

Transitions in School Life

SPRING QUESTIONNAIRE

Parent Survey - Wave 2

Please fill in your name, your relationship to your child (mother, father, etc.),
your child's math teacher and school.

V4001=CASE

4002=HH

4003=CLAS

4004=TECHR

4005=SCHOOL

4006=VSTRCT

4007=DATA

4008=WAVE

1:01
CODE=1
1:02-23
CODE=10
1:24
BLANK

Child's name _____

Parent or Guardian's name _____
(Please print both first and last name.)

V4009 Relationship to child:

- ___ 01) mother
- ___ 02) father
- ___ 03) stepmother
- ___ 04) stepfather
- ___ 05) other: _____

1:25-26

Child's Math Teacher _____

Child's School _____

V4011 V4011

1:27-30

Please do not return unused questionnaires to us.

Math

We would like your opinions on several different areas in your child's life. In this first section we will be asking your views on your child's skills in math and his/her attitudes toward math. This section is similar to the last survey because we are trying to look at changes in attitudes and behavior over time. Please answer each question by circling the number that best corresponds to your attitude or opinion.

1) In general I believe that my child is

not at all good at math 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 very good at math

2) My child finds math

very easy 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 very hard

3) My child finds math

very boring 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 very interesting

4) How important is it to you that your child do well in math?

not at all important 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 very important

5) How well is your child doing in math this year?

not at all well 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 very well

6) Do you believe that your child is presently doing as well as s/he could do in math?

not as well as possible 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 as well as possible

7) What is the lowest grade or evaluation your child could get in math that you would be satisfied with?

1:37-38 _____
1:39-40 _____

8) What grade in math do you expect your child to get this term? _____

9) How upset would you be if your child got a low grade or evaluation in math?

not at all upset 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 very upset

10) I feel that it is important for my child to do better in math than other children in his/her classroom.

strongly disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 strongly agree

11) How well do you think your child will do in math next year?

not at all well 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 very well

12) To do well in math, my child has to try

a little 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 a lot

13) How much will your child have to try in order to do well in future math courses?

a little 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 a lot

Some people have proposed that a person's sex influences course selection and success in math achievement. We would like to find out your opinions on this matter.

14) In general, how would you compare females and males in math? (Check one answer)

- 1) females are much better in math than males
2) females are somewhat better in math than males
3) females and males do equally well in math
4) males are somewhat better in math than females
5) males are much better in math than females

15) In general, who do you believe finds math more useful in their adult lives?

- 1) females find math much more useful than do males
2) females find math a little more useful than do males
3) males and females find math equally useful
4) males find math a little more useful than do females
5) males find math much more useful than do females

16) In general, to whom do you believe math is more important? (Check one answer.)

- 1) Math is much more important to females than males.
2) Math is somewhat more important to females than males.
3) Math is equally important to females and males.
4) Math is somewhat more important to males than females.
5) Math is much more important to males than females.

17) Think about a time when your child did well in math. It may have been a time when s/he did better than some other children or it may have been a time when s/he did better than s/he usually does. Here is a list of reasons that parents often give to explain why their child did well in math. How important was each reason for why your child did well? (Use the scale below to rate each item.)

not at all important 1 2 3 4 5 6 very important 7

- V4r27 a) My child did well in math because s/he is talented in math. 1:50
- V4r28 b) My child did well in math because s/he had been working very hard in math. 1:51
- V4r29 c) My child did well in math because his/her teacher had helped him/her. 1:52
- V4r30 d) My child did well in math because I had helped him/her. 1:53
- V4r31 e) My child did well in math because the math work had been easy. 1:54
- V4r32 f) My child did well in math because s/he had learned good math skills. 1:55

18) When your child is doing well in math, do you think about any of the above reasons for why s/he is doing well?

V4r34 1) yes 2) no

19) Think about a time when your child did not do well in math. It may have been a time when s/he did worse than some other children or it may have been a time when s/he did worse than s/he usually does. Here is a list of reasons that parents often give to explain why their child did not do well in math. How important was each reason for why your child did not do well? (Use the scale below to rate each item.)

not at all important 1 2 3 4 5 6 very important 7

- V4r35 a) My child did not do well in math because s/he is not very talented in math. 1:57
 - V4r36 b) My child did not do well in math because s/he had not been working very hard in math. 1:58
 - V4r37 c) My child did not do well in math because his/her teacher had not helped him/her enough. 1:59
 - V4r38 d) My child did not do well in math because I had not helped him/her enough. 1:60
 - V4r39 e) My child did not do well in math because the math work had been too difficult. 1:61
 - V4r40 f) My child did not do well in math because s/he had not learned good math skills. 1:62
- 20) When your child is not doing well in math, do you think about any of the above reasons for why s/he is not doing well? _____ 1) yes _____ 2) no 1:63

21) How successful do you think your child would be in a career requiring math ability?

not at all successful 1 2 3 4 5 6 very successful 7

How we would like to ask you some questions about your child's math classroom. Sometimes schools or teachers group students together in math according to how good they are in math. This is called ability grouping. Sometimes schools or teachers do not use ability grouping at all. The following questions ask about ability grouping in your child's classroom.

If your child is not in an ability grouped classroom in math, or if you don't know if your child is grouped, please continue with the section titled "English" on page 5.

22) Which math group is your child in? (Check one answer.) 1:65

V4r43 1) high ability group 2) average ability group
3) low ability group 4) other, explain: _____

23) How well do you think your child's current math group matches his/her math ability and needs? 1:66

not at all well 1 2 3 4 5 6 very well 7

24) How has placement in this math group changed your confidence in his/her math ability? 1:67

V4r45 decreased my confidence 1 2 3 4 5 6 increased my confidence 7

25) If you were unhappy with the math group that your child is in, how much influence do you think you could have in changing this decision? 1:68

V4r46 none at all 1 2 3 4 5 6 a lot 7

26) How much do you think being in this particular math group will affect the courses your child can choose in the next few years? 1:69

V4r47 1) limits his/her choices
2) has no effect on his/her choices
3) increase his/her choices

In this section we will be asking your views on your child's skills in English and his/her attitudes toward English. By English we mean reading, writing, spelling, and grammar. Please answer each question by circling the number that best corresponds to your attitude or opinion.

2:24
BLANK
2:25

9) How well do you think your child will do in English next year?
not at all well 1 2 3 4 5 6 very well

10) To do well in English, my child has to try
a little 1 2 3 4 5 6 a lot

11) If your child worked harder at English, how much would his/her performance in English change?
a little 1 2 3 4 5 6 a lot

12) Do you let your child know what you think about his/her ability in these subjects?
rarely 1 2 3 4 5 6 very often

13) How much does your opinion about your child's ability in English matter to your child?
a little 1 2 3 4 5 6 a lot

14) How much can you do to insure that your child achieves at a high level in English?
a little 1 2 3 4 5 6 a lot

15) How successful do you think your child would be in a career requiring ability in English?
not at all successful 1 2 3 4 5 6 very successful

1) In general I believe that my child is
not at all good at English 1 2 3 4 5 6 very good at English

2) My child finds English
very easy 1 2 3 4 5 6 very hard

3) My child finds English
very boring 1 2 3 4 5 6 very interesting

4) How important is it to you that your child do well in English?
not at all important 1 2 3 4 5 6 very important

5) How well is your child doing in English this year?
not at all well 1 2 3 4 5 6 very well

6) What is the lowest grade or evaluation your child could get in English that you would be satisfied with?

7) What grade in English do you expect your child to get this term? _____

8) I feel that it is important for my child to do better in English than other children in his/her classroom.
strongly disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 strongly agree

Please remember, by English we mean reading, writing, spelling, and grammar.



16) Think about a time when your child did well in English. It may have been a time when s/he did better than some other children or it may have been a time when s/he did better than s/he usually does. Here is a list of reasons that parents often give to explain why their child did well in English. How important was each reason for why your child did well? (Use the scale below to rate each item.)

- not at all important 1 2 3 4 5 6 very important 7
 - V4462 a) My child did well in English because s/he is talented in English. 2:32
 - V4464 b) My child did well in English because s/he had been working very hard in English. 2:33
 - V4465 c) My child did well in English because his/her teacher had helped him/her. 2:34
 - V4466 d) My child did well in English because I had helped him/her. 2:35
 - V4467 e) My child did well in English because the English work had been easy. 2:36
 - V4468 f) My child did well in English because s/he had learned good English skills. 2:37
- 17) When your child is doing well in English, do you think about any of the above reasons for why s/he is doing well? _____ 1) yes _____ 2) no 2:38
- 18) Think about a time when your child did not do well in English. It may have been a time when s/he did worse than some other children or it may have been a time when s/he did worse than s/he usually does. Here is a list of reasons that parents often give to explain why their child did not do well in English. How important was each reason for why your child did not do well? (Use the scale below to rate each item.)

- not at all important 1 2 3 4 5 6 very important 7
 - V4470 a) My child did not do well in English because s/he is not very talented in English. 2:39
 - V4471 b) My child did not do well in English because s/he had not been working very hard in English. 2:40
 - V4472 c) My child did not do well in English because his/her teacher had not helped him/her enough. 2:41
 - V4473 d) My child did not do well in English because I had not helped him/her enough. 2:42
 - V4474 e) My child did not do well in English because the English work had been too difficult. 2:43
 - V4475 f) My child did not do well in English because s/he had not learned good English skills. 2:44
- 19) When your child is not doing well in English, do you think about any of the above reasons for why s/he is not doing well? _____ 1) yes _____ 2) no 2:45

Making Friends

In this section we are asking for your views on the social area in your child's life. We are particularly interested in his/her skill at making friends. Please circle the number that best corresponds to your attitude or opinion.

- 1) In general how good is your child at making friends?
 - not at all good 1 2 3 4 5 6 very good 7
 - V4477 2:46
- 2) My child finds making friends
 - very easy 1 2 3 4 5 6 very hard 7
 - V4478 2:47
- 3) How important is it to you that your child be good at making friends?
 - not at all important 1 2 3 4 5 6 very important 7
 - V4479 2:48
- 4) To make friends, my child has to try
 - a little 1 2 3 4 5 6 a lot 7
 - V4480 2:49
- 5) If your child tried harder, how much better would s/he be at making friends?
 - a little better 1 2 3 4 5 6 a lot better 7
 - V4481 2:50
- 6) In general, how would you compare females and males at making friends? (Check one answer.)
 - 1) females are much better at making friends than males
 - 2) females are somewhat better at making friends than males
 - 3) females and males do equally well at making friends
 - 4) males are somewhat better at making friends than females
 - 5) males are much better at making friends than females
 - V4482 2:52
- 7) In general, who do you believe finds having friends more useful in their adult lives? (Check one answer.)
 - 1) females find having friends much more useful than males
 - 2) females find having friends somewhat more useful than males
 - 3) females and males find having friends equally useful
 - 4) males find having friends somewhat more useful than females
 - 5) males find having friends much more useful than females
 - V4483 2:53

8) In general, to whom are friends more important? (Check one answer.)

- 1) friends are much more important to females than to males
- 2) friends are somewhat more important to females than to males
- 3) friends are equally important to females and to males
- 4) friends are somewhat more important to males than to females
- 5) friends are much more important to males than to females

2:54

9) How concerned is your child about his/her appearance?

very little 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 very much

2:55

10) How popular is your child in school?

not at all popular 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 very popular

2:56

11) How important is it to you that your child be popular?

not at all important 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 very important

2:57

12) How successful do you think your child would be in a career that required getting along with a lot of people?

not at all successful 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 very successful

2:58

13) How important is it for your child to spend time making him/herself attractive?

not at all important 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 very important

2:59

14) How often do you let your child know what you think of his/her appearance?

rarely 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 very often

2:60

15) How often do you encourage your child to go to dances or parties where there are both boys and girls present?

never 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 very often

2:61

16) How important is it to you that your child spend time with members of the opposite sex?

not at all important 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 very important

2:62

17) How often do you encourage your child to go out with a member of the opposite sex alone?

never 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 very often

2:63

Sports

In this section we are asking for your views on your child's skill in sports and attitudes toward sports. Please circle the number that best corresponds to your attitude or opinion.

1) In general how good is your child in sports?

not at all good 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 very good

2:64

2) My child finds sports

very easy 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 very hard

2:65

3) How important is it to you that your child do well in sports?

not at all important 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 very important

2:66

4) To do well in sports, my child has to try

a little 1 2 3 4 5 6 a lot

2:67

5) Which hand does your child use when (Check one answer for each item.)

a) writing a letter? 1) right hand 2) left hand 3) either hand

2:68

b) throwing a ball? 1) right hand 2) left hand 3) either hand

2:69

c) eating with a fork? 1) right hand 2) left hand 3) either hand

2:70

d) brushing his/her teeth? 1) right hand 2) left hand 3) either hand

2:71

General Comparisons

1) There are times that you and your child do things together. There are also times when you and your child are doing different things, even though you are both in the same place. In other words, you and your child are not doing something together, but if your child needs you, you are available and can either hear his/her voice or see him/her.

a.) On the average, how much time do you spend each week doing something together with your child? (for example, talking, eating together, playing games, or going on outings.)

b.) On the average, how much time are you available each week to your child, even though you are doing different things? (for example, you are reading the paper while your child watches TV.)

2) Have you done any of the following things in the last year? (Use the scale below to rate each item.)

Never 1 2 3 Regularly 4

V4104 a) Become involved in school activities (e.g., PTO/PTA, classroom parent, chaperoning, classroom aide)

V4105 b) Led a young adults' group (e.g. Girl or Boy Scouts, or church youth groups)

V4106 c) Coached a team with your child on it

V4107 d) Played sports with your child

V4108 e) Attended sporting events with your child

V4109 f) Bought sports equipment or sports magazines for your child

V4110 g) Provided music, art, or dance lessons for your child

V4111 h) Bought music, art, or dance supplies or magazines for your child

V4112 i) Gone to museums, plays, or concerts with your child

V4113 j) Gone to the library with your child

V4114 k) Encouraged your child to have friends come over

V4115 l) Bought books for your child

V4116 m) Talked to your child about the importance of looking good

3) How much emphasis is placed on math in your child's school curriculum?

too little 1 2 3 4 5 6 too much 7

3:01
CODE=3
3:02-23
CODE=10

3:24
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3:25-28

3:29-32

3:33

3:34

3:35

3:36

3:37

3:38

3:39

3:40

3:41

3:42

3:43

3:44

3:45

3:46

4) How much emphasis is placed on English in your child's school curriculum?

too little 1 2 3 4 5 6 too much 7

5) How much do social interests interfere with your child's achievement in school?

not at all 1 2 3 4 5 6 very much 7

6) How much does participation in sports interfere with your child's achievement in school?

not at all 1 2 3 4 5 6 very much 7

7) How much do you think your child is "turned off" to school?

not at all 1 2 3 4 5 6 very much 7

Family Attitudes

In this section we are asking for your views about your relationship with your child and family decision-making. Please use the scale below to rate each item.

never true 1 2 3 4 usually true 5 6 always true 7

V4122 1) I want my child to follow my directions even if s/he disagrees with my reasons.

V4123 2) I worry that my child is up to something I won't like.

V4124 3) My child has to ask my permission to do most things.

V4125 4) I trust my child to do what I expect without checking up on her/him.

V4126 5) I do not like my child to disagree with me if my friends are around.

V4127 6) My child does not know why s/he is supposed to do what I tell her/him to do.

V4128 7) My child counts on me to solve many of his/her problems.

V4129 8) My child often argues with me about my rules and decisions for him/her.

V4130 9) I treat my child like s/he is a mature person.

V4131 10) I encourage my child to give his/her ideas and opinions even if we might disagree.

3:47

3:48

3:49
BLANK

3:50

3:51

3:52

3:53

3:54

3:55

3:56

3:57

3:58

3:59

3:60

3:61

11) In general, how do you and your child arrive at decisions? (Check one answer.)
1) I tell my child just what to do.
2) I ask my child how s/he feels and then I decide.
3) I tell my child how I feel and then s/he decides.
4) I usually let my child decide.

3:62

12) How should most decisions be made in your family? (Check one answer.)
1) I should tell my child just what to do.
2) I should ask my child how s/he feels and then I should decide.
3) I should tell my child how I feel and then s/he should decide.
4) I should let my child decide.

V4143

4:26

13) How often does your child take part in making family decisions that concern her/himself? (Check one answer.)
1) never 2) seldom 3) often 4) always

3:64

14) How often should your child take part in making family decisions that concern her/himself? (Check one answer.)
1) never 2) seldom 3) often 4) always

3:65

15) As a parent of this child would you say you are: (Check one answer.)
1) very strict 2) strict 3) a little strict 4) not at all strict

3:66

Adolescence

As children enter puberty they exhibit a variety of physical and emotional changes. We are interested in knowing about how physically mature your child is. Based upon your knowledge of physical changes in your child's development, please answer the following questions. This section is almost the same as the last survey because we are trying to pinpoint the transition into puberty so that we can compare it to changes in attitudes and behavior. Please answer the questions again, even if there has been little change for your child.

1) Would you say that your child has entered puberty yet? 1) yes 2) no

3:67

2) How tall is your child? 44 1/2 ft. 4 3/4 in.

3:68-72

3) How much has s/he grown during the last 6 months? _____ inches

3:73-76

4) How much does your child weigh? _____ lbs.

3:77-79

5) One of the signs of puberty is a sudden growth spurt, for example, a child suddenly outgrows his/her pants or shirts. Has your child had such a growth spurt in the last 6 months? 1) yes 2) no

V4147

6) For parents whose daughters are in this study:

a) Has your daughter begun to menstruate? 1) yes 2) no

V4144

4:27-28

b) If yes, about how long ago did this event occur? _____ months

3:63

7) Listed below are some other bodily changes that occur in boys and girls during puberty. Please check those which currently apply to your child in this study.

Boys

Girls

a) Hair becoming more oily _____ a) Hair becoming more oily

V4145

4:29

b) Appearance of skin blemishes _____ b) Appearance of skin blemishes

V4146

4:30

c) Noticeable change in voice tone (breaking of the voice) in the last 6 months _____ c) Appearance of "breast buds" (earliest signs of breast development)

V4147

4:31

d) Noticeable increase in muscle strength in the last 6 months _____ d) Evidence of breast development beyond the "breast bud" stage

V4148

4:32

e) Appearance of pubic hair _____ e) Appearance of pubic hair

V4149

4:33

f) None of these _____ f) None of these

8) My child is even-tempered and not moody.

V4150

4:34

9) My child gives up when faced with a difficult problem or situation.

V4151

4:35

10) My child keeps to him/herself or tends to withdraw.

V4152

4:36

11) Is your child nearsighted (in other words, can s/he see things that are close to him/her, but not see things that are far away)? 1) yes 2) no

V4153

4:37

12) Does your child suffer from allergies or asthma? 1) yes 2) no

V4154

4:38

Please continue on the back.

Background Information

- 1) What is your child's date of birth? Month VH45 Day VH45 Year VH45 4:39-44
- 2) Is your child a 1) female 2) male 4:45
- 3) Are you a 1) female 2) male 4:46
- 4) What is your current marital status? 4:47
- 1) never married
 - 2) married
 - 3) remarried
 - 4) living with partner
 - 5) divorced
 - 6) widowed
 - 7) separated

Thank you for the time and interest you have shown in our questionnaires. So that we may improve our questions in the future, we would greatly appreciate it if you could write below any questions which you found to be either unclear or objectionable.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP!

