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Signatures on File

August 2, 2024

TO: All School Principals

FROM: Saemone Hollingsworth
Chief Academic Officer

VIA: Dr. Angela R. Fulton
Deputy Superintendent, Teaching and Learning

SUBJECT: 2023-2024 BROWARD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS (BCPS) COGNIA SURVEY RESULTS

This memo summarizes the end-of-year Cognia survey participation for students, staff, and parents. Each year, the School Improvement Office coordinates the BCPS Stakeholder Surveys for students, staff, and parents to gather information regarding school climate, perceptions concerning school improvement, and student achievement. Charter schools do not take the Cognia survey. Students in grades 3-5 and students in grades 6-12 each take their version of the student survey with questions appropriate for their level. Teachers and non-instructional full-time staff respond to the same staff survey. Parents also take the customer survey with questions intended to gain family perspectives. All participants completed surveys online via the Cognia Survey Instrument.

The Cognia survey results aid schools in the school improvement planning process. Survey results link the Cognia Accreditation Standards to each school's annual School Improvement Plan (SIP) by embedding the survey ratings into the plan. Schools must provide school improvement activities that will increase the school's environment and quality of services. Each year, the School Improvement Office trains schools in the survey process and in the generation of survey result reports from the Cognia website. After the completion of the survey process, schools present the survey reports to stakeholders at School Advisory Council (SAC) meetings.

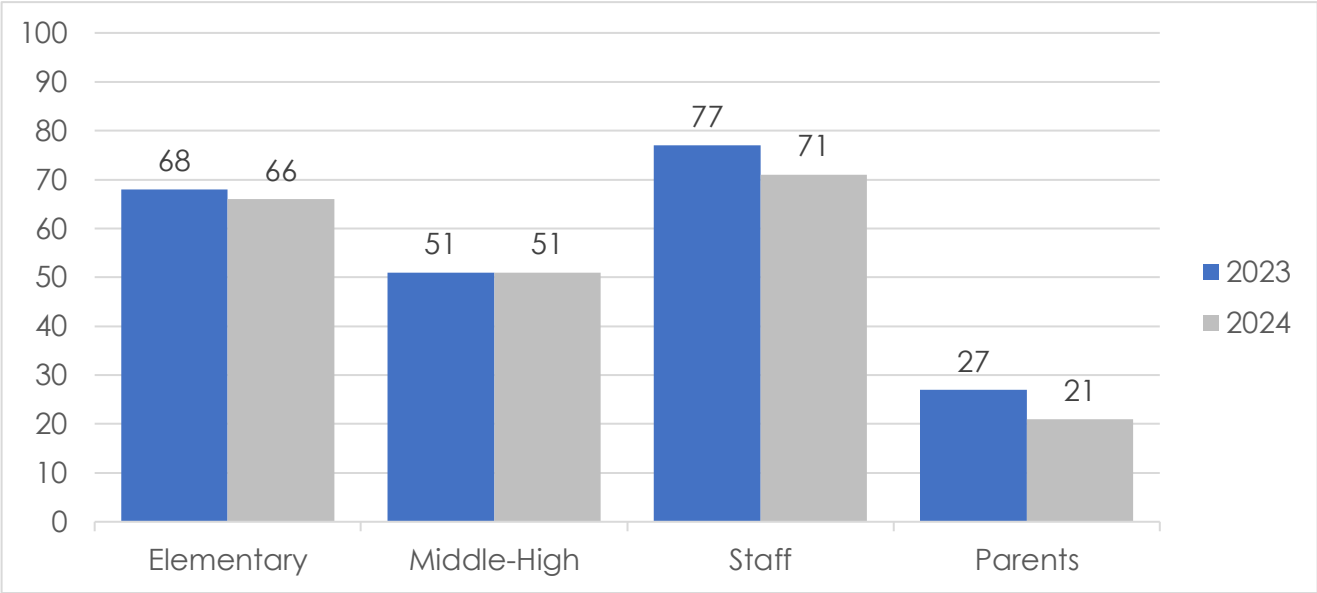
Participation

The number of elementary student (grades 3-5) responses in 2023-2024 was 27,885 out of a possible 42,070. The number of middle-high school students in 2023-2024 was 57,368 out of a possible 112,999. The number of staff responses in 2023-2024 was 13,585 out of a possible 19,167. The number of parent responses in 2023-2024 was 30,333 out of a possible 143,711.

The response rates for the 2023-2024 school year were 66 percent for elementary school students (grades 3 through 5), 51 percent for middle-high school students (grades 6 through 12), 71 percent for staff, and 21 percent for parents. Response rates for 2023-2024 and the 2022-2023 prior year comparison are displayed in Figure 1.

Figure 1

Cognia Survey Response Rate Percentages, 2022-2023 & 2023-2024



Results

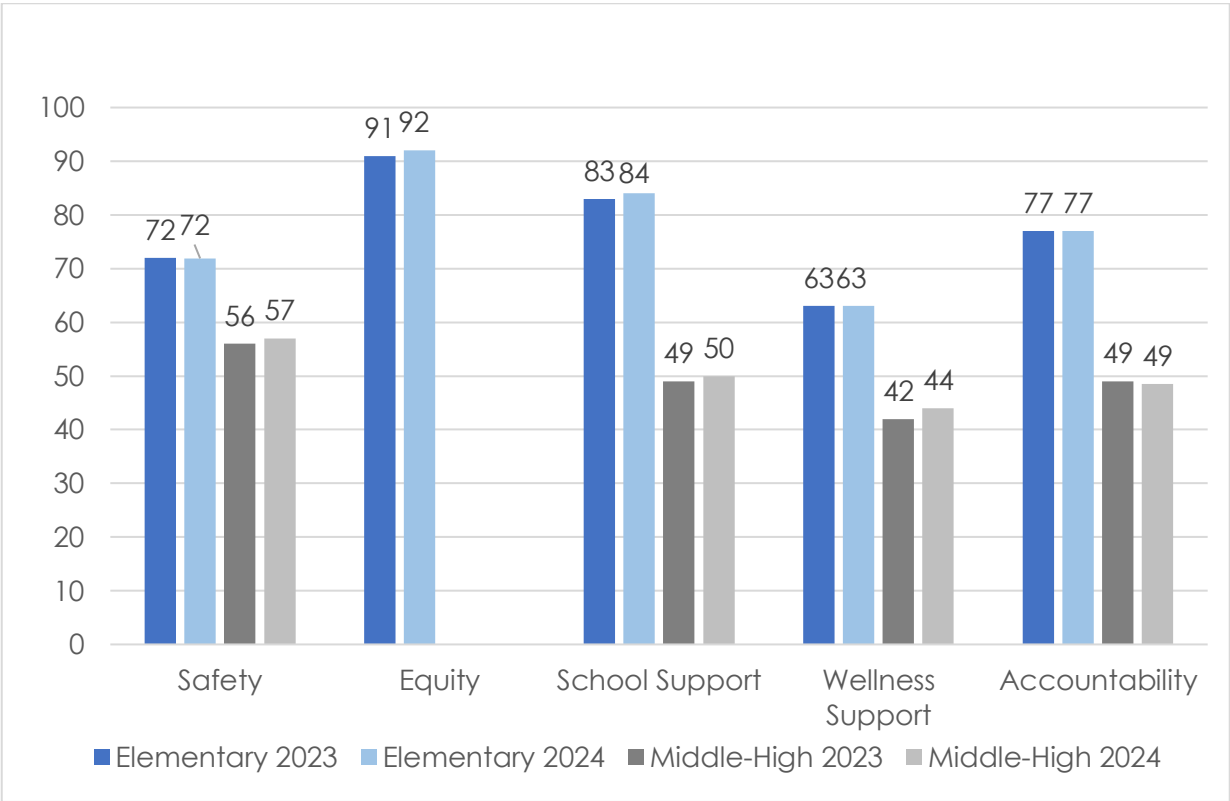
In the 2023-2024 school year, BCPS conducted the Cognia survey to assess the impressions of the BCPS school system among students, teachers, non-instructional staff, and parents. Although each group of respondents received different survey questions, questions included a wide variety of topics including safety, equity in the allocation of resources, access to wellness resources, accountability in leadership, supports available to families, and student learning. Survey questions were written in two formats. One question format was positively worded statements to which participants expressed their degree of agreement or disagreement on a 5-point Likert scale. The sum of responses that indicate agreement or strong agreement was calculated as the percent of positive responses per item. The full text of each Likert scale statement and the aggregated district responses for 2023-2024 appear in Appendix A. The second question format was multiple choice; depending on the question, participants were asked to choose one answer or select multiple answers. This data represents qualitative aspects of survey topics. An in-depth qualitative analysis for multiple select questions is outside the scope of this memo; however, Appendix B displays the aggregate district responses for multiple select questions, including the percent of each answer choice for each item. This memo summarizes overall district results. Schools are encouraged to analyze their specific data for Likert scale questions and multiple select questions via the Cognia survey platform.

Positive Statements

The graph in Figure 2 illustrates the percentage of agreement or strong agreement on each survey, regarding positive statements made about each domain for Elementary School students and Middle-High School students. Figure 2 contains data for 2023-2024 and 2022-2023 as a prior year comparison.

Figure 2

Average Percent Agreement within Each Domain for Elementary School Students and Middle-High School Students, 2022-2023 & 2023-2024

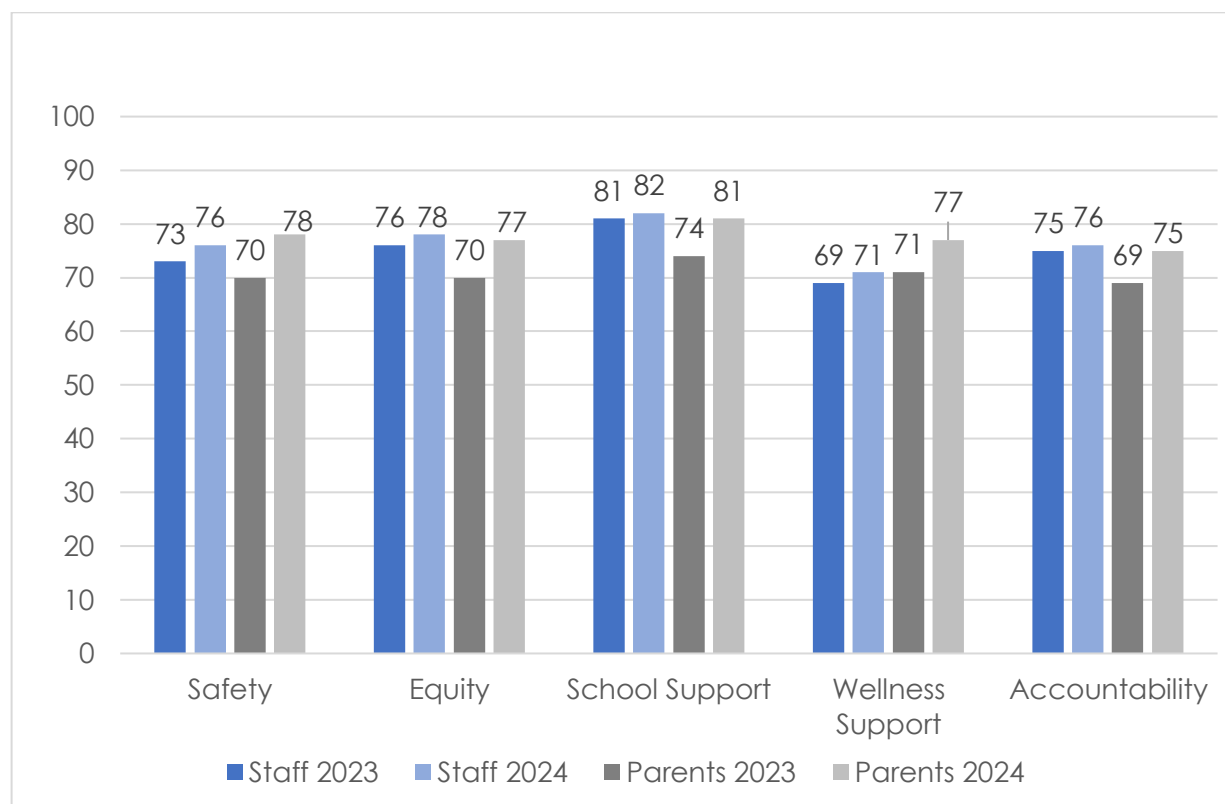


**Note.* Equity in the Middle-High survey could not be evaluated due to items that did not assess customer satisfaction. As a result, the percentage of positive responses could not be calculated and reported.

The graph in Figure 3 illustrates the percentage of agreement or strong agreement on each survey, regarding positive statements made about each domain for Staff and Parents. Figure 3 contains data for 2023-2024 and 2022-2023 as a prior year comparison.

Figure 3

Average Percent Agreement within Each Domain for Staff and Parents, 2023 & 2024



Elementary school students' satisfaction with their school environment was high, with most students agreeing with the positive statements made about their school in 2023-2024. Elementary school students rated their school's *Equity*¹ and *School Support* is the highest among the five domains, with *Safety* and *Accountability* similarly rated. The statements met with the highest agreement were, "My teachers want every student to learn" and "In my school, my teachers want me to do my best work." The lowest-rated items fell below 50 percent agreement. These items were: "I enjoy eating food prepared by the cafeteria," with 35 percent agreement, "My teachers ask me what I think about school" with 38 percent agreement, and "In my school, students treat each other with respect." All remaining positively worded statements were met with more than 50 percent satisfaction by elementary school students.

Middle and high school students answered Likert scale questions with moderate agreement. Items related to *Safety* were rated the highest domain. For example, 66 percent of middle and high school students agreed with the statement, "I feel safe getting to and from school." The three lowest-rated statements for middle and high school students were "I enjoy food prepared by the cafeteria" with 19 percent agreement, "In my school, students treat each other with respect," with 26 percent agreement, and "My school is clean and well-maintained" with 27 percent agreement.

¹ The Equity domain on each survey was evaluated with a singular positively worded statement. Other domains were assessed with multiple questions.

Instructional and non-instructional full-time staff reported high levels of satisfaction across the five domains. Like other groups, BCPS staff rated *Equity*¹ and *School Support* the highest compared to the other domains. In 2024, staff were most likely to agree with the statement, "If students have a problem, they can come to me for help" with 95 percent of staff agreeing or strongly agreeing with this statement. One of the items met with the lowest agreement was, "I regularly post information online or send home a newsletter" with 64 percent of staff positively responding to the statement.

Most parents agreed with the positive statements made about their child's school environment. Parents were most likely to agree with the statements in the *School Support* category. The highest-rated items were "Phone calls to the school are answered in a polite and respectful manner by the office staff" and "When visiting the school, I am greeted with courtesy and respect by the office staff." Both of these items were met with 85 percent agreement. The statement met with the least agreement was, "Our school has a family resource center and/or a staff member assigned to work with families," with 49 percent of parents agreeing or strongly agreeing with the statement.

Summary

These survey results show that in general, satisfaction with the BCPS system is high for students, staff, and parents. Elementary school students highly rated items associated with equity. Middle and high school students highly rated items associated with safety. Staff responses indicated high levels of satisfaction in all areas with school support being the highest. Parent responses also showed high levels of satisfaction in all domains with school support and safety being the highest-rated categories. The results from the 2023-2024 Cognia survey are largely positive and will continue to provide insight into how the district can better serve the needs of students, staff, and families. For a full description of how each group responded in each of the five domains, please see Appendices A and B.

If you have any questions, please contact **Richard Baum, Director, Educational Assessment, Analysis & Research at 754-321-2500.**

ARF/SH/FC/RGB/KB/SS:rs
Attachments

c: School Board Members
Extended Cabinet
Teaching & Learning Directors