

Public School Academy Teacher Survey (Draft Version)

This survey is being administered to gain important information about you and your experiences as a teacher in a Michigan public school academy (charter school). 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 for research purposes. Thank you for your cooperation and the valuable information you will provide with completion of this survey.

1. What is your role at this school?
1. Teacher 2. Teaching assistant 3. Specialist (specify _____)
4. Student teacher 5. School principal 6. Other: _____

2. Current certification. (Mark the one statement that best corresponds to your current teaching certification status.)
1. I am currently certified to teach in this state
2. I am currently certified to teach in another state but not this one
3. I am working to obtain certification
4. I am not certified and am not currently working to obtain certification

3. Are you teaching in a subject area in which you are certified to teach? 1. Yes 2. No 3. Not applicable

4. With which grade level are you mostly working? (Circle only one)
- | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|
| 1 st | 2 nd | 3 rd | 4 th | 5 th | 6 th | 7 th | 8 th | 9 th | 10 th | 11 th | 12 th | Not applicable |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|

5. How many years (including this year) of experience have you had in each of these types of schools and in total?
- ____private school
- ____parochial school
- ____charter school
- ____public school
- ____other (specify _____)
- ____TOTAL

6. How many years have you worked at your current school? _____

7. What is your age? a. younger than 20 b. 20 - 29 c. 30-39
- d. 40 - 49 e. 50 or older

8. Please rate each of the following statements as to *what you expected* when you first began working at this school (*initial expectation*) and *how you would rate it today* (*current experience*). Use the following legend in rating the items by circling the appropriate response: 1=false, 2=partly true, and 3=true.

	Initial Expectation				Current Experience			
	False	Partly True	True	Don't Know	False	Partly True	True	Don't Know
a) Students will be eager and 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) Students will receive sufficient individual attention	1	2	3	DK	1	2	3	DK
d) Parents will be able to influence the direction and activities at the school	1	2	3	DK	1	2	3	DK
e) There will be good communication between the school and parents/guardians	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 the achievement/performance of students	1	2	3	DK	1	2	3	DK
j) The achievement levels of students will improve	1	2	3	DK	1	2	3	DK
k) Support services (i.e., counseling, health care, etc.) will be available to students	1	2	3	DK	1	2	3	DK
l) The school will have innovative practices	1	2	3	DK	1	2	3	DK
m) Teachers will be able to influence the steering and direction of the school	1	2	3	DK	1	2	3	DK
n) There will be new professional opportunities for teachers	1	2	3	DK	1	2	3	DK
o) Teachers will be committed to the mission of the school	1	2	3	DK	1	2	3	DK
p) Teachers will be autonomous and creative in their classes	1	2	3	DK	1	2	3	DK

9. Rate the importance of the following factors in your decision to seek employment at this school by circling what you believe is the most appropriate answer. (Circle only one number for each item, where 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) Parents are committed	1	2	3	4	5	
g) Safety	1	2	3	4	5	
h) Difficulty to find other positions	1	2	3	4	5	
i) Opportunity to work with like-minded educators	1	2	3	4	5	

10. Briefly list below some other factors that motivated you to seek employment at this school.

11. Rate your level of satisfaction with the following aspects or features of your school. (Circle the most appropriate response for each item, where 1= very dissatisfied, 5=very satisfied and DK=don't know.)

	Very Dissatisfied					Very Satisfied	Don't Know
	1	2	3	4	5	DK	
a) Salary level	1	2	3	4	5	DK	
b) Fringe benefits	1	2	3	4	5	DK	
c) Relations with local community	1	2	3	4	5	DK	
d) School mission statement	1	2	3	4	5	DK	
e) Ability of the school to fulfill its stated mission	1	2	3	4	5	DK	
f) Evaluation or assessments of your performance	1	2	3	4	5	DK	
g) Resources available for instruction	1	2	3	4	5	DK	
h) School buildings and facilities	1	2	3	4	5	DK	
i) Availability of computers and other technology	1	2	3	4	5	DK	
j) School governance	1	2	3	4	5	DK	

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

	Strongly Disagree					Strongly Agree	Don't Know
	1	2	3	4	5		
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) The school has sufficient financial resources	1	2	3	4	5	DK	
g) I am satisfied with the school's curriculum and instruction	1	2	3	4	5	DK	
h) Parents are satisfied with the curriculum and instruction	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) The 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	
u) Students are satisfied with the curriculum and instruction	1	2	3	4	5	DK	
v) Lack of student discipline hinders my ability to teach and the opportunity for other students to learn	1	2	3	4	5	DK	
w) Teachers are insecure about their future at the school	1	2	3	4	5	DK	
x) Teachers have many noninstructional duties	1	2	3	4	5	DK	

13. 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

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

15. 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

16. What is the highest college degree you hold?
 1. Bachelors 2. Masters 3. 5-year Certificate 4. Doctorate

17. Are you working toward another degree at this time? 1. No 2. Yes
If yes, what degree? 1. Bachelors 2. Masters 3. 5-year Certificate 4. Doctorate

18. 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

19. Do you plan (hope) to be teaching at this school next year? 1. No 2. Yes
If no, why not? _____

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

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

22. If you have worked at another school in the past, what is the greatest difference between that school and the one at which you are currently working? _____

23. 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.

