

Totals for All Pennsylvania Charter School Parents, 1998-1999

WMU Charter School Survey Descriptive statistics

Informant Group: **Parents (N=292)**

1999

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

	Grade level													Total
	K	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th	
First child	40	30	30	25	13	26	39	10	11	24	20	8	4	280
Second child	9	10	11	5	13	2	4	3	2	2	3	2	0	66
Third child	1	2	5	4	1	2	1	1	1	2	1	0	1	22
Fourth child	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	4
Total number	50	42	46	36	28	30	44	14	14	29	24	10	5	372
Total percent	13.4%	11.3%	12.4%	9.7%	7.5%	8.1%	11.8%	3.8%	3.8%	7.8%	6.5%	2.7%	1.3%	100.0%

2a. Do you have other school-age children not attending this charter school?

	No	Yes	Total	Missing
N	157	131	288	4
%	54.5%	45.5%	100.0%	

2b. If yes, in what type of school(s) are they enrolled?

	Public school	Private school	Parochial school	Home-schooled	Another charter	Other	Total	Missing
N	92	7	9	2	1	13	124	168
%	74.2%	5.6%	7.3%	1.6%	0.8%	10.5%	100.0%	

3. Approximately how many miles do you live from this charter school?

	Miles											Total	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	>10		
Mean	4.34												
STD	3.47												
Missing	15												
N	72	45	37	26	15	14	9	10	3	11	35	277	
%	26.0%	16.2%	13.4%	9.4%	5.4%	5.1%	3.2%	3.6%	1.1%	4.0%	12.6%	100.0%	

4. Approximately how many miles do you live from the nearest traditional public school where your child could be enrolled?

	Miles											Total
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	>10	
Mean	2.22											
STD	2.05											
Missing	12											
N	158	46	31	9	17	4	4	5	0	1	5	280
%	56.4%	16.4%	11.1%	3.2%	6.1%	1.4%	1.4%	1.8%	0.0%	0.4%	1.8%	100.0%

5. What is your gender?

	Female	Male	Total	Missing
N	249	37	286	6
%	87.1%	12.9%	100.0%	

6. Which best describes your household?

	Two parents/guardians	Single parent/guardian	Other	Total	Missing
N	156	127	7	290	2
%	53.8%	43.8%	2.4%	100.0%	

7. What is the estimated annual income of your household/family?

	Less than \$10,000	\$10,000-\$19,999	\$20,000-\$29,999	\$30,000-\$39,999	\$40,000-\$59,999	\$60,000-\$99,999	\$100,000 or more	Total	Missing
N	39	55	51	32	54	45	6	282	10
%	13.8%	19.5%	18.1%	11.3%	19.1%	16.0%	2.1%	100.0%	

8a. Are you aware of the school's mission?

	No	Yes	Total	Missing
N	25	262	287	5
%	8.7%	91.3%	100.0%	

8b. If yes, to what extent is the mission being followed by the school?

	Not very well	Fair	Well	Very well	Total	Missing
	1	2	3	4		
N	8	43	108	102	261	31
%	3.1%	16.5%	41.4%	39.1%	100.0%	

9. Do you have concerns about your child's safety in this school?

	No	Yes	Total	Missing
N	231	53	284	8
%	81.3%	18.7%	100.0%	

10a. Estimate the total 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	Total	Missing
N	113	93	48	4	7	23	288	4
%	39.2%	32.3%	16.7%	1.4%	2.4%	8.0%	100.0%	

10b. Is voluntary work required by the school? attending this charter school?

	No	Yes	Total	Missing
N	84	152	236	56
%	35.6%	64.4%	100.0%	

11. What is your race/ethnicity?

	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian/Pac. Islander	Native American	Total	Missing
N	118	132	21	4	1	276	16
%	42.8%	47.8%	7.6%	1.4%	0.4%	100.0%	

12. How much formal education have you had?

	Did not complete high school	Completed high school	Less than 4 years of college	College graduate BA/BS	Graduate courses, no degree	Graduate/professional degree	Total	Missing
N	25	82	81	41	20	31	280	12
%	8.9%	29.3%	28.9%	14.6%	7.1%	11.1%	100.0%	

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

	Public school	Private school	Parochial school	Home-schooled	Another charter	Other	Total	Missing
N	197	23	28	3	13	9	273	19
%	72.2%	8.4%	10.3%	1.1%	4.8%	3.3%	100.0%	

14. Rate the importance of the following factors in your decision to enroll your child in this school.

	Percentages					Mean	STD	N	Missing
	Not important 1	2	3	4	Very important 5				
a. Convenient location	26.8%	13.0%	23.2%	12.3%	24.6%	2.95	1.52	284	8
b. More emphasis on academics than extracurricular activities	2.8%	5.3%	18.7%	27.2%	45.9%	4.08	1.05	283	9
c. My interest in an educational reform effort	9.4%	8.7%	23.0%	26.5%	32.4%	3.64	1.27	287	5
d. Promises made by charter school's spokespersons	5.3%	2.8%	18.8%	28.7%	44.3%	4.04	1.11	282	10
e. Academic reputation (high standards) of this school	3.3%	5.8%	10.9%	24.1%	55.8%	4.23	1.07	274	18
f. Safety for my child	3.1%	3.8%	10.1%	16.4%	66.4%	4.39	1.03	286	6
g. I prefer the emphasis and educational philosophy of this school	3.5%	2.1%	14.2%	26.0%	54.2%	4.25	1.01	288	4
h. My child has special needs that were not met at previous school	24.4%	9.2%	15.5%	17.3%	33.6%	3.27	1.59	271	21
i. Good teachers and high quality of instruction	1.8%	3.2%	7.1%	17.7%	70.3%	4.52	0.89	283	9
j. I prefer a private school but could not afford it	28.7%	10.0%	20.1%	15.1%	26.2%	3.00	1.57	279	13
k. My child wanted to attend this school	16.3%	9.5%	22.3%	22.3%	29.7%	3.40	1.42	283	9
l. My child was performing poorly at previous school	38.8%	6.8%	16.9%	12.6%	24.8%	2.78	1.64	278	14
m. I was unhappy with the curriculum & instruction at previous school	20.8%	7.5%	21.9%	15.4%	34.4%	3.35	1.52	279	13
n. This school has good physical facilities	16.0%	17.1%	29.1%	18.2%	19.6%	3.08	1.33	275	17
o. Recommendations of teacher/official at my child's previous school	44.6%	10.1%	16.3%	9.4%	19.6%	2.49	1.59	276	16

15. 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).

	Initial Expectation						Current Experience							
	False	Partly true	True	Mean	STD	Don't know	Missing	False	Partly true	True	Mean	STD	Don't know	Missing
a. My child will be/is motivated to learn	1.1%	15.1%	83.9%	2.83	0.41	8	5	4.4%	18.7%	76.9%	2.73	0.54	2	17
b. The quality of instruction will be/is high	0.7%	15.2%	84.1%	2.83	0.39	10	6	4.8%	25.7%	69.5%	2.65	0.57	5	18
c. My child will receive/receives sufficient individual attention	1.1%	20.1%	78.9%	2.78	0.44	9	4	6.2%	25.2%	68.6%	2.62	0.60	5	13
d. I will be/am able to influence the direction and activities in the school	7.7%	36.5%	55.8%	2.48	0.64	24	8	10.5%	39.3%	50.2%	2.40	0.67	26	19
e. There will be/is good communication between the school and my household	0.7%	14.4%	84.8%	2.84	0.39	7	8	4.4%	20.6%	75.0%	2.71	0.54	3	17
f. My child will have/has access to computers and other new technologies	2.6%	17.6%	79.9%	2.77	0.48	13	6	4.5%	21.0%	74.5%	2.70	0.55	7	18
g. The school will have/has effective leadership and administration	2.2%	16.0%	81.7%	2.79	0.46	13	11	6.5%	21.1%	72.4%	2.66	0.60	11	20
h. The school will have/has small class sizes	3.7%	14.8%	81.5%	2.78	0.50	9	12	7.6%	17.9%	74.4%	2.67	0.61	8	22
i. School personnel will be/are accountable for my child's achievement/performance	4.1%	34.0%	61.9%	2.58	0.57	16	8	6.2%	35.3%	58.5%	2.52	0.61	17	17
j. My child's achievement levels of students will improve/is improving	1.8%	24.2%	74.0%	2.72	0.49	8	7	8.6%	21.8%	69.5%	2.61	0.64	7	19
k. Support services (i.e., counseling, health care, etc.) will be/are available to my child	10.5%	26.9%	62.6%	2.52	0.68	48	6	11.3%	31.2%	57.6%	2.46	0.69	40	21
l. The school will support/is supporting innovative practices	0.4%	25.2%	74.4%	2.74	0.45	43	11	2.1%	29.9%	67.9%	2.66	0.52	34	24
m. I will be/am able to participate in volunteer work and other activities	6.3%	17.4%	76.3%	2.70	0.58	25	14	6.5%	24.8%	68.7%	2.62	0.61	25	21

16. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about your child's school?

	Percentages					Mean	STD	N	Don't know	Missing
	Strongly disagree 1	2	3	4	Strongly agree 5					
a. This school is meeting students' needs that could not be addressed at other local schools	4.9%	6.0%	21.4%	22.9%	44.7%	3.97	1.16	266	22	4
b. Students feel safe at this school	2.2%	1.8%	15.0%	24.8%	56.2%	4.31	0.94	274	15	3
c. Class sizes are too large to meet the individual student's needs	52.1%	22.1%	12.9%	5.7%	7.1%	1.94	1.23	280	8	4
d. Teachers are disenchanted with what can be accomplished	53.2%	11.7%	21.2%	9.5%	4.5%	2.00	1.24	222	59	11
e. Teachers are involved in decision making at this school	2.8%	3.2%	16.7%	26.9%	50.5%	4.19	1.01	216	69	7
f. This school has sufficient financial resources	11.7%	10.6%	33.9%	23.3%	20.6%	3.31	1.24	180	99	13
g. I am satisfied with the school's curriculum	2.5%	6.7%	17.3%	30.6%	43.0%	4.05	1.05	284	2	6
h. I am satisfied with the instruction offered	4.6%	4.6%	20.6%	29.1%	41.1%	3.98	1.10	282	2	8
i. Teachers are challenged to be effective	2.4%	4.4%	16.5%	26.2%	50.4%	4.18	1.02	248	39	5
j. This school has been well received by the community	4.6%	8.4%	20.5%	20.5%	46.0%	3.95	1.19	239	47	6
k. I think this school has a bright future	3.3%	3.7%	10.3%	17.9%	64.8%	4.37	1.03	273	9	10
l. Too many changes are occurring at the school	34.1%	22.9%	22.5%	8.8%	11.6%	2.41	1.34	249	35	8
m. This school reflects a community atmosphere	6.5%	3.5%	21.5%	30.8%	37.7%	3.90	1.15	260	22	10
n. Extracurricular activities are not emphasized at the expense of academics	6.2%	6.6%	18.5%	21.6%	47.1%	3.97	1.22	259	25	8
o. This school has high standards and expectation for students	2.5%	3.6%	12.5%	22.1%	59.3%	4.32	0.99	280	7	5
p. This school has small class sizes	6.1%	5.4%	22.7%	18.0%	47.8%	3.96	1.21	278	8	6
q. This school has good physical facilities	12.2%	9.9%	27.8%	23.6%	26.6%	3.43	1.31	263	19	10
r. This school has good administrative leadership	4.1%	6.3%	14.4%	25.1%	50.2%	4.11	1.12	271	9	12
s. Parents are involved and can influence instruction and school activities	4.0%	4.4%	22.5%	29.3%	39.8%	3.96	1.08	249	26	17
t. Teachers and school leadership are accountable for student achievement/performance	3.9%	5.1%	20.0%	26.7%	44.3%	4.02	1.10	255	18	19