


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)		0.0%	0
Moretown Elementary School		0.0%	0
Thatcher Brook Primary School		0.0%	0
Waitsfield Elementary School		100.0%	55
Warren School		0.0%	0
		answered question	55
		skipped question	0




2. How many of your children attend this school?

		Response Percent	Response Count
1		48.1%	26
2		51.9%	28
3		0.0%	0
4+		0.0%	0
answered question			54
skipped question			1



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

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree		45.5%	25
Agree		54.5%	30
Disagree		0.0%	0
Strongly Disagree		0.0%	0
answered question			55
skipped question			0




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

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree		67.3%	37
Agree		30.9%	17
Disagree		1.8%	1
Strongly Disagree		0.0%	0
		answered question	55
		skipped question	0


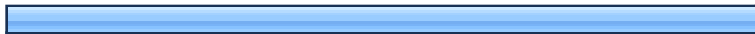

5. The school administrative assistant is helpful and resourceful. (Fayston: Callie Schober. Moretown: Pam Kathan. TBPS: Sue Premore. Waitsfield: Connie Hartshorn. Warren: Laurie Jones. CBMS: Ellen Barillaro. HUMS: Liz Hepp. HUHS: Wendy Gilbert).

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree		96.4%	53
Agree		3.6%	2
Disagree		0.0%	0
Strongly Disagree		0.0%	0
No Opinion		0.0%	0
N/A		0.0%	0
answered question			55
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		23.4%	11
Agree		0.0%	0
Disagree		0.0%	0
Strongly Disagree		0.0%	0
No Opinion		4.3%	2
N/A		72.3%	34
answered question			47
skipped question			8


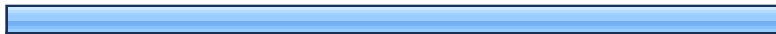

7. The school board sets the right direction for the school.

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree		26.9%	14
Agree		65.4%	34
Disagree		7.7%	4
Strongly Disagree		0.0%	0
answered question			52
skipped question			3




8. Student discipline is handled fairly and effectively.

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree		30.2%	16
Agree		66.0%	35
Disagree		3.8%	2
Strongly Disagree		0.0%	0
answered question			53
skipped question			2




9. Students are learning useful social skills at school.

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree		30.9%	17
Agree		67.3%	37
Disagree		1.8%	1
Strongly Disagree		0.0%	0
answered question			55
skipped question			0



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		38.9%	21
Agree		59.3%	32
Disagree		1.9%	1
Strongly Disagree		0.0%	0
answered question			54
skipped question			1

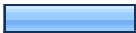




11. I feel welcomed at school and am treated with respect when I visit or call.

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree		61.1%	33
Agree		37.0%	20
Disagree		1.9%	1
Strongly Disagree		0.0%	0
answered question			54
skipped question			1






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

		Response Percent	Response Count
Usually No Problem		94.4%	51
Usually Takes Time		5.6%	3
Difficult		0.0%	0
answered question			54
skipped question			1


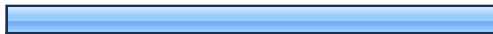


13. Meals served in the school lunch program are satisfying, appealing and nutritious.

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree		11.1%	6
Agree		42.6%	23
Disagree		25.9%	14
Strongly Disagree		11.1%	6
N/A		9.3%	5
		answered question	54
		skipped question	1


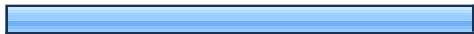



14. Safe and engaging after school activities and programs are offered for my child.

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree		30.9%	17
Agree		49.1%	27
Disagree		5.5%	3
Strongly Disagree		1.8%	1
N/A		12.7%	7
		answered question	55
		skipped question	0




15. Bus transportation is safe and reliable.

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree		27.8%	15
Agree		42.6%	23
Disagree		9.3%	5
Strongly Disagree		0.0%	0
N/A		20.4%	11
		answered question	54
		skipped question	1



16. Bus transportation meets my needs.

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree		20.4%	11
Agree		40.7%	22
Disagree		16.7%	9
Strongly Disagree		1.9%	1
N/A		20.4%	11
answered question			54
skipped question			1





17. Recess is safe and fun for my child.

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree		25.9%	14
Agree		53.7%	29
Disagree		20.4%	11
Strongly Disagree		0.0%	0
answered question			54
skipped question			1


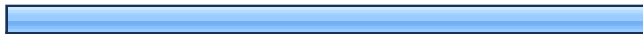


18. My child knows and follows the rules.

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree		42.6%	23
Agree		57.4%	31
Disagree		0.0%	0
Strongly Disagree		0.0%	0
answered question			54
skipped question			1



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

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree		29.6%	16
Agree		55.6%	30
Disagree		13.0%	7
Strongly Disagree		1.9%	1
answered question			54
skipped question			1




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

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree		27.8%	15
Agree		55.6%	30
Disagree		13.0%	7
Strongly Disagree		3.7%	2
answered question			54
skipped question			1



21. Parents contribute positively to the school.

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree		43.4%	23
Agree		56.6%	30
Disagree		0.0%	0
Strongly Disagree		0.0%	0
answered question			53
skipped question			2


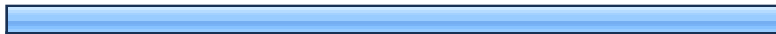

22. Report cards tell me what I need to know about my child's progress.

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree		27.8%	15
Agree		64.8%	35
Disagree		7.4%	4
Strongly Disagree		0.0%	0
answered question			54
skipped question			1



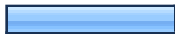

23. Do you have enough information about the school's programs and services? Please list suggestions:

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		92.6%	50
Not Enough		7.4%	4
Comments/Suggestions			7
answered question			54
skipped question			1


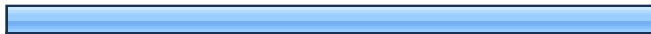

24. School sponsored community events and parent nights are well organized and help me feel connected.

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree		21.8%	12
Agree		67.3%	37
Disagree		10.9%	6
Strongly Disagree		0.0%	0
answered question			55
skipped question			0




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

		Response Percent	Response Count
Stongly agree		27.3%	15
Agree		56.4%	31
Disagree		14.5%	8
Strongly Disagree		1.8%	1
answered question			55
skipped question			0




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

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree		41.8%	23
Agree		56.4%	31
Disagree		1.8%	1
Strongly Disagree		0.0%	0
answered question			55
skipped question			0




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

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree		49.1%	27
Agree		47.3%	26
Disagree		3.6%	2
Strongly Disagree		0.0%	0
answered question			55
skipped question			0





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

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree		35.2%	19
Agree		59.3%	32
Disagree		5.6%	3
Strongly Disagree		0.0%	0
answered question			54
skipped question			1





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

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree		28.3%	15
Agree		62.3%	33
Disagree		9.4%	5
Strongly Disagree		0.0%	0
answered question			53
skipped question			2


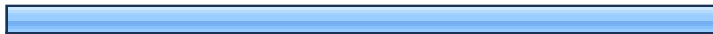

30. The amount of classwork that is expected from my child is appropriate.

		Response Percent	Response Count
Too much		5.5%	3
Just right		65.5%	36
Not enough		20.0%	11
Not sure		9.1%	5
answered question			55
skipped question			0




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

		Response Percent	Response Count
Too much		5.5%	3
Just right		67.3%	37
Not enough		23.6%	13
Not sure		3.6%	2
answered question			55
skipped question			0


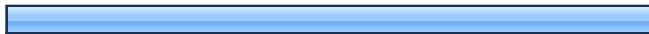

32. My child is recognized for his/her effort and quality of work.

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree		34.5%	19
Agree		61.8%	34
Disagree		3.6%	2
Strongly Disagree		0.0%	0
answered question			55
skipped question			0



33. My child feels safe at school.

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree		45.5%	25
Agree		49.1%	27
Disagree		5.5%	3
Strongly Disagree		0.0%	0
answered question			55
skipped question			0





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

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree		30.9%	17
Agree		56.4%	31
Disagree		12.7%	7
Strongly Disagree		0.0%	0
answered question			55
skipped question			0

35. My child likes his/her teachers.

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree		67.3%	37
Agree		32.7%	18
Disagree		0.0%	0
Strongly Disagree		0.0%	0
answered question			55
skipped question			0

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

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree		29.1%	16
Agree		54.5%	30
Disagree		9.1%	5
Strongly Disagree		7.3%	4
		answered question	55
		skipped question	0

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

		Response Count
		24
		answered question
		24
		skipped question
		31

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

1	more advanced math programs for grades 1 and 2	Mar 16, 2011 8:09 AM
2	There is so much information comming at me, that I don't know what the core learning is.	Mar 16, 2011 8:54 AM
3	Yes but I'm proactive, I don't know if parents who work a lot or are not as active in the community would feel the same way	Mar 16, 2011 9:32 AM
4	there should be other choice besides down hill skiing.	Mar 16, 2011 12:59 PM
5	After just having conferences, it is still hard to understand what and how my kids are learning each day. There is no discussion of the "specials", art, gym, music, French, etc	Mar 18, 2011 2:29 PM
6	Thursday WES emails very accurate. Fliers coming home also help.	Mar 22, 2011 1:04 PM
7	The WES email newsletter is very helpful. Related to report cards, report cards do not tell the whole story. Teacher-Parent-Student conferences as WES are fantastic and a very important part of the reviewing the trimester just-past. It is too bad there is no way to have end-of-the-year teacher-student-parent conferences as a capstone to the year. Maybe having a last day to the year planned as a field day, with parent-teacher-student conferences the day before that.	Mar 22, 2011 11:54 PM

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

1	My children feel safe at recess but do not find it fun due to the social complexities of that time. Both my children have complained that the food at school lunch has gone significantly downhill.	Mar 16, 2011 7:47 AM
2	Teachers get way to many days, or half days off for professional development during the school year. For example, there was a whole day off for the kids so the teachers could do conferences all day. This is crazy. The kids lose out on a day of school. No reason why teachers could not do them at night at later times for multiple days. Half days for professional development is unnecessary as well. Teachers have the whole summer to get this accomplished. If this isn't possible, have the professional development session after the school day.	Mar 16, 2011 8:14 AM
3	I feel that Kaiya does a wonderful job at our school. I would love to see more artwork. It is the third trimester, and I have never seen any art projects from the classroom or art class.	Mar 16, 2011 8:15 AM
4	Question 36 is really not a valid question. People are able to make arrangements because they have to. The question should focus on how difficult it is to make arrangements, the hardship early release days may cause to families financially, and/or is there a day (or than Wednesday) that would be more convenient for early release. It seems to me that Wednesday is a terrible day. It breaks up the week, and Wednesday would seem to be a day where kids are focused and learning. It concerns me that the reason Fridays are not used is because teachers may not want to be there on Friday afternoons. Friday afternoon is generally a time when kids are tired and have a hard time focusing. Wouldn't this be a better time to have early release?	Mar 16, 2011 8:21 AM
5	I would like to see the start of the school year begin after Labor day and have them in school later in June to accommodate this.	Mar 16, 2011 8:32 AM
6	I would like more oportunites to comment on survey questions.	Mar 16, 2011 9:10 AM
7	I realize the principle is new, but her communication and organizational skills seem weak. She changes or cancels events at the last moment, sometimes with no notification. This year it seams she sporatically decided to change the time that school starts in the morning (I'm not sure where her empowerment to do this comes from), without sending out any form of written notification. Now she wonders why children are late. If she had communicated the time change in a proper manner, parents would have the opportunity to conform. It seems she has some of the same problems she exhibited at her last place of employment.	Mar 16, 2011 9:13 AM
8	Although resources are always an issue, I do feel that children who do excel are sometimes underserved and not challenged to their full potential	Mar 16, 2011 9:32 AM
9	The high-quality afterschool program at WES makes a huge difference to my child and my family every day.	Mar 16, 2011 11:00 AM

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

10	I cannot say enough good things about the Waitsfield Elementary School staff, teachers, school board, educational curriculum, library facilities, art, music, and gymnasium space/activities. My son truly loves his experience at the school as do we, his parents. We feel it is a positive and enriching community that we are fortunate to be part of. I really appreciate the "character development" aspects for the children as this is something that helps define how they think of themselves and act toward others!!	Mar 16, 2011 2:37 PM
11	I feel the art teacher and the Technology teacher are not of the same high caliber as the other teachers at the school. I don't think that recess is supervised well enough. Other than those 2 things, I think it is a fabulous school.	Mar 16, 2011 5:34 PM
12	The way the pre-school program is set up is very hard for working parents, and the fact that I have to pay \$15 for my pre-schooler to ride on the kindergarten bus 1/4 mile up the road is less than ideal.	Mar 17, 2011 8:47 PM
13	There are way too many early release days (especially with the ski program). While the ski program has its benefits, my kids are in school to receive a quality education. We are not convinced that our children are being pushed to their limits and beyond academically. My son never has work sent home so we have no way to gauge what he is doing all day.	Mar 18, 2011 2:29 PM
14	my child receives lots of busy work. A lot of his homework time is spent coloring and cutting and pasting. This third grader is bored with all of this. Computer class for this third grade class appears to not be consistent with what other classes are doing.	Mar 20, 2011 4:07 PM
15	I have had complaints about serving sizes for lunch, we tried to come up with a "plan" to make sure my child is not hungry but it seems to be not a good fall back for them. The survey is somewhat difficult to answer if the answers vary for the two children - so where I might answer one way for one child and differently for the other I had to make a choice and generically submit answers for the survey.	Mar 22, 2011 10:19 AM
16	Please reinstate beginning of year conferences. They are extremely important for the students as well as the parents and set the expectations and tone for the coming year.	Mar 22, 2011 10:28 AM

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

- | | | |
|----|---|----------------------|
| 17 | <p>1. Arthur is missed - kids miss his service and lunches; today's menu is less appealing to child each month on a whole. 2. Although improving, staff still somewhat prickly and/or defensive about feedback whenever negative. Parents tend to say less as a result - how does that improve a system? Must have feedback. 3. Parents seem actively engaged in a range of volunteering, the school is lucky with increase in #working parents. Not sure if this level is sustainable. At same time, I only see a very small # of teachers volunteering for anything after school - not even one day a week for a couple weeks. 4. Expectations for excellence could be higher. No word on latest NECAP significance, for example. Where is school curriculum/teachers weak impacting NECAP scores? 5. Homework for some grades not consistent - sometimes nothing, sometimes a little, rarely ever too much. Homework should review materials learned in school, consistently, and effectively and be enough to require feedback from teachers. If teachers don't have time to grade it, don't assign it. Parents can help, but are not teacher substitutes. 6. Recess still not considered safe by our family. Lots of accidents here and there - broken arms, accidental run-ins, lack of supervision during winter activities outside. Not sure what can be done, but too many accidents these past two years. Again, teachers might love a break from lunch and recess duty, but they are to be working all day - it's a short day for them compared to the private sector these days. 7. I have no idea what goes on in my child's classroom. No 'watch in action' opportunity to see student interact with teacher. 8. I look forward to Board ensuring a fair assessment of each teachers value, including special ed. Where there are problems or inefficiencies or lack of total utilization per teacher, I look forward to corrections being made, via salary or dismissal, not overlooked. Everyone is struggling in today's economy, and teachers still get many days off per school year and lots of "in-service" training days. Who gets this anymore? Why not at night or during summer, like the rest of us? Continues to be a sore spot for working parents; teachers get it all, it seems. No compromises, except a minor reduction in salary increase, so we hear, but have no visibility on due to confidentiality. Parents work other jobs, parents volunteer for the school in class and after school, parents have to take days off and/or pay for childcare during teacher time off and snow days, parents raise money for teachers programs and fun class 'outings' through Ski and Skate sale/other. Teachers get paid to teach. What else?</p> | Mar 22, 2011 1:04 PM |
| 18 | <p>-Counseling department is excellent. If no Counseling department programming, school would not be meeting social development expectation. -One teacher very accommodating to parents. Other, not so much - mixed. -Lunch delivery not very pleasant for the kids. The lady is 'not so nice', according to kids. -Teachers park in student drop off areas now, leaving little room for drop -off. Also, some parents loiter at drop off and pick up too long (take it to the coffee shop). It's a problem that needs to be addressed from teacher parking perspective and from parent loitering perspective. In private companies, employees park farthest away and are asked to walk, while visitors get the best short-term 'drop-off' spots. Teachers should be walking from farthest points to school entrance. -Blogs help understand what is happening in class, but are not updated consistently or thoroughly. It takes two minutes to close out the day with a blog report. -Teacher good about recognizing student achievements -My child loves his/her teacher very much. -Teachers need to volunteer a little to show they can work beyond a union check. Everyone is giving more these days, especially private sector working parents. How about teachers?</p> | Mar 22, 2011 1:13 PM |

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

19	School lunch program has a lot to be desired..... consistly supplying ill temperature food and beverage. Veggies need to be scrutinized before consuming. Also LOTS of complaints about hair in the food. Hope this will be firmly resolved. Also, dress code.. is there one?..should there be? More than a few times while visiting at school I've witnessed extremely provocative clothing being worn by the older girls in school, I am one of many that feel this is not the kind of atmosphere that should be acceptable in an elementary school.	Mar 22, 2011 4:33 PM
20	early release days are a terrible inconvenience in the middle of the week. the school lunch is sub-par, as is the lady serving it. Otherwise, we love the school.	Mar 22, 2011 10:14 PM
21	One of our children feels like he is bullied at school, although it is not just everyone else. He has social skills to learn. Still, it is sad to see him suffer with being picked on. He did "fake" being sick a bunch last trimester to take a break from school. I do not blame the school for this, and am not sure there is anything they could do, except maybe having more time available from the school counselor to help him out.	Mar 22, 2011 11:54 PM
22	I am extremely happy that Richard Schattman did not continue as principal. Kaiya Korp has been outstanding. My children where not safe when Dr. Schattman was there. I am so glad to put that chapter behind us now. We should add a question in future surveys asking about the quality of the PTA for the PTA's benefit to see how they are doing.	Mar 23, 2011 9:56 AM
23	#13 Too much whole wheat. Classrooms are TOO warm, TOO stuffy in the winter.	Mar 28, 2011 3:03 PM
24	1) Start time is too early!! My child would be more focussed and pleased to attend school if we did not have to wrestle him out of bed. 2) More outdoor learning. Kindergartners MUST go outside EVERY day. 3) More emphasis on how to interact socially would be nice. Movie nights are not teaching them how to interact. Dances are not to be avoided just because kids are apprehensive; there is a reason they are so! 3) Boys should not measure their worth by the number of guns they have or video games they play. The school environ is great for girls but not entirely sell suited for boys. More engagement at lunch, recess from male teachers would help. 4) A mentoring program for boys would also be great - to try to steer them away from video bang bang shoot em up and stay inside type stuff. To be smart is cool. To be nice is cool. Overall we have a great school but I hope there will be less teaching to the test/standard and more out of the box thinking. thank you to all who put so much into our school and it's children, and for the opportunity to comment.	Apr 1, 2011 12:45 PM