

1. Introduction

Dear Watertown Parents, Guardians and Caregivers:

The WHY Project is always looking for ways to improve upon your child's educational experience and our school community overall. We look to identify areas of strength and topics of concern within our school community.

Watertown Middle and High School teachers, staff, and administration, and students are taking similar versions of this survey too, so we can see what everyone's attitudes and feelings are about the Watertown Public Schools.

The survey should take about 10 minutes to complete and is voluntary and anonymous.

Thank you for your time and participation.

Sincerely,

The Watertown Healthy Youth Project Team

2. Survey Directions

Please read the questions carefully and answer them to the best of your ability.

If you have more than one child attending the middle school and/or high school, we encourage you to take the survey for each child. (Once you have completed the survey, you may return to the survey link to take the survey for an additional child.)

OR you may take the survey once and respond based on the child for whom you have had the most contact with the school system.

- Please read each statement and select one response (unless specified otherwise.)
- The scales for each section may be different. Please be sure to read the choices before responding.
- When making a choice, consider your overall experience.

3. Demographics

1. How many children do you have who are attending Watertown Middle or High School? (Please do not include children who are younger than middle school or beyond high school.)

- 1 2 3 4 5 or more

2. What is your child's gender? If you have multiple children, please respond based on the ONE child you are completing this survey for. (Remember, you can take the survey again if you have more than one child)

- Male Female Transgender

3. In which grade is your child?

- 6th 7th 8th 9th 10th 11th 12th

4. How would you describe yourself? (Choose all that apply.)

- African American (non-Hispanic)
- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Asian or Pacific Islander
- White (non-Hispanic)
- Hispanic or Latino/a
- Middle Eastern
- Multi-ethnic or Multi-racial
- Other (please specify)

4. Openness to Ideas

Administration refers to school leadership as a whole: Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, Headmaster or Principal, Associate Headmaster or Assistant Principal, and Directors/Coordinators.

5. The school's administration, teachers, and staff ask for my input on decisions about school policies, rules, and special events.

- Almost always Often Sometimes Rarely Never Don't know

6. My child's teachers are available to speak to me about concerns I have regarding my child.

- Almost always Often Sometimes Rarely Never Don't know

7. The school's Headmaster/Principal and Associate Headmaster/Assistant Principal are open to input from parents and other community members.

- Almost always Often Sometimes Rarely Never Don't know

8. The town's Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent are open to input from parents and other community members.

- Almost always Often Sometimes Rarely Never Don't know

9. The schools' guidance counselors are open to input from parents and other community members.

- Almost always Often Sometimes Rarely Never Don't know

10. The school administration follows through on parent or community input.

- Almost always Often Sometimes Rarely Never Don't know

11. The school administration makes changes when they see that something is not working.

- Almost always Often Sometimes Rarely Never Don't know

12. When parents or other community members give input, feedback, or suggestions, the school communicates the actions they have taken as a result of this input (examples: sends a letter to parents, posts a notice on the website, sends a connect-ed, includes information in a newsletter).

- Almost always Often Sometimes Rarely Never Don't know

13. I feel comfortable when talking with school administrators.

- Almost always Often Sometimes Rarely Never Don't know

14. I feel comfortable when talking with my child's teachers.

- Almost always Often Sometimes Rarely Never Don't know

5. Supporting Students and Responding to Student Needs

15. If my child has a behavioral or emotional need of any nature, teachers, administrators, the school nurse, guidance counselors, and clinical staff work together to address those needs with me and my child.

- Almost always Often Sometimes Rarely Never Don't know

16. The school staff treats the emotional and behavioral learning of my child as equally important to academic learning.

- Almost always Often Sometimes Rarely Never Don't know

17. My child's teacher(s) let me know if there are any academic concerns to be addressed with my child before it becomes a problem.

- Almost always Often Sometimes Rarely Never Don't know

18. My child's teacher(s) let me know if there are any social or emotional concerns regarding my child.

- Almost always Often Sometimes Rarely Never Don't know

19. Adults in the school handle sensitive information about students in a confidential and thoughtful manner.

- Almost always Often Sometimes Rarely Never Don't know

20. The school provides me with easy-to-understand and current information about the school policies including the disciplinary action that will be taken if my child breaks a policy.

- Almost always Often Sometimes Rarely Never Don't know

21. The teachers and administrators treat my child fairly when enforcing school policies.

- Almost always Often Sometimes Rarely Never Don't know

22. The school provides effective programs and services to help address my child's social/emotional needs.

- Almost always Often Sometimes Rarely Never Don't know

23. What are the names of the programs?

7. Family/School/Community Partnership

27. I think my child feels welcome and included during the more social parts of the school day(e.g.: lunch, walking in the hallways, study hall).

- Almost always Often Sometimes Rarely Never Don't know

28. The school's administration, teachers, and staff promote helpful home-school partnership.

- Almost always Often Sometimes Rarely Never Don't know

29. Teacher and Parent Conferences provide helpful communication between teachers and parents.

- Almost always Often Sometimes Rarely Never Don't know

30. Teacher and Parent Conferences run long enough to fully discuss how my child is doing.

- Almost always Often Sometimes Rarely Never Don't know

31. What could the school do to make communication between home and school most helpful?

32. What could the school do to make Teacher and Parent Conferences most helpful?

8. Instruction

33. My child is being taught to his or her strengths.

- Almost always Often Sometimes Rarely Never Don't know

34. My child is encouraged to learn in various ways. (Examples: research, role play, group projects, debate, drama, building models or displays.)

- Almost always Often Sometimes Rarely Never Don't know

35. My child has access to additional academic support and resources from school when needed.

- Almost always Often Sometimes Rarely Never Don't know

9. Physical Environment

36. The school building is in good condition.

- Almost always Often Sometimes Rarely Never Don't know

37. The school's physical environment contributes to productive learning.

- Almost always Often Sometimes Rarely Never Don't know

10. Diversity and Acceptance

In this section, your answers should reflect what your child has told you and/or what you have seen.

38. Teachers and staff treat each other with kindness and acceptance.

- Almost always Often Sometimes Rarely Never Don't know

39. Teachers and staff actively encourage and expect students to treat each other with kindness and acceptance.

- Almost always Often Sometimes Rarely Never Don't know

40. Teachers and staff teach students how to be fair and accepting of others.

- Almost always Often Sometimes Rarely Never Don't know

41. Adults in the school do a good job of recognizing something special in every student.

- Almost always Often Sometimes Rarely Never Don't know

42. I think students from all types of backgrounds feel safe at the school.

- Almost always Often Sometimes Rarely Never Don't know

43. I think students from all types of backgrounds feel welcome at the school.

- Almost always Often Sometimes Rarely Never Don't know

44. Students who are different from each other get along well at the school.

- Almost always Often Sometimes Rarely Never Don't know

12. Bullying, continued

For the following two questions, please select all the answers that apply.

48. Within the past school year (2010-2011), has your child **BEEN PICKED ON** or **BEEN HURT** because of his or her:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Race | <input type="checkbox"/> Cleanliness (body odor, etc.) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Culture or origin | <input type="checkbox"/> Personal style (clothing, hair, etc.) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Religion | <input type="checkbox"/> Friends |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gender | <input type="checkbox"/> Living situation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sexual orientation | <input type="checkbox"/> Social status (popularity) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Learning differences | <input type="checkbox"/> Economic status |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Athletic ability | <input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Body type (weight, height, etc.) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) | |

49. Within the past school year (2010-2011), has your child **PICKED ON** or **HURT SOMEONE ELSE** because of his or her:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Race | <input type="checkbox"/> Cleanliness (body odor, etc.) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Culture or origin | <input type="checkbox"/> Personal style (clothing, hair, etc.) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Religion | <input type="checkbox"/> Friends |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gender | <input type="checkbox"/> Living situation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sexual orientation | <input type="checkbox"/> Social status (popularity) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Learning differences | <input type="checkbox"/> Economic status |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Athletic ability | <input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Body type (weight, height, etc.) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) | |

50. How often do you think the school responded appropriately to incidents of reported bullying?

- Almost always Often Sometimes Rarely Never Don't know Not applicable

13. General

51. Overall, the school is a positive place for students to learn.

- Almost always Often Sometimes Rarely Never Don't know

52. Overall, the school provides a caring and encouraging environment.

- Almost always Often Sometimes Rarely Never Don't know

53. The school seems committed to making sure all students succeed.

- Almost always Often Sometimes Rarely Never Don't know

54. I think my child feels successful at school.

- Almost always Often Sometimes Rarely Never Don't know

55. The community is proud of our school.

- Almost always Often Sometimes Rarely Never Don't know

56. Teachers and staff seem proud of the school.

- Almost always Often Sometimes Rarely Never Don't know

57. My child is proud of the school.

- Almost always Often Sometimes Rarely Never Don't know

58. I am proud of the school.

- Almost always Often Sometimes Rarely Never Don't know

14. Background Information

59. My child's grades were mostly:

- All A's A's and B's B's and C's C's and D's F's

60. My child's stress level is:

- Very high High Average Low Very low

61. Overall, my stress level is:

- Very high High Average Low Very low

62. Which best describes your marital status?

- Single Married Domestic partner Divorced Widowed

63. Which best describes your employment status?

- Employed full-time Employed part-time Stay-at-home parent Not employed Other

64. Please describe your involvement with the school. (Select all that apply.)

- Volunteer Student activities (school plays, etc.)
 PTO Coach
 Tutor Not involved
 Other (please specify)