

2009-2010 AISD Student Climate Survey Travis Heights 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, 153 students returned surveys for Travis Heights, representing 75% of eligible students from Travis Heights (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 Travis Heights in 2009-2010.

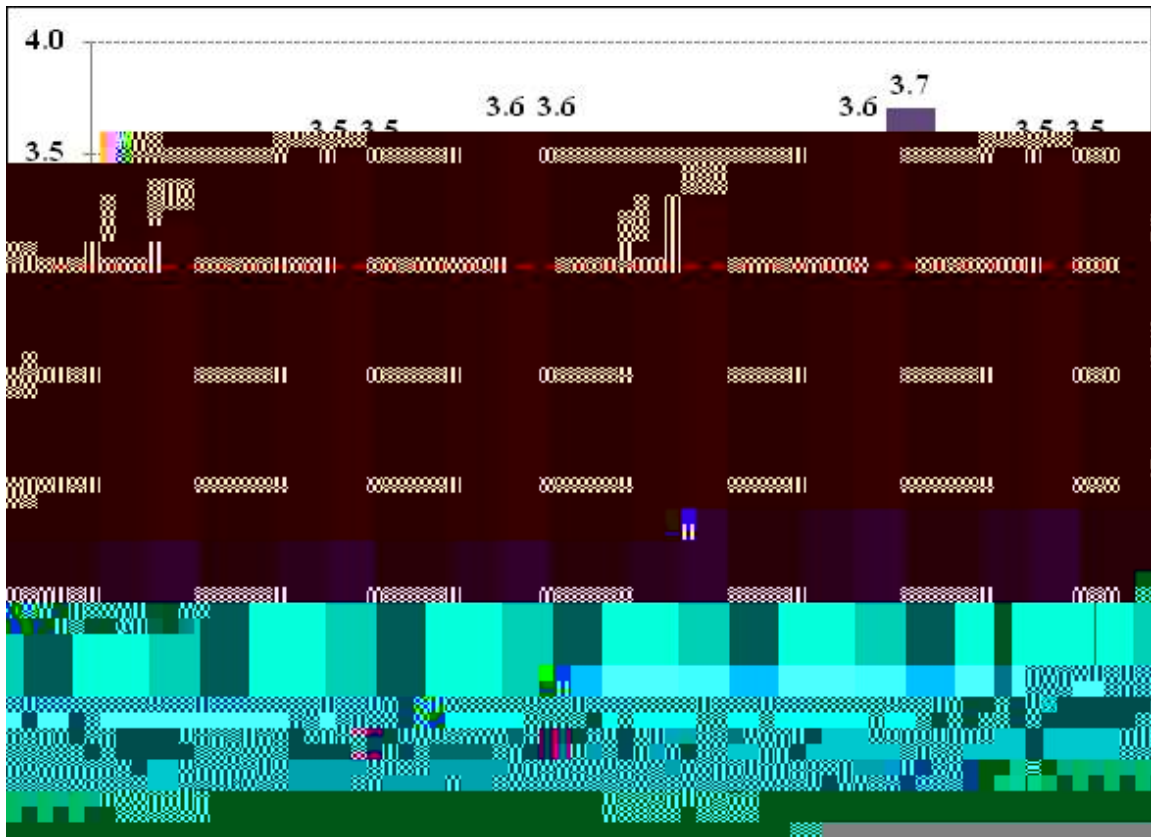
Table 1. Response Rate by Grade, 2009-2010

Travis Heights		
Grade	Population	Response Rate
3rd	66	82%
4th	74	69%
5th	63	76%
6th	n/a	n/a
Total	203	75%

Survey results for Travis Heights 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 Travis Heights excels, as well as areas in which Travis Heights can improve. The appendix provides more detailed information regarding Travis Heights's student climate survey results from 2007-2008 through 2009-2010. Please review the individual items on each subscale with particular attention to how Travis Heights'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 Travis Heights’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 Travis Heights and all Elementary Schools, 2009-2010



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

Travis Heights’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.

Travis Heights’s lowest subscale score on the 2009-2010 Student Climate survey was for Behavioral Environment, which measures the extent to which students report feeling safe and respected at Travis Heights. Higher ratings of Behavioral Environment have been associated with academic achievement. For resources on how to improve your campus’ Behavioral Environment, please visit AISD’s Positive Behavior Support (PBS) website: <http://www.austinisd.org/academics/sss/pbs/index.phtml>

Behavioral Environment

All

1. My classmates show respect to each other.	2.9
2. My classmates show respect to other students who are different.	3.0
3. I am happy with the way my classmates treat me.	3.0
14. Students at my school follow the school rules.	2.7
15. I feel safe at my school.	3.5
16. I feel safe on the school property.	3.4
Behavioral Environment average	3.1

	2007-08	2008-09	All Elementary Schools
--	---------	---------	------------------------

Student Engagement	Travis Heights			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.	3.2	3.1	3.0	3.1
30. My homework helps me learn things I need to know.	3.5	3.5	3.3 -	3.5
33. My schoolwork makes me think about things in new ways.	3.3	3.2	3.0 -	3.3
35. I have fun learning in my classes.	3.3	3.3	3.2 -	3.3
38. My teachers connect what I am doing to my life outside the classroom.	n/a	3.3	3.1 -	3.3
Student Engagement average	n/a	n/a	3.1	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

- 13. My teachers believe I can learn.
- 18. My teachers expect me to do my best work.
- 19. My teachers challenge me to do better.
- 24. My teachers believe I can do well in school.
- 27. My teachers show me how to know if my
work is good.

Teacher Expectations average

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.

**Board of Trustees**

Mark Williams, President

Vincent Torres, M.S., Vice President

Lori Moya, Secretary

Cheryl Bradley

Annette LoVoi, M.A.

Christine Brister

Robert Schneider

Tamala Barksdale

Sam Guzman