

Public School Academy Parent Survey

This survey is being administered to gain important information about you and your experiences as the parent of a student enrolled in a Michigan public school academy. It is part of a self-evaluation by the school and an element in a statewide evaluation by an external evaluator under contract with the Michigan Department of Education. In some cases, you are being asked to provide factual information about yourself, and in other cases you are being asked to provide your perceptions about the school. The responses to the survey will be analyzed by the external evaluator and returned to the school in a summarized form. Your responses will be confidential and used only for research purposes. Thank you for your cooperation and the valuable information you will provide with completion of this survey.

We are keeping a checklist of the names of the persons receiving this questionnaire. This will assist us in following up on persons not responding. Do not write your name on this questionnaire or on the accompanying envelope. Nevertheless, it is important that you have your name checked off the list after returning the questionnaire to the designated person in your school.

1. In what grades do you have children enrolled in this charter school?

(Circle a grade level for each child you have enrolled)

	Grade Level												
<i>Child 1</i>	K	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	6 th	7 th	8 th	9 th	10 th	11 th	12 th
<i>Child 2</i>	K	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	6 th	7 th	8 th	9 th	10 th	11 th	12 th
<i>Child 3</i>	K	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	6 th	7 th	8 th	9 th	10 th	11 th	12 th
<i>Child 4</i>	K	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	6 th	7 th	8 th	9 th	10 th	11 th	12 th

2. Do you have other school-age children **not** attending this charter school? 1. no 2. yes

If yes, in what type of school(s) are they enrolled? (Check all that apply.)

1. public school 2. private school 3. parochial/church-related school
 4. home schooled 5. another charter school 6. other (specify _____)

3. Approximately how many miles do you live from this charter school? 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 >10
 (Circle appropriate response)

4. Approximately how many miles do you live from the nearest regular public school at which your child could be enrolled? 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 >10
 (Circle appropriate response)

If you have more than one child enrolled in this charter school, please consider the child who has been enrolled in this school for the longest period of time when responding to the following questions.

5. What kind of school did your child previously attend before this charter school?

1. public school 2. private school 3. parochial/church-related school
 4. home schooled 5. did not attend school 6. other (specify _____)

6. Please rate each of the following statements as to *what you expected* when you first enrolled your child in this charter school (*initial expectation*) and *how you would rate it today* (*current experience*). Circle the appropriate response in each category, 1=false, 2=partly true, 3=true, and DK=don't know.

	Initial Expectation				Current Experience			
	False	Partly True	True	Don't Know	False	Partly True	True	Don't Know
a) My child will be/is motivated to learn	1	2	3	DK	1	2	3	DK
b) The quality of instruction/teaching will be high	1	2	3	DK	1	2	3	DK
c) My child will receive sufficient individual attention	1	2	3	DK	1	2	3	DK
d) I will be able to influence the direction and activities in the school	1	2	3	DK	1	2	3	DK
e) There will be good communication between the school and my household	1	2	3	DK	1	2	3	DK
f) Students will have access to computers and other new technologies	1	2	3	DK	1	2	3	DK
g) The school will have effective leadership and administration	1	2	3	DK	1	2	3	DK
h) The school will have small class sizes	1	2	3	DK	1	2	3	DK
i) School personnel will be accountable for my child's achievement/performance	1	2	3	DK	1	2	3	DK
j) My child's achievement level will improve	1	2	3	DK	1	2	3	DK
k) Support services (i.e., counseling, health care, etc.) will be available to my child	1	2	3	DK	1	2	3	DK
l) The school will have innovative practices	1	2	3	DK	1	2	3	DK
m) I will be able to participate in voluntary work and other activities	1	2	3	DK	1	2	3	DK

7. Rate the importance of the following factors in your decision to enroll your child in this school? Circle only one number for each item (1=not important and 5=is very important).

	Not Important			Very Important	
	1	2	3	4	5
a) Convenient location	1	2	3	4	5
b) Less emphasis on extracurricular activities	1	2	3	4	5
c) My interest in being involved in an educational reform effort	1	2	3	4	5
d) Promises made by charter school's spokespersons	1	2	3	4	5
e) Academic reputation of this school	1	2	3	4	5
f) Safety for my child	1	2	3	4	5
g) I prefer the emphasis and educational philosophy of this school	1	2	3	4	5
h) My child has special needs that were not met at previous school	1	2	3	4	5
i) Good teachers and high quality of instruction	1	2	3	4	5
j) I prefer a private school but could not afford it	1	2	3	4	5
k) My child wanted to attend this school	1	2	3	4	5
l) My child was performing poorly at previous school	1	2	3	4	5
m) I was unhappy with the curriculum and instruction at previous school	1	2	3	4	5

8. Briefly list below some other factors that motivated you to enroll your child in this school.

9. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about your child’s school? Circle the most appropriate response for each item (1= strongly disagree, 5=strongly agree, and DK=don’t know)

	Strongly Disagree			Strongly Agree		Don't Know
a) This school is meeting students’ needs that could not be addressed at other local schools	1	2	3	4	5	DK
b) Students feel safe at this school	1	2	3	4	5	DK
c) Class sizes are too large to meet the individual student’s needs	1	2	3	4	5	DK
d) Teachers are disenchanted with what can be accomplished at this school	1	2	3	4	5	DK
e) Teachers are involved in decision making at this school	1	2	3	4	5	DK
f) This school has sufficient financial resources	1	2	3	4	5	DK
g) I am satisfied with the school’s curriculum	1	2	3	4	5	DK
h) I am satisfied with the instruction offered	1	2	3	4	5	DK
i) Teachers are challenged to be effective	1	2	3	4	5	DK
j) This school has been well received by the community	1	2	3	4	5	DK
k) I think this school has a bright future	1	2	3	4	5	DK
l) Too many changes are occurring at the school	1	2	3	4	5	DK
m) This school reflects a community atmosphere	1	2	3	4	5	DK
n) This school places less emphasis on extracurricular activities	1	2	3	4	5	DK
o) This school has high standards and expectations for students	1	2	3	4	5	DK
p) This school has small class sizes	1	2	3	4	5	DK
q) This school has good physical facilities	1	2	3	4	5	DK
r) This school has good administrative leadership	1	2	3	4	5	DK
s) Parents are involved and can influence instruction and school activities	1	2	3	4	5	DK
t) Teachers and school leadership are accountable for student achievement/performance	1	2	3	4	5	DK

10. Estimate the number of hours that you and other adults in your household have served as a volunteer at the school during an average month? 0 hours 1-3 hours 4-6 hours
 7-9 hours 10-12 hours more than 12 hours

Is voluntary work required by the school? 1. no 2. yes

11. What is your race/ethnicity? 1. White, not of Hispanic origin 2. Black, not of Hispanic origin
 3. Hispanic 4. Asian or Pacific Islander 5. Native American

12. How much formal education have you had?
 1. did not complete high school 2. completed high school 3. less than four years of college
 4. college graduate (BA/BS) 5. graduate courses, no degree 6. graduate/professional degree

13. What is your gender?
 1. female 2. male

14. Which best describes your household?
 two parents/guardians single parent/guardian

15. What is the estimated annual income of your household/family?
 Less than \$10,000 \$40,000 - \$59,999
 \$10,000 - \$19,999 \$60,000 - \$99,999
 \$20,000 - \$29,999 More than \$100,000
 \$30,000 - \$39,999

16. Are you aware of the school's mission? 1. no 2. yes

If yes, to what extent is the mission being followed by the school?
 1. not very well 2. fair 3. well 4. very well

17. Do you have concerns about your child's safety in this school? 1. no 2. yes

If yes, please explain _____

18. What is the greatest strength of this school? _____

19. What is the greatest weakness of this school? _____

20. Other comments (attach additional sheets of paper if you wish)

Thank you for completing and returning this survey form within five (5) days of receiving it.