

2014 Annual Family Survey Peak to Peak Charter School Executive Summary

For several years, the Accountability Committee has administered a family survey to gauge parent/guardian sentiment regarding areas such as curriculum and instruction, student/staff relationships, school learning environment and more. This year the online survey was accessible from emails sent to families, from the Friday Weekly Digest, and from an option requiring login on the school website. The 2014 survey was administered from February 19 thru March 5, 2014 and had a 43% participation rate with 378 families completing the survey for 605 students (42% of students).

The 2014 survey included prior questions relating to the three *Quality* areas (*Instruction, Relationships, and Learning Environment*), *Volunteering, Finances, What Peak to Peak Does Well, What Needs Improvement*, as well as new questions regarding:

- Instructional differentiation and instructional materials and methods
- The balance between academics and pressures of high school
- The effectiveness of new/revised channels of communication
- The helpfulness of financial information of the school's website

Respondents were given the opportunity to provide comments following the child specific questions, Communication questions, the Finance questions, the Needs Improvement question, and at the completion of the survey.

Overall the 2014 survey results show Peak to Peak families continue to think highly of the school and would recommend Peak to Peak to other families. Parents/guardians are very pleased with the education their children receive and are grateful to the teachers and staff for the focus they give to the students.

Parents/guardians said there is still much room for improvement. Parents would like to have additional technology instruction in the curriculum at all school levels. Middle school parents would like to see more extracurricular activities for their children. Some elementary parents have concerns about ability grouping for math. Most parents like the new Weekly Friday Digest but would like to see a new, more appealing design to the school website.

Comments from the *Needs Improvement* question show that parents would like healthier options from Food Services, new fundraising ideas, cleaner facilities, and some parents continue to be concerned about safety and security at school.

Parents expressed a variety of views regarding the change in the elementary school

leadership this school year and the proceedings that followed. The overriding view was that parents were disappointed in the way communication with the school community was handled. Parents would like more openness and transparency from the Board of Directors. They also would like to see improvements in communication and handling of public relations from both the board and the Executive Director of Education.

A comprehensive summary of the survey results is available on the website in the full report titled *2014 Annual Family Survey Results*.

The 2013-14 Accountability Committee

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