



School Climate Survey 2017

This School Climate Survey was made available in March of 2017 for parents to complete online. Our Grade 4-8 students also completed this survey in class time. Sample questions help us ascertain how Jack Miner students and parents feel about our school and if they feel safe, welcome, and respected and deals with issues such as bullying, discipline and communication. Below you will find a brief outline of our results.

Invitation to participate in the survey was emailed out to all families and paper copies were sent to families not able to access email. Reminders were sent out via Facebook, twitter, school and board web page and Synervoice. Last year we had 101 parents complete this survey and this year we only had 68 parents assist in providing their input. Of those 68 parents, 13 parents attended Jack Miner as children themselves. The results are geared to provide information from a staff, student and parent perspective. We all agree that Jack Miner Public School is a fantastic place to teach, learn and grow and this survey is just one piece of information we discuss as a group when creating plans for our future. Thank you so much for your participation and input!

The purpose of the school climate survey is to strengthen our GECDSB system as a whole and our own Jack Miner School, by celebrating our strengths, acknowledging our weaknesses and planning the next steps to ensure positive learning and working environments for everyone.

Data from the student and parent surveys conducted in the spring of 2017 indicates:

We have a school of students that are happy with who they are. The majority of the students at Jack Miner feel welcome and safe and know that they can get the help that they need at school. Many of our intermediate students perceive their average marks to be in the mid 70 – 85 range and intend to pursue some form of post-secondary education by attending college or university. Our students indicate that they believe their future lies in the access and use of technology in the classroom and their home. The majority of parents feel their child is safe and welcomed into the school and that they themselves are welcome and valued for their volunteer work.

Positive results:

Our students feel that they have viewed very few incidents of bullying at Jack Miner, with social and electronic bullying the most common forms. Our students feel that they have access to healthy environments, both at school and at home. All students feel that they come to an environment where they have at least one person that cares about them and strongly indicate that there is a teacher and/or parent/guardian they can turn to when they need help or information to stay safe.

The survey results demonstrate a need to review:

Intermediate students are very excited about their upcoming graduation and feel confident in their preparation for the move to the Secondary System but through the Student Success Team we need to provide more opportunities for our Grade 7 students to experience our local high school.

Our junior and intermediate students feel uncomfortable at school in terms of self-esteem. Those that are struggling with self-esteem are most often concerned with how their appearance is viewed by their peers. The staff results would concur with the concept that appearance is a strong reason students are bullied at school.

Another area of concern is the emotional and psychological well-being of the intermediate students. Although the majority of students stated that they feel happy and comfortable at school, they feel that they struggle emotionally and/or psychologically. We need to widen our research to determine if there is a comprehension issue with the questions presented or if there is actually an issue with emotional/psychological well-being within our intermediate student body. Students feel able to approach adults but do not feel confident in the way in which issues are dealt with. Staff feel they require more training to assist with mental health issues and agree that often they are unable to assist students in crisis.

Survey results indicate that the hallways and playground areas are targets for bullies, as they are less structured. We have tried to develop a more structured approach to dealing with playground and nutrition/fitness break issues to help those students who witness bullying to feel more comfortable in telling an adult. We did see an increase in results whereby bystanders got involved or told a teacher but these physical areas still seem prevalent for bullying. Parents, students and staff all believe that the rules of conduct are clear and concise in the Jack Miner Handbook but would like them communicated on a more regular basis. The survey clearly communicates that students and parents believe that the staff are inconsistent in enforcing our school rules.

Action Plan:

As a result of the school climate survey our first action plan will be a staff meeting to review our ‘Safe School Handbook’ and clearly define our role as supervisors and the need for consistency in implementing our school rules. We will also look at re-vamping the yard duty communication tool – “student incident report form”. It is recommended that each teacher have a mini clipboard to carry their own form. Being consistent with staff using this communication tool will help to expedite these issues being investigated, dealt with and tracked. Keeping track of these issues will allow us to be proactive, and create plans to deal with these situations in a consistent manner.

A full copy of our school’s survey results is available upon request. It is evident that parents are a strong partner within our school building and we hope to create more opportunities to involve you in the day to day learning activities with your child. Please continue to provide us with your feedback. As always, if you have any issues or concerns, our door is always open for you!



