

2009-2010 AISD Student Climate Survey Cunningham Elementary School

Research indicates that school climate can be either a positive influence on the learning environment or a significant barrier to learning. In AISD, schools that performed better on TAKS also had higher student climate ratings (Schmitt & Carney, 2008). These survey results provide campuses with feedback about how students feel about their school’s educational environment. Longitudinal data are provided, where applicable.

The image below displays factors that are known to be related to student academic growth. In this report, we focus on the role of school climate for students (circled in red), which has been measured with six survey subscales: academic self-confidence, adult fairness & respect, teacher expectations, teacher support, student engagement, and behavioral environment.



In Spring 2010, 217 students returned surveys for Cunningham, representing 90% of eligible students from Cunningham (compared to the district Elementary School response rate, 87%). The table below shows the total number and percentage of students surveyed from each eligible grade at Cunningham in 2009-2010.

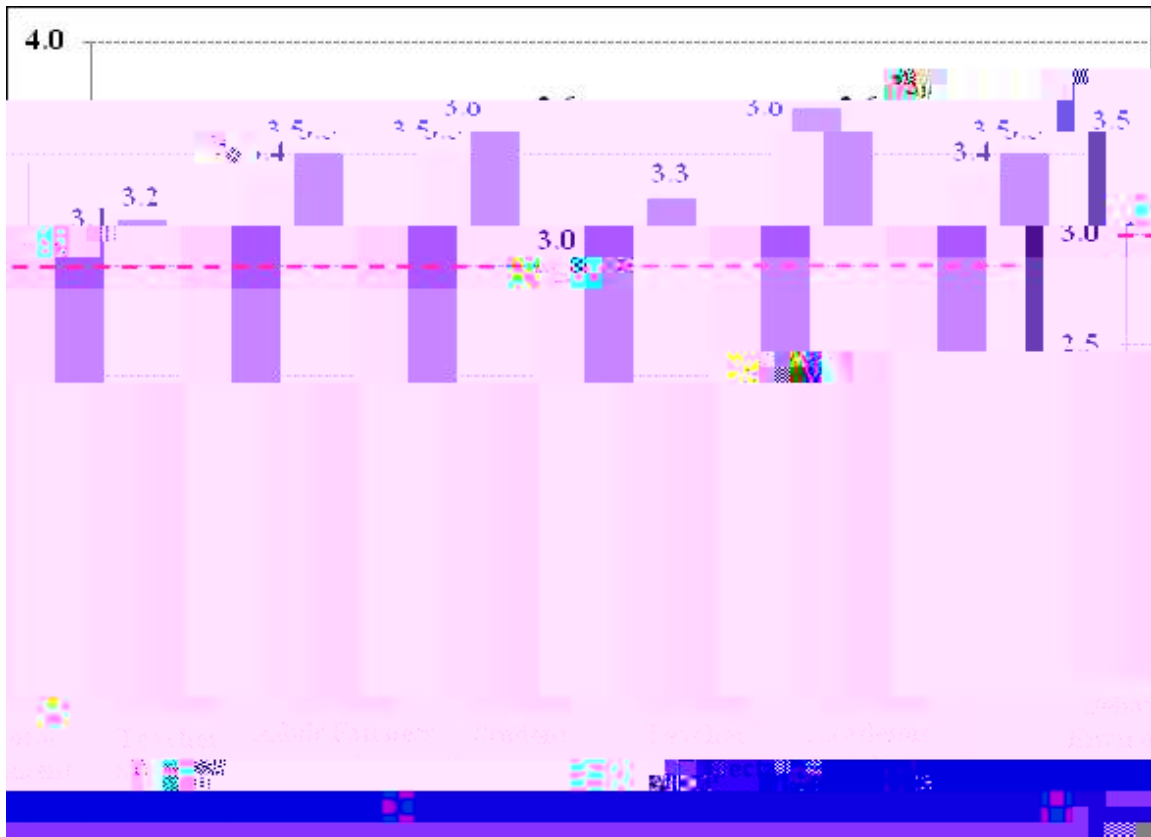
Table 1. Response Rate by Grade, 2009-2010

Cunningham		
Grade	Population	Response Rate
3rd	81	95%
4th	73	82%
5th	87	92%
6th	n/a	n/a
Total	241	90%

Survey results for Cunningham for the 2009-2010 school year are presented on the next page. Please note the green and red text boxes that highlight specific areas in which Cunningham excels, as well as areas in which Cunningham can improve. The appendix provides more detailed information regarding Cunningham's student climate survey results from 2007-2008 through 2009-2010. Please review the individual items on each subscale with particular attention to how Cunningham's average ratings have changed or remained consistent over time. Please note that some subscales have changed from previous years, making longitudinal comparisons inappropriate for some items and subscales. For items and subscales where longitudinal data are available, statistically meaningful changes are flagged with + or - symbols. Please share the results of this report with all campus staff and your Campus Advisory Council to inform campus improvement planning.

The graph below depicts Cunningham’s average student climate survey ratings, compared with average ratings for students across all Elementary Schools in 2009-2010. Scores over 3.0 are desirable, as indicated by the red dashed line. The first step in improving these characteristics is to examine the item-level scores for each area (see Appendix).

Student Climate Survey Subscales for Cunningham and all Elementary Schools, 2009-2010



Note. The light purple bars represent 2009-2010 data for Cunningham and the dark purple bars represent 2009-2010 data for all Elementary Schools.

Cunningham’s highest subscale score on the 2009-2010 Student Climate Survey was for Teacher Expectations, a new subscale in 2009-2010 that measures the expectations students perceive from their teachers. It is believed that Teacher Expectations are associated with academic achievement. Please think about what your school does to foster high expectations, and share your strategies with others.

Cunningham’s lowest subscale score on the 2009-2010 Student Climate survey was for Student Engagement.

Behavioral Environment	Cunningham			All Elementary Schools
	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	
1. My classmates show respect to each other.			2.9	
2. My classmates show respect to other students who are different.			3.1	
3. I am happy with the way my classmates treat me.			3.1	
14. Students at my school follow the school rules.			2.7	
15. I feel safe at my school.			3.4	
16. I feel safe on the school property.			3.3	
Behavioral Environment average	-		3.1	

Note: Response options range from 1 (strongly disagree) to 4 (strongly agree). It is desirable to have a response of at least 3.0.

APPENDIX

Adult Fairness and Respect	Cunningham			All Elementary Schools
	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	
5. Adults at this school listen to student ideas and opinions.	3.4	3.3	3.4	3.5
6. Adults at this school treat all students fairly.	3.6	3.5	3.4	3.6
7. The staff in the front office show respect to students.	3.8	3.8	3.9 +	3.8
10. The school rules are fair.	3.6	3.4	3.5	3.5
11. The consequences for breaking school rules are the same for everyone.	3.6	3.4	3.4	3.5
12. My teachers always make sure the students follow the rules.	3.8	3.7	3.7	3.8
36. My teachers are fair to everyone.	3.7	3.5	3.4	3.6
37. All my teachers use the same rules.	n/a	3.4	3.3	3.3
Adult Fairness and Respect average	n/a	3.5	3.5	3.6

Note: Response options range from 1 (strongly disagree) to 4 (strongly agree). It is desirable to have a response of at least 3.0.

Student Engagement	Cunningham			All Elementary Schools
	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	
9. I like to come to school.	n/a	n/a	3.0	3.2
21. I enjoy doing my schoolwork.	2.8	2.8	2.8	3.1
30. My homework helps me learn things I need to know.	3.5	3.3	3.3	3.5
33. My schoolwork makes me think about things in new ways.	3.1	3.0	3.0	3.3
35. I have fun learning in my classes.	3.2	3.0	3.0	3.3
38. My teachers connect what I am doing to my life outside the classroom.	n/a	3.0	3.1	3.3
Student Engagement average	n/a	n/a	3.0	3.3

Note: Response options range from 1 (strongly disagree) to 4 (strongly agree). It is desirable to have a response of at least 3.0. With the addition of item 9 in 2009-2010, subscale comparisons across years are no longer available.

Teacher Expectations	Cunningham			All Elementary Schools
	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	
13. My teachers believe I can learn.		n/a	3.6	3.7
18. My teachers expect me to do my best work.		3.9	3.9	3.9
19. My teachers challenge me to do better.		3.4	3.5	3.6
24. My teachers believe I can do well in school.		n/a	3.6	3.7
27. My teachers show me how to know if my work is good.		3.5	3.5	3.6
Teacher Expectations average		n/a	3.6	3.7

Note: Response options range from 1 (strongly disagree) to 4 (strongly agree). It is desirable to have a response of at least 3.0. With the addition of items 13 and 24 in 2009-2010, subscale

REFERENCES

Schmitt, L., & Carney, D. (2008). *Austin ISD Board Level Reports*. Austin, TX: Austin Independent School District.

Austin Independent School District

Superintendent of Schools

Meria Carstarphen, Ed.D.

Office of Accountability

William Caritj, M.Ed.

Department of Program Evaluation

Holly Williams, Ph.D.

Authors

Lindsay M. Lamb, Ph.D.

Lisa N. T. Schmitt, Ph.D.

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