

# PARENT/GUARDIAN SURVEY 2012-2013: ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Combined results of the May 2013 survey for the six elementary schools

*Ridgewood Public Schools*

*Dear Parent or Guardian,*

One goal of the Board of Education is to survey the district's parents and guardians each year, alternating a comprehensive satisfaction survey with a brief survey on a singular topic. This May the school district asked its parents and guardians to fill out a comprehensive survey on topics related to their children's schools and education. The results of the survey for the district's six elementary schools are presented here.

The results present an important snapshot that the Board of Education hopes will contribute to a dialogue among all members of the school community and act as a resource for making your school and the district the best possible.

Thank you to all who took the time to complete the survey. We hope you enjoy reading the report and appreciate your feedback.

The Ridgewood Board of Education  
*Sheila Brogan, President; Vincent Loncto, Vice President; Christina Krauss; Michele Lenhard; James Morgan*

Superintendent of Schools  
*Daniel Fishbein*

#### **How was the survey conducted?**

The survey was conducted via e-mail from May 13-24, 2013. Using SurveyMonkey software, e-mail invitations with private links were sent to all parent/guardian e-mail addresses on file with the district. Survey respondents participated on a secure survey website, and only one response was allowed for each e-mail address. The survey was completely anonymous.

Numerical data were compiled and charts were created using SurveyMonkey. District data were compiled from the individual school surveys by members of the Ridgewood Public Schools Information Technology Department. The superintendent, administrators and school board members reviewed the data and all comments.

#### **How many elementary school parents and guardians participated in the 2012-2013 survey?**

As of 5.31.13	# Enrolled Students	# Valid E-mails on File	# Survey Responses	Participation Rate
Elementary Schools	2643	3256	1230	37.6%

#### **How will these survey results be used?**

The data in this report reflect survey results for the elementary schools. District and individual school survey results have been provided to each principal, as well as the central administration and the Ridgewood Board of Education. The data will be used as one of several resources for the ongoing review and refinement of the programs of the Ridgewood Public Schools.

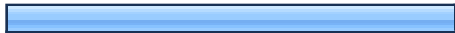




## 2012-2013 Parent / Guardian Survey: Elementary Schools



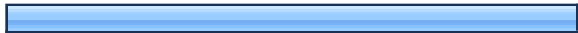




1. Our records show that your child attends a Ridgewood elementary school. The questions in this survey should be answered with this school in mind, for your youngest child attending this school. Which elementary school does your child attend?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Hawes School		15.9%	196
Orchard School		12.5%	154
Ridge School		17.2%	212
<b>Somerville School</b>		<b>19.8%</b>	<b>243</b>
Travell School		15.4%	190
Willard School		19.1%	235
		<b>answered question</b>	<b>1,230</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>	<b>0</b>

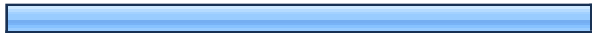




## 2. I am satisfied with the overall quality of my child's education.

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree		39.1%	464
<b>Agree</b>		<b>51.9%</b>	<b>615</b>
Neither Agree nor Disagree		5.6%	67
Disagree		2.4%	29
Strongly Disagree		0.9%	11
		<b>answered question</b>	<b>1,186</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>	<b>44</b>

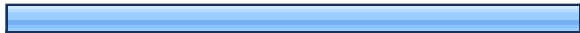




### 3. My child likes going to school.

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree		49.7%	589
Agree		41.7%	495
Neither Agree nor Disagree		5.4%	64
Disagree		2.6%	31
Strongly Disagree		0.6%	7
		<b>answered question</b>	<b>1,186</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>	<b>44</b>

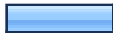




#### 4. I would recommend my child's school to other parents.

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree		50.9%	604
Agree		40.1%	475
Neither Agree nor Disagree		6.7%	79
Disagree		1.7%	20
Strongly Disagree		0.7%	8
		<b>answered question</b>	<b>1,186</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>	<b>44</b>

## 5. I feel welcome in my child's school.

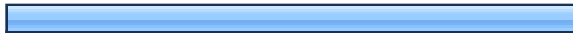




		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree		50.1%	594
Agree		38.0%	451
Neither Agree nor Disagree		8.0%	95
Disagree		3.0%	35
Strongly Disagree		0.9%	11
		<b>answered question</b>	<b>1,186</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>	<b>44</b>

**6. I would like to be more involved in my child's school.**

		<b>Response Percent</b>	<b>Response Count</b>
Strongly Agree		9.0%	107
Agree		33.1%	392
<b>Neither Agree nor Disagree</b>		<b>49.2%</b>	<b>584</b>
Disagree		8.1%	96
Strongly Disagree		0.6%	7
		<b>answered question</b>	<b>1,186</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>	<b>44</b>



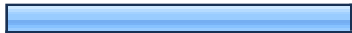




## 7. My child feels safe at school.

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree		49.6%	588
Agree		46.0%	546
Neither Agree nor Disagree		3.3%	39
Disagree		0.7%	8
Strongly Disagree		0.4%	5
		<b>answered question</b>	<b>1,186</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>	<b>44</b>

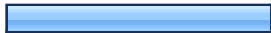




**8. The district has programs and activities in place at each school level that are designed to foster respect and discourage harassment, intimidation and bullying (HIB). Examples of these programs include daily announcements, school assemblies and Open Circle at the elementary school level. Do you agree that these programs have been beneficial and constructive for your child?**

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree		27.6%	327
<b>Agree</b>		<b>49.4%</b>	<b>586</b>
Neither Agree nor Disagree		19.4%	230
Disagree		3.0%	35
Strongly Disagree		0.7%	8
		<b>answered question</b>	<b>1,186</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>	<b>44</b>

**9. I am satisfied with the academic progress of my child.**

		<b>Response Percent</b>	<b>Response Count</b>
Strongly Agree		29.9%	345
<b>Agree</b>		<b>55.9%</b>	<b>645</b>
Neither Agree nor Disagree		8.7%	100
Disagree		4.7%	54
Strongly Disagree		0.8%	9
		<b>answered question</b>	<b>1,153</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>	<b>77</b>

## 10. The academic challenge for my child is appropriate.

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree		22.9%	264
<b>Agree</b>		<b>53.1%</b>	<b>612</b>
Neither Agree nor Disagree		12.3%	142
Disagree		10.1%	116
Strongly Disagree		1.6%	19
		<b>answered question</b>	<b>1,153</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>	<b>77</b>

**11. Please indicate your satisfaction level with the following programs at your child's school.**

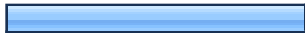




	<b>Very Satisfied</b>	<b>Satisfied</b>	<b>Neither Satisfied nor Unsatisfied</b>	<b>Unsatisfied</b>	<b>Very Unsatisfied</b>	<b>Not Applicable</b>	<b>Rating Count</b>
Language Arts	29.8% (344)	<b>50.2% (579)</b>	10.1% (116)	5.5% (63)	1.4% (16)	3.0% (35)	1,153
Math	27.8% (320)	<b>49.4% (570)</b>	11.6% (134)	8.3% (96)	2.3% (27)	0.5% (6)	1,153
Science (new 12-13)	20.4% (235)	<b>45.9% (529)</b>	18.0% (208)	4.8% (55)	1.0% (12)	9.9% (114)	1,153
Social Studies	20.0% (231)	<b>50.0% (577)</b>	15.9% (183)	3.6% (41)	0.9% (10)	9.6% (111)	1,153
World Languages	9.8% (113)	<b>26.7% (308)</b>	22.5% (259)	17.3% (200)	7.9% (91)	15.8% (182)	1,153
Music and Art	37.8% (436)	<b>51.5% (594)</b>	7.3% (84)	2.2% (25)	0.8% (9)	0.4% (5)	1,153
Health and Wellness	26.6% (307)	<b>54.6% (630)</b>	13.4% (154)	2.2% (25)	0.3% (3)	2.9% (34)	1,153

Please feel free to comment on the K-8 Science program, implemented September 2012.

192

<b>answered question</b>	<b>1,153</b>
<b>skipped question</b>	<b>77</b>

## 12. My child is encouraged to try new things at school.

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree		26.0%	297
<b>Agree</b>		<b>55.0%</b>	<b>628</b>
Neither Agree nor Disagree		15.6%	178
Disagree		2.5%	29
Strongly Disagree		0.8%	9
		<b>answered question</b>	<b>1,141</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>	<b>89</b>

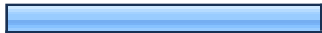

**13. The school gives me ideas and opportunities to help my child do his/her best.**

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree		22.0%	251
<b>Agree</b>		<b>45.1%</b>	<b>515</b>
Neither Agree nor Disagree		23.4%	267
Disagree		8.5%	97
Strongly Disagree		1.0%	11
<b>answered question</b>			<b>1,141</b>
<b>skipped question</b>			<b>89</b>


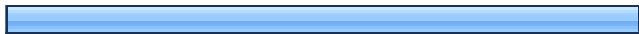



**14. The amount of homework my child receives is:**

		Response Percent	Response Count
Too little		19.4%	221
<b>Just right</b>		<b>73.2%</b>	<b>835</b>
Too much		7.4%	85
<b>answered question</b>			<b>1,141</b>
<b>skipped question</b>			<b>89</b>

**15. I supplement my child's education with professional tutoring in core subjects such as math or reading.**

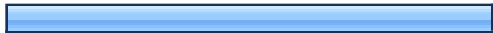




		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		27.3%	311
No		72.7%	830
		<b>answered question</b>	<b>1,141</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>	<b>89</b>

**16. I am satisfied with the quality of the physical spaces at my child's school.**

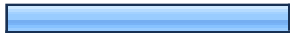




		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree		31.3%	356
Agree		55.1%	627
Neither Agree nor Disagree		8.0%	91
Disagree		4.8%	55
Strongly Disagree		0.7%	8
		<b>answered question</b>	<b>1,137</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>	<b>93</b>



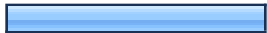




## 17. My child's school is clean and well-maintained.

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree		42.3%	481
<b>Agree</b>		<b>50.8%</b>	<b>578</b>
Neither Agree nor Disagree		4.6%	52
Disagree		1.7%	19
Strongly Disagree		0.6%	7
		<b>answered question</b>	<b>1,137</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>	<b>93</b>

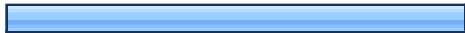




**18. The condition/quality of the school's athletic facilities is acceptable.**

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree		24.5%	279
<b>Agree</b>		<b>53.7%</b>	<b>611</b>
Neither Agree nor Disagree		13.9%	158
Disagree		6.8%	77
Strongly Disagree		1.1%	12
		<b>answered question</b>	<b>1,137</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>	<b>93</b>

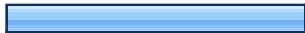




**19. The condition/quality of the school's visual and performing arts spaces is acceptable.**

		<b>Response Percent</b>	<b>Response Count</b>
Strongly Agree		22.3%	254
<b>Agree</b>		<b>55.2%</b>	<b>628</b>
Neither Agree nor Disagree		18.4%	209
Disagree		3.9%	44
Strongly Disagree		0.2%	2
		<b>answered question</b>	<b>1,137</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>	<b>93</b>

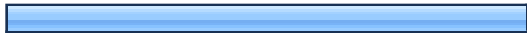




**20. I feel well-informed about the school's programs, services and activities.**

		<b>Response Percent</b>	<b>Response Count</b>
Strongly Agree		40.0%	452
<b>Agree</b>		<b>48.7%</b>	<b>550</b>
Neither Agree nor Disagree		7.2%	81
Disagree		3.7%	42
Strongly Disagree		0.4%	5
		<b>answered question</b>	<b>1,130</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>	<b>100</b>

## 21. The school keeps me informed of my child's progress.

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree		26.0%	294
<b>Agree</b>		<b>53.3%</b>	<b>602</b>
Neither Agree nor Disagree		13.4%	151
Disagree		6.5%	73
Strongly Disagree		0.9%	10
		<b>answered question</b>	<b>1,130</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>	<b>100</b>

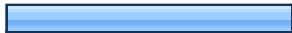




**22. School staff members (teachers/principal) are responsive to my parental concerns.**

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree		45.4%	513
Agree		42.7%	482
Neither Agree nor Disagree		8.5%	96
Disagree		2.7%	31
Strongly Disagree		0.7%	8
		<b>answered question</b>	<b>1,130</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>	<b>100</b>

**23. The district administration and/or Board of Education are responsive to my parental concerns.**







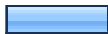




		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree		14.9%	168
Agree		29.2%	330
<b>Neither Agree nor Disagree</b>		<b>51.7%</b>	<b>584</b>
Disagree		3.6%	41
Strongly Disagree		0.6%	7
		<b>answered question</b>	<b>1,130</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>	<b>100</b>

**24. I have sufficient opportunities to express my opinions or concerns regarding my child's school.**

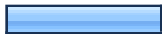




		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree		24.8%	280
<b>Agree</b>		<b>49.5%</b>	<b>559</b>
Neither Agree nor Disagree		20.1%	227
Disagree		4.9%	55
Strongly Disagree		0.8%	9
		<b>answered question</b>	<b>1,130</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>	<b>100</b>





**25. How do you receive most of your school-related information? Check all that apply:**

		<b>Response Percent</b>	<b>Response Count</b>
<b>School-based e-news/publications</b>		<b>88.9%</b>	<b>1,005</b>
School website		54.8%	619
Skyward Information System		37.7%	426
District or school e-blasts/robo calls		32.7%	369
District rps.Enews		10.0%	113
Board meetings		2.7%	30
District website		8.6%	97
District Facebook page		1.7%	19
Print-based newspapers		3.9%	44
Electronic news outlets		3.8%	43
Other (please specify)		6.4%	72
		<b>answered question</b>	<b>1,130</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>	<b>100</b>



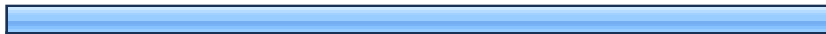
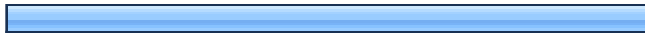



**26. The district website is a useful source for all I need to know about the Ridgewood Public Schools.**

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree		13.3%	150
<b>Agree</b>		<b>47.8%</b>	<b>540</b>
Neither Agree nor Disagree		32.9%	372
Disagree		5.4%	61
Strongly Disagree		0.6%	7
		<b>answered question</b>	<b>1,130</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>	<b>100</b>

**27. Would it be helpful for the district to provide programs on parenting issues?**

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		67.1%	758
No		32.9%	371
		<b>answered question</b>	<b>1,129</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>	<b>101</b>

**28. Please indicate your interest in the following types of programs. Check all that apply:**

		<b>Response Percent</b>	<b>Response Count</b>
District curriculum and programs		58.3%	440
Overscheduling of children		42.3%	319
<b>Parenting in the age of media and technology</b>		<b>71.8%</b>	<b>542</b>
Children's anxiety issues		55.8%	421
Building children's self-esteem		70.3%	531
Helicopter parenting		22.4%	169
School safety and security		38.8%	293
		Other	25
		<b>answered question</b>	<b>755</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>	<b>475</b>

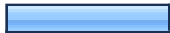




**29. What would be the best way for you to participate in district parental programs? Check all that apply:**

		Response Percent	Response Count
In person at a school or the Education Center		74.3%	561
Online webinar		52.7%	398
	Other (please specify)		12
		<b>answered question</b>	<b>755</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>	<b>475</b>

**30. When would be the best times for you to participate in district programs? Check all that apply:**

		Response Percent	Response Count
Weekday during school hours		38.4%	290
<b>Weekday evenings</b>		<b>69.7%</b>	<b>526</b>
Weekend daytime		18.0%	136
	Other (please specify)		8
		<b>answered question</b>	<b>755</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>	<b>475</b>

**31. I am satisfied with the club and after-school opportunities at my child's elementary school.**

		<b>Response Percent</b>	<b>Response Count</b>
Strongly Agree		14.0%	157
<b>Agree</b>		<b>40.1%</b>	<b>451</b>
Neither Agree nor Disagree		32.3%	363
Disagree		11.2%	126
Strongly Disagree		2.4%	27
		<b>answered question</b>	<b>1,124</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>	<b>106</b>