

Parent Satisfaction Survey

2017 Results Report

Merrill Area Public Schools (MAPS)



Summary of Results for Scaled Survey Data

Merrill Area Public Schools is committed to creating a great place for students to learn, teachers to teach, staff to work, and for parents to send their children to receive a great education. To build on this commitment, the leadership of the school district gathers and analyzes data on essential goals and measures, including: Employee Engagement and Parent Satisfaction. The district's continued journey of excellence using measurable goals, aligned strategic actions, and appropriate progress monitoring measures based on the Evidence-Based LeadershipSM framework began in 2015. The leadership of the district remains focused on data to identify gaps, take action, and follow through to ensure continuous improvement for Merrill Area Public Schools (MAPS).

The Parent Satisfaction Survey was administered to all parents/caregivers with a child in the school district **to assess the level of satisfaction parents have with their child's school**. The survey remained open for one month to provide parents ample time to complete the survey. This report provides an overview of the findings for the 2017 survey administration of the Parent Satisfaction Survey for MAPS.

District Data Summary

The overall district mean for the 2017 survey administration is **3.89**, using a scale of 1 to 5. Table 1 presents the item means and overall means.

Table 1. Overall Mean and Item Means by Survey Administration

	2016 (N=458)	2017 (N=545)
1. My child's learning is a high priority at this school.	4.19	4.11
2. School rules/discipline plans are enforced consistently at this school.	3.85	3.77
3. I regularly receive feedback from school staff on how well my child is learning.	3.70	3.52
4. My family is treated with respect at this school.	4.21	4.18
5. My child has every opportunity to be successful at this school.	4.09	4.00
6. My child has the necessary classroom supplies and equipment for effective learning.	4.24	4.15
7. I would recommend this school to other parents.	4.05	3.95
8. This school provides a safe environment for my child to learn.	4.15	4.09
9. My child is recognized for good work and behavior at this school.	3.96	3.91
10. The school is clean and well maintained.	4.22	4.14
11. The teachers, staff, and administration at this school demonstrate a genuine concern for my child.	4.06	3.96
12. I am proud to say I have a child at this school.	4.09	3.96
13. I receive positive phone calls, notes, or e-mails about my child from the school.	3.48	3.36
14. The principal at this school is approachable and reachable.	4.05	3.90
15. The principal at this school is an effective leader.	4.08	3.86
16. The Superintendent is an effective leader.	3.00	3.60
17. The Superintendent makes decisions that are in the best interest of children and parents of the district.	3.02	3.65
District Overall Mean	3.92	3.89

Item Results

Excluding the superintendent questions, the three highest means are for the following items:

- My family is treated with respect at this school. (4.18)
- My child has the necessary classroom supplies and equipment for effective learning. (4.15)
- The school is clean and well maintained. (4.14)

Excluding the superintendent questions, the lowest means are for items:

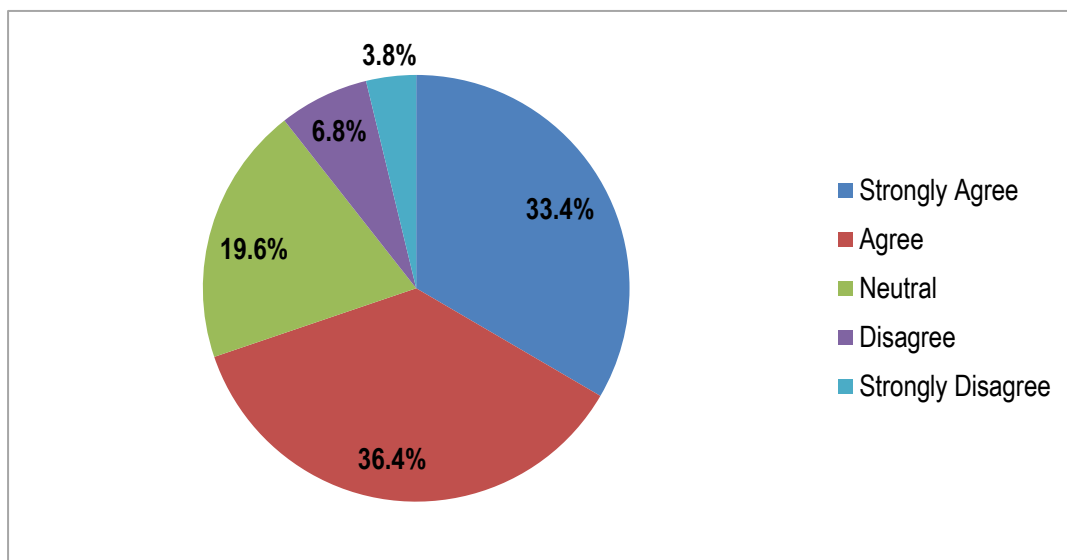
- School rules/discipline plans are enforced consistently at this school. (3.77)
- I regularly receive feedback from school staff on how well my child is learning. (3.52)
- I receive positive phone calls, notes, or emails about my child from the school. (3.36)

The means representing the perceptions of parents about the superintendent's leadership are:

- The Superintendent is an effective leader (3.60); and
- The Superintendent makes decisions that are in the best interest of children and parents of the district (3.65).

Figure 1 below shows the distribution of responses from "Strongly Agree" to "Strongly Disagree" for the 2017 survey administration by percentage.

Figure 1. Response Frequencies by Category



Parents choosing "Strongly Agree" and "Agree" equaled 69.8%, a slight decrease (0.4%) from the prior survey administration. This continues to show favorable engagement, as well as the opportunity for improvement given that the majority of responses are in the "Agree" category and more than 10% of responses are in the "Disagree" and "Strongly Disagree" categories. Table 2 on the following page shows the distribution of responses from "Strongly Agree" to "Strongly Disagree" by survey administration by frequency and percentage.

Table 2. Response Frequencies by Category by Survey Administration

Administration	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
2016	2,947	2,484	1,359	544	397
Percent of Total Responses (N = 7,731)	38.1%	32.1%	17.6%	7.0%	5.1%
2017	3,084	3,356	1,810	629	349
Percent of Total Responses (N = 9,228)	33.4%	36.4%	19.6%	6.8%	3.8%

Note: May not add to 100 due to rounding.

Percentile Benchmark Comparisons

Percentile ranks are used to provide a *normed* comparison for each district's Parent Satisfaction Survey overall mean, and ranges for each item mean. Two benefits of using percentile ranks include:

- (a) a standardized frame of reference for the support characteristic mean / overall mean interpretation, and
- (b) showing where a score, in this case the district's support characteristic means and overall mean, fits within a larger distribution of scores.

The "larger distribution of scores" in this report includes responses from Studer Education partners with students completing the Parent Satisfaction Survey across all survey administrations through Spring 2016. Using Monte Carlo simulation, the survey administration data are used to generate a dataset with 100,000 districts. The simulated dataset is based on the mean and standard deviation of the actual dataset, but has enough cases to smooth out the curve. The simulated dataset is used to calculate the percentile ranks.

- ▼ Merrill's overall mean of 3.89 ranks in the 9th percentile of all benchmark districts' satisfaction means.

Appendix 2 includes a table of ranges for percentile ranks for each item in the Parent Satisfaction survey for district comparison.

School Results

On the following page, Table 3 provides the number of respondents for individual schools by survey administration and Table 4 provides the overall means for each school by survey administration. Appendix 1 begins on page 5 and includes the overall mean and item mean for each school.

Table 3. Number of Respondents by School by Survey Administration

School	2016 n	2017 n
BRIDGES Virtual Academy	100	121
Jefferson Elementary School	50	38
Kate Goodrich Elementary School	35	35
Maple Grove Elementary School	8	13
Merrill High School	116	173
Pine River Head Start and Early Childhood	57	18
Prairie River Middle School	52	102
Washington Elementary School	40	45
Total	459	545

Note: 2016: Missing / No School Selected = 1

Table 4. Overall Mean by School by Survey Administration

School	2016 Mean	2017 Mean
BRIDGES Virtual Academy	4.35	4.37
Jefferson Elementary School	3.89	3.96
Kate Goodrich Elementary School	3.96	3.80
Maple Grove Elementary School	4.26	4.36
Merrill High School	3.19	3.47
Pine River Head Start and Early Childhood	4.78	4.65
Prairie River Middle School	3.64	3.82
Washington Elementary School	3.97	3.93
Overall Mean	3.92	3.89

Appendix 1

Overall Mean and Item Means by School

(Means provided for schools with greater than 5 responses)

	2016	2017
1. My child's learning is a high priority at this school.	4.59	4.68
2. School rules/discipline plans are enforced consistently at this school.	4.16	4.23
3. I regularly receive feedback from school staff on how well my child is learning.	4.27	4.31
4. My family is treated with respect at this school.	4.62	4.65
5. My child has every opportunity to be successful at this school.	4.63	4.52
6. My child has the necessary classroom supplies and equipment for effective learning.	4.58	4.47
7. I would recommend this school to other parents.	4.61	4.55
8. This school provides a safe environment for my child to learn.	4.66	4.58
9. My child is recognized for good work and behavior at this school.	4.21	4.33
10. The school is clean and well maintained.	3.91	3.95
11. The teachers, staff, and administration at this school demonstrate a genuine concern for my child.	4.54	4.60
12. I am proud to say I have a child at this school.	4.54	4.50
13. I receive positive phone calls, notes, or e-mails about my child from the school.	4.34	4.36
14. The principal at this school is approachable and reachable.	4.13	4.31
15. The principal at this school is an effective leader.	4.29	4.37
16. The Superintendent is an effective leader.	3.87	3.81
17. The Superintendent makes decisions that are in the best interest of children and parents of the district.	3.83	3.95
Mean	4.35	4.37

What is working well in the school district?

What areas in the school district could be improved?

Is there anyone in the school district that you would like to recognize for good work?

Jefferson Elementary School

	2016	2017
1. My child's learning is a high priority at this school.	4.22	4.05
2. School rules/discipline plans are enforced consistently at this school.	3.70	3.21
3. I regularly receive feedback from school staff on how well my child is learning.	3.70	3.76
4. My family is treated with respect at this school.	4.20	4.50
5. My child has every opportunity to be successful at this school.	4.00	3.97
6. My child has the necessary classroom supplies and equipment for effective learning.	4.16	4.34
7. I would recommend this school to other parents.	4.06	3.92
8. This school provides a safe environment for my child to learn.	4.06	3.89
9. My child is recognized for good work and behavior at this school.	4.00	4.24
10. The school is clean and well maintained.	4.31	4.39
11. The teachers, staff, and administration at this school demonstrate a genuine concern for my child.	4.08	4.18
12. I am proud to say I have a child at this school.	4.16	3.95
13. I receive positive phone calls, notes, or e-mails about my child from the school.	3.34	3.53
14. The principal at this school is approachable and reachable.	4.24	4.34
15. The principal at this school is an effective leader.	4.22	3.82
16. The Superintendent is an effective leader.	2.83	3.61
17. The Superintendent makes decisions that are in the best interest of children and parents of the district.	2.81	3.68
Mean	3.89	3.96

What is working well in the school district?

What areas in the school district could be improved?

Is there anyone in the school district that you would like to recognize for good work?

Kate Goodrich Elementary School

	2016	2017
1. My child's learning is a high priority at this school.	4.20	3.94
2. School rules/discipline plans are enforced consistently at this school.	4.06	3.74
3. I regularly receive feedback from school staff on how well my child is learning.	3.83	3.66
4. My family is treated with respect at this school.	4.29	4.00
5. My child has every opportunity to be successful at this school.	3.91	3.77
6. My child has the necessary classroom supplies and equipment for effective learning.	4.29	4.20
7. I would recommend this school to other parents.	4.14	3.86
8. This school provides a safe environment for my child to learn.	4.06	4.03
9. My child is recognized for good work and behavior at this school.	4.03	3.89
10. The school is clean and well maintained.	4.54	4.34
11. The teachers, staff, and administration at this school demonstrate a genuine concern for my child.	4.29	3.91
12. I am proud to say I have a child at this school.	4.20	3.89
13. I receive positive phone calls, notes, or e-mails about my child from the school.	3.31	3.14
14. The principal at this school is approachable and reachable.	4.17	3.31
15. The principal at this school is an effective leader.	4.20	3.29
16. The Superintendent is an effective leader.	2.94	3.89
17. The Superintendent makes decisions that are in the best interest of children and parents of the district.	2.86	3.80
Mean	3.96	3.80

What is working well in the school district?

What areas in the school district could be improved?

Is there anyone in the school district that you would like to recognize for good work?

Maple Grove Elementary School

	2016	2017
1. My child's learning is a high priority at this school.	4.13	4.54
2. School rules/discipline plans are enforced consistently at this school.	4.63	4.00
3. I regularly receive feedback from school staff on how well my child is learning.	3.75	3.85
4. My family is treated with respect at this school.	4.38	4.54
5. My child has every opportunity to be successful at this school.	4.25	4.31
6. My child has the necessary classroom supplies and equipment for effective learning.	4.75	4.54
7. I would recommend this school to other parents.	4.63	4.46
8. This school provides a safe environment for my child to learn.	4.75	4.69
9. My child is recognized for good work and behavior at this school.	4.63	4.54
10. The school is clean and well maintained.	4.75	4.62
11. The teachers, staff, and administration at this school demonstrate a genuine concern for my child.	4.63	4.54
12. I am proud to say I have a child at this school.	4.50	4.54
13. I receive positive phone calls, notes, or e-mails about my child from the school.	3.75	4.00
14. The principal at this school is approachable and reachable.	4.25	4.42
15. The principal at this school is an effective leader.	4.00	4.42
16. The Superintendent is an effective leader.	3.38	4.08
17. The Superintendent makes decisions that are in the best interest of children and parents of the district.	3.25	4.08
Mean	4.26	4.36

What is working well in the school district?

What areas in the school district could be improved?

Is there anyone in the school district that you would like to recognize for good work?

Merrill High School

	2016	2017
1. My child's learning is a high priority at this school.	3.53	3.63
2. School rules/discipline plans are enforced consistently at this school.	3.07	3.46
3. I regularly receive feedback from school staff on how well my child is learning.	2.78	2.74
4. My family is treated with respect at this school.	3.50	3.76
5. My child has every opportunity to be successful at this school.	3.44	3.62
6. My child has the necessary classroom supplies and equipment for effective learning.	3.68	3.81
7. I would recommend this school to other parents.	3.15	3.43
8. This school provides a safe environment for my child to learn.	3.51	3.83
9. My child is recognized for good work and behavior at this school.	3.34	3.43
10. The school is clean and well maintained.	4.05	4.14
11. The teachers, staff, and administration at this school demonstrate a genuine concern for my child.	3.17	3.33
12. I am proud to say I have a child at this school.	3.32	3.47
13. I receive positive phone calls, notes, or e-mails about my child from the school.	2.43	2.52
14. The principal at this school is approachable and reachable.	3.42	3.55
15. The principal at this school is an effective leader.	3.42	3.49
16. The Superintendent is an effective leader.	2.23	3.38
17. The Superintendent makes decisions that are in the best interest of children and parents of the district.	2.28	3.40
Mean	3.19	3.47

What is working well in the school district?

What areas in the school district could be improved?

Is there anyone in the school district that you would like to recognize for good work?

Pine River Head Start and Early Childhood

	2016	2017
1. My child's learning is a high priority at this school.	4.86	4.83
2. School rules/discipline plans are enforced consistently at this school.	4.67	4.65
3. I regularly receive feedback from school staff on how well my child is learning.	4.79	4.44
4. My family is treated with respect at this school.	4.89	4.89
5. My child has every opportunity to be successful at this school.	4.86	4.72
6. My child has the necessary classroom supplies and equipment for effective learning.	4.91	4.78
7. I would recommend this school to other parents.	4.91	4.83
8. This school provides a safe environment for my child to learn.	4.86	4.67
9. My child is recognized for good work and behavior at this school.	4.82	4.78
10. The school is clean and well maintained.	4.89	4.89
11. The teachers, staff, and administration at this school demonstrate a genuine concern for my child.	4.95	4.72
12. I am proud to say I have a child at this school.	4.91	4.72
13. I receive positive phone calls, notes, or e-mails about my child from the school.	4.72	4.56
14. The principal at this school is approachable and reachable.	4.86	4.67
15. The principal at this school is an effective leader.	4.82	4.61
16. The Superintendent is an effective leader.	4.22	4.11
17. The Superintendent makes decisions that are in the best interest of children and parents of the district.	4.24	4.17
Mean	4.78	4.65

What is working well in the school district?

What areas in the school district could be improved?

Is there anyone in the school district that you would like to recognize for good work?

Prairie River Middle School

	2016	2017
1. My child's learning is a high priority at this school.	4.00	4.07
2. School rules/discipline plans are enforced consistently at this school.	3.81	3.76
3. I regularly receive feedback from school staff on how well my child is learning.	3.31	3.54
4. My family is treated with respect at this school.	4.06	4.17
5. My child has every opportunity to be successful at this school.	3.83	3.92
6. My child has the necessary classroom supplies and equipment for effective learning.	4.12	4.05
7. I would recommend this school to other parents.	3.81	3.84
8. This school provides a safe environment for my child to learn.	3.81	3.94
9. My child is recognized for good work and behavior at this school.	3.67	3.85
10. The school is clean and well maintained.	4.02	4.00
11. The teachers, staff, and administration at this school demonstrate a genuine concern for my child.	3.77	3.91
12. I am proud to say I have a child at this school.	3.77	3.88
13. I receive positive phone calls, notes, or e-mails about my child from the school.	3.21	3.27
14. The principal at this school is approachable and reachable.	3.85	3.76
15. The principal at this school is an effective leader.	3.90	3.82
16. The Superintendent is an effective leader.	2.36	3.57
17. The Superintendent makes decisions that are in the best interest of children and parents of the district.	2.47	3.56
Mean	3.64	3.82

What is working well in the school district?

What areas in the school district could be improved?

Is there anyone in the school district that you would like to recognize for good work?

Washington Elementary School

	2016	2017
1. My child's learning is a high priority at this school.	4.33	4.27
2. School rules/discipline plans are enforced consistently at this school.	4.08	3.89
3. I regularly receive feedback from school staff on how well my child is learning.	3.83	3.53
4. My family is treated with respect at this school.	4.33	4.09
5. My child has every opportunity to be successful at this school.	4.15	4.04
6. My child has the necessary classroom supplies and equipment for effective learning.	4.23	4.22
7. I would recommend this school to other parents.	4.18	4.16
8. This school provides a safe environment for my child to learn.	4.30	3.96
9. My child is recognized for good work and behavior at this school.	4.05	3.96
10. The school is clean and well maintained.	4.26	4.11
11. The teachers, staff, and administration at this school demonstrate a genuine concern for my child.	4.23	4.16
12. I am proud to say I have a child at this school.	4.23	4.11
13. I receive positive phone calls, notes, or e-mails about my child from the school.	3.25	3.40
14. The principal at this school is approachable and reachable.	4.45	4.02
15. The principal at this school is an effective leader.	4.38	4.00
16. The Superintendent is an effective leader.	2.46	3.44
17. The Superintendent makes decisions that are in the best interest of children and parents of the district.	2.51	3.49
Mean	3.97	3.93

What is working well in the school district?

What areas in the school district could be improved?

Is there anyone in the school district that you would like to recognize for good work?

Appendix 2

Item Mean Percentile Ranges

Percentile Ranges by Item Chart

Percentiles		Item 1	Item 2	Item 3	Item 4	Item 5	Item 6	Item7	Item 8	Item 9	Item 10
	10	4.17	3.78	3.48	4.20	4.00	4.15	3.99	4.09	3.98	4.19
	20	4.25	3.89	3.62	4.26	4.09	4.21	4.08	4.17	4.07	4.25
	30	4.30	3.97	3.71	4.30	4.15	4.26	4.14	4.23	4.13	4.30
	40	4.34	4.04	3.79	4.34	4.21	4.30	4.20	4.27	4.18	4.34
	50	4.38	4.10	3.87	4.37	4.26	4.34	4.25	4.32	4.23	4.38
	60	4.42	4.16	3.95	4.40	4.31	4.38	4.30	4.37	4.28	4.42
	70	4.46	4.23	4.03	4.44	4.36	4.42	4.36	4.41	4.33	4.46
	80	4.51	4.31	4.12	4.48	4.43	4.47	4.42	4.47	4.39	4.51
	90	4.58	4.42	4.25	4.54	4.52	4.53	4.51	4.55	4.47	4.57

Percentiles		Item 11	Item 12	Item 13	Item 14	Item 15	Item 16	Item 17	Overall Mean
	10	4.06	4.01	3.28	3.87	3.81	3.39	3.37	3.90
	20	4.13	4.10	3.43	3.95	3.92	3.53	3.51	3.98
	30	4.18	4.16	3.55	4.01	3.99	3.63	3.62	4.05
	40	4.22	4.22	3.64	4.06	4.05	3.72	3.70	4.10
	50	4.27	4.27	3.73	4.11	4.11	3.81	3.79	4.15
	60	4.31	4.32	3.82	4.16	4.17	3.89	3.87	4.20
	70	4.35	4.38	3.91	4.21	4.23	3.98	3.96	4.25
	80	4.40	4.44	4.03	4.27	4.30	4.09	4.07	4.32
	90	4.48	4.53	4.18	4.35	4.40	4.23	4.21	4.40

Using the Chart: Note from Table 1 in the report that the MAPS overall mean is 3.89. Find the “Overall Mean” column in the table above and locate the means between which the overall mean of 3.89 is located; note that 3.89 does not fall between two means but is closest to “3.90,” the means aligning to the 10th percentile. This means the MAPS overall mean is in the lowest 10th percent of benchmark districts. This is confirmed on page 3 in the statement that the MAPS mean of 3.89 is found in the 9th percentile meaning it is higher than 9% of benchmark districts.