

Research indicates that school climate can either be a positive influence on students' learning environment, or can serve as a significant barrier to students' learning. Indeed, students at schools with high levels of economic disadvantage and were high performing had higher ratings of 2011-2012 behavioral environment (3.04) than students at lower performing high economically disadvantaged schools (2.93).<sup>\*</sup> Researchers have documented that positive ratings of student climate are believed to contribute to factors that help high economically disadvantaged schools "beat the odds" (Voight, Austin & Hanson, 2013).

The following tables show the total number of surveys students at Murchison returned in 2012-2013 (Table 1), the response rate by grade (Table 2), and the distribution of responses by race/ethnicity compared with the population (Table 3) for students at Murchison.

Table 1: Survey Response Summary		
# of surveys returned	958	12,547
# of students	1,471	16,137
% of students represented	65%	78%

Table 2: Response Rate by Grade			
grade	# of students enrolled	# of responses	response rate
6th grade	480	341	71%
7th grade	513	233	45%
8th grade	478	332	69%

Population data reflect enrollment as of the PEIMS snapshot date in October 2012 whereas students' grade level and ethnicity were self-reported on the survey. The "ethnicity/race" designations allow students to first choose their ethnicity (Hispanic/Latino or non-Hispanic/Latino) and then choose one or more of five race values.

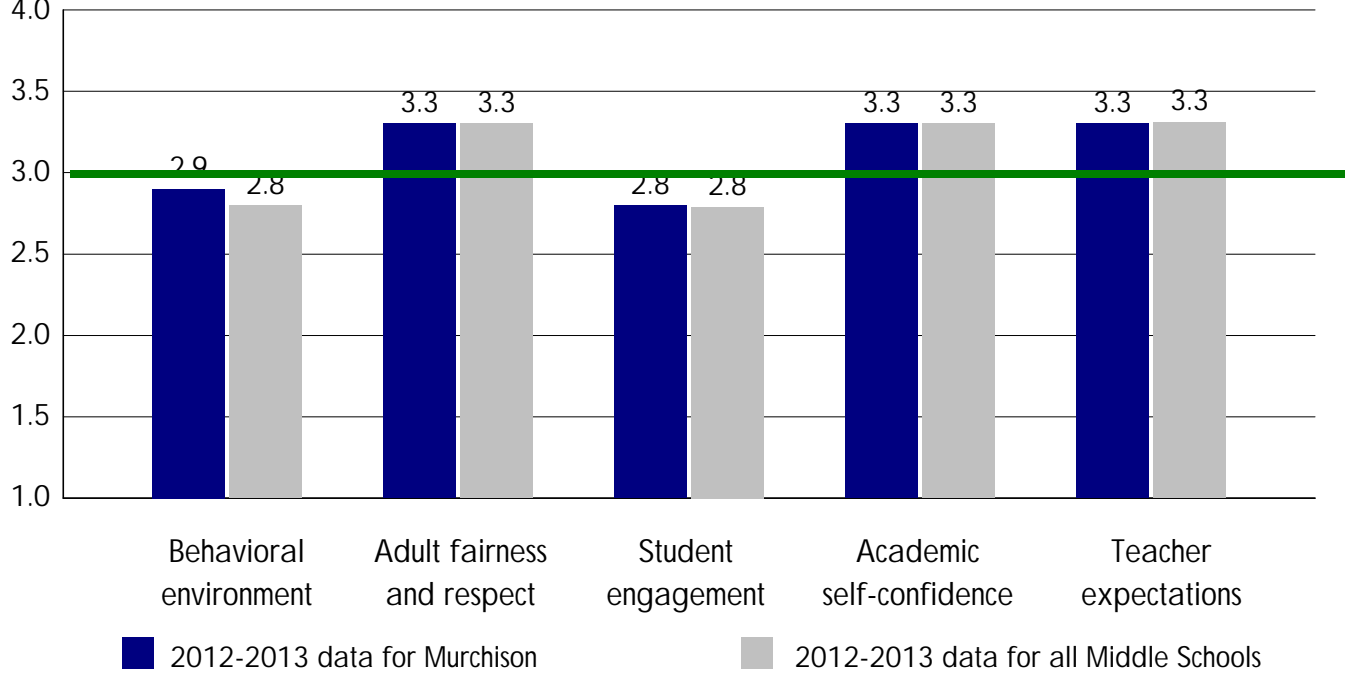
Table 3: Distribution of Responses by Race/Ethnicity		
	% of population	% of responses
<b>Ethnicity</b>		
Hispanic/Latino	30%	29%
<b>Race</b>		
American Indian/Alaskan Native	7%	7%
Asian	11%	14%
Black/African American	9%	10%
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	1%	4%
White	78%	62%

<sup>\*</sup> For more information on this analysis, please contact the department of Research and Evaluation. Voight, A., Austin, G., and Hanson, T. (2013).

. San Francisco: WestEd.

Figure 1 depicts Murchison's average student climate survey ratings for 2012-2013, compared with average ratings across all Middle Schools in 2012-2013. Scores over 3.0 are desirable, as indicated by the green line. Please note the green and red text boxes that highlight the specific area in which Murchison most excels, as well as the area in which Murchison can improve most.

Figure 1. Student Climate Survey Subscales for Murchison and all Middle Schools, 2012-2013



Murchison's highest score on the 2012-2013 Student Climate Survey was for teacher expectations, which measures students' perceptions of their teachers' expectations. Please think about what your campus does to foster high expectations, and share your strategies with others.

Murchison's lowest score on the 2012-2013 Student Climate Survey was for student engagement. This subscale measures the extent to which students enjoy their schoolwork and learning. We encourage your campus to improve the ways in which teachers provide instruction that is relevant and engaging for students.

The following pages contain more detailed information regarding Murchison's student climate results from 2010-2011 to 2012-2013. Please review the individual items on each subscale with particular attention to how Murchison'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 noted with up or down arrows. Please share the results of this report with all campus staff and your Campus Advisory Council to inform campus improvement planning.

1. My classmates show respect to each other.	2.9	
2. My classmates show respect to other students who are different.	2.8	
3. I am happy with the way my classmates treat me.	3.2	
13. Students at my school follow the school rules.	2.6	
14. I feel safe at my school.	3.3	
15. Students at this school treat teachers with respect.	n/a	
29. My classmates behave the way my teachers want them to.	2.6	
30. Our classes stay busy and do not waste time.	2.8	
31. Students at my school are bullies (tease, taunt, threaten other students).	n/a	
Behavioral environment average	n/a	

9. I like to come to school.	2.9	
17. I enjoy doing my schoolwork.	2.5	
24. My homework helps me learn the things I need to know.	2.9	
25. My schoolwork makes me think about things in new ways.	2.7	
26. I have fun learning in my classes.	2.8	
28. My teachers connect what I am doing to my life outside the classroom.	2.6	
38. I receive recognition and praise for doing good work.	n/a	
<b>Student engagement average</b>	<b>n/a</b>	

Response options ranged from 1 = to 4 = . It is desirable to have a response of at least 3.0.

With the addition of item #38 (based on an item from the Gallup Student Poll) longitudinal comparisons are no longer possible.

16. I can do even the hardest schoolwork if I try.	3.3	
18. I am/was well prepared to take the TAKS/STAAR.*	3.5	
19. I try hard to do my best work.	3.5	
22. I feel successful in my schoolwork.	3.2	
23. I can reach the goals I set for myself.	3.3	
<b>Academic self-confidence average</b>	<b>3.4</b>	

33. My teachers push me to think hard about things we read.*	3.1	
34. My teachers push everybody to work hard.	3.3	
35. I have to think hard about the writing we do.*	3.1	
36. My teachers expect my best effort.*	3.2	
<b>Teacher expectations average</b>	<b>3.2</b>	

These items are based on the subscale from the Tripod survey and response options have changed to be on the AISD scale. It is desirable to have a response of at least 3.0.

\* These items have been reworded from the 2011-2012 survey. A list of reworded items is located in the Appendix.

% Yes	84%	89%	86%	75%
% No	2%	1%	2%	3%
% Maybe	14%	10%	12%	22%

To view the district summary report or additional survey results from 2012-2013 or before, visit:  
[http://www.austinisd.org/dre/search/?f\[0\]=im\\_field\\_report\\_eval\\_area%3A4](http://www.austinisd.org/dre/search/?f[0]=im_field_report_eval_area%3A4)

- 11. My teachers always make sure the students follow the rules.
- 18. I feel/felt well prepared for TAKS.
- 33. My teachers push us to think hard about things we read.
- 35. We have to think hard about the writing we do.
- 36. My teachers accept nothing less than our full effort.

- 11. My teachers make sure the students follow the rules.
- 18. I am/was well prepared to take the TAKS/STAAR.
- 33. My teachers push me to think hard about things we read.
- 35. I have to think hard about the writing we do.
- 36. My teachers expect my best effort.