

Introduction

Your participation in this survey is greatly appreciated. The survey is for all parents with children currently enrolled in the Pine-Richland School District. We value your feedback and want to ensure coverage of a wide range of school-related topics. Your input as a parent will help guide the administration and school board in the development and implementation of the 2016 – 2019 Strategic Plan. Given the importance of the survey and range of questions, please plan for approximately 10 - 15 minutes for nearly 70 questions. The survey questions focus on two major categories:

- Satisfaction and Engagement with Current Programs
- Priorities Related to Strategic Planning

All questions about your child(ren)'s experiences should be answered while keeping the experiences of your oldest child in mind who is currently enrolled. It may be beneficial to discuss some of these questions with your oldest child.

Demographic Information

1. Select the grade level of your oldest child for the 2014-2015 School Year:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> Kindergarten | <input type="radio"/> 7th Grade |
| <input type="radio"/> 1st Grade | <input type="radio"/> 8th Grade |
| <input type="radio"/> 2nd Grade | <input type="radio"/> 9th Grade |
| <input type="radio"/> 3rd Grade | <input type="radio"/> 10th Grade |
| <input type="radio"/> 4th Grade | <input type="radio"/> 11th Grade |
| <input type="radio"/> 5th Grade | <input type="radio"/> 12th Grade |
| <input type="radio"/> 6th Grade | |

2. Select the school your child attends in the 2014-2015 School Year:

- Pine-Richland High School
- Pine-Richland Middle School
- Eden Hall Upper Elementary School
- Hance Elementary School
- Richland Elementary School
- Wexford Elementary School

Part I: Satisfaction & Engagement

3. In general, I am satisfied with the Pine-Richland School District.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Agree

4. In general, I am satisfied with the overall academic program of Pine-Richland School District.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

5. In general, I am satisfied with the support services and special programs of Pine-Richland School District (e.g., guidance, psychological services, special education, and gifted education).

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

6. In general, I am satisfied with the range of co-curricular and extra-curricular program offerings of Pine-Richland School District (e.g., athletics, clubs, and student organizations).

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

7. In general, I am satisfied with the district's budget and use of funds.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

8. In general, I am satisfied with the level of communication from the district overall.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

9. My child enjoys going to school to learn.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

10. Within the academic program, my child's school has high expectations for all students.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

11. Within the academic program, my child's school work is at an appropriate level of challenge that is "just out of reach" (i.e., not too easy and not too difficult).

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

12. Within the academic program, the pace of my child's class seems appropriate.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

13. Within the academic program, the difficulty of assessments seems appropriate (e.g., tests, quizzes, and projects).

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

14. Within the academic program, my child's homework assignments are meaningful.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

15. In general, my child's teachers are knowledgeable about their content areas (s).

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

16. In general, my child's teachers are student-focused in their delivery of content.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

17. Within the academic program, I have a clear understanding of "what" my child is learning and "how" they are performing on a regular basis.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

18. My child's school provides the necessary support for my child to succeed in school.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

19. Overall, my school monitors student performance in a proactive manner to identify and address learning needs (i.e., enrichment, remediation, and additional on-grade level support).

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

20. From my perspective, it appears that curriculum and instruction is consistent across teachers and courses.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

21. From my perspective, it appears that teacher quality and expectations are consistent across the district.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

22. My child's report card provides me with good information about my child's work.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

23. I utilize Home Access to monitor my child's academic performance and progress.

- Daily
- Weekly
- Bi-weekly
- Monthly
- Quarterly
- Never

24. From my perspective, it appears that grading is fair across teachers and courses.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

25. When opportunities occur for me to learn more about the academic program, I attend those meetings and programs as a highly important event on my family calendar (e.g., Open House, Meet-the-Teacher, or Conferences).

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

26. My child's school culture is positive and conducive to learning.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

27. My child's school has a culture of respect towards individual differences.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

28. In general, my child has positive social and emotional experiences at school.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

29. My child is given opportunities at school to build social skills.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

30. I feel comfortable working with the school counselor to support my child.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

31. In general, I believe that class size is important and am satisfied with the size of my child's class this year.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

32. My child is well prepared for the transition between grade levels within the school building (e.g., grade 7 to grade 8 at the middle school).

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

33. My child is well prepared for the transition between schools (e.g. Primary-to-Eden Hall or Middle-to-High School).

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

34. I am satisfied my child receives appropriate academic counseling (Grades 7 – 12 Only).

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree
- Not Applicable

35. I understand the programs and opportunities available through the A.W. Beattie Career Center (Grades 9 - 12 only).

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree
- Not Applicable

36. In general, I believe my child is well prepared for college, technical school, or other postsecondary opportunities (Grades 11 – 12 Only).

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree
- Not Applicable

37. I believe it is important for students to utilize various digital technologies and applications in their educational experiences.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

38. Technology is appropriately and effectively used in my child's classroom.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

39. I have a clear understanding of school finance and budgeting that includes an awareness of the key factors that affect revenue and expenditures.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

40. I have a clear understanding of the Overview of School Budget and Finance presentation found on the district's Budget and Communication Center on the website.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

41. I closely monitor information about the budget development process.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

42. I am satisfied with budgetary decisions made about programs and the level of staffing for the current K-12 educational program.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

43. I am satisfied with the district instructional facilities (i.e., physical school buildings).

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

44. I am satisfied with non-classroom spaces (e.g., athletic facilities, fields, playgrounds, and performance spaces).

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

45. I am satisfied with the food service program available to students.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

46. I am satisfied with the transportation services provided to students.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

47. I read the electronic communications (e-blasts) related to the district and specific schools.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

48. I visit the school website to learn more about the educational program and upcoming activities/events.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

49. I regularly visit teacher web pages or Blackboard websites to learn about classroom activities.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

50. I am satisfied with my level of communication with my child's teacher(s).

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

51. When I provide feedback to my child's teacher, they are receptive and responsive to the discussion.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

52. I am satisfied with my level of communication with my child's principal.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

53. I am satisfied with the level of communication from the superintendent and district office administrators.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

54. I am satisfied with the level of communication from the PR School Board and/or communication related to board actions.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

55. My child's school encourages feedback from parents and the community.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

56. My child's school responds to feedback from parents and the community.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

57. Pine-Richland School District models a fair and transparent decision-making process.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

58. There are many ways for me to be involved at PR.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

59. I am proud to be a part of PR.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

60. I would recommend Pine-Richland to a family that is searching for a new place to live.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

61. My child's school models a fair and transparent decision-making process.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

Part II: Strategic Direction & Priorities

The district reviewed strategic plans from 2006–2012 and the current plan to capture statements about mission, vision and beliefs. The mission is the purpose of the district. The vision is the “picture of the ideal future.” Beliefs represent the values of what is important at Pine-Richland. These earlier documents helped frame some of the choices in this next question. Please add “other” beliefs or ideas if desired.

62. I believe the purpose of Pine-Richland School District is to (Choose top 4):

- Challenge students academically at all levels of performance
- Ensure students have basic academic skills
- Prepare students for the workforce and develop real world skills
- Promote cross-curricular studies & STEAM initiatives
- Develop global awareness
- Develop technological competence
- Teach students to be collaborative and work together
- Help students develop integrity and be ethical
- Promote personal growth and well-rounded students (in academics, arts, activities & athletics).
- Develop citizenship
- Connect students to their peers and community
- Develop the desire in students to continually improve

Other (please specify)

63. The most important skills current Pine-Richland students should learn before graduating are (Choose Your top 4):

- Communication
- Problem Solving & Critical Thinking
- Academic Knowledge & Skills
- College & Career Readiness
- Creativity & Innovation
- Ethics & Character
- Use of Technology & Media
- Financial Literacy
- Social & Cross-Cultural Awareness
- Citizenship
- Resiliency

Other (please specify)

Open-Ended Questions (Optional)

64. In your own words, please share your thoughts about the vision or "ideal future" for Pine-Richland.

65. List 1-2 strengths that distinguish PR from other districts:

1.

2.

66. List 1-2 opportunities for improvement OR new opportunities that you would like to see for PR.

1.

2.

III. Important Financial Topic

Public school districts in Pennsylvania – including Pine-Richland School District – are facing a financial threat and strategic challenge due to the mandated expenditure increases required by the Pennsylvania Department of Education. The single largest annual expenditure mandate relates to the employer pension contribution (PSERs). These challenges have the potential to significantly impact the breadth and depth of programming at Pine-Richland. The long-term budget gap is significant. It is most likely that future budgets will require expenditure reductions AND revenue increases. Future “town hall” style meetings will be held on the challenges facing school districts.

67. To balance future budgets, I would increase class size instead of increasing property taxes. For example, this could mean approximate class sizes at K-3 of 25; upper elementary and middle school at 28; and high school at 30+.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

68. To balance future budgets, I would rather cut non-mandated programs, elective courses and/or non-mandated programs (e.g., extracurricular activities) instead of increasing property taxes.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

69. To balance future budgets, I would rather pay a “per activity use fee” for non-mandated programs at a level that fully supports those programs instead of increasing in property taxes.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

Thank you for your participation in this survey. Your input will help guide the development and implementation of Pine-Richland School District’s strategic plan for 2016-2019. You will have additional opportunities to provide feedback on the strategic plan through a series of forums and sessions over the next few months. A copy of the district-wide results to scaled items will be posted to the PRSD website.