MA Department of Elementary and Secondary Education logo

**Views of Climate and Learning (VOCAL) survey**

**Grade 5**

**DIRECTIONS**This questionnaire asks about what it’s like to be a student in your school. Students helped develop these questions. There are **no right or wrong** answers. Your teachers and principal will **not see your answers**; your answers will be added to those of your classmates. Your school will use these combined answers to better understand what school life is like for students.

When you read each statement, **think about the last 30 days in your school**. Please **answer honestly** so your school knows how you really feel about your school.

**Please ask your test administrator for help if you if you are not sure where or how to mark your answers to these questions. You may also ask for help if you are unable to read a question.**

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|  | | **Think of the last 30 days in school.** | | **Always true** | **Mostly true** | | | **Mostly untrue** | | | **Never true** | | | | |
| 1. | | Teachers support (help) students who come to class upset. | | A | B | | | C | | | D | | | | |
| 2. | | My classwork is hard but not too hard. | | A | B | | | C | | | D | | | | |
| 3. | | I feel safe at our school. | | A | B | | | C | | | D | | | | |
| 4. | | When I am stuck, my teachers want me to try again before they help me. | | A | B | | | C | | | D | | | | |
| 5. | | My teachers care about me as a person. | | A | B | | | C | | | D | | | | |
|  | **Think of the last 30 days in school.** | | **Always true** | | | | **Mostly true** | | **Mostly untrue** | | | **Never true** | | |
| 6. | Teachers give students a chance to explain their behavior when they do something wrong. | | A | | | | B | | C | | | D | | |
| 7. | I have seen **more than one** fight at my school in the last month. | | A | | | | B | | C | | | D | | |
| 8. | Students respect each other in my school. | | A | | | | B | | C | | | D | | |
| 9. | Teachers **don’t** let students tease each other. | | A | | | | B | | C | | | D | | |
| 10. | My teachers are proud of me when I work hard in school. | | A | | | | B | | C | | | D | | |
|  | **Think of the last 30 days in school.** | | **Always true** | | | | **Mostly true** | | **Mostly untrue** | | | **Never true** | |
| 11. | In my school, groups of students tease or pick on one student. | | A | | | | B | | C | | | D | |
| 12. | I get the chance to take part in school events (for example, science fairs, art or music shows). | | A | | | | B | | C | | | D | |
| 13. | School rules are fair for all students. | | A | | | | B | | C | | | D | |
| 14. | Adults working at this school treat **all** students with respect. | | A | | | | B | | C | | | D | |
| 15. | Students help each other learn without having to be asked by the teacher. | | A | | | | B | | C | | | D | |
| 16. | My teachers will explain things in different ways until I understand. | | A | | | | B | | C | | | D | |
|  | **Think of the last 30 days in school.** | | **Always true** | | | **Mostly true** | | | | **Mostly untrue** | | | **Never true** | | | |
| 17. | If I tell a teacher or other adult at school that someone is being bullied, the teacher/adult will do something to help. | | A | | | B | | | | C | | | D | | | |
| 18. | I am happy to be at our school. | | A | | | B | | | | C | | | D | | | |
| 19. | Students have a voice in deciding school rules. | | A | | | B | | | | C | | | D | | | |
| 20. | Students will help other students if they are upset, even if they are not close friends. | | A | | | B | | | | C | | | D | | | |
|  | **Think of the last 30 days in school.** | | **Always true** | | | **Mostly true** | | | | **Mostly untrue** | | | **Never  true** | | | |
| 21. | My teachers use my ideas to help my classmates learn. | | A | | | B | | | | C | | | D | | | |
| 22. | At our school, students learn to care about other students' feelings. | | A | | | B | | | | C | | | D | | | |
| 23. | My teachers ask me to share what I have learned in a lesson. | | A | | | B | | | | C | | | D | | | |
| 24. | Teachers, students, and the principal work together in our school to prevent (stop) bullying. | | A | | | B | | | | C | | | D | | | |
| 25. | Teachers at this school accept me for who I am. | | A | | | B | | | | C | | | D | | | |
| 26. | I feel comfortable talking to my teacher(s) about something that is bothering me. | | A | | | B | | | | C | | | D | | | |
|  | **Think of the last 30 days in school.** | | **Always true** | | | **Mostly true** | | | | **Mostly untrue** | | | **Never  true** | | | |
| 27. | In school, I learn how to manage (control) my feelings when I am angry or upset. | | A | | | B | | | | C | | | D | | | |
| 28. | When I need help, my teachers use my interests to help me learn. | | A | | | B | | | | C | | | D | | | |
| 29. | Students at school try to stop bullying when they see it happening. | | A | | | B | | | | C | | | D | | | |
| 30. | My teachers support me even when my work is not my best. | | A | | | B | | | | C | | | D | | | |
|  | **Think of the last 30 days in school.** | | **Always true** | | | **Mostly true** | | | | **Mostly untrue** | | | **Never  true** | | | |
| 31. | In my school, older students scare or pick on younger students. | | A | | | B | | | | C | | | D | | | |
| 32. | When I am home, I like to learn more about the things we are learning in school. | | A | | | B | | | | C | | | D | | | |
| 33. | Students like to have friends who are different from themselves (for example, boys and girls, rich and poor, or classmates of different colors). | | A | | | B | | | | C | | | D | | | |
| 34. | I have been punched or shoved by other students **more than once** in the school or on the playground. | | A | | | B | | | | C | | | D | | | |
| 35. | Students at my school get along well with each other. | | A | | | B | | | | C | | | D | | | |
| 36. | My teachers help me succeed with my schoolwork when I need help. | | A | | | B | | | | C | | | D | | | |
|  | **Think of the last 30 days in school.** | | **Always true** | | | **Mostly true** | | | | **Mostly untrue** | | | **Never  true** | | | |
| 37. | My classmates behave the way my teachers want them to. | | A | | | B | | | | C | | | D | | | |
| 38. | I read books **in class** that include people who are similar to me (for example, we look the same, speak the same, or live in similar neighborhoods). | | A | | | B | | | | C | | | D | | | |
| 39. | In this class, other students take the time to listen to my ideas. | | A | | | B | | | | C | | | D | | | |
| 40. | My teachers will first try to help students who break class rules, instead of punishing them. | | A | | | B | | | | C | | | D | | | |
|  | **Think of the last 30 days in school.** | | **Always true** | | | **Mostly true** | | | | **Mostly untrue** | | | **Never  true** | | | |
| 41. | In my classes, students teach each other how they solved a problem. | | A | | | B | | | | C | | | D | | | |
| 42. | In my classes, it is OK for me to suggest other ways to do my work. | | A | | | B | | | | C | | | D | | | |
| 43. | Students plan and work on group projects that solve real-world (everyday) problems. | | A | | | B | | | | C | | | D | | | |
| 44. | In my classes, students work well together in groups. | | A | | | B | | | | C | | | D | | | |
| 45. | Teachers go over my work with me so I can improve it before it is graded. | | A | | | B | | | | C | | | D | | | |
| 46. | I feel safe sharing my feelings in class. | | A | | | B | | | | C | | | D | | | |

Thank you for sharing your thoughts and views through this student questionnaire. Your information can help your school make classrooms safe and caring, so all students can learn. If you would like to speak with someone about this questionnaire, we encourage you to reach out to a family member and/or guidance counselor, teacher, principal, or other adult in the school.