

2009-2010 AISD Student Climate Survey

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

In Spring 2010, 330 students returned surveys for Walnut Creek, representing 86% of eligible students from Walnut Creek (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 Walnut Creek in 2009-2010.

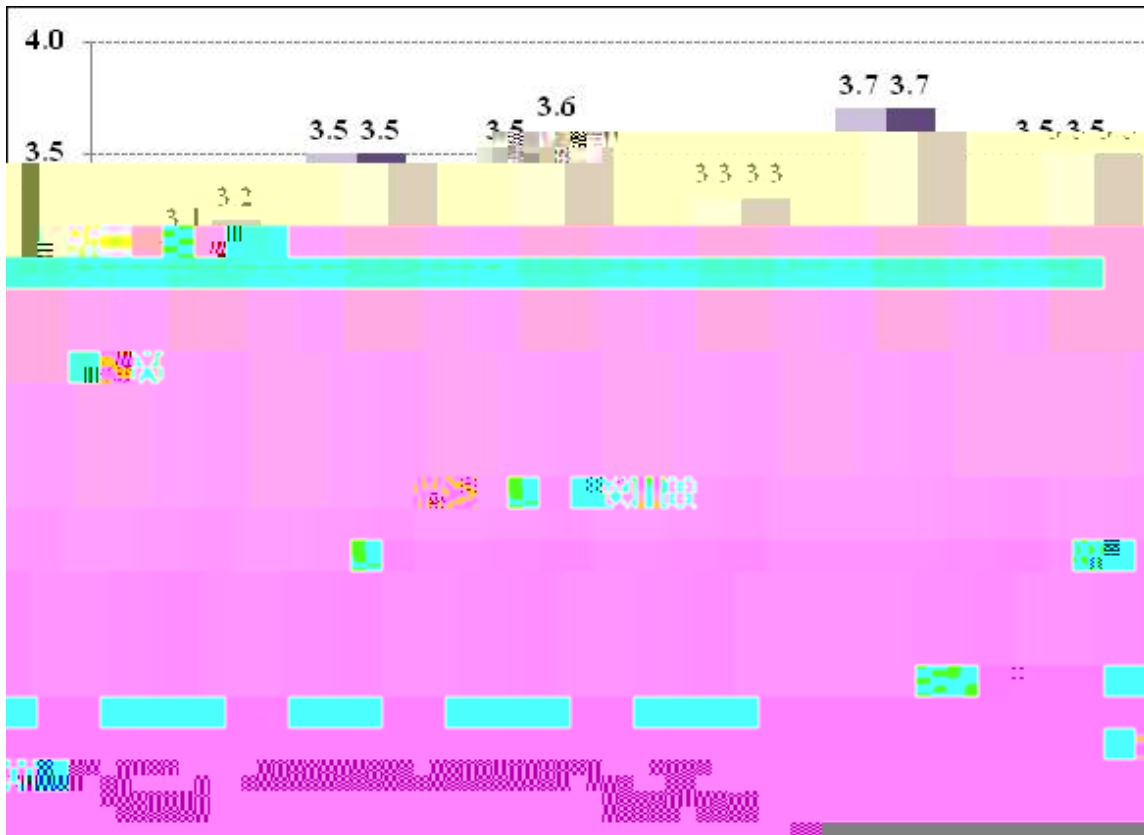
Table 1. Response Rate by Grade, 2009-2010

Walnut Creek	
Grade	Population

3rd

The graph below depicts Walnut Creek’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 Walnut Creek and all Elementary Schools, 2009-2010



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

Walnut Creek’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.

Walnut Creek’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 Walnut Creek. 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>

APPENDIX

Behavioral Environment	Walnut Creek			All Elementary Schools
	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	
1. My classmates show respect to each other.	2.9	2.9	2.9	3.0
2. My classmates show respect to other students who are different.	2.9	3.0	2.9	3.1
3. I am happy with the way my classmates treat me.	3.1	3.2	3.1	3.1
14. Students at my school follow the school rules.	2.8	2.7	2.8	2.8
15. I feel safe at my school.	3.4	3.5	3.4	3.5
16. I feel safe on the school property.	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.5
Behavioral Environment average	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.2

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

Teacher Support	Walnut Creek			All Elementary Schools
	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	
4. Teachers at this school care about their students.	3.8	3.9	3.8	3.9
17. Teachers give rewards or praise for good behavior.	3.3	3.5	3.3	3.3
28. Teachers give rewards or praise for good work.	3.3	3.4	3.3	3.2
32. My teachers care about how I do in school.	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.8
34. Teachers help students with personal problems.	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.5
Teacher Support average	3.5	3.6	3.5	3.5

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	Walnut Creek 2009-10	All Elementary Schools
9. I like to come to school.	n/a	3.2
21. I enjoy doing my schoolwork.	3.2	3.1
30. My homework helps me learn things I need to know.	3.5	3.5
33. My schoolwork makes me think about things in new ways.	3.4	3.3
35. I have fun learning in my classes.	3.	3.3
38. My teachers connect what I am doing to my life outside the classroom.	3.	3.3
Student Engagement average		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	Walnut Creek			All Elementary Schools
	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	
13. My teachers believe I can learn.		n/a	3.8	3.7
18. My teachers expect me to do my best work.		3.9	3.8	3.9
19. My teachers challenge me to do better.		3.7	3.6	3.6
24. My teachers believe I can do well in school.		n/a	3.7	3.7
27. My teachers show me how to know if my work is good.		3.7	3.7	3.6
Teacher Expectations average		n/a	3.7	3.7

Note

REFERENCES

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

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