



# Westport Public Schools Survey Results 2023

Board of Education

*October 19, 2023*

# Agenda




- ✓ Context on our survey program
  - Who did we survey, and about what?
- ✓ Survey Insights
  - Student Survey
  - Teacher/Staff Survey
  - Family Survey
- ✓ Taking Action
  - Elementary Schools
  - Middle Schools
  - High Schools

# Context on Our Survey Program



# Who Responded to Which Survey Topics?



<b><i>Who we surveyed</i></b>	<b>Families</b> 	<b>Students</b> <i>Grades 3-12</i> 	<b>Staff</b> <i>Instructional &amp; Non-instructional Staff</i> 
<b><i>What we asked</i></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• School Climate</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sense of Belonging</li><li>• School Climate</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Belonging</li><li>• School Climate</li></ul>

# Voices We Heard in the Survey



**1415**  
**Families**



**3098**  
**Students**



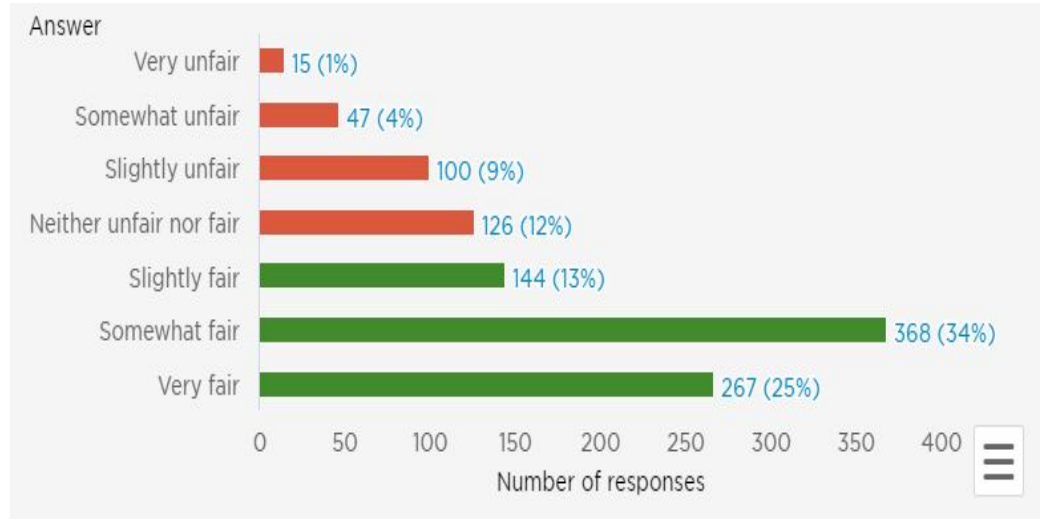
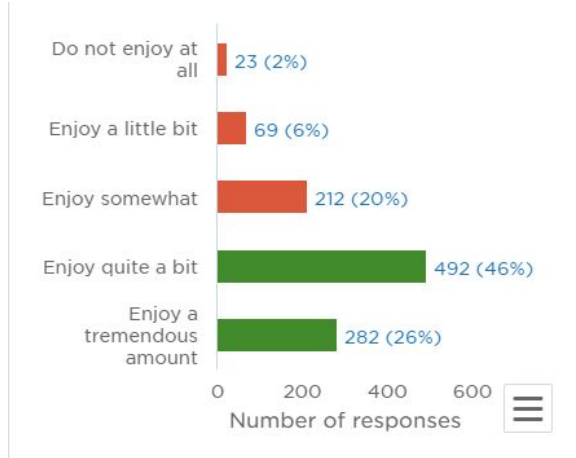
**645**  
**Staff**

A low-angle, blue-tinted photograph of a graduation ceremony. Several graduates in black gowns are visible, some holding rolled-up diplomas. In the upper portion of the frame, several black mortarboards are being tossed into the air. The overall scene is celebratory and captures a key moment in the academic year.

# Westport Public Schools Survey Insights
















# What is “favorable”?

- 5-point and 7-point scale throughout survey questions



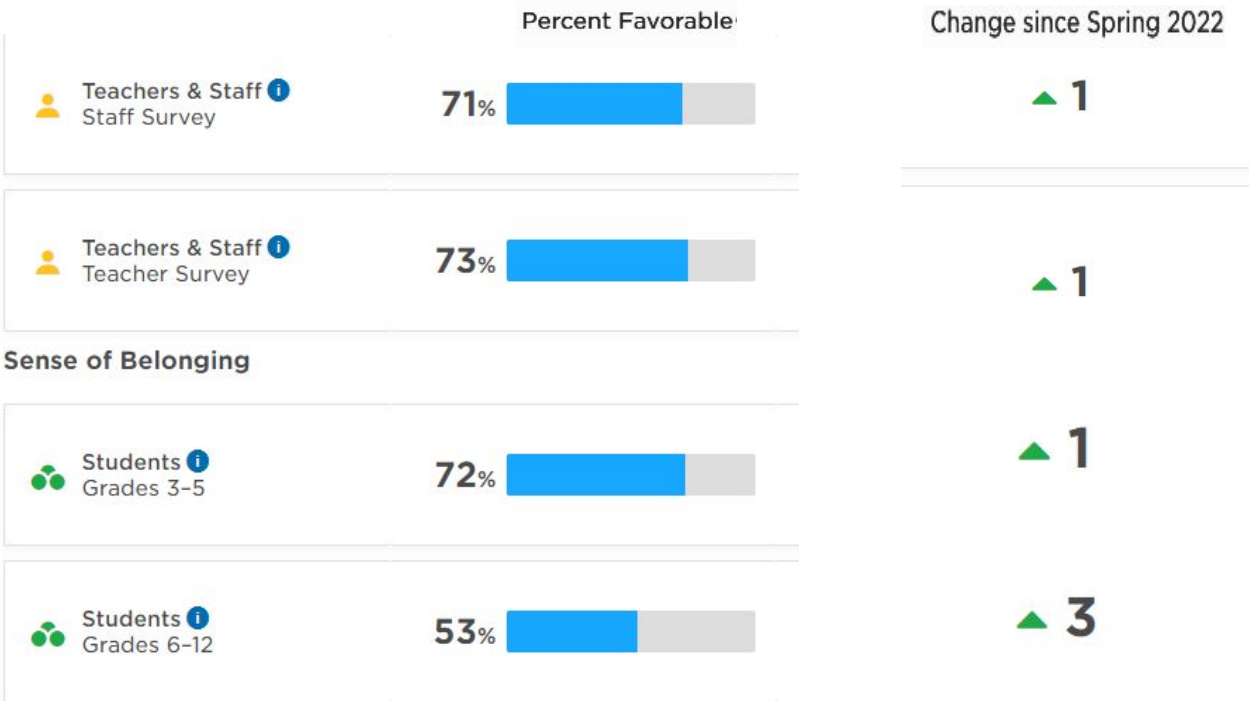


# School Climate - All respondents

School Climate	Percent Favorable	Change since Spring 2022
 Family Members  Family Survey	72% 	▲ 3
 Teachers & Staff  Staff Survey	63% 	▲ 1
 Teachers & Staff  Teacher Survey	59% 	▲ 7
 Students  Grades 3-5	69% 	▼ 1
 Students  Grades 6-12	49% 	▲ 2



# Belonging - All respondents





# Student Insights - Belonging

- The two areas with the largest increase in Belonging were understanding as a person (3-5) and overall belonging (6-12)

Grades  
3-5

QUESTION  
➤ How well do people at your school understand you as a person?

**73%** ⓘ  
responded favorably

▲ **4**  
from Spring 2022

Grades  
6-12

QUESTION  
✓ Overall, how much do you feel like you belong at your school?

**66%** ⓘ  
responded favorably

▲ **5**  
from Spring 2022



# Teacher/Staff Insights - Belonging

- Staff and Teachers showed the largest increases in how much they matter to others and connected they are to others in school.

Staff

QUESTION



How much do you matter to others at your school?

**65%**

responded favorably

**5**

from Spring 2022

Teachers

QUESTION



How connected do you feel to other adults at your school?

**67%**

responded favorably

**6**

from Spring 2022



# Student Insights - School Climate

- Students in grades 3-5 showed a slight increase in their response to the positive energy of the school, and students in grades 6-12 indicated teachers are more excited to teach their classes.

Grades  
3-5

QUESTION  
➤ How positive or negative is the energy of the school?

**82%** ⓘ  
responded  
favorably

▲ **1**  
from Spring  
2022

Grades  
6-12

QUESTION  
➤ How often do your teachers seem excited to be teaching your classes?

**52%** ⓘ  
responded  
favorably

▲ **4**  
from Spring  
2022



# Teacher/Staff Insights - School Climate

- Staff indicated an increased sense of trust to do their work and Teachers showed a significant increase in the positivity of the work environment.

Staff

QUESTION



To what extent are staff trusted to work in the way they think is best?

**75%**   
responded  
favorably

 **5**  
from Spring  
2022

Teachers

QUESTION



Overall, how positive is the working environment at your school?

**65%**   
responded  
favorably

 **14**  
from Spring  
2022



# Family Insights - School Climate

Two greatest areas of improvement from 2022:

QUESTION



How much does the school value the diversity of children's backgrounds?

**64%**   
responded favorably

 **5**  
from Spring 2022

QUESTION



How fair or unfair is the school's system of evaluating children?

**75%**   
responded favorably

 **9**  
from Spring 2022





# Student Open Responses - Grades 6-12

What are two things that this school could do to improve? Please be as specific as possible. ?

Word cloud for school improvements including: friends, options, periods, food, week, recess, breaks, open campus, minutes, lunch, bathroom, lab lunch, lunch waves, homework, paper towels, gum, backpacks, freedom, day, fun, connections, phones, cafeteria, tests, class, rules, time, lunch time.

What are two things that this school does well that it should continue to do? Please be as specific as possible. ?

Word cloud for school strengths including: time, activities, teaching, good job, clubs, extra help, classes, schedule, connections, variety, food, continue, lots, lunch, good food, periods, good teachers, good lunch.







# Families - Open Response

What 1-2 steps could your school take to improve the social climate of the school for students? ?

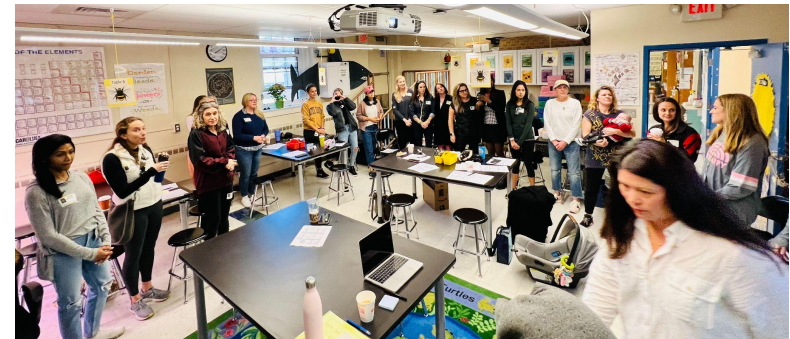
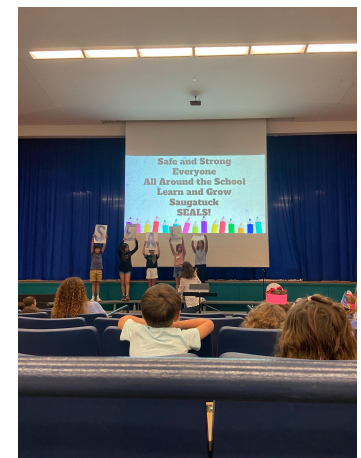
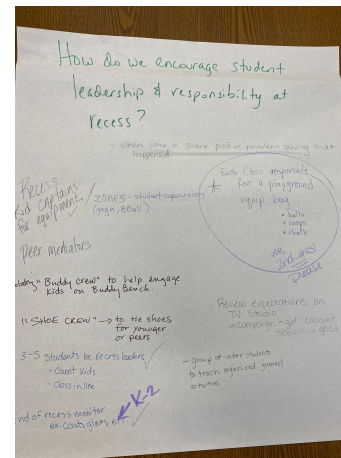


# Taking Action

# The Review Process

All schools:

- Convened committees over the summer to review results
- Committees consisted of classroom teachers, paraprofessionals, specials area teachers and other service providers
- Building committees reviewed data





# Elementary

## Students:

- Second Step
- Student Leadership Groups
- Community Read Aloud
- Schoolwide Expectations

## Staff:

- Wellbeing
- Trainings: Triangle Center, ADL, Responsive Classroom

## Families:

- Monthly Newsletters
- Parent Education

# MIDDLE SCHOOLS



## STUDENTS

- WELLBEING OPENING 30 DAY PLAN
- FIELD TRIPS ALL GRADE LEVELS - TEAM BUILDING/COLLABORATIVE PROBLEM SOLVING/BUILDING CONNECTIONS
- STUDENT ADVISORY BOARD - STUDENT VOICE AND FEEDBACK
- SCHOOL-WIDE SPIRIT DAYS
- MONSTER MASH DANCE SOCIAL EVENT
- CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

## STAFF

- WELLBEING FOCUS; PTA SUPPORT
- STAFF TRAINING: ADL, TRIANGLE CENTER, DEI

## FAMILIES

- BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT, MONTHLY NEWSLETTERS, OPEN TEAM MEETINGS
- PARENT EDUCATION (PTA GENERAL MEETINGS; SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS)

# HIGH SCHOOL



## STUDENTS:

- STUDENT VOICE- A NEW STUDENT COUNCIL
- WELLBEING FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL(FRESHMEN ONLY AM); FIRST 30 DAYS/CONNECTIONS-NEW SELF AWARENESS LESSONS
- STUDENT LEADERSHIP GROUPS

## STAFF:

- SCHOOLWIDE EXPECTATIONS OF BELONGING IN THE CLASSROOM
- TRAININGS: TRIANGLE CENTER AND ADL
- RESTORATIVE PRACTICES(TWO PD DAYS)
- CLASSROOM FEEDBACK

## FAMILIES:

- WEEKLY NEWSLETTERS
- PARENT COFFEE W/ THE PRINCIPAL AND COLLEGE GUIDANCE SEMINARS

# Q&A

