

# DOINGWHATWORKS



## SAMPLE MATERIAL

### Akron After School Program Parent Survey Results

Glover Community Learning Center, Ohio

**Topic:** Increased Learning Time: Beyond the Regular School Day

**Practice:** Evaluate Program

Glover Community Learning Center's after-school program is part of the districtwide Akron After School program. The curriculum, design, and evaluation is managed centrally at the district office, and the program is refined every year based on data collected. The Parent Survey Results details the responses parents of after-school students had regarding their needs for an after-school program, its impact so far on their children's academic and social outcomes, past questions they'd asked program staff, what they liked best about the program, and suggestions for improvement.

School districts, site managers, and program evaluators may find this example useful when developing parent surveys for evaluating out-of-school programs. Results of parent surveys may be combined with additional qualitative data from focus groups and interviews.



2007

# Akron After School – 21<sup>st</sup> Century Results of Parent Survey 2006-2007

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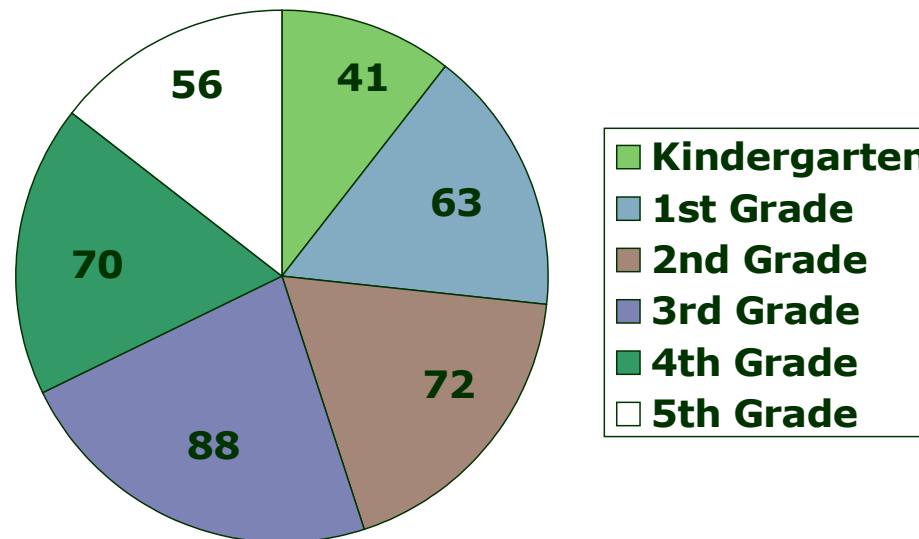
*With assistance from Kristen Keuchel, B.A. and Antoine Beauchemin, B.Sc.*

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# Number of Respondents to Parent Survey

- 269 parents responded to the Parent Survey this year, compared to 216 in 2006.
- They responded for 390 students in the Akron After School program this year, compared to 285 in 2006.



Number of students per grade for whom parents responded.

## Other Children

Fifty-one parents responded that they *did* have other children in grades K-5 who were not eligible to attend the Akron After School Program.

No. of parents indicating they had *one* child not eligible to attend: 30

No. of parents indicating they had *two* children not eligible to attend: 0

No. of parents indicating they had *three* children not eligible to attend: 1

No. of parents indicating they had *four or more* children not eligible to attend:

20



## Fee

Seventy-six parents responded that they would be willing to pay a fee for non-eligible children to attend Akron After School.

They were asked, “What amount do you think would be a fair and reasonable fee for them to attend an eight-week session?”

Range: \$0 to \$80.00

Mode: \$20.00



# Akron After School Attendance

Parents reported that their children attended Akron After School an average of 3.5 days per week.



# Perceived Overall Benefit of Attending Akron After School

On a scale of 0 to 3 (in which 0=Not at All, 1=A Little Bit, 2=Some, and 3=A Lot), parents felt that overall, their children benefited an average of 2.5 by attending Akron After School this year.



Q5: In a typical week, your child(ren) goes/go where  
at 5:00?  
(after Akron After School)

- The great majority of parents said their child goes home to the parents, grandparents, or babysitter.
- Other answers included the following:
  - Boys and Girls Club
  - Church
  - Library



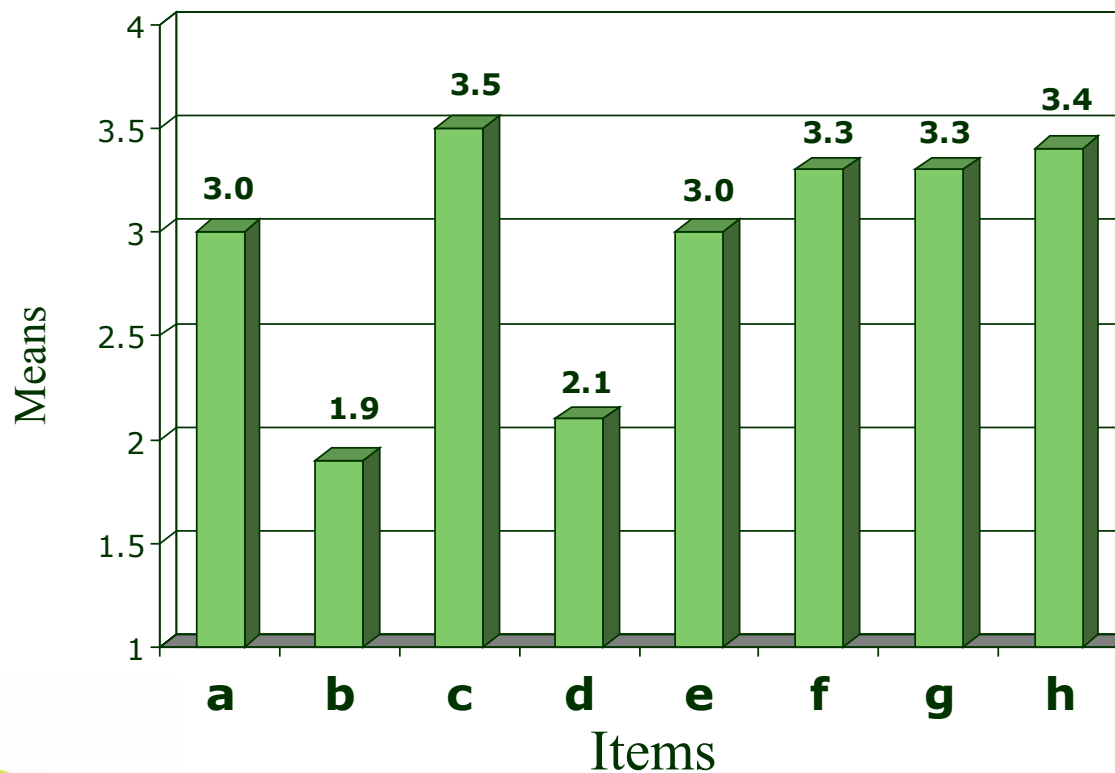


## Q6: In a typical week, your child(ren) goes/go where at 2:30? (after a regular school day)

- Once again, the great majority of parents said their child goes home to the parents, grandparents, or babysitter.
- However, there were many parents who said their child went to a Child Care Center.
- Other answers included the following:
  - Boy and Girls Club
  - Study Skills Program
  - Church
  - Library
  - Parent's Office
  - Friend's House



## Q7: To what extent do you agree with the following statements about why you enrolled your child(ren) in Akron After School?



1=Strongly disagree, 2=Disagree, 3=Agree, 4=Strongly agree

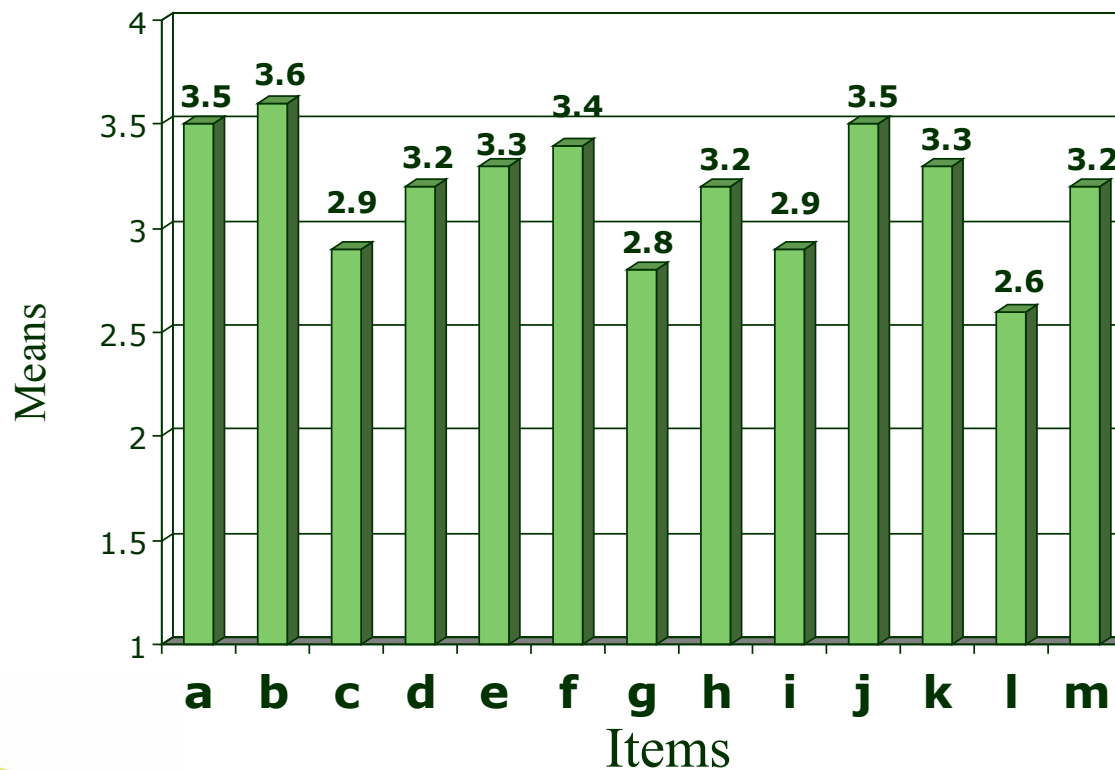


## Q7 Survey Items Corresponding to Above Chart

- a) It was recommended by the school and/or teacher.
- b) I needed child care.
- c) I believed the program would help my child(ren) do better in school.
- d) I was worried about my child(ren)'s safety during out-of-school times.
- e) It was a way for my child(ren) to be around friends and peers.
- f) I wanted my child(ren) to experience enrichment ("fun") classes that they wouldn't learn otherwise.
- g) I wanted my child to get homework help.



## Q8: To what extent do you agree with each of the following statements about the Akron After School Program?



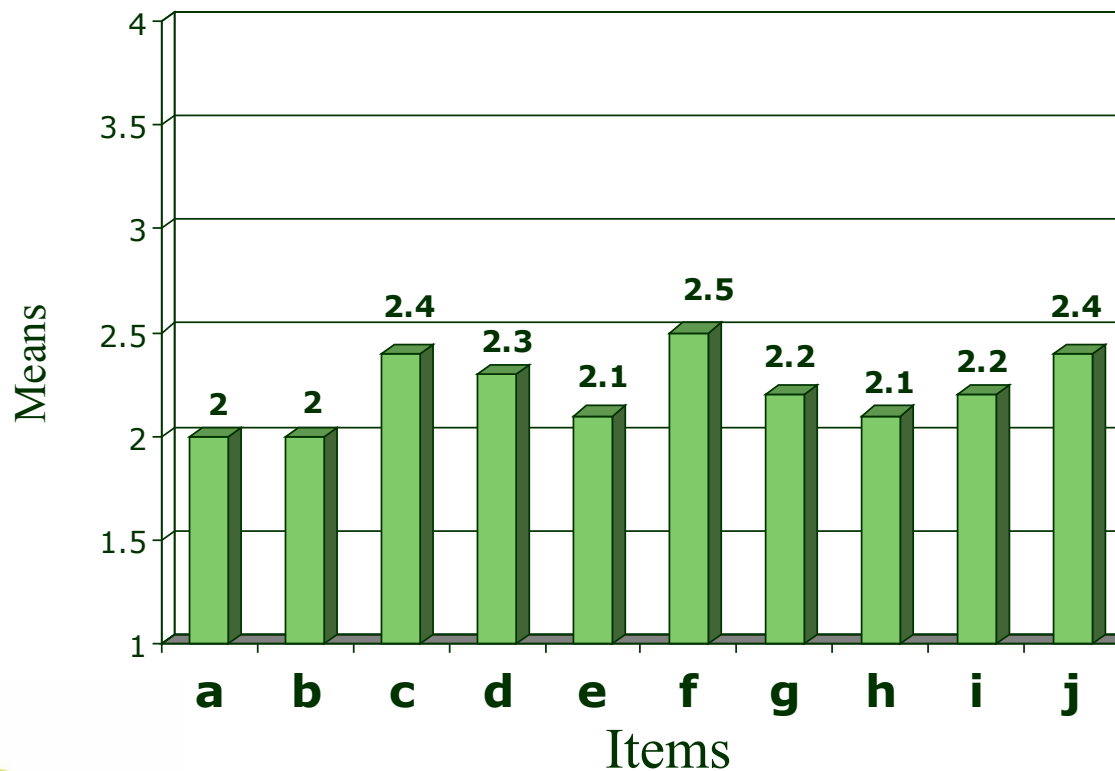
1=Strongly disagree, 2=Disagree, 3=Agree, 4=Strongly agree

## Q8 Survey Items Corresponding to Above Chart

- a) My child(ren) learned new activities, gained new interests.
- b) My child(ren) enjoy(s) attending the after school program.
- c) My child(ren) is/are safer because of the program
- d) The program has helped my child(ren) do better in school.
- e) The staff was professional and competent.
- f) The staff provided a safe and supervised program.
- g) There was good communication between the intervention teacher and myself.
- h) My child(ren) got enrichment (“fun”) classes that they wouldn’t otherwise get.
- i) I would pay a fee for the program if it were reasonably priced.
- j) Overall, I am satisfied with the program.
- k) I am well-informed about the program’s rules and discipline policies.
- l) The academic after school teacher keeps me well-informed about my child(ren)’s progress in reading and math.
- m) I have a good understanding of the program and how it works.



Q11: In your opinion, to what extent has your child(ren) ***shown improvement*** in the following areas since attending the Akron After School Program?



1=None, 2=Very Little, 3=Some, 4=A lot

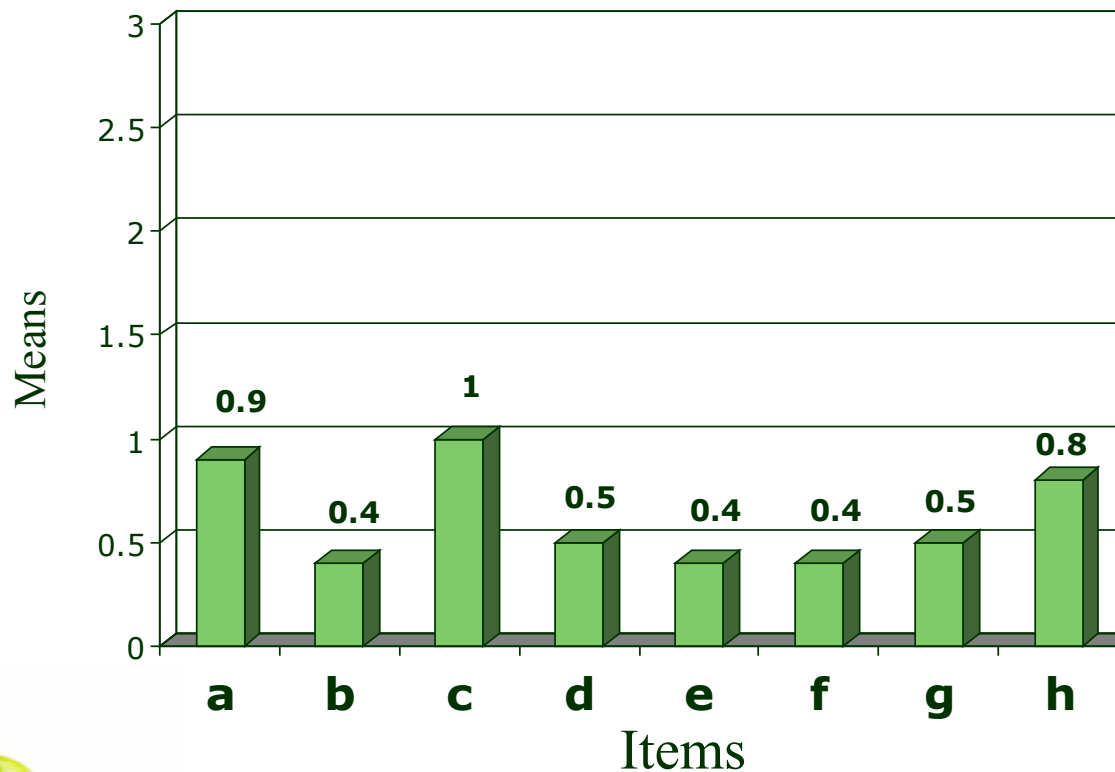


## Q11 Survey Items Corresponding to Above Chart

- a) Attitude toward going to school
- b) Overall behavior
- c) Interest in school activities
- d) Getting homework done
- e) Reading more at home
- f) Interest in new activities
- g) Confidence in reading abilities
- h) Confidence in math abilities
- i) Confidence in school in general
- j) Confidence in new skills gained through enrichment (“fun”) classes



Q12: Since the beginning of this after school session, how frequently have staff members from the after school program talked with you about your child(ren) for any of the following reasons?



0=Never, 1=Rarely, 2=Sometimes, 3=Often





## Q12 Survey Items Corresponding to Above Chart

- a) Positive behavior (more effort/participation, role model, etc.)
- b) Negative behavior (lack of effort/participation, etc.)
- c) Positive academic progress
- d) Lack of academic progress
- e) Problems with academics
- f) Discipline issues (received 3 strikes, kicked out, etc.)
- g) Attendance
- h) Activities in enrichment classes



## Responses to the Question: If you have ever had to contact your child(ren)'s school regarding the Akron After School program, please briefly explain why:

### ➤ Transportation

- To complain about problems with child not arriving home on time due to bus.

### ➤ Behavior and Discipline

- To inquire about conflict between children.
- To meet with staff about child's behavior.
- Issues about racism.

### ➤ Scheduling

- To inform program staff of child's future attendance.
- To get information about program's schedule.

### ➤ Expectation of Program

- To ask program staff why child's homework isn't done.



# What parents liked best about the program:

- Provides opportunity to try new activities the kids have never done before.
- Helps kids get their homework done.
- Increases interest in school and learning.
- Increases school confidence.
- Allows for social interaction with peers outside of classroom setting.
- The hours are good and fits into their schedule.
- Provides a safe environment with good staff.



## Parents' suggestions for improvement

- Similarly to the previous year, parents said they want:
  - More feedback about students' academic and social behavior.
  - More communication between themselves and the program staff.
  - Be more involved in the program.
- Additionally, parents suggested:
  - Better bus drivers who use regular routes and care more about the time the kids get home.
  - More homework help and less play.
  - More focus on reading and math.
  - More activities.
  - Have it every day, and for more of the school year.

