



Westminster School

PARENT SURVEY 2007 RESULTS (149 surveys)

As part of a periodic accreditation review by the Virginia Association of Independent Schools, Westminster recently surveyed current parents regarding all aspects of the school program. Of the 192 families to whom the surveys were sent, 149 responded. The results, which were tallied and reported by an independent data analyst, are shown below.

1. On the whole, my child enjoys school.

a. Strongly Agree	62%
b. Agree	<u>36</u> 98%
c. Disagree	2
d. Strongly Disagree	0

2. The teachers are concerned about my child as an individual.

a. Strongly Agree	60%
b. Agree	<u>38</u> 98%
c. Disagree	1
d. Strongly Disagree	1

3. Generally, the attitude of the student body towards school is positive.

a. Strongly Agree	54%
b. Agree	<u>45</u> 99%
c. Disagree	1
d. Strongly Disagree	0

4. There is a sense of community within the school.

a. Strongly Agree	66%
b. Agree	<u>32</u> 98%
c. Disagree	2
d. Strongly Disagree	0

5. Rules and regulations affecting students are clearly defined.

a. Strongly Agree	81%
b. Agree	<u>19</u> 100%
c. Disagree	0
d. Strongly Disagree	0

6. The school experience encourages my child to be positive about himself or herself.

a. Strongly Agree	53%
b. Agree	<u>44</u> 97%
c. Disagree	3
d. Strongly Disagree	0

7. Disciplinary actions are consistent.

a. Strongly Agree	52%
b. Agree	<u>44</u> 96%
c. Disagree	4
d. Strongly Disagree	0

8. The school's policy of strikes and demerits helps teach students the value of appropriate behavior.

a. Strongly Agree	50%
b. Agree	<u>43</u> 93%
c. Disagree	6
d. Strongly Disagree	1

9. The school detention policy helps promote responsibility in students.

- a. Strongly Agree 45%
- b. Agree 50 95%
- c. Disagree 3
- d. Strongly Disagree 2

10. The school facility and grounds are well maintained.

- a. Strongly Agree 82%
- b. Agree 18 100%
- c. Disagree 0
- d. Strongly Disagree 0

11. The following facilities meet the needs of the students. (Check the appropriate column.)

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Classrooms	62%	36%	2%	0%
Facilities for art	77	22	1	0
Facilities for music	72	25	3	1
Facilities for science instruction	42	46	11	1
Library	73	27	1	0
Restrooms	78	21	1	0
Gymnasium	90	10	1	0
Playing fields	33	49	16	2
Theatre	77	21	2	1

12. Arrival and dismissal procedures are as safe and expeditious as possible.

- a. Strongly Agree 70%
- b. Agree 29 99%
- c. Disagree 1
- d. Strongly Disagree 0

15. My child is encouraged to think clearly and express thoughts articulately.

- a. Strongly Agree 67%
- b. Agree 30 97%
- c. Disagree 3
- d. Strongly Disagree 0

13. Art, music, and drama are an important part of school life.

- a. Strongly Agree 80%
- b. Agree 19 99%
- c. Disagree 1
- d. Strongly Disagree 0

16. Teachers set high expectations for students.

- a. Strongly Agree 82%
- b. Agree 17 99%
- c. Disagree 1
- d. Strongly Disagree 0

14. My child is encouraged to be creative.

- a. Strongly Agree 54%
- b. Agree 39 93%
- c. Disagree 6
- d. Strongly Disagree 1

17. Teachers respond to parents' inquiries in a timely fashion.

- a. Strongly Agree 65%
- b. Agree 32 97%
- c. Disagree 3
- d. Strongly Disagree 0

18. The amount of homework assigned is:
- a. Far Too Much 13%
 - b. Slightly More Than Desired 39
 - c. Appropriate For Grade Level 47
 - d. Slightly Less Than Desired 1
19. The level of difficulty of the homework assignments is:
- a. Far Too Much 5%
 - b. Slightly More Than Desired 18
 - c. Appropriate For Grade Level 74
 - d. Slightly Less Than Desired 3
20. The nature and number of long term project assignments are appropriate.
- a. Strongly Agree 16%
 - b. Agree 72 88%
 - c. Disagree 11
 - d. Strongly Disagree 1
21. The emphasis the school places on grades is:
- a. Far Too Much 4%
 - b. Slightly More Than Desired 20
 - c. Appropriate For Grade Level 75
 - d. Slightly Less Than Desired 1
22. The emphasis my child places on grades is:
- a. Far Too Much 7%
 - b. Slightly More Than Desired 17
 - c. Appropriate For Grade Level- 71
 - d. Slightly Less Than Desired 4
23. My child's enthusiasm for learning is reinforced at school.
- a. Strongly Agree 53%
 - b. Agree 41 94%
 - c. Disagree 6
 - d. Strongly Disagree 0
24. The sizes of the academic classes and homeroom classes are:
- a. Far Too Large 1%
 - b. Slightly Larger Than Desired 7
 - c. Appropriate For Grade Level 88
 - d. Slightly Smaller Than Desired 3
25. The teachers use a variety of instructional materials (discussion, projects, lectures, audio-visual materials, etc).
- a. Strongly Agree 41%
 - b. Agree 51 92%
 - c. Disagree 7
 - d. Strongly Disagree 1
26. Teachers communicate with parents on a regular basis.
- a. Strongly Agree 40%
 - b. Agree 47 87%
 - c. Disagree 13
 - d. Strongly Disagree 1
27. Interims and report cards provide adequate information regarding student academic progress.
- a. Strongly Agree 45%
 - b. Agree 52 97%
 - c. Disagree 3
 - d. Strongly Disagree 1
28. Scheduled parent/teacher conferences encourage communication between parents and teachers.
- a. Strongly Agree 56%
 - b. Agree 42 98%
 - c. Disagree 2
 - d. Strongly Disagree 0
29. If I have a concern, my child's teacher is available to discuss it with me.
- a. Strongly Agree 66%
 - b. Agree 32 98%
 - c. Disagree 2
 - d. Strongly Disagree 0

30. If I have a concern, the administration is available to discuss it with me.

- a. Strongly Agree 41%
- b. Agree 48 89%
- c. Disagree 7
- d. Strongly Disagree 3

31. Regarding the **emphasis** on the following topics in the school’s overall curriculum, check the appropriate column. (For example, does the study of history receive appropriate **emphasis**?)

	Far Too Much	Slightly Too Much	About Right	Slightly Too Little	Far Too Little
English (Reading, Language Arts)	0%	2%	95%	2%	1%
Writing	0	1	89	9	1
History (Social Studies)	0	5	91	4	0
Mathematics	0	1	89	9	1
Science	0	2	88	9	1
French & Latin	3	8	83	5	1
Geography	0	1	86	10	3
Art	0	1	87	10	1
Music	0	1	90	7	2
Drama	7	17	74	1	1
Physical Education	0	3	94	3	0

32. The content and skills taught within each subject area seem appropriate. (Check the appropriate column.)

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
English (Reading, Language Arts)	43%	54%	2%	1%
Writing	36	62	2	1
History (Social Studies)	37	60	3	0
Mathematics	40	57	2	1
Science	35	62	2	1
French & Latin	34	59	7	0
Geography	34	62	3	1
Art	40	58	2	0
Music	38	59	2	1
Drama	38	54	5	3
Physical Education	41	57	2	0

33. The **sequence** of the curriculum from one grade level to the next seems clear and appropriately coordinated. (Check the appropriate column.)

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
English (Reading, Language Arts)	46%	54%	1%	0%
Writing	42	56	2	0
History (Social Studies)	43	54	3	0
Mathematics	43	55	1	0
Science	42	55	1	0
French & Latin	42	57	1	0
Geography	40	57	2	1
Art	45	55	0	0
Music	43	55	1	1
Drama	41	55	4	0
Physical Education	46	52	1	0

34. The quality of the educational program at school is:

- a. Excellent 81%
- b. Good 18 99%
- c. Fair 1
- d. Poor 0
- e. Very Poor 0

35. Appropriate moral and ethical values are encouraged at the school.

- a. Strongly Agree 74%
- b. Agree 26 100%
- c. Disagree 0
- d. Strongly Disagree 0

36. I understand the school's rules and policies as printed in the Parent/Student Handbook.

- a. Strongly Agree 74%
- b. Agree 24 98%
- c. Disagree 1
- d. Strongly Disagree 0

37. The school's curriculum and programs clearly reflect its philosophy.

- a. Strongly Agree 78%
- b. Agree 20 98%
- c. Disagree 1
- d. Strongly Disagree 1

38. The school community is appropriately apprised of news and scheduled events.

- a. Strongly Agree 75%
- b. Agree 23 98%
- c. Disagree 3
- d. Strongly Disagree 0

39. The school's expectations for student behavior are clear.

- a. Strongly Agree 81%
- b. Agree 18 99%
- c. Disagree 1
- d. Strongly Disagree 0

40. My child and I found the admission process to be welcoming and informative.

- a. Strongly Agree 62%
- b. Agree 35 97%
- c. Disagree 3
- d. Strongly Disagree 0

41. The emphasis on participation in the performing arts is:

- a. Far Too Much 7%
- b. Slightly More Than Desired 9
- c. Appropriate For Grade Level 79
- d. Slightly Less Than Desired 10

42. The emphasis on participation in sports is:

- a. Far Too Much 2%
- b. Slightly More Than Desired 9
- c. Appropriate For Grade Level 79
- d. Slightly Less Than Desired 10

43. The school encourages my child to be a responsible citizen in the community.

- a. Strongly Agree 62%
- b. Agree 37 99%
- c. Disagree 1
- d. Strongly Disagree 0

44. My child is encouraged to think logically and analytically.

- a. Strongly Agree 57%
- b. Agree 42 99%
- c. Disagree 1
- d. Strongly Disagree 0

45. If my child experiences academic difficulty, extra help is readily available.

- a. Strongly Agree 70%
- b. Agree 28 98%
- c. Disagree 1
- d. Strongly Disagree 0

46. The school places an appropriate emphasis on developing leadership qualities in its students.

- a. Strongly Agree 44%
- b. Agree 47 91%
- c. Disagree 8
- d. Strongly Disagree 1

47. Students are carefully educated about Westminster School values.

- a. Strongly Agree 54%
- b. Agree 45 99%
- c. Disagree 1
- d. Strongly Disagree 0

48. Student behavior reflects a commitment to the values of Westminster School.

- a. Strongly Agree 52%
- b. Agree 46 98%
- c. Disagree 2
- d. Strongly Disagree 0

49. My child has found making friends at school:

- a. Very Easy 49%
- b. Relatively Easy 45 94%
- c. Relatively Difficult 5
- d. Very Difficult 1

50. The Business Office clearly communicates parents' financial obligations to the school.

- a. Strongly Agree 59%
- b. Agree 40 99%
- c. Disagree 1
- d. Strongly Disagree 0

51. The Headmaster provides strong leadership which clearly reflects the school's mission and philosophy.

- a. Strongly Agree 64%
- b. Agree 34 98%
- c. Disagree 1
- d. Strongly Disagree 1

52. As a new parent, I felt welcomed into the school community.

- a. Strongly Agree 41%
- b. Agree 49 90%
- c. Disagree 8
- d. Strongly Disagree 1

53. Field trips are a valuable part of the overall program.

- a. Strongly Agree 84%
- b. Agree 16 100%
- c. Disagree 0
- d. Strongly Disagree 0

54. Special programs (assemblies, demonstrations, presentations) are worthwhile.

- a. Strongly Agree 53%
- b. Agree 43 96%
- c. Disagree 3
- d. Strongly Disagree 0

55. Overall, I am satisfied with my child's experience at Westminster School.

- a. Strongly Agree 70%
- b. Agree 29 99%
- c. Disagree 1
- d. Strongly Disagree 0

Only for parents with children in grades 5th – 8th:

56. Rules and regulations for athletes are clearly explained and fairly administered:

- a. Strongly Agree 56%
- b. Agree 41 97%
- c. Disagree 1
- d. Strongly Disagree 1

58. The number of athletic contests and lengths of practices are appropriate.

- a. Strongly Agree 29%
- b. Agree 54 83%
- c. Disagree 13
- d. Strongly Disagree 4

57. Teachers and coaches work to maintain a balance between academics and sports.

- a. Strongly Agree 44%
- b. Agree 50 94%
- c. Disagree 6
- d. Strongly Disagree 0

Only for parents with children in grades 7th – 8th:

58. Builders Club, the volunteer service program for grades 7/8, fosters a genuine and active appreciation for community service.

- a. Strongly Agree 66%
- b. Agree 32 98%
- c. Disagree 2
- d. Strongly Disagree 0

59. The school offers guidance in selecting and applying to appropriate high schools for its graduating students.

- a. Strongly Agree 52%
- b. Agree 46 98%
- c. Disagree 2
- d. Strongly Disagree 0