

My child attends: (check one box)	A1. The school offers a challenging, rigorous curriculum.	A2. The school is focused on academic achievement, setting high expectations for students.	A3. The academic program includes a wide selection of course offerings.	A4. Teachers meet my child's needs by including a variety of teaching strategies and activities.	A5. Teachers assign high-quality homework that supports learning.	B1. The academic needs of my child are recognized by staff.	B2. My child receives additional help as needed.	B3. My child receives additional challenges as needed.	B4. Support staff, including educational technicians and literacy and math strategists, help meet the needs of students.	B5. My child's emotional needs are understood and properly addressed.	B6. (For parents of students receiving Special Education services only) Special Education services meet the needs of my child.
PES											
1 Strongly Agree	9 29%	12 38%	4 14%	19 58%	11 38%	24 71%	19 61%	12 36%	19 59%	20 59%	2
2 Somewhat Agree	16 52%	16 50%	15 54%	10 30%	7 24%	7 21%	5 16%	15 45%	10 31%	12 35%	2
3 Neutral	4 13%	4 13%	8 29%	3 9%	8 28%	1 3%	3 10%	2 6%	3 9%	1 3%	1
4 Somewhat Disagree	2 6%	0 0%	0 0%	1 3%	3 10%	2 6%	4 13%	4 12%	0 0%	1 3%	0
5 Strongly Disagree	0 0%	0 0%	1 4%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0
Total	31 100%	32 100%	28 100%	33 100%	29 100%	34 100%	31 100%	33 100%	32 100%	34 100%	5
Strongly Agree/Somewhat Agree no N/A's	25 81%	28 88%	19 68%	29 88%	18 62%	31 91%	24 77%	27 82%	29 91%	32 94%	4
Somewhat Disagree/Strongly Disagree no N/A's	2 6%	0 0%	1 4%	1 3%	3 10%	2 6%	4 13%	4 12%	0 0%	1 3%	0

My child attends: (check one box)	B7. (For parents of students receiving Gifted and Talented services only) GT program meets the needs of my child.	B8. The school provides excellent support services (guidance, nursing, mentoring, college planning, etc.).	B9. My child learns life skills such as managing time, prioritizing, meeting deadlines, responsibility, and communicating clearly.	C1. The school offers a broad range of co-curricular activities (drama, etc.).	C2. Students have access to a wide selection of sports through the school's athletic program.	D1. The atmosphere at school is positive and conducive to learning.	D2. The school encourages students to show respect for each other.	D3. Adults who work in the school treat students with respect.	D4. Teachers have built strong relationships with my child.	D5. I feel welcome at my child's school.	D6. Parents have opportunities to participate in school activities.											
PES																						
1 Strongly Agree	48%	3	33%	19	59%	15	45%	13	42%	11	35%	25	74%	28	82%	27	79%	28	82%	28	82%	24
2 Somewhat Agree	48%	5	56%	10	31%	15	45%	13	42%	15	48%	8	24%	5	15%	5	15%	5	15%	6	18%	8
3 Neutral	28%	1	11%	3	9%	3	9%	4	13%	2	6%	0	0%	0	0%	1	3%	1	3%	0	0%	0
4 Somewhat Disagree	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	1	3%	2	6%	1	3%	1	3%	1	3%	0	0%	0	0%	2
5 Strongly Disagree	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	1	3%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0
Total	100%	9	100%	32	100%	33	100%	31	100%	31	100%	34	100%	34	100%	34	100%	34	100%	34	100%	34
Strongly Agree/Somewhat Agree no N/A's	80%	8	89%	29	91%	30	91%	28	84%	28	84%	33	97%	33	97%	32	94%	33	97%	34	100%	32
Somewhat Disagree/Strongly Disagree no N/A's	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	1	3%	3	10%	1	3%	1	3%	1	3%	0	0%	0	0%	2

My child attends: (check one box)	E1. Staff handles discipline fairly, consistently, and effectively.	E2. School staff have a positive impact on students' behavior.	E3. Staff proactively educates students about the impact and prevention of bullying.	E4. Teachers manage classroom behavior effectively.	E5. Behavior expectations are made clear to students.	E6. The school tells me about behavior expectations for my child.	F1. The school is safe and orderly.	F2. The school is clean and well-maintained.	F3. The school reflects the pride taken in educating our students.	F4. The school provides quality teaching/learning materials and technology equipment.											
PES																					
1 Strongly Agree	71%	17	53%	25	74%	20	61%	17	52%	23	70%	24	73%	27	79%	25	74%	27	79%	19	56%
2 Somewhat Agree	24%	10	31%	9	26%	11	33%	10	30%	8	24%	8	24%	7	21%	9	26%	7	21%	13	38%
3 Neutral	0%	3	9%	0	0%	1	3%	4	12%	1	3%	1	3%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	1	3%
4 Somewhat Disagree	6%	2	6%	0	0%	1	3%	2	6%	1	3%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	1	3%
5 Strongly Disagree	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Total	100%	32	100%	34	100%	33	100%	33	100%	33	100%	33	100%	34	100%	34	100%	34	100%	34	100%
Strongly Agree/Somewhat Agree no N/A's	94%	27	84%	34	100%	31	94%	27	82%	31	94%	32	97%	34	100%	34	100%	34	100%	32	94%
Somewhat Disagree/Strongly Disagree no N/A's	6%	2	6%	0	0%	1	3%	2	6%	1	3%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	1	3%

My child attends: (check one box)	G1. Administrators and teachers communicate with parents/guardians effectively.	G2. I have opportunities to share my views about the school.	G3. Teachers and administrators are responsive to my concerns and suggestions.	G4. I feel comfortable talking with my child's teacher(s).	G5. Teachers respect agreements and decisions reached at parent teacher meetings, and follow-up on those suggestions.	G6. Teachers help me understand how my child's work is evaluated.	G7. When reporting about my child's progress, teachers use language I can understand.	G8. The school helps me understand how to best support my child's learning at home.
PES								
1 Strongly Agree	17 52%	15 44%	21 62%	29 85%	23 70%	22 67%	26 76%	26 76%
2 Somewhat Agree	15 45%	13 38%	10 29%	4 12%	6 18%	8 24%	8 24%	7 21%
3 Neutral	0 0%	5 15%	2 6%	1 3%	4 12%	3 9%	0 0%	1 3%
4 Somewhat Disagree	1 3%	1 3%	1 3%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%
5 Strongly Disagree	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%
Total	33 100%	34 100%	34 100%	34 100%	33 100%	33 100%	34 100%	34 100%
Strongly Agree/Somewhat Agree no N/A's	32 97%	28 82%	31 91%	33 97%	29 88%	30 91%	34 100%	33 97%
Somewhat Disagree/Strongly Disagree no N/A's	1 3%	1 3%	1 3%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%

Pownal Elementary School - Comments
Please share with us your suggestions for improving our schools:
Communication between nurses/parents/kids . Giving the kids more mask free/fresh air time
A fence is needed in front of Pownal Elementary School for student safety.
I have no complaints about PES and am so grateful my daughter attends such a safe, warm, welcoming place each day. AT the elementary level, these things - along with teaching respect and kindness - are paramount. I am not concerned about "academic rigor" for 6 year olds, but I am very concerned about cooperation, respect, kindness, etc - and these are all core values I see espoused at PES. My sincere appreciation to each and every person who makes PES such a special place!
Sports could use some improvement. If they could participate with the other RSU5 district I think the kids would enjoy it more if they could play against different schools. (at least my children had mentioned that)
Too much technology. iPad is the go to when there is down time. Too much indoor recess. If kids are properly attired they should be given the option to go out and play or stay indoors. Rain boots and rain sult on a rainy day should be sufficient. Face mask on cold/wind chill day.
I think more funding, resources, & staff should be dedicated to mental health support for children at RSU5. More diverse clubs/sports/after school activities (Odyssey of the Mind, starting World Languages in elementary, Hands-on skills like woodworking, Movement: Yoga or Dance, etc). We should be doing better with conserving energy, reducing food waste, composting & recycling, avoiding plastics in our schools. Using local grown/produced foods, healthy, less processed foods will support our local economy, better nourish our growing children & reduce our negative impact on the environment.
Less masking wearing because it doesn't do anything!!
I do not feel that portfolio workshop has benefited my student. I feel this time is used to support students that need extra attention in particular subjects and my child is left to work independently, this does not seem to fair to my child. Portfolio worships need to be getter developed to support ALL students, ie the ones that are excelling as well as those that need extra support.
I want the conversation to start about a return to normalcy in schools. I believe masks need to become optional and that they are more harmful to our children's development at this point in the pandemic than beneficial. Please let parents have a voice in this.
There has been less homework this year and that is very positive! After 6 hours in school, we really don't need busy work to come home in the elementary or middle grades. I hope this continues beyond COVID.
I do not feel my second grader is sufficiently challenged. Portfolio workshop seems more focused on giving extra support to students that need it at the sacrifice of my child's learning. I hear mention a G&T program exists in the school but maybe my daughter doesn't qualify. Frequent teacher changes due to maternity leave has not been ideal although obviously beyond control.
In general, the district has done better than others at keeping kids in school through the pandemic which is appreciated. When pooled testing began however, I felt waiving school quarantine requirements for those that participated was a double standard and basically blackmailed parents to enroll their children. I understand COVID protocol recommendations originate at state and federal levels but hope RSU 5 appreciates COVID risk to this age group is minimal and will soon deescalate restrictions. There was much uncertainty early in the pandemic but we are now recognizing the benefits of masking, distancing, and quarantining to be marginal in healthy kids. The costs however have been significant.
We would like to see: a broader range of subjects regularly taught starting at younger grades (such as science); a way to have students in the class who are at a higher level move ahead and/or work independently rather than "sitting and waiting"; the GaTE program be more than just two days a week.
Proactive communication about any academic concerns prior to/in addition to parent-teacher conferences and report cards.
Yeah no masks they don't do anything. Students still got sick and CDC said cloth masks don't work but continued to make our kids wear them because of politics not science. I can show articles talking about it from the CDC.
PES has been a phenomenal school for both of our children. We could not possibly have been happier with it. We will miss Lisa Demick so much!
Providing higher quality meals and replacing plastic utensils with metal/reusable utensils
Implementation of international internet interaction programs to support learning about world issues and connections for a broader understanding of how classroom education relates to life/world experience and enhance exposure to cultures beyond our small state
Reviewing grading system for a more comprehensive approach
Don't let Mrs. Demick retire
Language classes for elementary levels. More recess has shown to improve academic achievement and help with emotional health.
Please share with us one or more things we are doing well:
Teaching our kids how to deal with their strong feelings
Staff is outstanding
Everything!

Literally, everything. :)
They work amazing to meet every child's needs and have great communication. Pownal is like a part of our family. They have gone above and beyond for my children and I am beyond grateful that my children are able to be apart of PES! They are awesome!
Mr. T is awesome. The breadth of physical education is amazing. Mrs. Petros goes above and beyond. She is so engaged in learning. Even when she was home with Covid she was zooming in to do lessons with the kids. The nurse deserves a shout out too. I appreciate that Pownal doesn't emphasize standardized testing. They do it but doesn't have the same pressure as other places. We love our school. Keep up the good work.
I genuinely believe ALL of the staff at PES care a LOT about each student, every day. Establishing the Civil Rights Club at PES is a step towards being more inclusive. The support of building a "life sports" program (x-c ski, ice skating, swim), all are valuable skills for kids in rural Maine.
Keeping learning going during COVID. COVID is the flu and as long as kids stay home when sick it shouldn't be issue. Government needs leave decisions up to the parents.
I love the PES school environment, I find it to be very welcoming and I feel that both my child and I have a voice. I know my children are loved there and the staff want all the children to learn and achieve.
Teachers and staff are simply exemplary.
The extracurricular activities supported by IMPACT and our community as well as the unique experiences Mr. T offers in PE are appreciated.
PES is a special, small community with close bonds between teachers, students and parents. I hope the population growth coming from recent development won't change that.
The teachers and staff are wonderful!! Our children's teachers are amazing and have taken the time to get to know our children. We also love that they focus on the social-emotional aspect in addition to the educational aspect of the school environment. We love the positive feel that has been created by everyone at PES.
Pownal school has far exceeded my expectations as a parent. I wish that when I was school age, I had the curriculum, support, and guidance that my child receives from the school staff. I truly appreciate all that PES does for each of its students and am happy to be part of the PES community.
Pownal Elementary offers an incredible learning community, where equal emphasis is placed on good citizenship and academic achievement/rigor. We feel fortunate that our children are known and feel seen by not only their classroom teachers, but also the specialists, staff, and administrators. This is not only a function of the school's small size, but also a testament to the culture that is embedded in the school community.
Sorry to fill in so many questions as n/a. My kid is only in first grade and I feel it's hard to give accurate answer to some questions if I'm not witnessing things myself. Overall our/my child's experience at PES has been excellent. I think the administrators/teachers/and staff are doing a great job. Thank you PES!
Just get rid of masks and school will be so much better for my kids. My kids are tired of wearing them and they have said it is pointless because everyone is getting sick anyway.
The focus on teaching kids to love learning and to treat each other well is evident in everything the school does. We are glad it is not a more stressful academic environment, and think PES strikes a nearly perfect balance of high expectations without undue pressure (though we'd be fans of no more silly math homework sheets altogether!)
Wonderful work through the chaos of the pandemic on management and communication in keeping school open and safe- bravo!
I am happy to see diversity and inclusion developing, but would like to see more hands on work/programs developing across all grade levels with students to support preparation for future interactions in college situations/life
The attention paid to the students academically and socially is fantastic
The teachers do so much to support our students. They have such a heavy burden and they handle it with grace love and care.