

# District Report of Site-Level Climate

Paulding County School District  
January 22 – February 5, 2013



# Overview

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Paulding County School District invited elementary, middle and high school staff members to participate in its second annual School Climate Survey.

School climate topics included:

- Academic Preparation
- Student Support
- School Leadership
- Parent Engagement
- Safety and Behavior
- School Operations
- School District Events

The survey was emailed directly to staff members. The survey was open to participation from January 22 until February 5, 2013.

This report uses last year's survey results as baseline data to compare with this year's results at the district level. Individual site-level reports will be provided to school leadership with open-ended question responses.

# Technical Notes

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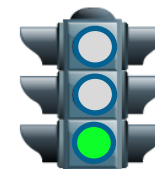
This study was conducted as a school-level survey. As with any survey, 100% participation was unlikely; however, the 72% response rate attained by Paulding County Schools provided the district with a representative sample of the whole from which to make generalizations. Individual school-level participation rates varied.

While this survey did not use a random sample, the confidence interval using a 95% confidence level is  $\pm 1.13$ . Therefore, survey findings at the district level may be stated with a high degree of confidence.

The survey was administered online.

A likert-type scale was used in the survey. Answer options included:

- Strongly Agree, Agree, Disagree, Strongly Disagree, Don't Know



# Executive Summary

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## **A number of positive findings were identified:**

- A relatively high percentage of invited respondents (72%) participated in the survey.
- 87% of respondents rated their school with an “A” or “B.”

## ■ **Climate Dimensions**

- The average positive rating of “Strongly Agree” or “Agree” for all school climate dimensions was 87%.
- Student Support (92%) and Academic Preparation (91%) were the highest rated school climate dimensions.

## ■ **Academic Preparation**

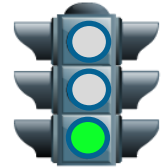
- 93% of respondents agreed that learning standards and expectations are clearly explained to students.
- 78% of staff members indicated students at their school are learning what they need to know to be successful in the next grade level and for graduation (+3 percentage points).

## ■ **Student Support**

- 92% of respondents reported the variety of activities and courses at their school keeps students engaged in learning (+4 percentage points).

## ■ **School Leadership**

- 85% of staff members agreed the principal and assistant principal(s) encourage staff involvement in decision-making for the school (+7 percentage points).



# Executive Summary

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## Positive findings continued:

### ■ **Faculty Relations and Support**

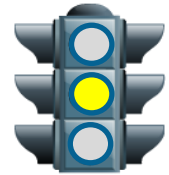
- 90% of respondents feel respected and supported by the principal and other administrators at their school (+5 percentage points).

### ■ **Parent Engagement**

- 82% of respondents reported parents support them when addressing an academic problem with their child (+4 percentage points), while 81% reported parents support them when addressing behavior problems with their child (+5 percentage points).

### ■ **Safety and Behavior**

- 91% of staff members indicated they have the support they need to maintain discipline and order at school (+6 percentage points).
- 89% of staff members agreed discipline is enforced at school (+7 percentage points).



# Executive Summary

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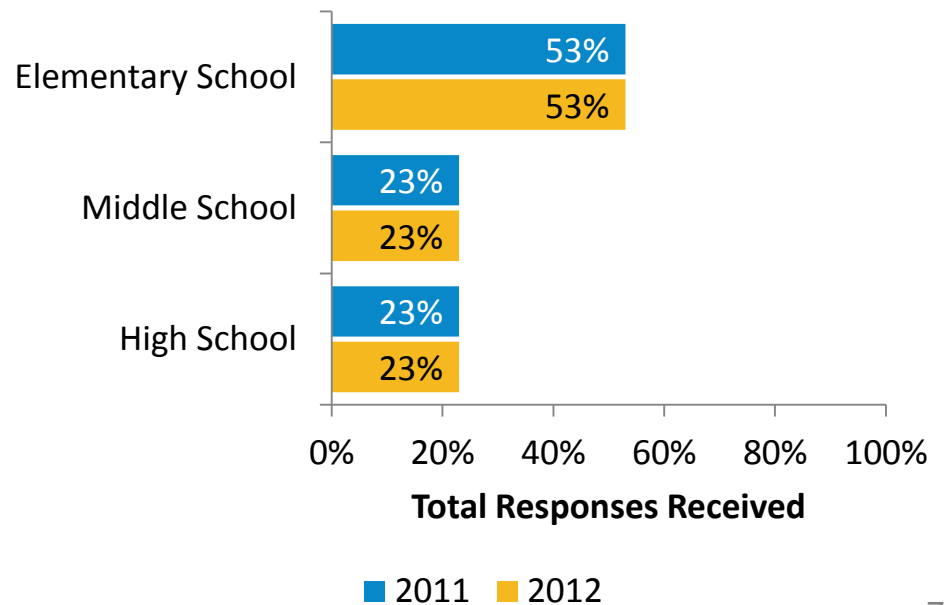
## Areas that may need attention:

- **School Operations**
  - 79% of respondents responded less favorably regarding school operations in comparison with last year's findings (-2 percentage points).
- **Faculty Relations and Support**
  - While 73% of total respondents reported the professional development they attended helped them to meet the learning needs of students (+3 percentage points), only 60% of high school staff members reported the same (-3 percentage points).
- **School Operations**
  - 69% of high school staff members agreed their instructional materials are in good condition (-4 percentage points).

# Participation Rate

Responding Group	Number of Responses (n)		Max Possible Responses (Nmax)		Response Rate (%)	
	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012
Staff	2,273	2,118	2,974	2,957	76%	72%

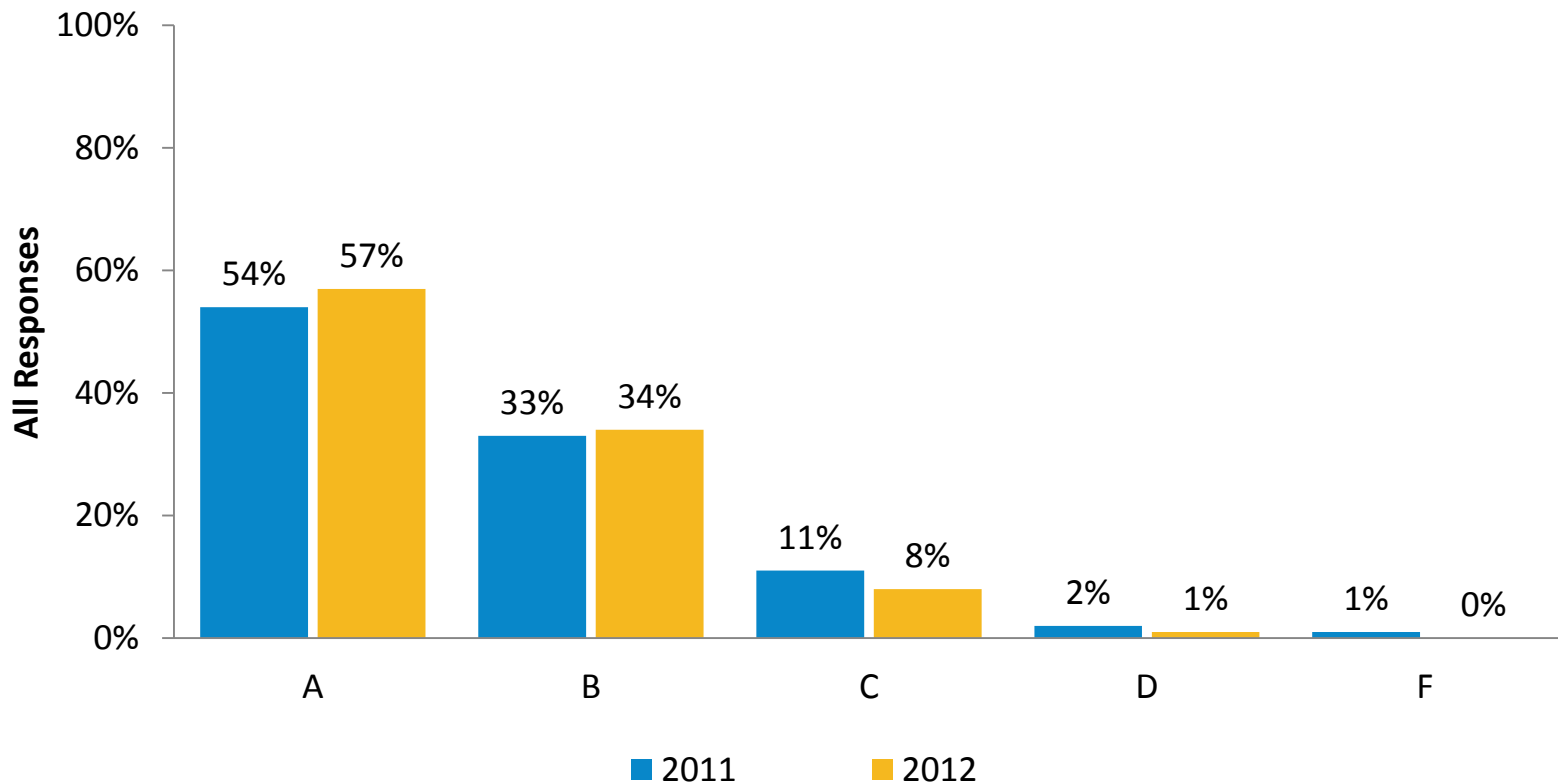
Responding Group	Completed Responses	
	2011	2012
Elementary School	1,203	1,127
Middle School	522	488
High School	527	489



# Perception of School Quality

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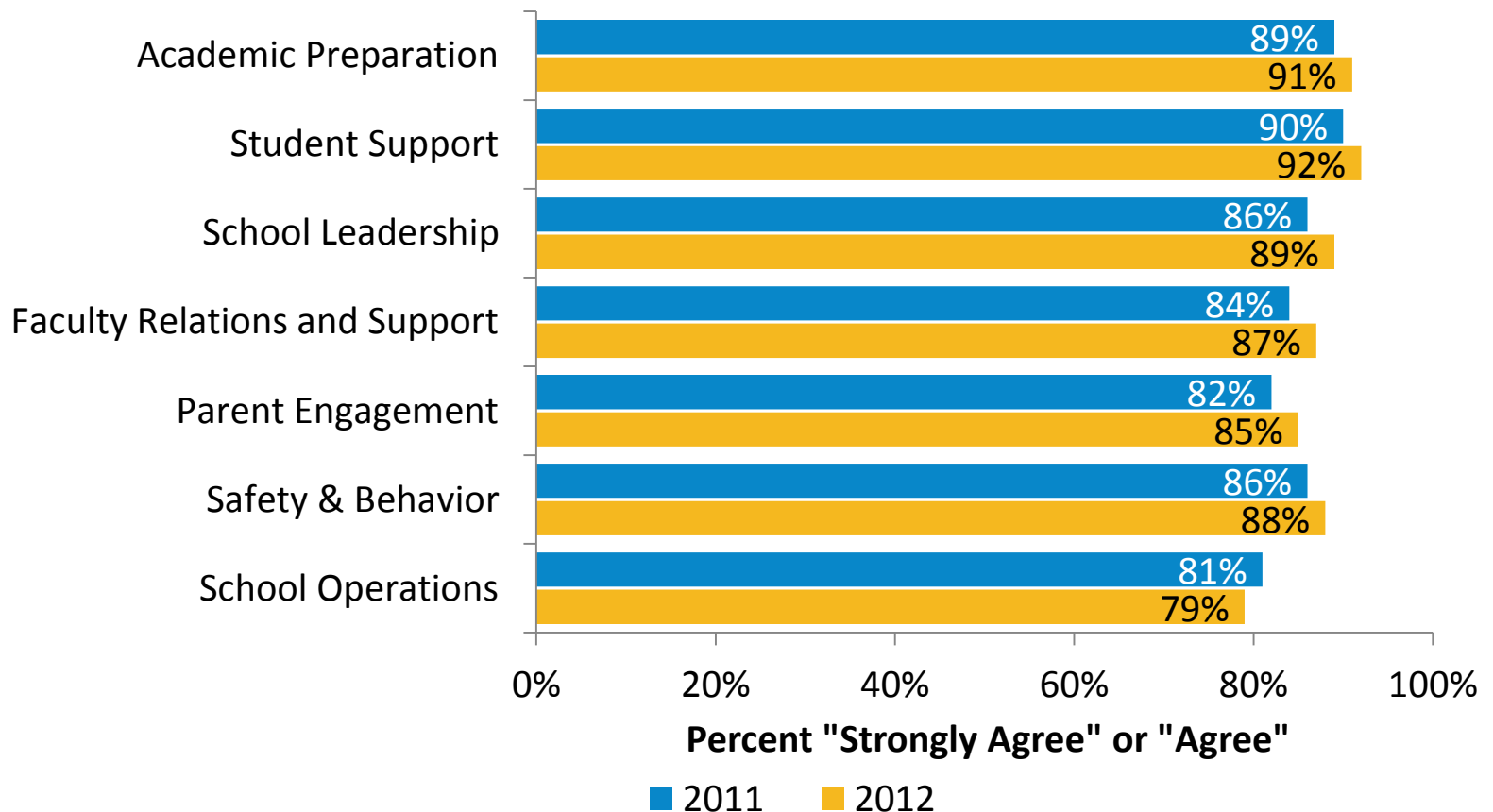
Students receive grades of A, B, C, D or F to report the quality of their schoolwork. Please tell us what rating you would give the quality of your child's school.





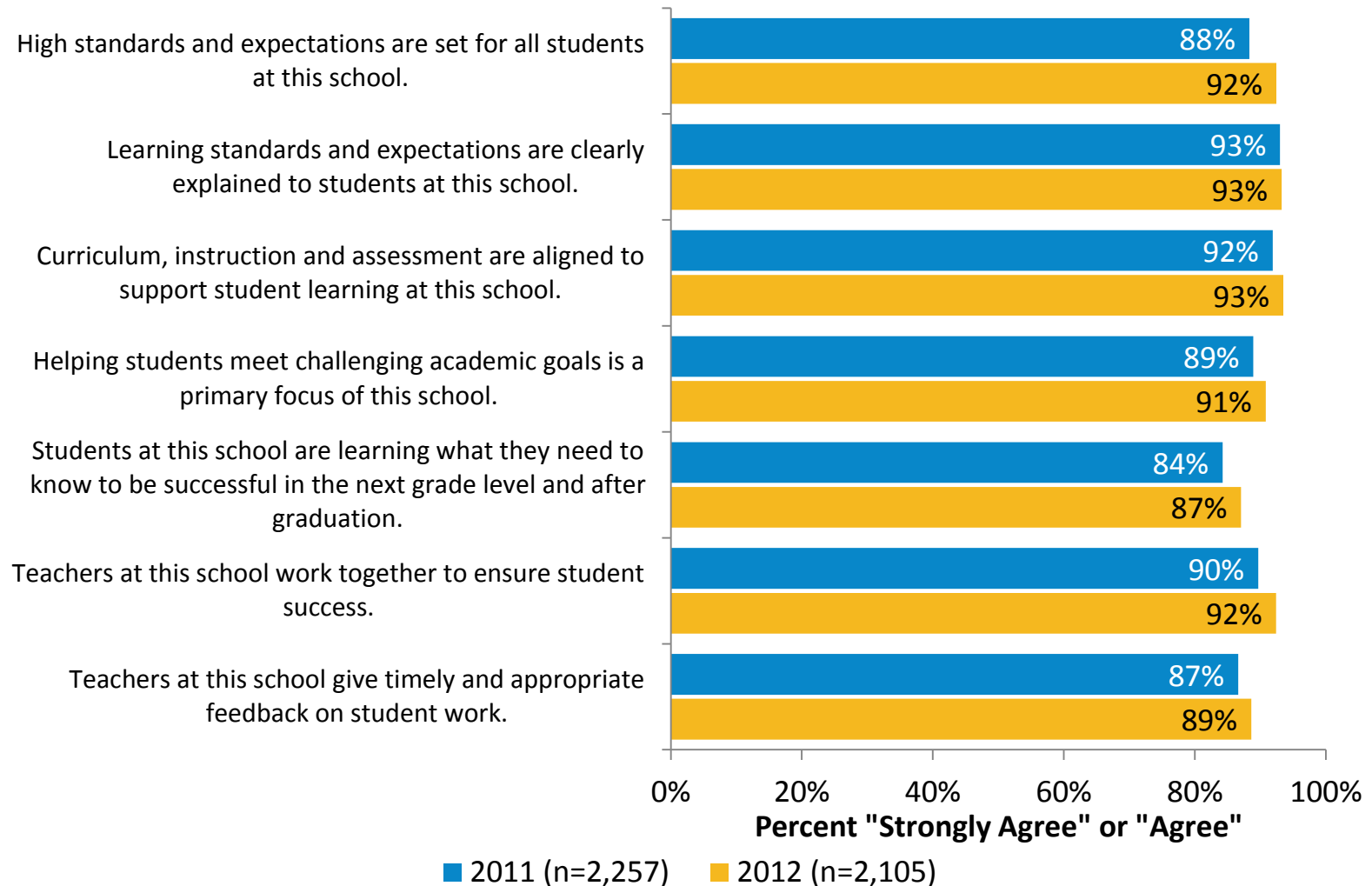
# School Climate Dimensions

**Answer Options:** Strongly Disagree, Disagree, Agree, Strongly Agree, Don't Know

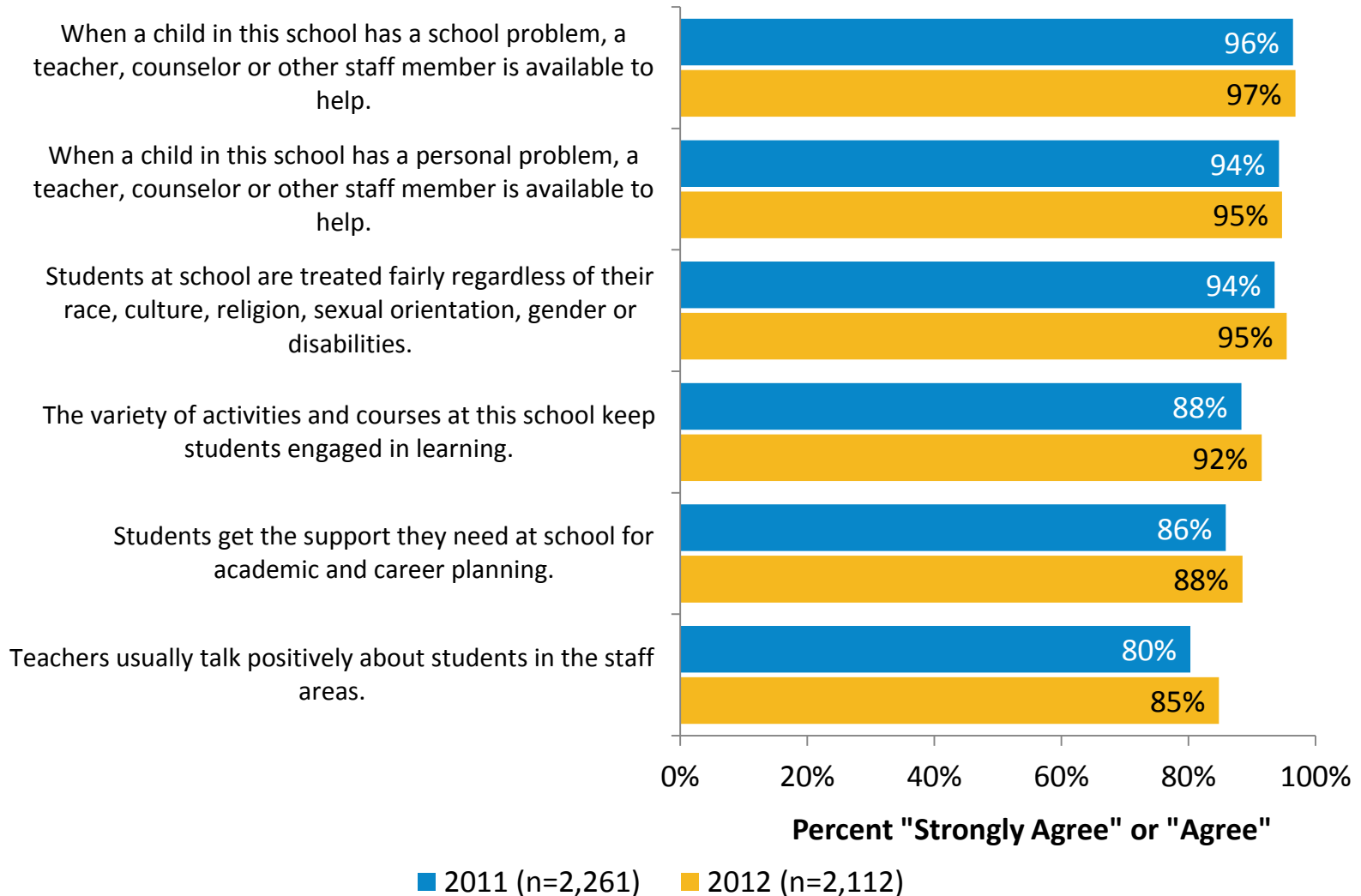


Note: Average positive response of "Strongly Agree" or "Agree" for 2012 is 87%

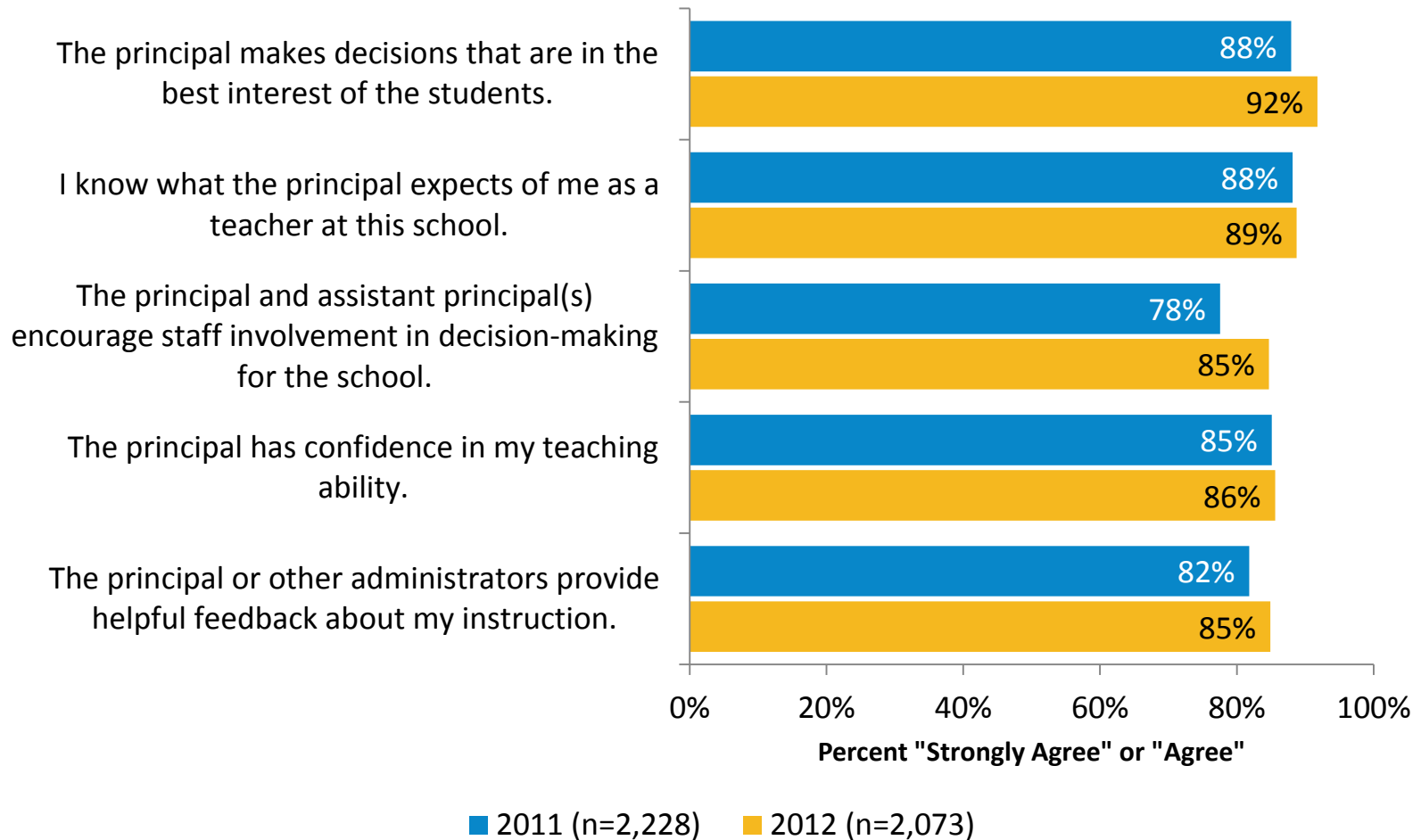
# Academic Preparation



# Student Support



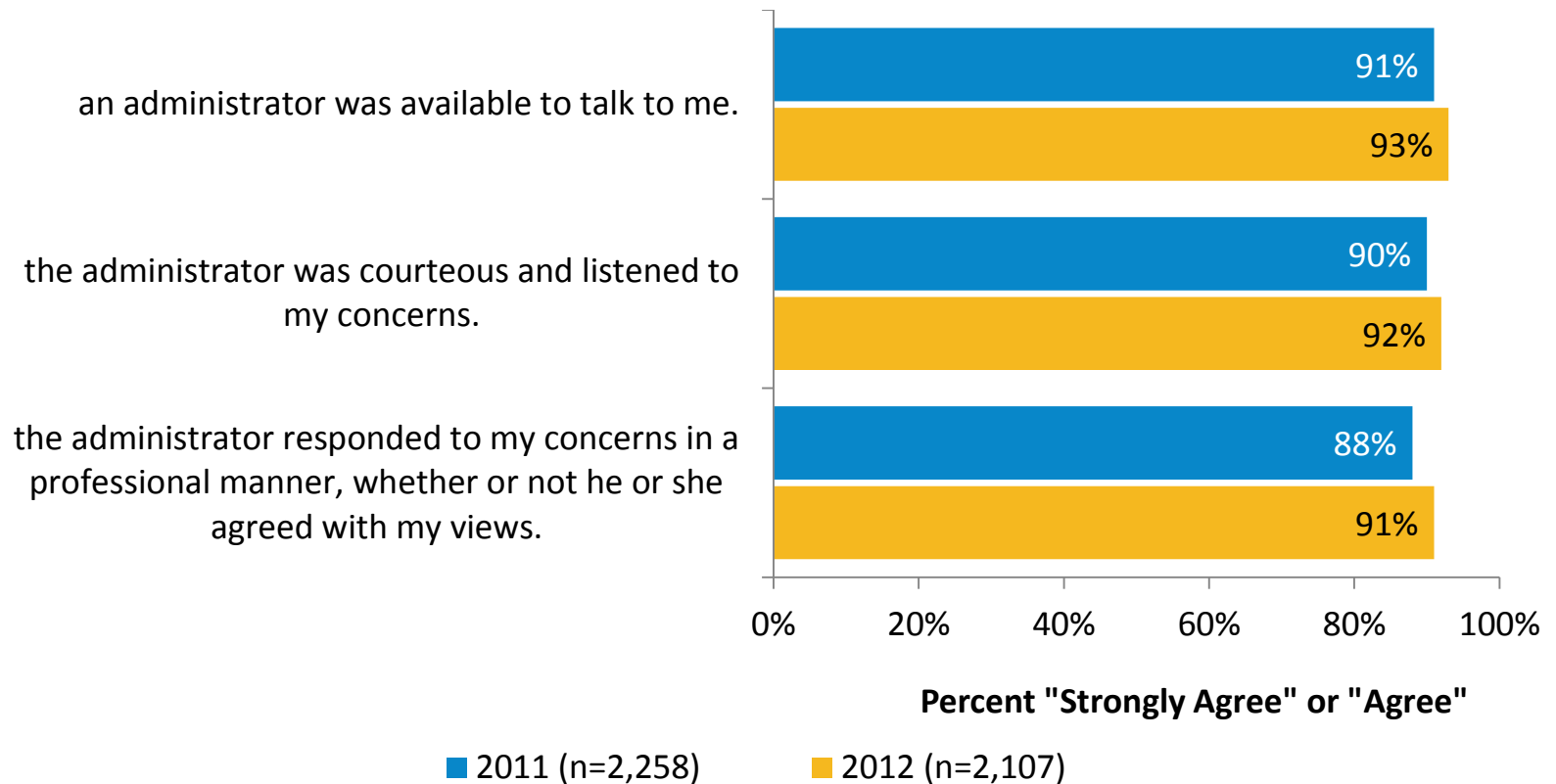
# School Leadership



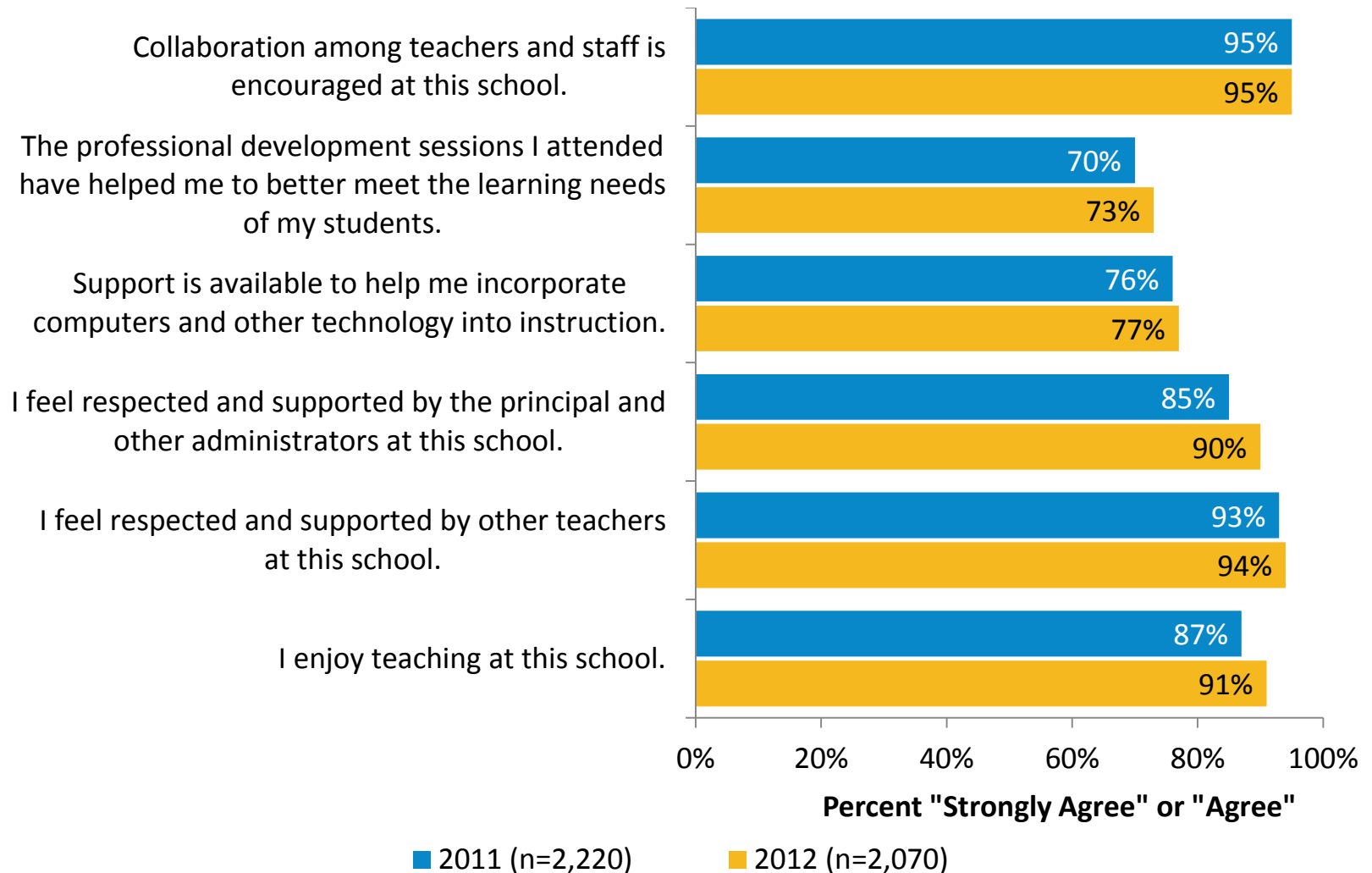
# School Leadership

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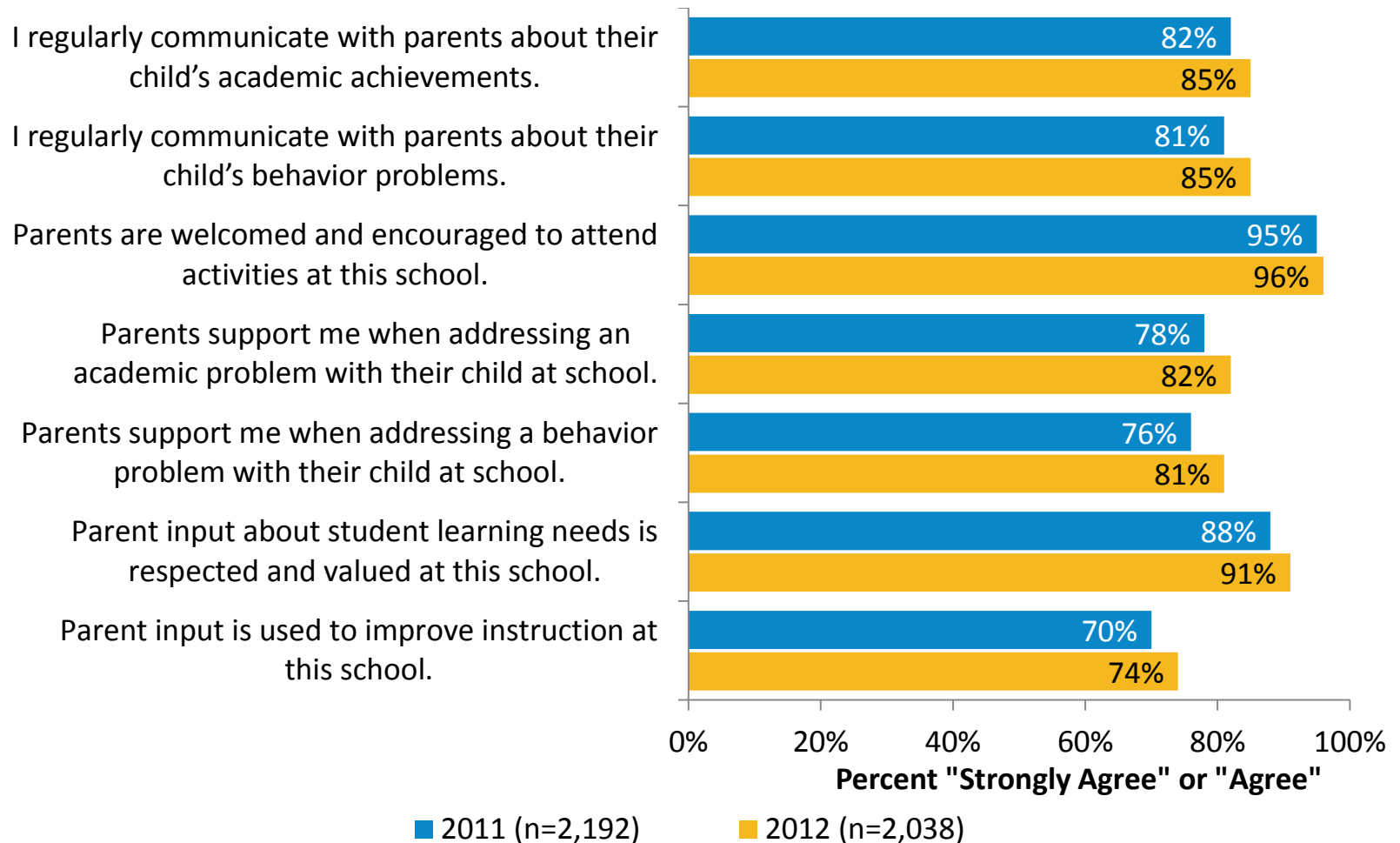
When you have had an issue or concern to discuss with a school administrator . . .



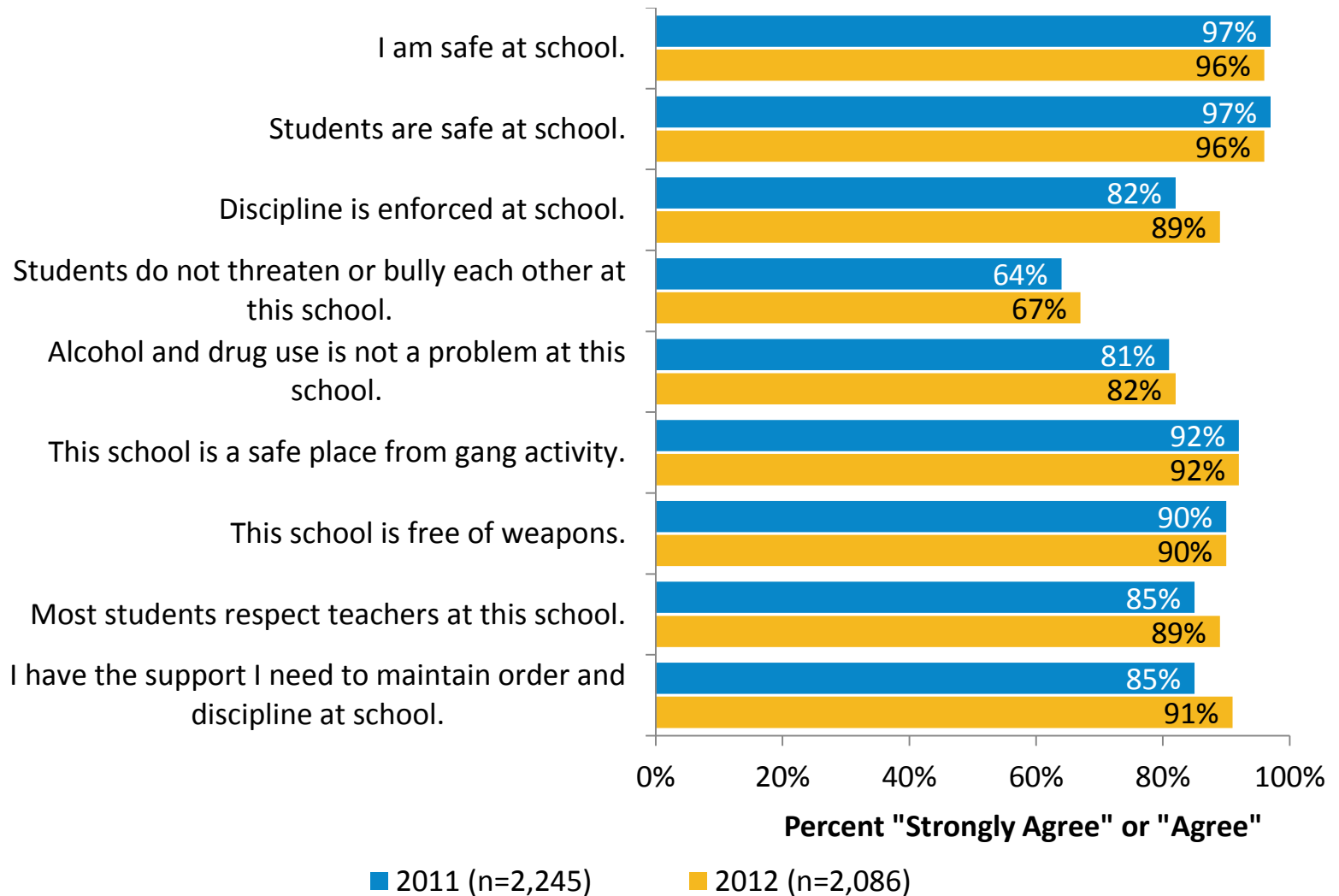
# Faculty Relations and Support



# Parent Engagement

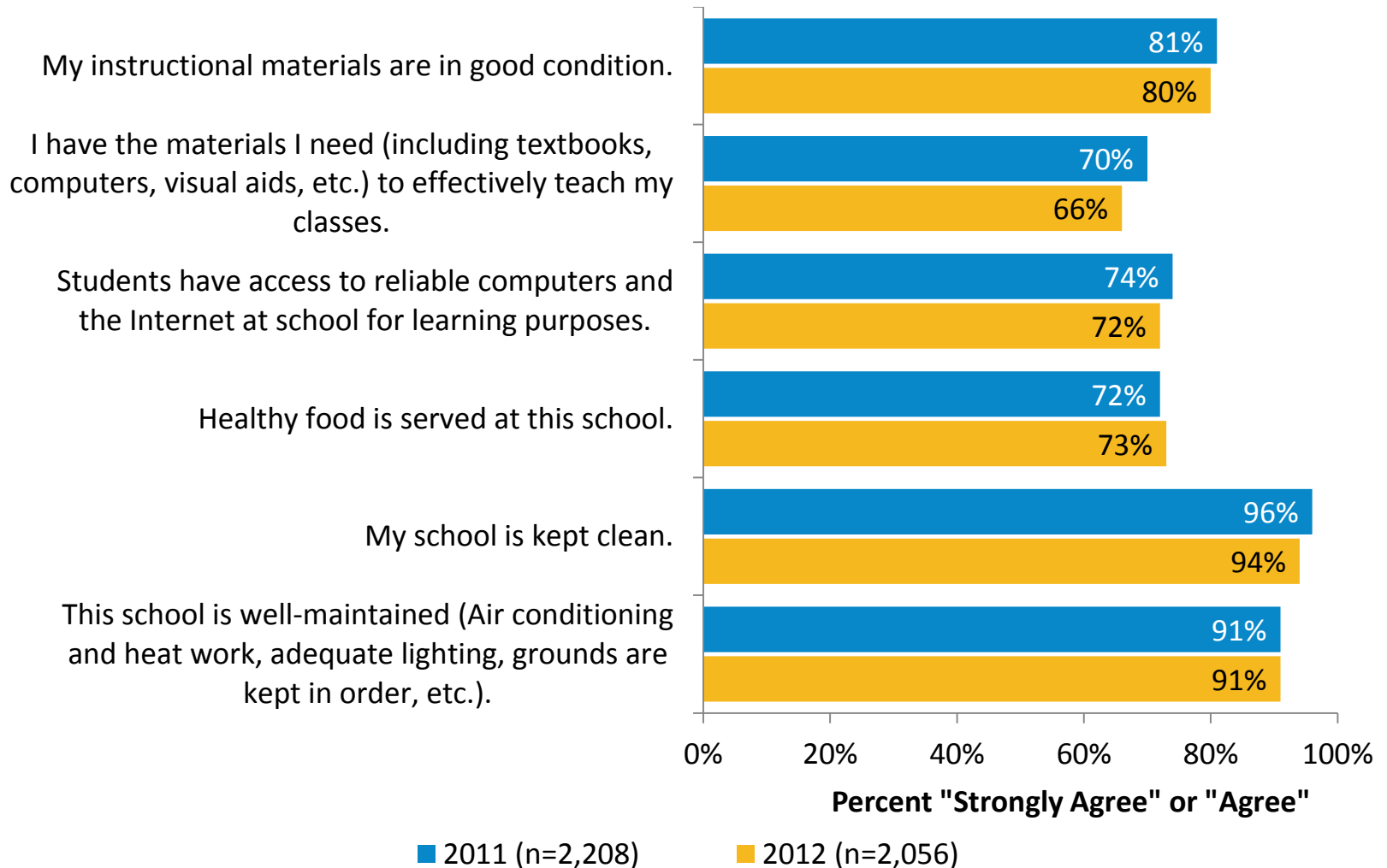


# Safety and Behavior





# School Operations



# Educational Programs & District Operations

Staff were asked to rank the top 3 items they consider most important in the areas of school educational programs and district operations . Rank 1= 3 points; Rank 2=2 points and Rank 3=1 point.

<b>Educational Programs</b>	<b>Total Points</b>	<b>District Operations</b>	<b>Total Points</b>
Support for students with Special Education needs	100	Small Class Size	100
Physical Education	50	School Counselors	30
Career/Technical Education	48	Nurses	27
Gifted and Talented Education	44	Clean, Well-Maintained School Buildings	26
Art and Music Education	37	Textbooks	24
English Language Development for English Learners	26	School Resource Officers	18
Co-Curricular/Extracurricular Activities	17	Central Office Support of Schools	14
Adult Education Programs	7	School Librarians	13
		Transportation	9
		School Psychologists	5

# Conclusions

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## Highlights

- To be completed with district

## Next Steps

- To be completed with district

# Appendix

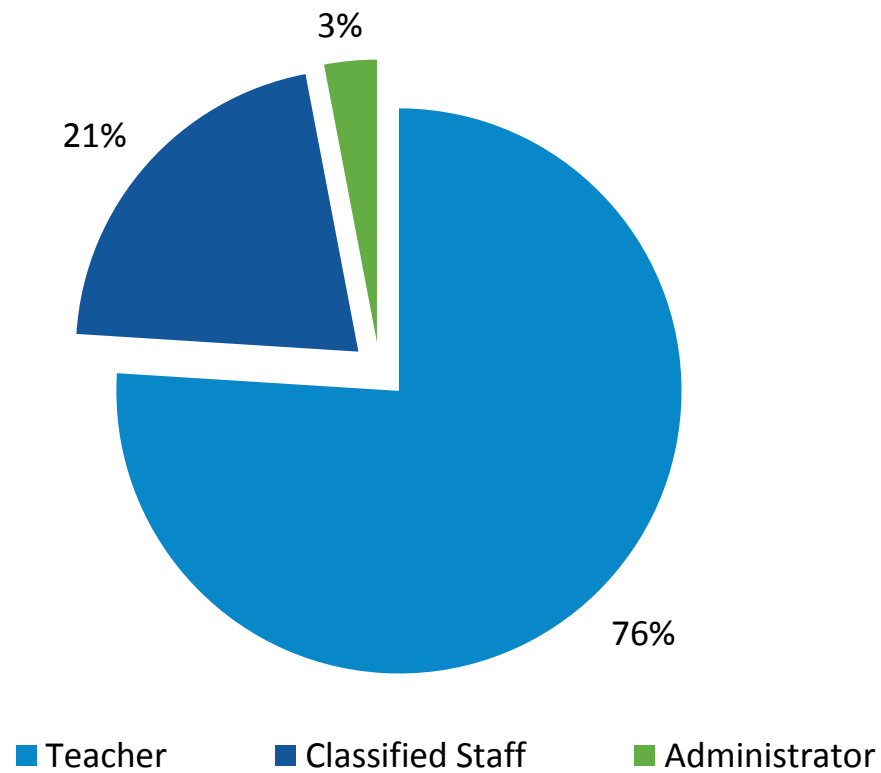
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- Demographics (Slides 20 -23)
- School Climate Dimensions by School Level
  - Academic Preparation (Slide 24)
  - Student Support (Slide 25)
  - School Leadership (Slides 26-27)
  - Faculty Relations and Support (Slide 28)
  - Parent Engagement (Slide 29)
  - Safety and Behavior (Slide 30)
  - School Operations (Slide 31)

# I am a(n) . . .

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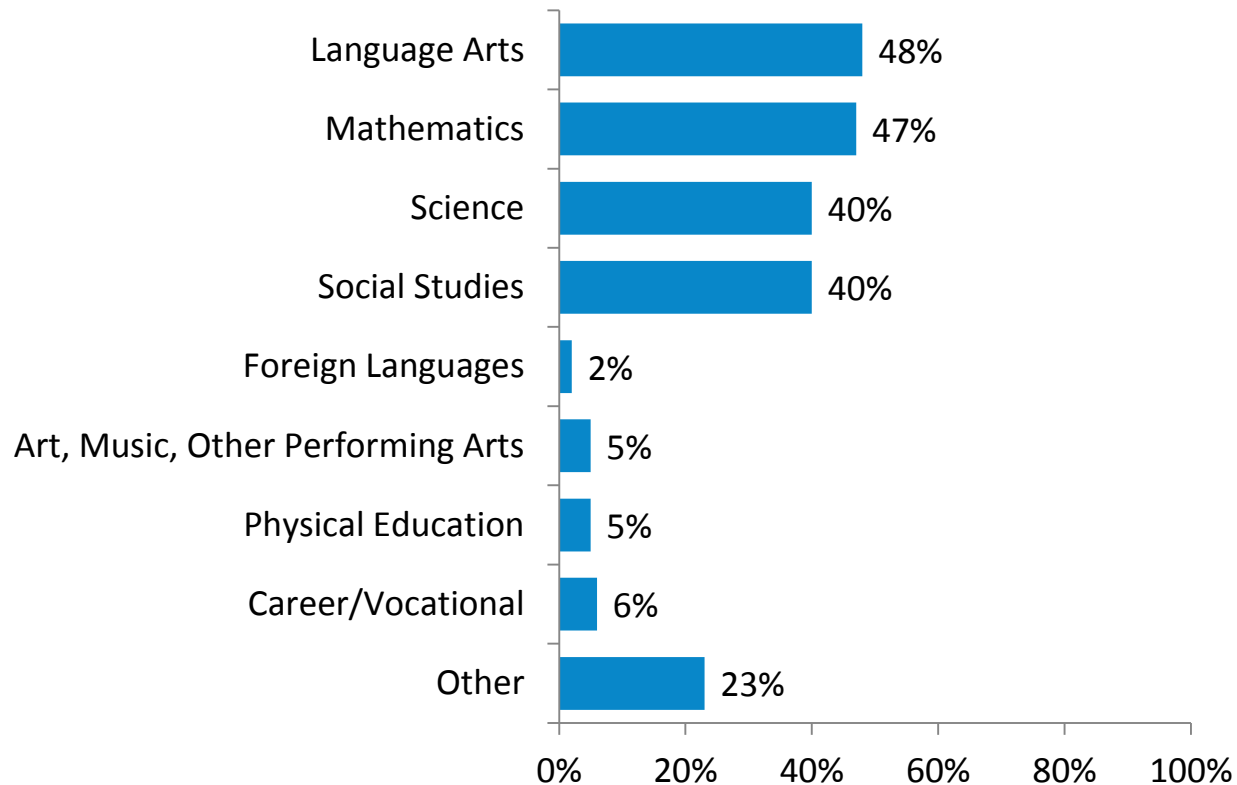
I am a(n) . . .



# Subject

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Which subject areas do you teach?

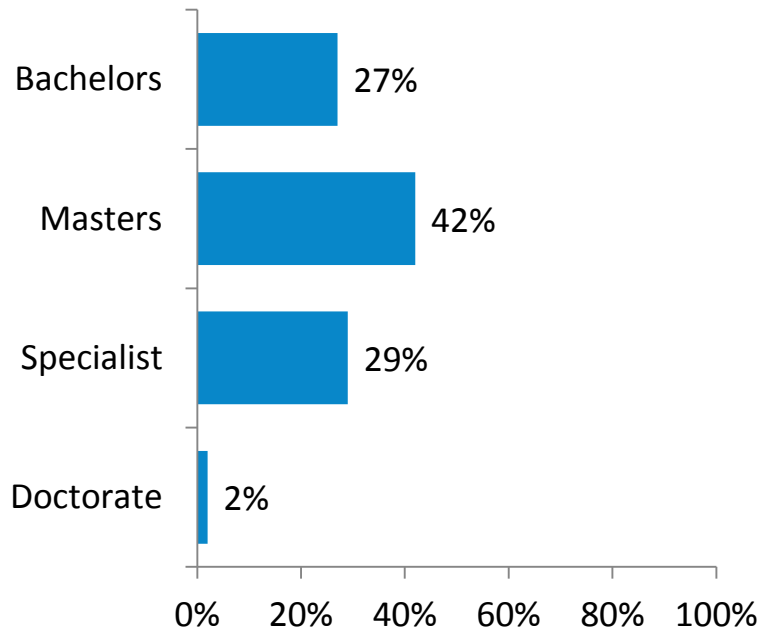


*Note: Multiple answers per participant possible. Percentages added may exceed 100 since a participant may select more than one answer for this question.*

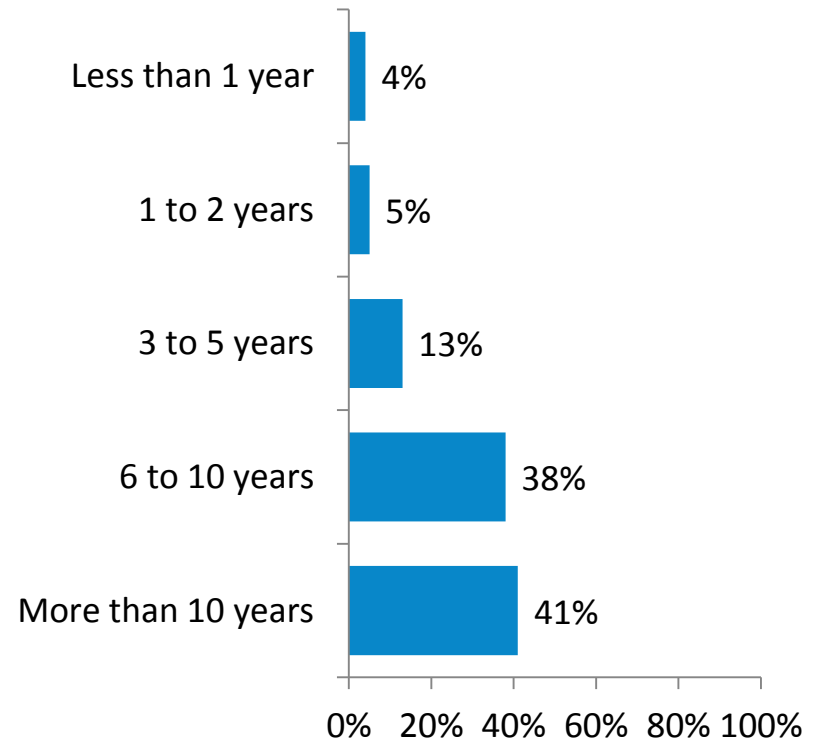
# Qualification & Experience

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**What is the highest degree you have earned?**



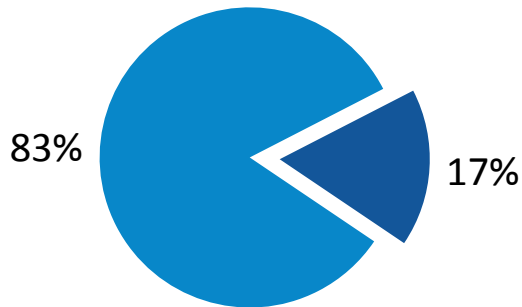
**How many years have you been teaching in this District?**



# Gender and Ethnicity/Race

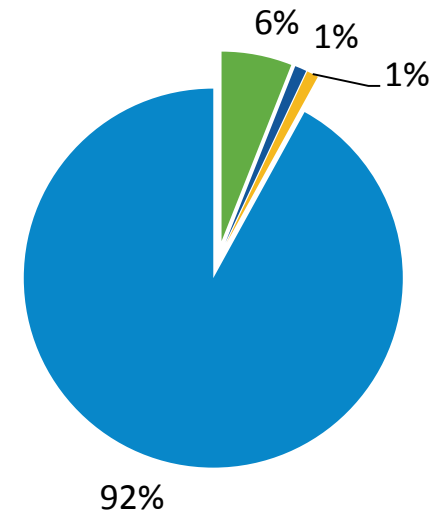
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What is your gender?



■ Female ■ Male

Which of the following best describes your ethnicity/race?



■ Black or African American  
■ Hispanic or Latino  
■ Multi-Racial  
■ White



# Academic Preparation

	Elementary			Middle			High		
	2011 (n=1,194)	2012 (n=1,119)	Change	2011 (n=518)	2012 (n=486)	Change	2011 (n=522)	2012 (n=485)	Change
Percent "Strongly Agree" or "Agree"									
High standards and expectations are set for all students at this school.	94%	96%	➡ 2%	87%	94%	⬆ 7%	75%	83%	⬆ 8%
Learning standards and expectations are clearly explained to students at this school.	94%	96%	➡ 2%	93%	91%	➡ -2%	90%	89%	➡ -1%
Curriculum, instruction and assessment are aligned to support student learning at this school.	93%	95%	➡ 2%	92%	93%	➡ 1%	90%	90%	➡ 0%
Helping students meet challenging academic goals is a primary focus of this school.	93%	95%	➡ 2%	89%	91%	➡ 2%	81%	81%	➡ 0%
Students at this school are learning what they need to know to be successful in the next grade level and after graduation.	92%	93%	➡ 1%	81%	85%	⬆ 4%	71%	76%	⬆ 5%
Teachers at this school work together to ensure student	91%	94%	⬆ 3%	88%	93%	⬆ 5%	87%	87%	➡ 0%
Teachers at this school give timely and appropriate feedback on student work.	89%	91%	➡ 2%	86%	87%	➡ 1%	82%	85%	⬆ 3%

Green arrow: +3 percentage points or more. Yellow arrow: +/- 2 percentage points. Red arrow: -3 percentage points or more. Percentages are rounded.

# Student Support

	Elementary			Middle			High		
	2011 (n=1,195)	2012 (n=1,124)	Change	2011 (n=519)	2012 (n=487)	Change	2011 (n=524)	2012 (n=486)	Change
Percent "Strongly Agree" or "Agree"									
When a child in this school has a school problem, a teacher, counselor or other staff member is available to help.	97%	98%	→ 1%	96%	97%	→ 1%	97%	95%	→ -2%
When a child in this school has a personal problem, a teacher, counselor or other staff member is available to help.	94%	96%	→ 2%	93%	95%	→ 2%	95%	92%	↓ -3%
Students at school are treated fairly regardless of their race, culture, religion, sexual orientation, gender or disabilities.	95%	97%	→ 2%	93%	95%	→ 2%	91%	93%	→ 2%
The variety of activities and courses at this school keeps students engaged in learning.	93%	95%	→ 2%	84%	91%	↑ 7%	83%	85%	→ 2%
Students get the support they need at school for academic and career planning.	87%	89%	→ 2%	86%	90%	↑ 4%	84%	86%	→ 2%
Teachers usually talk positively about students in the staff areas.	87%	89%	→ 2%	76%	86%	↑ 10%	69%	73%	↑ 4%

Green arrow: +3 percentage points or more. Yellow arrow: +/- 2 percentage points. Red arrow: -3 percentage points or more. Percentages are rounded.

# School Leadership

	Elementary			Middle			High		
	2011 (n=1,182)	2012 (n=1,103)	Change	2011 (n=509)	2012 (n=478)	Change	2011 (n=516)	2012 (n=476)	Change
Percent "Strongly Agree" or "Agree"									
The principal makes decisions that are in the best interest of the	90%	95%	↑ 5%	87%	91%	↑ 4%	84%	85%	→ 1%
I know what the principal expects of me as a teacher at this school.	88%	91%	↑ 3%	87%	89%	→ 2%	90%	84%	↓ -6%
The principal and assistant principal(s) encourage staff involvement in decision-making for the school.	81%	90%	↑ 9%	78%	85%	↑ 7%	69%	72%	↑ 3%
The principal has confidence in my teaching ability.	87%	89%	→ 2%	84%	86%	→ 2%	81%	78%	↓ -3%
The principal or other administrators provide helpful feedback about my instruction.	84%	88%	↑ 4%	80%	86%	↑ 6%	79%	77%	→ -2%

Green arrow: +3 percentage points or more. Yellow arrow: +/- 2 percentage points. Red arrow: -3 percentage points or more. Percentages are rounded.

# School Leadership

When you have had an issue or a concern to discuss with a school administrator . . .

	Elementary			Middle			High		
	2011 (n=1,197)	2012 (n=1,124)	Change	2011 (n=517)	2012 (n=483)	Change	2011 (n=522)	2012 (n=486)	Change
Percent "Strongly Agree" or "Agree"									
an administrator was available to talk to me.	91%	95%	↑ 4%	92%	94%	→ 2%	90%	89%	→ -1%
the administrator was courteous and listened to my concerns.	90%	93%	↑ 3%	91%	92%	→ 1%	89%	89%	→ 0%
the administrator responded to my concerns in a professional manner, whether or not he or she agreed with my views.	88%	92%	↑ 4%	88%	91%	↑ 3%	88%	86%	→ -2%

Green arrow: +3 percentage points or more. Yellow arrow: +/- 2 percentage points. Red arrow: -3 percentage points or more. Percentages are rounded.

# Faculty Relations and Support

	Elementary			Middle			High		
	2011 (n=1,178)	2012 (n=1,096)	Change	2011 (n=509)	2012 (n=481)	Change	2011 (n=510)	2012 (n=476)	Change
Percent "Strongly Agree" or "Agree"									
Collaboration among teachers and staff is encouraged at this school.	95%	96%	➡ 1%	96%	95%	➡ -1%	93%	94%	➡ 1%
The professional development sessions I attended have	76%	79%	⬆ 3%	64%	74%	⬆ 10%	63%	60%	⬇ -3%
Support is available to help me incorporate computers and other technology into instruction.	77%	77%	➡ 0%	67%	76%	⬆ 9%	81%	77%	⬇ -4%
I feel respected and supported by the principal and other	86%	92%	⬆ 6%	84%	90%	⬆ 6%	84%	87%	⬆ 3%
I feel respected and supported by other teachers at this school.	93%	94%	➡ 1%	92%	92%	➡ 0%	93%	95%	➡ 2%
I enjoy teaching at this school.	89%	94%	⬆ 5%	83%	89%	⬆ 6%	85%	87%	➡ 2%

Green arrow: +3 percentage points or more. Yellow arrow: +/- 2 percentage points. Red arrow: -3 percentage points or more. Percentages are rounded.

# Parent Engagement

	Elementary			Middle			High		
	2011 (n=1,157)	2012 (n=1,072)	Change	2011 (n=506)	2012 (n=478)	Change	2011 (n=509)	2012 (n=474)	Change
Percent "Strongly Agree" or "Agree"									
I regularly communicate with parents about their child's academic achievements.	81%	86%	↑ 5%	82%	86%	↑ 4%	83%	85%	→ 2%
I regularly communicate with parents about their child's behavior problems.	81%	86%	↑ 5%	84%	85%	→ 1%	81%	82%	→ 1%
Parents are welcomed and encouraged to attend activities at this school.	95%	97%	→ 2%	95%	94%	→ -1%	93%	94%	→ 1%
Parents support me when addressing an academic problem with their child at school.	79%	84%	↑ 5%	78%	82%	↑ 4%	78%	80%	→ 2%
Parents support me when addressing a behavior problem with their child at school.	77%	82%	↑ 5%	77%	80%	↑ 3%	75%	78%	↑ 3%
Parent input about student learning needs is respected and valued at this school.	89%	94%	↑ 5%	89%	88%	→ -1%	84%	87%	↑ 3%
Parent input is used to improve instruction at this school.	77%	81%	↑ 4%	66%	71%	↑ 5%	59%	63%	↑ 4%

Green arrow: +3 percentage points or more. Yellow arrow: +/- 2 percentage points. Red arrow: -3 percentage points or more. Percentages are rounded.

# Safety and Behavior

	Elementary			Middle			High		
	2011 (n=1,190)	2012 (n=1,108)	Change	2011 (n=515)	2012 (n=479)	Change	2011 (n=520)	2012 (n=485)	Change
Percent "Strongly Agree" or "Agree"									
I am safe at school.	98%	96%	➡ -2%	97%	98%	➡ 1%	97%	93%	⬇ -4%
Students are safe at school.	98%	96%	➡ -2%	97%	98%	➡ 1%	97%	94%	⬇ -3%
Discipline is enforced at school.	85%	91%	⬆ 6%	78%	91%	⬆ 13%	80%	81%	➡ 1%
Students do not threaten or bully each other at this school.	73%	77%	⬆ 4%	55%	65%	⬆ 10%	50%	46%	⬇ -4%
Alcohol and drug use is not a problem at this school.	98%	97%	➡ -1%	81%	85%	⬆ 4%	43%	43%	➡ 0%
This school is a safe place from gang activity.	98%	98%	➡ 0%	91%	92%	➡ 1%	81%	77%	⬇ -4%
This school is free of weapons.	97%	97%	➡ 0%	88%	88%	➡ 0%	75%	73%	➡ -2%
Most students respect teachers at this school.	91%	92%	➡ 1%	79%	88%	⬆ 9%	76%	81%	⬆ 5%
I have the support I need to maintain order and discipline at school.	88%	94%	⬆ 6%	81%	90%	⬆ 9%	84%	86%	➡ 2%

Green arrow: +3 percentage points or more. Yellow arrow: +/- 2 percentage points. Red arrow: -3 percentage points or more. Percentages are rounded.

# School Operations

	Elementary			Middle			High		
	2011 (n=1,171)	2012 (n=1,086)	Change	2011 (n=507)	2012 (n=479)	Change	2011 (n=509)	2012 (n=475)	Change
Percent "Strongly Agree" or "Agree"									
My instructional materials are in good condition.	86%	84%	➡ -2%	78%	79%	➡ 1%	73%	69%	⬇ -4%
I have the materials I need (including textbooks, computers, visual aids, etc.) to effectively teach my classes.	77%	70%	⬇ -7%	63%	67%	⬆ 4%	60%	58%	➡ -2%
Students have access to reliable computers and the Internet at school for learning purposes.	77%	69%	⬇ -8%	63%	75%	⬆ 12%	78%	74%	⬇ -4%
Healthy food is served at this school.	79%	79%	➡ 0%	66%	73%	⬆ 7%	60%	61%	➡ 1%
My school is kept clean.	95%	92%	⬇ -3%	98%	98%	➡ 0%	96%	94%	➡ -2%
This school is well-maintained (Air conditioning and heat work, adequate lighting, grounds are kept in order, etc.).	92%	92%	➡ 0%	89%	92%	⬆ 3%	93%	89%	⬇ -4%

Green arrow: +3 percentage points or more. Yellow arrow: +/- 2 percentage points. Red arrow: -3 percentage points or more. Percentages are rounded.