Elementary Student Satisfaction and Engagement Survey

Results and Analysis

Richardson Independent School District
May 19th, 2014
Agenda

• Purpose
• Background
• Technical Notes
• Findings
• Strengths and Challenges
• Recommendations and Next Steps
Purpose

Richardson Independent School District conducted a survey in conjunction with Vision 2020 and the District Improvement Plan to measure student beliefs regarding their campus experiences.

Survey topics included:
- Student Engagement
- Teacher and Parent Support
- Student Activities
- Student Learning Preferences
- Discipline at School
- School Relevance
In 2012-2013, RISD contracted with K12Insight (an independent, technology-based research and communications firm) to develop a survey that engaged students and solicited feedback regarding critical district issues. The results from that survey were used to formulate goals regarding student perceptions in the 2013-2014 District Improvement Plan.

This year, RISD continued to contract with K12 Insight to administer the student engagement survey. Additionally, the District actively monitored participation rates at each campus during survey administration and campuses were active in encouraging student participation.
Background

The 2013-14 District Improvement Plan established goals to deliver a rigorous and relevant curriculum using instructional strategies designed to engage learners in meaningful learning experiences.

Goal 1 – Objective 1

- 1.1.3.a: Improve perceptions of elementary students.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Perception</th>
<th>Perception</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Teachers talk about interesting subjects</td>
<td>69% to 79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homework and other assignments are interesting</td>
<td>48% to 58%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Technical Notes

- The survey was open February 4\textsuperscript{th} to March 7\textsuperscript{th}, 2014.

- Students used their student ID to access the survey.

- Both 5\textsuperscript{th} and 6\textsuperscript{th} grade students were surveyed. Note: Only 6\textsuperscript{th} grade students were addressed in the DIP.

- The findings for each item exclude participants who did not answer the item.

- Survey questions were jointly developed by K12 Insight and the District. The survey remained unchanged from the previous year.

- Likert-type 3 and 5-point scales were used in the survey.
  - Agreement Scale: Strongly Agree, Agree, Neither Agree nor Disagree, Disagree Strongly, Disagree
  - Importance Scale: Very Important, Somewhat Important, Not at all Important
  - Preference Scale: I like a lot, I like a little, I don’t like at all

- Dimensions were calculated using aggregate data combining Strongly Agree and Agree.

- Data labels of 5\% or less are not shown.
Fifth and sixth grade students were invited to participate in the 2014 RISD Elementary Student Satisfaction and Engagement Survey.  
• 2,795 fifth graders participated in the survey (95% of all 5th graders).  
• 2,681 sixth graders participated in the survey (97% of all 6th graders).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Responding Group</th>
<th>Number of Responses (N)</th>
<th>Max Possible Respondents (Nmax)</th>
<th>Response Rate (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5th Grade</td>
<td>2,795</td>
<td>2,919</td>
<td>96%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6th Grade</td>
<td>2,681</td>
<td>2,773</td>
<td>97%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total 5th and 6th Grade Elementary Students</td>
<td>5,476</td>
<td>5,692</td>
<td>96%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Survey Participants: Demographics

Race/Ethnicity:
- Asian: 33%
- Black or African American: 20%
- Hispanic or Latino: 10%
- Native American: 6%
- Pacific Islander: 6%
- Multi-Racial: 8%
- White: 27%

Language spoken most often at home:
- English: 67%
- Spanish: 24%
- Chinese: 8%
Student Engagement

Note: Data labels for percentages 5% or less are not shown.
Student Engagement

How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

I am proud to go to this school. (N=5,446)
- Strongly Agree: 44%
- Agree: 41%
- Neither Agree nor Disagree: 12%
- Disagree: 6%
- Strongly Disagree: 0%

I have good friends at school. (N=5,450)
- Strongly Agree: 61%
- Agree: 31%
- Neither Agree nor Disagree: 6%
- Disagree: 6%
- Strongly Disagree: 0%

I feel safe at school. (N=5,374)
- Strongly Agree: 48%
- Agree: 39%
- Neither Agree nor Disagree: 9%
- Disagree: 7%
- Strongly Disagree: 0%

I feel that my schoolwork is important. (N=5,399)
- Strongly Agree: 58%
- Agree: 33%
- Neither Agree nor Disagree: 7%
- Disagree: 0%
- Strongly Disagree: 0%

I am praised for doing good work at school. (N=5,389)
- Strongly Agree: 35%
- Agree: 45%
- Neither Agree nor Disagree: 0%
- Disagree: 15%
- Strongly Disagree: 0%

I am interested in what I am learning at school. (N=5,388)
- Strongly Agree: 32%
- Agree: 46%
- Neither Agree nor Disagree: 0%
- Disagree: 0%
- Strongly Disagree: 0%
Student Engagement

How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

- My teachers believe that I can do well in school. (N=5,416)
  - Strongly Agree: 62%
  - Agree: 30%
  - Neither Agree nor Disagree: 6%

- I try to do my best at school. (N=5,434)
  - Strongly Agree: 66%
  - Agree: 30%
  - Neither Agree nor Disagree: 9%

- I can learn if I want to learn. (N=5,396)
  - Strongly Agree: 52%
  - Agree: 31%
  - Neither Agree nor Disagree: 9%

- I get good grades if I try hard. (N=5,392)
  - Strongly Agree: 61%
  - Agree: 30%
  - Neither Agree nor Disagree: 6%

- I like being at this school. (N=5,397)
  - Strongly Agree: 47%
  - Agree: 33%
  - Neither Agree nor Disagree: 14%
Teacher and Parent Support

Overall (N= 5,398)
- Strongly Agree: 46%
- Agree: 34%
- Neither Agree nor Disagree: 13%
- Disagree: 12%
- Strongly Disagree: 13%

Grade 5 (N= 2,750)
- Strongly Agree: 48%
- Agree: 33%
- Neither Agree nor Disagree: 12%
- Disagree: 14%
- Strongly Disagree: 3%

Grade 6 (N= 2,648)
- Strongly Agree: 44%
- Agree: 35%
- Neither Agree nor Disagree: 14%
- Disagree: 15%
- Strongly Disagree: 2%

Note: Data labels for percentages 5% or less are not shown.
Teacher and Parent Support

Below are statements about your learning experience at school. As you respond, please think about your experiences this school year. How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>Strongly Agree</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Neither Agree nor Disagree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Strongly Disagree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Teachers talk about interesting subjects in my classes. (N=5,434)</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My homework and other assignments are interesting to me. (N=5,426)</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I look forward to seeing what we will do in class each day. (N=5,367)</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My parents/guardians believe that I can do well in school. (N=5,382)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My parents/guardians encourage me to do my best in school. (N=5,416)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I attend school activities with friends. (N=5,421)</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I participate in activities like sports and clubs. (N=5,404)</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Teacher and Parent Support**

Below are statements about your learning experience at school. As you respond, please think about your experiences this school year. How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

- I am interested in activities offered by this school. (N=5,382)
  - Strongly Agree: 36%
  - Agree: 39%
  - Neither Agree nor Disagree: 18%
  - Disagree: 12%
  - Strongly Disagree: 8%

- I feel like I belong at this school. (N=5,340)
  - Strongly Agree: 41%
  - Agree: 33%
  - Neither Agree nor Disagree: 18%
  - Disagree: 12%
  - Strongly Disagree: 7%

- I have a lot in common with other students at this school. (N=5,390)
  - Strongly Agree: 35%
  - Agree: 39%
  - Neither Agree nor Disagree: 15%
  - Disagree: 9%
  - Strongly Disagree: 7%

- My teachers spend enough time with me to help me do well. (N=5,418)
  - Strongly Agree: 44%
  - Agree: 39%
  - Neither Agree nor Disagree: 12%
  - Disagree: 12%
  - Strongly Disagree: 7%

- My teachers help me when I have trouble in school. (N=5,410)
  - Strongly Agree: 52%
  - Agree: 37%
  - Neither Agree nor Disagree: 8%
  - Disagree: 8%
  - Strongly Disagree: 7%

- My teachers care about how I am doing. (N=5,400)
  - Strongly Agree: 58%
  - Agree: 33%
  - Neither Agree nor Disagree: 7%
  - Disagree: 7%
  - Strongly Disagree: 7%

- There is at least one adult in my school who cares about me. (N=5,385)
  - Strongly Agree: 60%
  - Agree: 24%
  - Neither Agree nor Disagree: 8%
  - Disagree: 8%
  - Strongly Disagree: 8%
Student Activities

Thinking about an average school week, please rate the importance you place on each of the following activities.

- Doing homework (N=5,446)
  - Very important: 78%
  - Somewhat important: 19%
  - Not at all important: 19%

- Reading and studying for class (N=5,424)
  - Very important: 75%
  - Somewhat important: 23%
  - Not at all important: 2%

- Reading for fun (Books, magazines, online articles) (N=5,374)
  - Very important: 49%
  - Somewhat important: 44%
  - Not at all important: 8%

- Being in school-sponsored activities, such as clubs and plays (N=5,390)
  - Very important: 45%
  - Somewhat important: 43%
  - Not at all important: 12%

- Taking part in activities outside school, such as sports, music and drama (N=5,412)
  - Very important: 60%
  - Somewhat important: 31%
  - Not at all important: 9%

- Exercising (N=5,394)
  - Very important: 79%
  - Somewhat important: 18%
  - Not at all important: 3%

- Watching television and/or playing video games (N=5,408)
  - Very important: 26%
  - Somewhat important: 40%
  - Not at all important: 34%

- Spending time with friends (N=5,398)
  - Very important: 67%
  - Somewhat important: 28%
  - Not at all important: 6%
Student Learning Preference

The following is a list of classroom activities. How much do you like learning in the following ways?

- Student presentations (N=5,417)
  - I like it a lot: 39%
  - I like it a little: 47%
  - I don't like it at all: 14%

- Small groups (N=5,433)
  - I like it a lot: 54%
  - I like it a little: 38%
  - I don't like it at all: 8%

- Writing projects (Journal entries) (N=5,385)
  - I like it a lot: 33%
  - I like it a little: 42%
  - I don't like it at all: 25%

- Art and Drama activities (N=5,414)
  - I like it a lot: 54%
  - I like it a little: 30%
  - I don't like it at all: 15%

- Class discussion (N=5,403)
  - I like it a lot: 43%
  - I like it a little: 45%
  - I don't like it at all: 12%

- Reading by myself (N=5,414)
  - I like it a lot: 61%
  - I like it a little: 29%
  - I don't like it at all: 10%

- Role playing (N=5,410)
  - I like it a lot: 47%
  - I like it a little: 34%
  - I don't like it at all: 19%

- Group projects (N=5,411)
  - I like it a lot: 70%
  - I like it a little: 23%
  - I don't like it at all: 7%

- Computers and other technologies (N=5,421)
  - I like it a lot: 79%
  - I like it a little: 18%
  - I don't like it at all: 1%

- Enrichment clusters (N=5,398)
  - I like it a lot: 79%
  - I like it a little: 17%
  - I don't like it at all: 4%
Discipline at School

The following statements are about the rules at your school. How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

The rules at school are fair. (N=5,447)

- Strongly Agree: 37%
- Agree: 37%
- Neither Agree nor Disagree: 16%

The rules at school are enforced for all students. (N=5,381)

- Strongly Agree: 45%
- Agree: 32%
- Neither Agree nor Disagree: 14%
- Disagree: 6%

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School Relevance

The following statements are about your classes. Please think about your experience this school year. How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

My classes are preparing me to do well in the next grade. (N=5,449)
- Strongly Agree: 69%
- Agree: 25%
- Neither Agree nor Disagree: 7%

My classes are preparing me to graduate. (N=5,439)
- Strongly Agree: 63%
- Agree: 27%
- Neither Agree nor Disagree: 7%

My classes are preparing me for college. (N=5,433)
- Strongly Agree: 58%
- Agree: 26%
- Neither Agree nor Disagree: 11%

My classes are preparing me for future careers. (N=5,418)
- Strongly Agree: 59%
- Agree: 27%
- Neither Agree nor Disagree: 10%

My classes are teaching me skills that I need to be successful in life. (N=5,406)
- Strongly Agree: 68%
- Agree: 23%
- Neither Agree nor Disagree: 6%
Strengths

High Participation Rate
- Elementary students had a 96% response rate.

District Improvement Plan
- The district came very close to meeting the goals related to student perceptions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Perception</th>
<th>2012-2013</th>
<th>2013-2014</th>
<th>Difference</th>
<th>Goal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Teachers talk about interesting subjects</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>+9%</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homework and other assignments are interesting</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>+9%</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Strengths

The following areas represent percentages greater or equal to 90%.

**Student Engagement**
- 96% of students perceive that they try their best at school.
- 92% of students perceive that their teachers believe they can do well in school.
- 92% of students perceive that they have good friends at school.
- 91% of students perceive that schoolwork is important.
- 91% of students perceive that they can get good grades if they try hard.

**Teacher and Parent Support**
- 98% of students perceive that their parents/guardians believe they can do well at this school.
- 97% of students perceive that their parents/guardians encourage them to do their best in school.
- 91% of students perceive that their teachers care about how they are doing in school.
Strengths

The following areas represent percentages greater or equal to 90%.

**Student Perception of School Activities and Environment**
- 98% of students indicate they placed importance on reading and studying for class.
- 97% of students indicate they placed importance on doing homework.
- 97% of students indicate they placed importance on exercising.
- 95% of students indicate they placed importance on spending time with friends.
- 93% of students indicate they placed importance on reading for fun.
- 91% of students indicate they placed importance on taking part in activities outside of school.

**School Relevance**
- 94% of students perceive that their classes are preparing them to do well in the next grade.
- 91% of students perceive that their classes are teaching them skills that they need to be successful in life.
- 90% of students perceive that their classes are preparing them to graduate.
Challenges

The following areas represent percentages that fell below 70%.

**Teacher and Parent Support**
- 57% or more of students perceive that their homework and other assignments are interesting to them.

**Other areas to consider:**
- 7% of students disagreed that they can learn if they want to learn.
- 5% of students disagreed that they are praised for good work at school.
Next Steps and Recommendations

Ensure that data is actionable

- Work with campus leadership to find the best medium for presenting data.
- Disaggregate data as needed to support the development of district goals and to support campuses and other departments.

Further analysis of the data

- Build a longitudinal dataset to see campus and district trends.
- Analyze feeder school data to see possible effect of elementary school experience on secondary schools.
- Revise survey to ensure proper item placement for each dimension, survey perceptions about academic challenge in core subjects, branch items to include student self efficacy and grades.
K12 Insight is a technology-based research and communications firm that helps school district leadership better engage in conversations with parents, teachers, staff, students and the general public on critical district issues.

K12 Insight's approach results in greater transparency and collaborative decision-making.

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