

YEAR 2020-21 SATISFACTION WITH EDUCATION IN ALBERTA PRINCIPAL SURVEY INSTRUMENT

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Thank you for your willingness to complete this principal online survey. This is a pilot survey similar to the previously conducted telephone survey of principals in 2019 that gathered opinions on the education system in Alberta. We are looking for information from principals about the level of satisfaction with Alberta's education system, and to find out possible areas that can be improved or looked into further.

Your answers are completely confidential and will be grouped together with others for reporting purposes on this online survey.

The surveys will be conducted in compliance with requirements of the [Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy \(FOIP\) Act](#) of the Government of Alberta.



Detailed information about the survey:

1. Where can I find out more about this survey?

Please contact Jim Peck of Alberta Education at 780-422-1963 if you would like to know more about the survey. There is toll-free access to this number within Alberta if you dial 310-0000 first.

2. Who is CCI Research Inc.?

CCI Research Inc. is a survey research firm. We have been contracted by Alberta Education to conduct this survey to gather opinions on the education system in Alberta.

3. Why did CCI Research Inc. contact me?

We are a Canadian company that conducts research for government and the education sector across the country. We have been contracted by Alberta Education to conduct this survey.

4. How did you get my name?

CCI Research Inc. has received random samples of contact information from Alberta Education. We do not receive any information other than contact information about the survey participants. We are bound to manage all information in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act* and our contractual obligations to Alberta Education."

5. How long is the survey?

The online survey will take about 20 minutes to complete.

SECTION A

Alberta Education recognizes that COVID-19 has resulted in an unprecedented school year and that this may impact your responses to the survey. The ministry thanks principals for their diligence as everyone works through the challenges of learning in a COVID-19 environment. Your experiences and opinions given throughout this survey will help us understand how well key aspects of the school system have worked during this school year.

An opportunity to provide comments relating to the current situation will be provided at the end of the survey.

Please remember your answers are completely confidential and will be grouped together with others for reporting purposes. You are free to refuse to answer any question at any time. Also remember that while answering the questions, please provide your opinions based on your role as a Principal.

1. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the quality of education students are receiving in your school?
 - 1 Very satisfied
 - 2 Satisfied
 - 3 Dissatisfied
 - 4 Very dissatisfied
 - 8 Prefer not to answer
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable

2. In your opinion, has the quality of education in your school improved, stayed the same, or declined in the past three years?
 - 1 Improved
 - 2 Stayed the same
 - 3 Declined
 - 8 Prefer not to answer
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable

3. In your opinion, has the quality of the Alberta K to 12 system improved, stayed the same, or declined in the past three years?
 - 1 Improved
 - 2 Stayed the same
 - 3 Declined
 - 8 Prefer not to answer
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable

4. Would you agree or disagree with the following statement?

The highest priority of Alberta's education system is the success of the student.

- 1 Strongly agree
- 2 Agree
- 3 Disagree
- 4 Strongly disagree
- 8 Prefer not to answer
- 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable

5. To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

- 1 Strongly agree
 - 2 Agree
 - 3 Disagree
 - 4 Strongly disagree
 - 8 Prefer not to answer
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
- a. Students in your school find school work interesting
 - b. Students in your school find school work challenging
 - c. Students in your school clearly understand what they are expected to learn at school
 - d. Students in your school are safe at school
 - e. Students in your school are safe on the way to and from school
 - f. Teachers in your school care about their students
 - g. Students in your school are treated fairly by adults at their school
 - h. Students in your school treat each other well at school

6. Would you agree or disagree that the curriculum focuses on what students need to learn in each of the following areas?

- 1 Strongly agree
 - 2 Agree
 - 3 Disagree
 - 4 Strongly disagree
 - 8 Prefer not to answer
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
- a. Reading
 - b. Writing
 - c. Mathematics
 - d. Science
 - e. Social Studies

- 6A. Would you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?
- 1 Strongly agree
 - 2 Agree
 - 3 Disagree
 - 4 Strongly disagree
 - 8 Prefer not to answer
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
- a. Students in your school are getting better at reading
 - b. Students in your school are getting better at writing
 - c. Students in your school are getting better at mathematics
 - d. Students in your school are getting better at science
7. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the variety of subjects available to students in your school?
- 1 Very satisfied
 - 2 Satisfied
 - 3 Dissatisfied
 - 4 Very dissatisfied
 - 8 Prefer not to answer
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
8. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the opportunities students in your school have to learn about the following topics?
- 1 Very satisfied
 - 2 Satisfied
 - 3 Dissatisfied
 - 4 Very dissatisfied
 - 8 Prefer not to answer
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
- a. Music
 - b. Drama
 - c. Art
 - d. Computers
 - e. Health
 - f. Careers (**Ask only to Principals of Grades 7 – 12 schools, i.e., eliminate Principals of ECS to Grade 6 schools; ask only if junior high_taught = Y and/or senior high taught = Y**)
 - g. Another language (**Go to 8g1 if response is dissatisfied or very dissatisfied**)

- 8g1. **(If response to 8g is dissatisfied or very dissatisfied)** Which language should be taught that is currently not being offered? **[Specify _____]**
- 9 Don't Know
9. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the opportunities students in your school have to participate in physical education?
- 1 Very satisfied
2 Satisfied
3 Dissatisfied
4 Very dissatisfied
8 Prefer not to answer
9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
10. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the quality of teaching in your school?
- 1 Very satisfied
2 Satisfied
3 Dissatisfied
4 Very dissatisfied
8 Prefer not to answer
9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
11. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you that **YOUR** input into the education of students is considered by Alberta Education?
- 1 Very satisfied
2 Satisfied
3 Dissatisfied
4 Very dissatisfied
8 Prefer not to answer
9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
12. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you that the leadership at the provincial level effectively supports and facilitates teaching and learning?
- 1 Very satisfied
2 Satisfied
3 Dissatisfied
4 Very dissatisfied
8 Prefer not to answer
9 Don't Know/Not Applicable

13. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you that students in your school are **taught** attitudes and behaviours to be successful at work when they leave school?
- 1 Very satisfied
 - 2 Satisfied
 - 3 Dissatisfied
 - 4 Very dissatisfied
 - 8 Prefer not to answer
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
14. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you that students in your school **demonstrate** attitudes and behaviours to be successful at work when they leave school?
- 1 Very satisfied
 - 2 Satisfied
 - 3 Dissatisfied
 - 4 Very dissatisfied
 - 8 Prefer not to answer
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
15. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you that Alberta's education system is contributing to students' development of...?
- 1 Very satisfied
 - 2 Satisfied
 - 3 Dissatisfied
 - 4 Very dissatisfied
 - 8 Prefer not to answer
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
- a. Intellectual skills
 - b. Social skills
 - c. Physical abilities
 - d. Emotional well-being
 - e. Spiritual awareness

16. To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?
- 1 Strongly agree
 - 2 Agree
 - 3 Disagree
 - 4 Strongly disagree
 - 8 Prefer not to answer
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
- a. Students in your school arrive ready to learn
 - b. Students in your school are encouraged to be involved in activities that help the community
 - c. Students in your school are encouraged to try their best
 - d. Students in your school follow the rules
 - e. Students in your school help each other when they can
 - f. Students in your school respect each other
 - g. Students can easily access programs and services at school to get help with school work
 - h. Students in your school can get help with problems that are not related to school work
 - i. When students need it, teachers in your school are available to help them
 - j. In your school students receive the individual attention they require from teachers
 - k. Your school provides the learning resources, such as text books, software, audio and video materials, that meet student needs
 - l. Students in your school are encouraged to express their opinions and engage in an exchange of ideas
 - m. Students in your school are encouraged to take part in classroom discussions and activities
 - n. Students in your school have opportunities to work together on projects with their classmates
 - o. Students in your school are recognized for the positive things they do at school
17. To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?
- 1 Strongly agree
 - 2 Agree
 - 3 Disagree
 - 4 Strongly disagree
 - 8 Prefer not to answer
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
- a. Your school promotes physical activity
 - b. Students in your school are learning about how to stay healthy
[Note Button: Examples for learning about how to stay healthy are: to get plenty of sleep, eat nutritious foods, get plenty of exercise, and reduce stress. *Click/press on the X in the upper right corner to close this pop-up*]
 - c. Students in your school have healthy food choices in the cafeteria, canteen, vending machines, and at classroom and school events

18. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you that the students in your school can access the following services in a timely manner at school when needed?
- 1 Very satisfied
 - 2 Satisfied
 - 3 Dissatisfied
 - 4 Very dissatisfied
 - 8 Prefer not to answer
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
- a. Academic counselling
 - b. Career counselling (**Ask only to Principals of Grades 7 – 12 schools, i.e., eliminate Principals of ECS to Grade 6 schools; ask only if juniorhigh_taught = Y and/or seniorhigh_taught = Y**)
 - c. School learning commons (previously, school library services)
 - d. Supports for students with disabilities
 - e. Student assessment services for students with learning difficulties
 - f. Services (beyond regular instruction) that help students to read and write
19. Are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the following?
- 1 Very satisfied
 - 2 Satisfied
 - 3 Dissatisfied
 - 4 Very dissatisfied
 - 8 Prefer not to answer
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
- a. The facilities in your school meet the learning needs of students
(Note Button: Facilities are things like science labs, computer labs, art rooms, and construction fabrication shops. *Click/press on the X in the upper right corner to close this pop-up*)
 - b. The facilities in your school meet the program delivery needs of teachers
(Note Button: Facilities are things like science labs, computer labs, art rooms, and construction fabrication shops. *Click/press on the X in the upper right corner to close this pop-up*)
 - c. Your school has enough space to meet the learning needs of students
 - d. Your school has enough space to meet the program delivery needs of teachers
 - e. The equipment in your school meets the learning needs of students
(Note Button: Examples for equipment are: computer equipment, audio visual equipment, laboratory equipment, shop equipment, sports equipment, and musical equipment. *Click/press on the X in the upper right corner to close this pop-up*)
 - f. The equipment in your school meets the program delivery needs of teachers
(Note Button: Examples for equipment are: computer equipment, audio visual equipment, laboratory equipment, shop equipment, sports equipment, and musical equipment. *Click/press on the X in the upper right corner to close this pop-up*)
 - g. The gym, playground, and other facilities such as sports fields and fitness areas in your school meet the daily physical activity needs of students

20. Thinking back over the past three years, to what extent do you agree or disagree that professional development opportunities made available to teachers in your school have . . . ?
- 1 Strongly agree
 - 2 Agree
 - 3 Disagree
 - 4 Strongly disagree
 - 8 Prefer not to answer
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
- a. Effectively addressed the professional development needs of teachers
 - b. Contributed significantly to the on-going professional development of teachers
 - c. Been focused on the priorities of the school
21. Would you agree or disagree that recent Bachelor of Education graduates are well prepared to meet their responsibilities as teachers?
- 1 Strongly agree
 - 2 Agree
 - 3 Disagree
 - 4 Strongly disagree
 - 8 Prefer not to answer
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable

SECTION B

22. Would you agree or disagree that you are able to attract teachers to your school?
- 1 Strongly agree
 - 2 Agree
 - 3 Disagree
 - 4 Strongly disagree
 - 8 Prefer not to answer
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
23. Would you agree or disagree that you are able to retain teachers in your school?
- 1 Strongly agree
 - 2 Agree
 - 3 Disagree
 - 4 Strongly disagree
 - 8 Prefer not to answer
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable

24. Would you agree or disagree that teachers' training has been adequate to meet the needs of students with special education needs?
- 1 Strongly agree
 - 2 Agree
 - 3 Disagree
 - 4 Strongly disagree
 - 8 Prefer not to answer
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
25. Would you agree or disagree that the education students receive in Kindergarten to Grade 9 adequately prepares them to succeed in high school in the following subject areas?
- 1 Strongly agree
 - 2 Agree
 - 3 Disagree
 - 4 Strongly disagree
 - 8 Prefer not to answer
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
- a. Language Arts
 - b. Mathematics
 - c. Science
 - d. Social Studies
26. The next question asks your level of satisfaction with programs and services such as counselling or speech therapy. Are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the following?
- 1 Very satisfied
 - 2 Satisfied
 - 3 Dissatisfied
 - 4 Very dissatisfied
 - 8 Prefer not to answer
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
- a. The accessibility of programs and services for students in your school
 - b. The effectiveness of programs and services for students in your school
 - c. The efficiency of programs and services for students in your school

27. Do students at your school have **access** to the school learning commons (previously, school library information and services)?
- 1 Yes
 - 2 No
 - 8 Prefer not to answer
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
 - a. Before class hours
 - b. During classes
 - c. After school
28. Do students at your school have **on-line access** to the school learning commons (previously, school library information and services) from a personal computer after school hours?
- 1 Yes
 - 2 No
 - 8 Prefer not to answer
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
29. To what extent does the learning commons (previously, the school library) at your school **contribute** to students' learning success?
- 1 A lot
 - 2 Some
 - 3 Very little
 - 4 Not at all
 - 8 Prefer not to answer
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
- 29B. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the learning commons (previously, the library) in your school provides students with access to and guidance on the use of...
- a. Online public access catalogues (OPAC)
 - b. Online licensed and open access resources
 - c. Print and digital learning resources that address students' diverse learning and developmental needs
- 1 Strongly agree
 - 2 Agree
 - 3 Disagree
 - 4 Strongly disagree
 - 8 Prefer not to answer
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable

- 29C. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the learning commons (previously, the library) in your school provides students with exposure to resources that ...
- a. Recognize and respect Indigenous knowledge and ways of knowing of the First Nations, Métis and Inuit people
 - b. Reflect and support the cultural and linguistic perspectives of Francophone communities
 - c. Reflect and support the cultural and linguistic perspectives of First Nations, Métis and Inuit communities
- 1 Strongly agree
2 Agree
3 Disagree
4 Strongly disagree
8 Prefer not to answer
9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
- 29D. Does the learning commons (previously, the library) in your school provide support to teachers either in person or via technology?
- 1 Yes
2 No
8 Prefer not to answer
9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
30. To what extent are parents or guardians in your school involved in decisions about their children's education?
- 1 A lot
2 Some
3 Very little
4 Not at all
8 Prefer not to answer
9 Don't know/Not Applicable
31. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the opportunity for parents or guardians in your school to be involved in decisions about their children's education?
- 1 Very satisfied
2 Satisfied
3 Dissatisfied
4 Very dissatisfied
8 Prefer not to answer
9 Don't Know/Not Applicable

32. To what extent are parents or guardians involved in decisions in your school?
- 1 A lot
 - 2 Some
 - 3 Very little
 - 4 Not at all
 - 8 Prefer not to answer
 - 9 Don't know/Not Applicable
33. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the opportunity for parents or guardians to be involved in decisions in your school?
- 1 Very satisfied
 - 2 Satisfied
 - 3 Dissatisfied
 - 4 Very dissatisfied
 - 8 Prefer not to answer
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
34. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you that the input of parents or guardians into decisions in your school is considered?
- 1 Very satisfied
 - 2 Satisfied
 - 3 Dissatisfied
 - 4 Very dissatisfied
 - 8 Prefer not to answer
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
35. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you that the input of parents or guardians into the education of students is considered by your school board?
- 1 Very satisfied
 - 2 Satisfied
 - 3 Dissatisfied
 - 4 Very dissatisfied
 - 8 Prefer not to answer
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable

36. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you that **YOUR** input into the education of students is considered by your school board?
- 1 Very satisfied
 - 2 Satisfied
 - 3 Dissatisfied
 - 4 Very dissatisfied
 - 8 Prefer not to answer
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
37. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you that the public is receiving value for money spent in your school?
- 1 Very satisfied
 - 2 Satisfied
 - 3 Dissatisfied
 - 4 Very dissatisfied
 - 8 Prefer not to answer
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
- 37B. And finally, would you agree or disagree that the education system in Alberta is appropriately funded?
- 1 Strongly agree
 - 2 Agree
 - 3 Disagree
 - 4 Strongly disagree
 - 8 Prefer not to answer
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable

SECTION C

38. Would you agree or disagree that the school council in your school is fulfilling its advisory role?
- 1 Strongly agree
 - 2 Agree
 - 3 Disagree
 - 4 Strongly disagree
 - 8 Prefer not to answer
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable

39. Would you agree or disagree with the following statements? In your school ...
- 1 Strongly agree
 - 2 Agree
 - 3 Disagree
 - 4 Strongly disagree
 - 8 Prefer not to answer
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
- a. Teachers help students achieve learning expectations
 - b. Teachers help students achieve high standards
- 39B. Would you agree or disagree with the following statements related to bullying in your school?
- 1 Strongly agree
 - 2 Agree
 - 3 Disagree
 - 4 Strongly disagree
 - 8 Prefer not to answer
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
- a. Bullying is a serious problem in your school
 - b. Students in your school report incidents of bullying to teachers or the school administration
 - c. At your school, appropriate action is taken if a student is bullied
- 39C. To what extent is the learning of students hindered by the following behaviours at your school
- 1 Not at all
 - 2 Very little
 - 3 Some
 - 4 A lot
 - 8 Prefer not to answer
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
- a. Intimidation or verbal abuse of teachers or staff
 - b. Violence directed at teachers or staff

- 39D. Would you agree or disagree with the following statement?
- 1 Strongly agree
 - 2 Agree
 - 3 Disagree
 - 4 Strongly disagree
 - 8 Prefer not to answer
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
- a. The school jurisdiction or school authority supports my efforts to create a safe environment in this school
40. To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements related to technology in student learning?
- 1 Strongly agree
 - 2 Agree
 - 3 Disagree
 - 4 Strongly disagree
 - 8 Prefer not to answer
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
- a. Students at your school have computer skills (such as using word processing, or creating spreadsheets and charts) necessary to support their studies
 - b. Students at your school have skills to create multimedia presentations (with sound, pictures, video) for their projects/assignments
 - c. Students at your school have sufficient access to computers at school to do their school work
 - d. Students at your school use the internet to do research on assignment topics
 - e. Educational technology (such as desktop computers, laptops, tablets, e-readers, smartphones, smart boards and projectors) can help accommodate different learning styles of students
 - f. Educational technology (such as desktop computers, laptops, tablets, e-readers, smartphones, smart boards and projectors) can encourage student interest in learning
 - g. Students at your school use technology (such as the internet, cell phones, smartphones and social media) responsibly, meaning safely, knowledgeably and appropriately by protecting privacy

41. Thinking about the teaching profession in general, would you agree or disagree with each of the following statements? The teaching profession requires teachers to ...

- 1 Strongly agree
 - 2 Agree
 - 3 Disagree
 - 4 Strongly disagree
 - 8 Prefer not to answer
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
- a. Have specialized knowledge and skills
 - b. Apply their specialized knowledge and skills using reasoned judgment
 - c. Provide a very valuable service to society

42. And finally, would you agree or disagree with the following statements?

- 1 Strongly agree
 - 2 Agree
 - 3 Disagree
 - 4 Strongly disagree
 - 8 Prefer not to answer
 - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
- a. Alberta's education system uses research and consultation with Albertans to guide policy decisions
 - b. Alberta Education uses on-going evaluation of the education system to improve student learning
 - c. Alberta's education system ensures access to quality education to all students regardless of where they live
 - d. Alberta's education system is accountable to the public
 - e. Alberta's education system communicates effectively with the public

Comment – Please enter any additional comments you would like to share (optional).

You have reached the end of the survey. On behalf of Alberta Education, thank you very much for your time and cooperation.