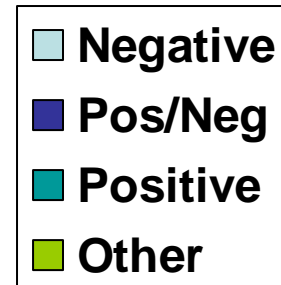
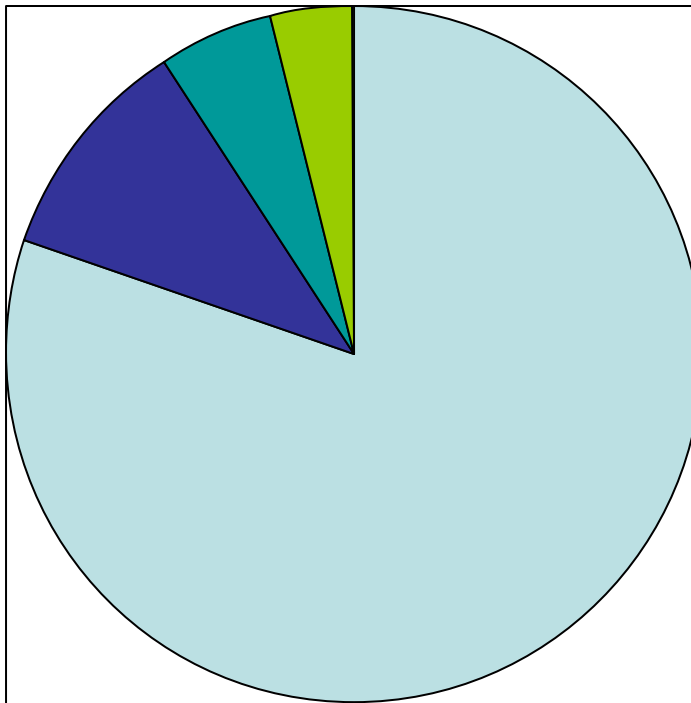


Parent Assessment Survey: Open Ended Responses

- 882 Total Responses
- More than 80 pages of text
- Classified each response as
Negative,
Positive and Negative,
Positive, or
Other

Parent Assessment Survey: Open Ended Responses



Negative:	709	(80.3%)
Pos/Neg:	93	(10.4%)
Positive:	46	(5.2%)
Other:	34	(3.9%)
	882	Total

Comments on Testing

Overwhelmingly negative

Stop testing

Too much testing

Should not be part of grade or so much of grade

Should not be used for teacher evaluations

Should not be used for student placement

Poor timing, instruction stops after testing

“I understand we need testing, but . . .”

Acknowledge the reasoning behind tests but see problems with implementation

A few positive

Testing is useful, necessary

Satisfied with school, teachers

Objections to Testing

Not a useful measure

Some children don't test well

Not reliable (bad day, guessing)

Too stressful for students and teachers

Takes away from instructional time

Taking the joy out of teaching and learning

Teachers can't teach the way they want

Too much teaching to the test

Negative impacts on teaching methods

Waste of money

Tests Mentioned

- TCAP – 288
- EOC – 55
- STAR – 41
- Social Studies Field Test – 26
- ACT – 13
- SAT 10 – 9
- AP – 7
- SAT – 4

Communication

- More information about tests
- Share test results
- Access to test questions
- ASPEN – want the information but sometimes is not used, not updated
- Parents not notified when students are failing
- Up to parents to initiate conversation with teachers, teachers too busy
- Want timely information about homework and tests

Homework

- Mentioned 148 times
- Too much
 - Kids need a break
 - Cuts into family time
 - Projects that take too much time, money
 - Younger child has more homework than older
- Not enough
 - Won't be prepared for future
 - Want to have opportunity to help child at home
- Textbooks not available
- Better communication around homework

Teachers

Support

Let teachers do their jobs

Teachers can't teach the way they want to

Too much stress on teachers

Let teachers use their own assessments

Criticism

Poor communication

Too much pressure on students over tests

In it for the paycheck

Students

- Do not all test well
- Tests do not reflect what they know
- Experience stress and anxiety
- Do not fit in the same box
- Have different learning styles
- Schools should focus on strengths
- Emphasis on testing interferes with love of learning
- Parent anxiety over student placement

Students with Special Needs

- Tests do not give an accurate picture of my child's ability, worth
- Child is more than a test score
- Need more accommodations
- Tests are stressful and discouraging

My child does well on tests, but . . .

- is not learning what he/she needs to succeed in college, the real world
- is not challenged
- is coasting, not learning to work hard
- no joy in learning
- my other child does not
- concern about the children who struggle, do not have the same resources

Word Frequencies

- Test: 1,681
- Child: 839
- Student: 829
- Teacher: 715
- School: 495
- Time; 375
- Should: 292
- Assessment: 274
- Standardized test: 240
- Kids: 209
- Parent: 203
- Think: 197
- Too much: 195
- Feel: 191
- Stress: 182
- Scores: 148
- Homework: 148
- Emphasis: 136
- **Please:** 122
- System: 118
- Believe: 113
- Results: 113
- Grades: 110
- Help: 101
- Education: 88
- Information: 87
- Pressure: 74
- Important: 61
- Ridiculous: 54
- Anxiety: 47 times
- Communicate/
Communication: 44
- Fail/failing: 47
- Common Core: 43
- Waste: 42
- Concerned: 30
- Curriculum: 30
- Aspen: 29
- Progress: 29
- Necessary: 29
- Care: 28
- College: 28
- Honors: 27
- True: 27
- Accurate: 26
- Too many: 25
- Unnecessary: 23
- Appropriate: 22
- Intervention: 21
- Development: 21
- Kindergarten: 17
- **Thank you:** 15
- Purpose: 11
- Superintendent: 10
- Cry: 10
- Sick: 6
- Fear: 6 times
- Real world: 5
- Private school: 5
- Homeschool: 2

What do parents want?

- Information – 87
- Communication – 44
- Creative/creativity – 29
- Project based learning – 27
- Joy / enjoyment – 19
- Play – 19
- Fun – 19
- Developmentally appropriate – 16
- Hands on learning - 11
- Recess - 10
- Fewer movies - 8
- Problem solving – 7
- Focus on strengths – 6
- Challenge – 5
- Portfolios – 4
- Career/technical – 2
- Back to the basics – 2