

SMCS Survey Results

Dr. Debra Pepler and Dr. Stephanie Craig
York University

Overview of Surveys

- Surveys for current students, alumni, current and past teachers, parents of current students
- Definitions of bullying and types of bullying were provided
- Definition of hazing was provided
- Opportunity to provide written comments, as well.

Students' Survey Overview

- 1010 students completed the survey
- Overall rates of bullying are consistent with boys across Canada
- Most boys at SMCS do not experience being bullied
- However, most boys who are bullied or hazed, as well as those who witness bullying, are struggling

Students' Experiences of Being Bullied

- 22% of boys at SMCS reported having been bullied
- 1/3 of these boys reported that the bullying has been going on for more than a year
- There was no change in the rates of being bullied when comparing the fall and spring terms
- 5% of boys reported being hazed
- 57% of boys reported witnessing bullying

Distress Associated with Being Bullied

- The majority of boys who *experienced* and/or *witnessed* being bullied reported being **scared, angry, hopeless,** and had **trouble with school work**
- Distress was strongly associated with being sexually or racially/religiously bullied
- Of the boys who reported being non-white and being bullied, **72%** reported being bullied because of their race/religion

Alumni Survey Overview

- 753 Alumni completed the survey
- 40% reported they had been bullied at least once while attending St. Mike's
- Of these, 28% reported having been bullied for longer than 1 year
- Alumni reported that being bullied had a negative emotional, social, and academic impact

Teacher Survey Overview

- 57 completed surveys
- Majority of teachers thought that bullying was less problematic at St. Mike's compared to other schools
- Teachers indicated that they are now taking bullying more seriously
- Most teachers noted that more professional development around bullying would be beneficial

“I think that due to everyone being more aware and possibly more vigilant that if bullying occurs it may be taking place in the more silent areas”

Parent Survey Overview

- 294 parents completed surveys
- 26% of parents indicated their son had been bullied at St. Mike's
- However, compared to student reports, parents underestimated the prevalence of bullying in the spring term
- 77% of parents whose sons had been bullied indicated that it had been going on for more than a year

“Doing this survey made me realize I know very little of what goes on. I have no idea if my son is bullied or if he bullies others. If he was being bullied I am not confident that he would tell me.”

Two sides of the St. Mike's experience

“From my experience at the school, I have never seen, been a victim of, or perpetrated bullying in anyway. What I do believe is that the school is a welcoming environment for all and everyone has a place.”

“It [bullying] has not changed because people still do it and get away with it and no body (sic) wants to try to stop it.”

Thank you

- We want to express our gratitude to those who completed the surveys.
- By taking time to share perspectives, you have enabled us to begin to build a comprehensive picture of life as a student at St. Mike's and to understand the two realities at the school.
- Your contributions will inform the Committee's recommendations.