

Lincoln Academy

School Accountability Committee (SAC) Report

May, 2016

Parent Survey

- Summary attached
- Recommendations to the LA Board of Directors
 - Address parking lot
 - Review Dress Code
- Review of the survey tool
 - What is the purpose of the survey?
 - Combine 3 surveys into 1
 - Upgrade our SurveyMonkey account
 - Provide computers for taking the survey at parent/teacher conferences in the spring
 - Send out more frequent reminders during the survey period
 - Offer a “reward” after taking the survey

Jeffco Family-School Partnership Survey 2015-16

- This annual survey (formerly the “Welcoming Environment” survey) was sent out by Jeffco in December. We included a link in the Lincoln Loop.
- Lincoln Academy had 72 respondents.

Principal Evaluation

- What does the Board want?
- Suggestions from a session at the Colorado Charter Schools Conference
 - The Board needs to establish a 'purpose for their leader' that is tied with the mission and vision of the school.
 - What is the purpose of the principal's evaluation?
 - The principal should conduct an annual self-assessment.
 - No surprise agendas
 - There needs to be a consistent rubric off of which the principal can operate.
 - Surveys from staff
 - Exit interviews for people that may be changing their life course
 - Needs to be trust, and all things must be transparent.

Parent Partner Program

Prepare for next year

Annual Jeffco District Accountability SAC Training

Summary attached

Next Meeting

TBA (Fall 2016)

2016 Lincoln Academy Parent Survey Summary

Number of Survey Responses by Year					
	2016	+/-	2015	+/-	2014
General Survey	121*	14% decrease	141	10% decrease	156
Elementary Survey	112	21% decrease	142	15% increase	126
MS Survey	39	11% decrease	44	70% increase	26

*The survey was emailed to 640 individuals. 121 represents a 19% response rate.

Strengths

- 94% of respondents are satisfied with Lincoln Academy all or most of the time. This is up from 90% last year.
- 96% of respondents stated that their child is having a positive academic experience at Lincoln Academy. This is up from 90% last year.
- 100% of Elementary Survey respondents are satisfied with their child's teacher. This is up from 94% last year.
- 94% of respondents stated that the current 6th grade program has been beneficial in transitioning their student from elementary to middle school.
- 96% of respondents are satisfied with the middle school sports program.
- 86% of respondents are satisfied with middle school electives. (This is a 56% improvement over last year.)
- 15 respondents commented that their alumni students have been very well prepared for high school at Lincoln Academy.
- Respondents have volunteered in class an average of 7 or more times.
- Overall responses in the following areas were also highly favorable and consistent with or better than last year's results:
 - ✓ Encouraging parent involvement and providing ample volunteer opportunities
 - ✓ Professional and courteous office staff
 - ✓ Respecting diverse cultures and backgrounds
 - ✓ Principal's communication, visibility, approachability, modeling of high standards
 - ✓ Clean and well-maintained facility
 - ✓ Effective school-family communication
 - ✓ Staff provides positive social environment and high expectations for students
 - ✓ Children receive both needed academic and social/emotional support
 - ✓ Rating of middle school core classes

Opportunities for Improvement

- Many comments about the poor state of the parking lot
- Perceived effectiveness of school governance by the Board is down 5% from last year.
- 27% of respondents said they don't know how to communicate with the Board. (This is a 3% improvement over last year.)
- 31% of respondents are not satisfied with the Hot Lunch program.
- 13 comments expressing frustration with the Dress Code.
- Parent Partner Program improvements: More contact, some new parents missed
- Concerns about growth of the school

Recommendations to the Board of Directors

- Parking lot repairs
- Review Dress Code
- Review Parent Partner Program (SAC)

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April 19, 2016

Budget Priorities Survey Results

As a result of the Budget Priorities Survey, DAC is recommending the following budget priorities (in this order) to the Jeffco Board of Education:

1. Employee/teacher compensation
2. Student social/emotional/physical wellness and safety
3. School based expenditures

District UIP

Priority challenges for the district are:

- 3rd grade reading
- 8th grade math

Board of Education President

President, Ron Mitchell, gave his overview of priorities from the Board.

- Improve climate of the district
- Address space needs in the NW
- JCEA contract – will soon be signed
- Budget (see above survey results)
- Biggest frustration is the “state funding crisis” – Jeffco is not receiving adequate funding from the state.

Superintendent

Superintendent, Dan McMinimee, reported.

- State legislative updates
- District is working on maintaining student data privacy
- Opportunities to talk with the superintendent
- Facilities Master Plan public presentations

Break-out Sessions

We divided into articulation areas and charter/choice schools. Charters met separately from choice schools. There were representatives from Excel Academy, Mountain Phoenix Community School, The New America School, Elise Martin (PTO) and myself from Lincoln Academy, and Tim Matlick, Jeffco Charter Schools Achievement Director.

We noted that the role of a charter school SAC is much different than that of a neighborhood school SAC. Neighborhood SACs take a large role in school budgeting, whereas in charters, budgeting is the responsibility of the charter school board. Tasks of charter SACs that were shared included:

- Parent/Student handbook updates

- UIPs (Unified Improvement Plans)
- Surveys (parent, staff, alumni)
- School dashboard
- Principal evaluation tool