



School Climate

AUGUST 2019

U.S. Dept. of Education School Climate Surveys (EDSCLS)

- Suite of surveys for students (grades 5-12), parents, and staff
- Reliable, nationally-validated
- Completion time 10-20 minutes (47 to 83 items)
- Majority of survey items provide a positive statement with 4 response options – 2 positive, 2 negative (from Strongly Disagree to Strongly Agree)
- Administered in Spring 2017, 2018, and 2019

ED School Climate Surveys

- 2019 Student response rate of 70% vs 61% and 51% in previous years
- 2019 Parent response rate of 12% vs 21% and 11% in previous years
- 2019 Staff response rate of 46% vs 54% and 36% in previous years

ED School Climate Surveys

- 3 domains with 13 subdomain topical areas
 1. Engagement
 2. Safety
 3. Environment

Engagement Domain

Engagement includes several components of “school connectedness,” such as the amount of effort students expend in the work of learning, their sense of belonging, and their emotional involvement with the school

Topics: Cultural and linguistic competence, Relationships, and School participation

Safety Domain

Emotional and physical safety are fundamental characteristics of high-quality schools; in these schools, students feel a sense of belonging and are free to focus on learning

Topics: Emotional safety, Physical safety, Bullying, Substance Abuse, and Emergency readiness/management

Environment Domain

Positive school environments are characterized by appropriate and well-maintained facilities; well managed classrooms with high levels of engagement, rigor, productivity, and inclusion; a range of available school-based health supports; clear, fair disciplinary policies; and explicit policies and procedures governing various school practices

Topics: Physical and Instructional environment, physical and mental health, and discipline

Benchmarks

- ▶ In Fall of 2017, benchmarked scale scores were completed to provide perception levels by domain and topic
- ▶ Four levels of perception: Very Positive, Positive, Negative, and Very Negative
- ▶ Provided results are percent positive/very positive

School climate results

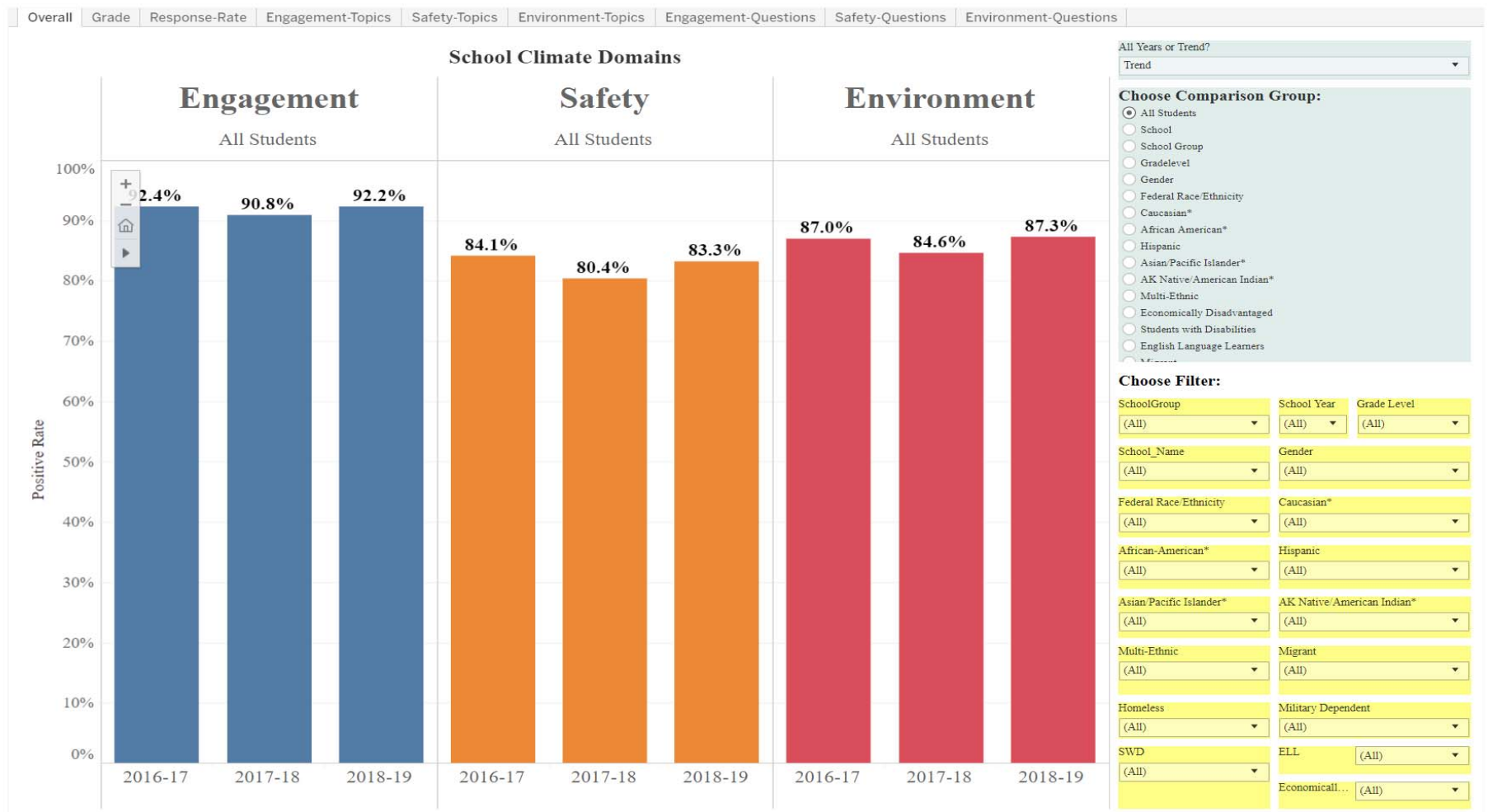
- ▶ Publically Available Dashboard to review School Climate results:

<https://public.tableau.com/profile/k12northstar#!/>

- ▶ Comparison and Filtering options available (example: school, race/ethnicity)
- ▶ Some information suppressed to protect confidentiality

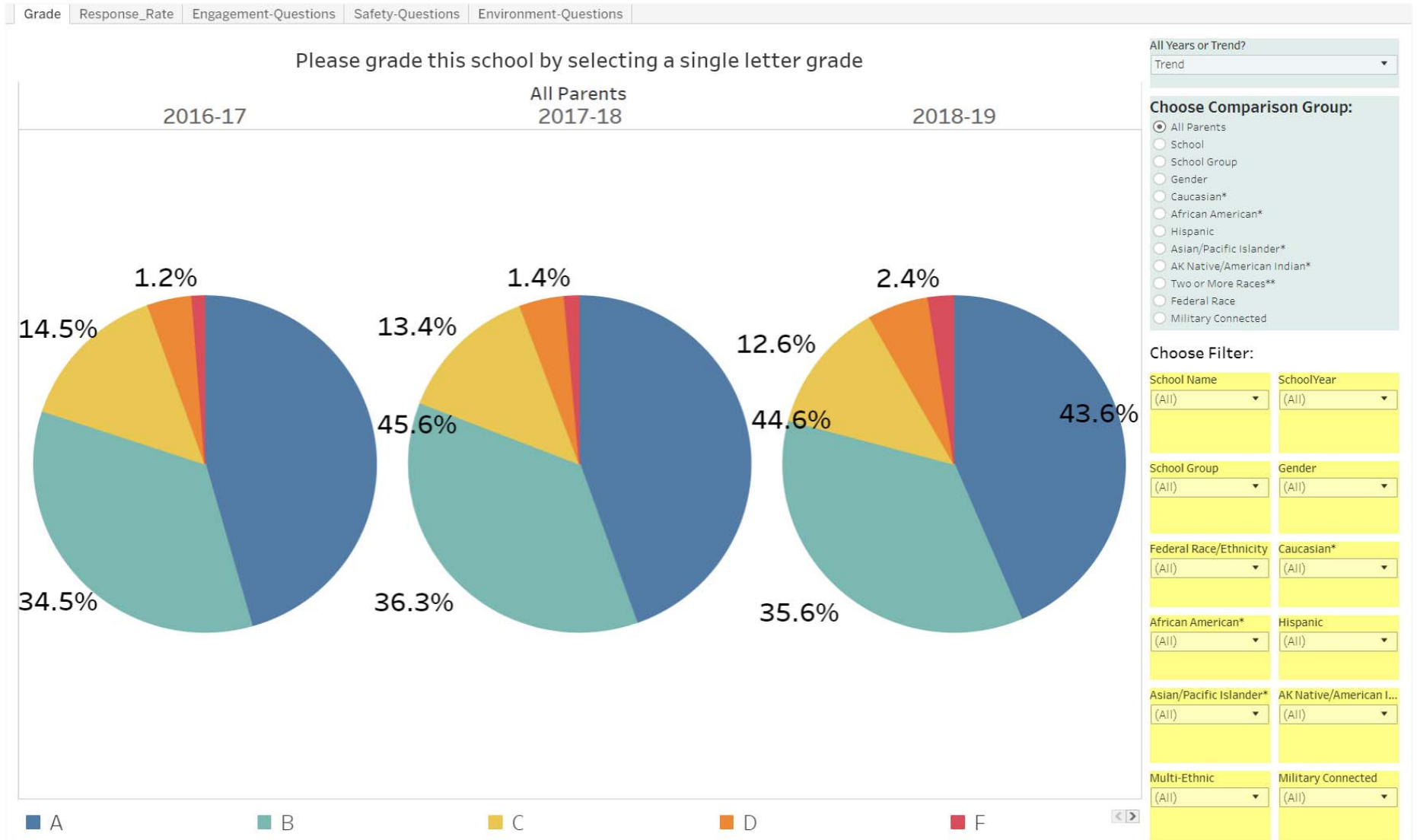
Example screen: Students

10



Example screen: Parents

11



Example screen: Staff



Conclusion

- ▶ All groups tended to agree with positive statements about their school
- ▶ Greater than 3/4 of students and staff indicated a “positive” or “very positive” school climate in Engagement, Safety, and Environment
- ▶ Schools given grade point average of 2.83, 3.06, and 3.12 by students, staff, and parents in 2019
- ▶ Some increase in % positive/very positive for each domain between 2018 and 2019

Conclusion

- ▶ Perception gaps by race/ethnicity, gender, economic status, disability, English language, and Military dependence were either very small or small for all groups
- ▶ Some schools and groups with typically lower test performance, showed higher school climate results
- ▶ Administration of EDSCLS every Spring

EDSCLS resources

Web address –

<https://safesupportivelearning.ed.gov>

School Climate Resource package which includes:

1. Quick guide on making improvements
2. School Climate Improvement Reference Manual
3. School Climate Improvement Action Guides
4. School Climate Interpretation Resources
5. Online Modules

- ▶ Questions?
- ▶ Comments?

THANK YOU

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