern to someone else. Thsi other person has yet to respond or at least let me know what's happening. I know Harwood is big and things take longer than in an elementary school but I would still like a response within a day or two that they are working on the issue. On a positive note - the math lab is wonderful! My other child has had a different experience so I will be filling out a separate survey for that child. Thank you for asking for our opinions. | Mar 16, 2011 4:46 PM |
| 6 | longer blocks for each class would be beneficial to the student and teachers. Too many videos/movies on early release days!! Wasted time!! | Mar 16, 2011 5:32 PM |

Q37. Please share any additional comments you have about your child's school.

| | | |
|----|--|----------------------|
| 7 | My child's History teacher assigns too much homework. He begins his h.w. as soon as he gets home and often stays up until 11:00 to get all the work done . In addition, some of the questions are college level (a bit high for a 9th grader,even if it is an honors class). I am impressed by the level of work that he does in English class. The teacher is clearly prepared and asks great questions (Mr. Morse). I was impressed by the Career and Life Planning class - a great way for students to explore what they might want to do later in life. I think sports should not go so late. My child was at school until 8:00 many evenings. Thanks for allowing me to voice my opinion. | Mar 16, 2011 5:35 PM |
| 8 | It's tough to satisfy everyone. And every body that oversees you. All in all, I think you do a great job at HUHS. Thanks! | Mar 16, 2011 5:40 PM |
| 9 | My child would like to have more choice in what he learns. | Mar 16, 2011 6:57 PM |
| 10 | My children and my husband are all products of Harwood. Thank you for everything. I feel that my children have been given a great education. | Mar 16, 2011 7:20 PM |
| 11 | HU has a number of talented and dedicated teachers, staff and faculty led by an extremely dynamic principal. Those individuals are doing a remarkable job. | Mar 16, 2011 7:36 PM |
| 12 | Would like to see information/announcements reach home. Daily newsletter e-mail is basically useless, and the Harwood website is even worse. | Mar 16, 2011 8:30 PM |
| 13 | I was very dissapointed that Harwood fired Denise Fuoco because she has a learning disability, I thought Harwood promoted tolerance and understanding yet they let go a "highly qualified" person for no good reason. What kind of example is this setting for the students at Harwood? | Mar 16, 2011 9:01 PM |
| 14 | The early release days are an inconvenience. This survey doesn't offer enough answer choices. For example, my kids don't get PTC so the question should have an NA option. Power School doesn't work well and the teachers are inconsistent in keeping it current. It puts kids on the defensive to be explaining why their grades are low when its because teachers have F listed for assignments they have yet to grade. Why can't they be left blank? | Mar 17, 2011 7:38 AM |
| 15 | I think you still should have scheduled conferences for highschoolers | Mar 17, 2011 8:32 AM |
| 16 | Powerschool is useless if the teachers do not keep it current and a lot of teachers do not updates it very often. There should be a mandatory updated requirement. The communication between parents and teachers is non-existent. I have tried on numerous ocassions to contact my child's teachers and only a couple have ever repsonded...however, Duane Pierson has not answered me on ocassion as well so I guess if communication is not important to leadership, why would it be important to staff members. Maybe this could use a little work? I am not a happy parent in this regard! | Mar 17, 2011 9:09 AM |

Q37. Please share any additional comments you have about your child's school.

- | | | |
|----|--|-----------------------|
| 17 | I feel that power school has replaced direct parent communication. I feel it should complement it, not replace it. When my child fails something I should be called or emailed. Some teachers and staff have not gotten back to me in a timely manner (sometimes not at all). If a teacher/staff does not use email then there should be an automatic response when you email them that says "I do not check this email regularly. Please contact me at this number..." Other schools have a 48 hour policy of teachers getting back to parents. If there is a class management issue, it should be dealt with. If the school is going to use something like power school, it should be required to be updated regularly. What good is it if you cannot totally depend on what you see on it? Why can't students/parents access homework assignments via the web site? If my child misses a day of school it is a major process to find out homework so he can keep current. Lastly, Patti Reagan is awesome. She cares about all students and has made a positive difference in my child's life. | Mar 17, 2011 9:22 AM |
| 18 | As you see in any school, Harwood has incredibly bright engaging teachers as well as those who really shouldn't be there at all. It would be nice to figure out a way to weed out the teachers that the public have the same complaints about year after year. I don't feel this is the venue to complain about specific teachers because I am sure you know who they are already. It would be nice to find a way to really honor those who are doing their jobs and who are going above and beyond via recognition, incentives, rewards etc. I also think there are plenty of people out there who are aching for a teaching job and would bring renewed interest and vigor to the subjects that they are passionate to teach. I think some of the teachers at Harwood are missing any kind of knowledge about differentiation and figuring out ways to reach those who are not interested or who cannot sit through an entire lecture-type of class. As a fellow educator, I have a hard time hearing about and experiencing first hand the actions of certain teachers and the things that go on in class time and time again. There must be a way to more effectively supervise these people. I understand that your hands are somewhat tied due to union issues but supervision is key to better faculty and increased learning opportunities for the students. | Mar 17, 2011 10:42 AM |
| 19 | As my child is a sr. some of these questions are N/A. I have always enjoyed the parents "back to school" night, but I have always thought that it would be just as helpful to have 2 more meetings during the school year. My kid does not usually let me know what is going on in classes and I think it would be helpful to meet more frequently with the teachers. As far as my kid not wanting to go to school-I think it is senioritis. Thanks for the opportunity to give comments. | Mar 17, 2011 12:14 PM |
| 20 | Powerschool has been a great assistance to keeping in touch with grades however, some teachers make many errors or do not input grades in a timely manner that allow students/parents to respond. Additionally, there seems to be a culture that allows or fosters a "them v us" mentality that pits teachers against students and we have had many incidents of teachers speaking disrespectfully to students. We expect them to model appropriate behavior. Students who get attention at this school either have issues or are stand outs; many average students do not get attention or feel engaged or included. | Mar 17, 2011 1:24 PM |
| 21 | Early release days in the middle of the week cannot be productive. Teachers should have in-service's before the school year starts or during vacations. | Mar 17, 2011 9:32 PM |
| 22 | I'm not sure if this is already in place, but I believe it would be a good idea to survey students at the end of the semester/year to get feedback from them about teachers. Students can be very astute and have the ability to give feedback that can aid the teachers and administration to set goals for improvement. | Mar 19, 2011 1:47 PM |

Q37. Please share any additional comments you have about your child's school.

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| 23 | The scheduling at HUHS is problematic. In order to play an instrument, you can't take art courses. In order to take an art course, you Well I know you know what I mean. I was happy to hear that folks are meeting to discuss other options so that the students can follow personal interests regardless of the academic track they choose. Lastly, I would add, schools are single minded when asking for feedback. There is a broader community out there who should be asked its opinion too. These schools belong to ALL of us young and old. Folks who do not have students in the schools in their community, still have opinions and ideas. Most importantly, they pass budgets. | Mar 20, 2011 11:14 PM |
| 24 | Outside entrance could be better looking by less litter. | Mar 21, 2011 10:54 AM |
| 25 | I think the biggest challenge is the varying quality of teachers across the high school. Some have been excellent and some only so-so. I particularly think that the math and science curricula need to be rethought so that courses are more connected to the "real world," especially for those students who are taking subjects like Algebra II and chemistry just to fulfill requirements and do not have a particular interest in science/math. Right now they are taught in such an abstract manner with all memorization and no connection to anything "real" that it really turns off kids. | Mar 21, 2011 11:07 AM |
| 26 | HU tries to do a lot of innovative things for students. You have some dynamic wonderful teachers on staff. On the other hand you have some terrible teachers. Your guidance department is weak. Your health department is excellent. Your Social Science dept. is great and Arts great. Math and Science terrible, Languages and Language Arts good. PE department is abysmal. Sports and coaches and the athletic director are excellent though. Middle School secretary is great and Nancy Myrto is terrific. | Mar 21, 2011 3:43 PM |
| 27 | These questions need to be more fitting to the highschool. They don't have recess and they have many teachers. When I do call the school I am greeted happily by Nancy. | Mar 22, 2011 8:01 PM |
| 28 | I wish that there was more information sent home about clubs and after school offerings several times a trimester so parents might encourage introverted kids to try new things. I also feel that the school board has not been responsible when it comes to the upkeep of the school for the students. Harwood's facilities are outdated and look shabby. We cant even get the parking lot paved, the athletic fields fixed, the pipes replaced etc. It is embarrassing to have people say "Oh Harwood that school from the 1950's?" Our kids deserve better and like it or not keeping up appearances matters. It tells the kids that having basic things like a parking lot thats not full of pot holes, fields that are not under water and a school that's not filled with mold because of leaky pipes is not for them. Apparently it's for the elite. Come on and give our kids the basic things they deserve. | Mar 23, 2011 4:09 PM |
| 29 | I had to check disagree in a few places because you did not offer the option N/A-my kids don't get recess or have parent/teacher conferences. This year the communication for sophomores in honors english was absent as was the learning-a whole semester wasted with no writing-I realize the teacher has a personal crisis but the whole thing was handled poorly. Also-there are no opportunities for feedback for teachers-you have some brilliant teachers and some dreadful ones! | Mar 24, 2011 1:46 PM |
| 30 | My child has been aware of prejudice among students on buses and among students (though not at school per se.) | Mar 30, 2011 1:37 PM |