

Beecher Road School



School Climate

The Foundation of Student Achievement

Woodbridge School District - 2013

The Mandate

- Every school shall have a standing committee responsible for school climate improvement initiatives.



School Climate Committee

The Mandate

- Every school shall conduct a detailed school climate assessment . . .



School Climate Survey

The Mandate

- . . . and create a site-based improvement plan based on assessment findings.



School Climate Improvement Plan



● *Stage 1: Preparation*

SCHOOL CLIMATE
IMPROVEMENT
PROCESS

School Climate Improvement Process



- *Stage 1: Preparation*
- *Stage 2: Evaluation*

School Climate Improvement Process



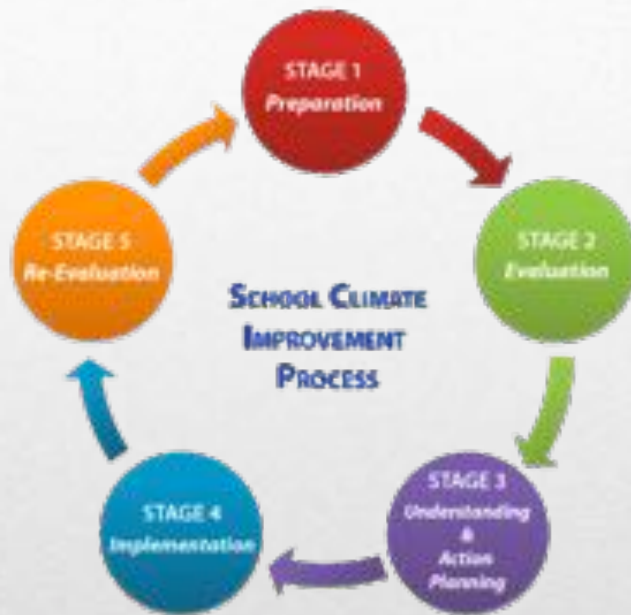
- *Stage 1: Preparation*
- *Stage 2: Evaluation*
- *Stage 3: Understanding and planning*

School Climate Improvement Process



- *Stage 1: Preparation*
- *Stage 2: Evaluation*
- *Stage 3: Understanding and planning*
- *Stage 4: Implementation*

School Climate Improvement Process



- *Stage 1: Preparation*
- *Stage 2: Evaluation*
- *Stage 3: Understanding and planning*
- *Stage 4: Implementation*
- *Stage 5: Re-Evaluation*

School Climate Improvement Process



- ***Stage 1: Preparation***
Committee in place/meets regularly
- ***Stage 2: Evaluation***
Survey administered
- ***Stage 3: Understanding***
analysis and action planning

We are at stage 3



- ⌘ Survey conducted spring 2013:
 - ⌘ Staff – all employees
 - ⌘ Students – gr 1-2 and 5-6
 - ⌘ Parents – all parents

School Climate Survey



- ⌘ Surveys designed for each group:
 - ⌘ Student survey for gr. 1 & 2
 - ⌘ Student survey for gr. 5 & 6
 - ⌘ Survey for all parents
 - ⌘ Survey for all employees

School Climate Survey

Survey Type	Total Surveys	Total Responses	Response Rate
Parent	531 families	123	23%
Employees	129	77	60%
Students	400 ±	400 ±	100%

- ★ Average statewide rate of return for *parents* is 18%.
- ★ The 77 employees includes all classifications.
- ★ 57 out of 77 (74%) staff responses were from certified staff.
- ★ Grade 1 and 2 student survey completion was closely supervised for accuracy of responses.

Survey Response Rate



The Results: Parents



Parents think about safety ...

- BRS has a safe and nurturing environment – 94%
- BRS is physically safe *all or most of the time* – 87%
- There are trusted adults my child can go to for help *all or most of the time*. Yes – 94%
- Is there an area of the school that is not safe? Yes – 37%

Based on 123 responses out of a possible 531



Parents think about attitudes and behavior ...

- BRS students are friendly *all or most of the time*: 89%
- My child's peers treat my child fairly *all or most of the time*: 87%
- **My child has been the target of hurtful behavior —**
 - *Once or never*: 45%
 - *2-5 times*: 30%
 - *6 or more times*: 9%
 - *Don't know*: 16%

Based on 123 responses out of a possible 531



**Parents think
about attitudes
and behavior...**

- I feel the adults at BRS treat me fairly *all or most of the time*: 97%
- I feel comfortable sharing my thoughts and ideas at BRS *all or most of the time*: 85%

Based on 123 responses out of a possible 531



Parents think about fair treatment...

- 36% of parents said they have seen or heard others being treated unfairly at school because of their:
 - Physical appearance: 19*
 - Academic level or achievement: 16*
 - Disability: 8*
 - Economic status: 9*
 - Gender: 6*
 - Race: 4*
 - Other areas combined: 5*

** Actual number of responses*

Based on 123 responses out of a possible 531



**Parents think
about fair
treatment for
their own child ...**

- 72% of parents say their child has *never been treated unfairly* at school.
- However, others say their own child has been treated unfairly for their:
 - Physical appearance: 7*
 - Academic level or achievement: 14*
 - Disability: 2*
 - Economic status: 1*
 - Gender: 3*
 - Race: 2*
 - “Other reason”: 15*

* *Actual number of responses*

Based on 123 responses out of a possible 531

Parent responses for deeper analysis



- ☑ Perception: There are some unsafe areas of the school.
 - ☑ Perception: Too many children have been the target of hurtful behavior more than once, in some cases many times.
 - ☑ Perception: Many parents have heard or seen unfair treatment of *others* because of differences.
 - ☑ Perception: Many parents have heard or seen unfair treatment of *their own child* because of differences.
-



The Results: Students



**Students think about
their school ...**

They like it ...

- 99% of 5th and 6th graders *like their school* or feel it's at least "OK."
- 93% of 1st and 2nd graders like their school or feel it's at least "OK."
- 1.6%, or 24 students, said *they don't like it.*

Based on 400 responses in grades 1, 2, 5 & 6



**Students think about
being happy at their
school...**

They are mostly happy to come

- 91% of the students say they feel *happy or “OK”* about coming to school in the morning.
- 9% are *unhappy* to come to school in the morning.

Based on 400 responses in grades 1, 2, 5 & 6

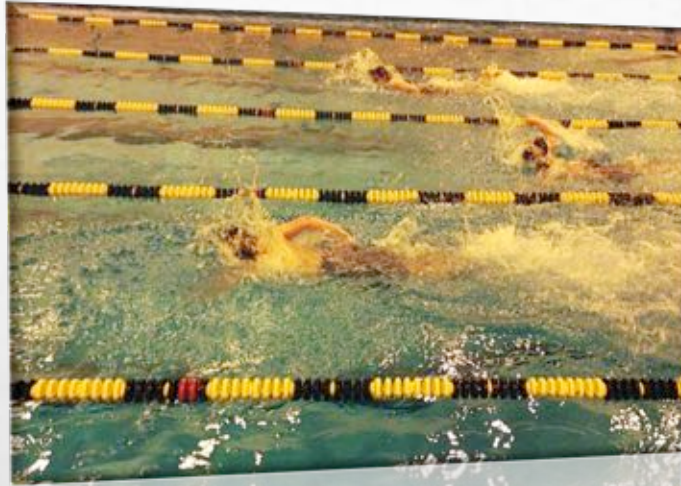


Students think about other children in their school ...

They like them

- 66%, or 2 out of 3 first graders like the children in their school *a lot*. The rest are “OK.”
- As they get older they say they like half of them *a lot* and the other half are “OK.”
- 6 children said they *don't like anybody*.

Based on 400 responses in grades 1, 2, 5 & 6



**Students think about caring
adults in school ...**

They feel they have them

- 2 out of 3 students (67%) say the adults at BRS school *care about me a lot.*
- 28% say the adults at BRS *care about me “OK.”*
- 18 children (5%) say the adults at BRS *don't care about me very much.*

Based on 400 responses in grades 1, 2, 5 & 6



Students think about caring adults in school ...

Sixty 5th and 6th grade students, 30%, said they can't think of at least one adult at school to help them if something is bothering them. Yet, 94% of parents think they can.

5th and 6th grade only ...

- Survey item: *There is at least one adult at school that I can go to for help when something is bothering me.*
 - **Yes:** 70% - 140 students
 - **Not sure:** 21% - 42 students
 - **No:** 9% - 18 students

Based on 200 responses in grades 5 & 6



Students think about their personal safety ...

Different places in school ...

- Survey item: *I feel VERY safe or OK in each of these places*
 - Classroom: 98% gr 5-6
 - 90% gr 1-2
 - Playground: 87%
 - Hallways: 91%
 - School bus: 86%
 - Cafeteria: 87%
 - Bathrooms: Gr 5 & 6 only – 12%
or 23 students feel *not safe*

As supervision is perceived as less intensive, students tend to feel somewhat less safe.

Based on 400 responses in grades 1, 2, 5 & 6



Students think about other children's behavior ...

- Survey item: *How often does this happen in your classroom?*
"A lot" or "sometimes" –
 - *A child says something nice to me: 95% of the time*
 - *Says something mean to me: 58% of the time*
 - *Gr 5-6 questions only*
(200 responses)
 - *Teases me: 37% - 74 children*
 - *Excludes me: 42% - 84 children*

Based on 400 responses in grades 1, 2, 5 & 6

Student responses for deeper analysis



- ☑ Responses: 24 students “don’t like this school at all.”
- ☑ Responses: 6 children say “they don’t like anybody at school.”
- ☑ Responses: 18 children said “adults at school don’t care very much about them.”
- ☑ Responses: 1 out of 8 fifth and sixth graders don’t feel safe in the bathrooms.
- ☑ Responses: 60 out of 200 fifth and sixth graders say they can’t think of “at least one adult at school who they could go to if something bothered them.”
- ☑ 9% are “unhappy” in the morning thinking about coming to school.

BASED ON 400 RESPONSES IN GRADES 1, 2, 5 & 6



The Results:

SCHOOL EMPLOYEES

STAFF

Classification	Total In Group	Responses	Response Rate	Note
Certified staff	74	57	77%	
Teaching assistants	25	14	56%	
All other school and district support staff	30	5	17%	Full and part-time, clerical, custodial, cafeteria, etc.

Nearly 2 out of 3 respondents have worked at BRS for more than ten years.

129 surveys distributed
77 responses



**Staff thinks about
their school ...**

- The culture and emotional climate of BRS is positive and supportive:
- *All or most of the time: 74%*
- *Some of the time: 25%*

Based on 77 responses out of a possible 129



**Staff thinks about
their school ...**

- **There are clear-cut policies and procedures at BRS:**
- *Yes: 72%*
- *No: 28%*

Based on 77 responses out of a possible 129



Staff thinks about feeling a part of their school...

- I feel like I am a part of the school community (shared mission, values, efforts and goals):
- *All or Most of the time: 74%*
- *Some of the time: 26%*

Based on 77 responses out of a possible 129



Staff thinks about feeling a part of their school...

- I feel my contributions are valued and important:
- *All or Most of the time: 67%*
- *Some of the time: 28%*

Based on 77 responses out of a possible 129



**Staff thinks
about their
administrators...**

- **I feel comfortable going to at least one member of the administrative team if I have a problem:**
 - *All or Most of the time: 94%*
 - *Some of the time: 6%*
- **Our administrative team is committed to finding fair and balanced solutions to problems:**
 - *All or Most of the time: 81%*
 - *Some of the time: 18%*

Based on 77 responses out of a possible 129



**Staff thinks
about their
students ...**

- **I feel respected by students:**
 - *All or Most of the time: 86%*
 - *Some of the time: 14%*
- **I hear students speaking inappropriately (e.g. about/to peers and or staff, using profanity, etc.):**
 - *None of the time: 13%*
 - *Some of the time: 82 %*

Based on 77 responses out of a possible 129



**Staff thinks
about each
other ...**

**I hear colleagues speaking
inappropriately (e.g. about/to
peers and or students, using
profanity, yelling, etc.):**

- *None of the time: 32%*
- *Some of the time: 64 %*

Based on 77 responses out of a possible 129

Staff responses for deeper analysis



100%

Staff responses for deeper analysis



The goal of the administration is to achieve 100% completely positive responses from the school district staff.

The staff is the critical component to improving school climate. What each staff member does directly effects students, parents, and one another.

Staff responses for deeper analysis



- ☑ Perception: 25% of the respondents felt *the culture and emotional climate of BRS is positive and supportive* only some of the time. 75% say all or most of the time.
 - ☑ Perception: 72% said “YES,” but 28% answered “NO” to the statement, *there are clear-cut policies and procedures at BRS.*
 - ☑ Perception: Though 74% *feel part of the school* all or most of the time, 26% feel that way only some of the time.
 - ☑ Perception: 82% of the respondents felt **students speak inappropriately** some of the time, and 64% feel **colleagues speak inappropriately** some of the time.
-



Feedback is the lifeblood of improvement

In general terms, the surveys say:

- ★ Beecher Road School has a *positive school climate* from the point of view of most parents, students and staff.
- ★ The staff and parents feel very comfortable about talking to the school administrators about things that are bothering them.
- ★ Children are happy and like coming to school where they feel safe and cared for.
- ★ Children like each other.

A few surprises came out of the surveys:

- ★ Many children have not identified trusted adults at school who they can go to if something is bothering them.
- ★ Some parents have seen, heard or felt unfair treatment because of differences.
- ★ 25% of the staff say they feel *part of the school* only some of the time, not all or most of the time.



Feedback is the foundation of improvement



- ★ Deeper analysis into survey responses.
- ★ Targeted action plan to address identified issues.
- ★ Monitor, maintain and promote the numerous positive aspects of our school climate.
- ★ Make future evaluations more focused.
- ★ Re-evaluate constituents.
- ★ Keep improving.

School Climate: *what's ahead?*

Beecher Road School



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