Positives in Student-Climate Survey

I recently turned in our Social Studies Waiver Renewal to the District. We gathered information in a variety of areas including: Student Climate Surveys, Parent Surveys, a Student Social Studies Survey, Student Focus Group responses, attendance, parent feedback, staff feedback, Social Studies Steering Committee feedback and student Social Studies growth data.

I’m especially pleased with our Spring Student Climate Survey Results. We did see strong improvement from Spring 2016 to Spring 2017. While it is difficult to know if this is directly as a result of our Social Studies Program results. We did see strong improvement from Spring 2016 to Spring 2017. While it is difficult to know if this is directly as a result of our Social Studies Program

- “My teachers take the time to get to know me” – increased to 79 percent from 73. (The top increase: white students, to 84 percent from 67 last year.)
- “Students in my class help each other learn” – rose to 62 percent from 56.
- “Students in my class are focused on learning” – improving to 52 percent from 43. (The largest increase: African-American students now at 48 percent, up from 35.)
- “I can do most things if I try” – moved to 85 percent from 78 last year.
- “I usually finish whatever I begin” – now at 70 percent, up from 60.
- “I have clear goals for my future” – increased to 67 percent from 57. (The largest increase: African-Americans, now at 70 percent instead of 50 percent.)
- “My teacher gives me new challenges if the work is too easy” – increased to 53 percent from 50. (The biggest bump: white students, at 62 percent, from 42.)
- “My teacher gives me extra help and support if I need it” – moved to 79 percent from 73. (The largest rise: African-Americans, up 7 to 84 percent.)
- “My teacher challenges me to think in new ways” – rose to 71 percent from 66.
- “My teacher encourages me to keep trying when I feel like giving up” – increased 10 points to 76 percent. (Largest increases: white and multi-racial students, both now at 75 percent, up from 64 and 63, respectively.)
- “My teacher shows us how our work will help us in real life” – rose 6 points to 63 percent. (Largest increase: white students at 64 percent, instead of 51.)

Continued on Page 2

EVENT CALENDAR

TOMORROW, June 2: Summer Reading Kick-off, 5:30-7 p.m. Meet in Cafeteria. Free pizza, books! Grade K-3 parents, meet with teachers. See below.


Fri., June 9: Move-a-thon. Kids will run and walk to raise money for the special TM fund that provides scholarships for field trips and 5th-grade camp. Donation form & envelope are being sent home!

June 12-16: Final week for most Enrichment classes.

June 12-15: Class Picnics, 5:30-7:30 p.m., TM Playground. Mon.: Grades K-1; Tues.: Grade 2, Wed.: Grade 3; Thurs.: Grade 4. See flier for details.

Fri., June 16: Field Day. All sorts of activities.

Tues., June 20: Volunteer Appreciation Tea, 4-4:45 p.m., Playground’s picnic area. Volunteers, enjoy light snacks, beverages! Child care provided on playground.

More news, links and activities for students in the online calendar at www.tmlink.org.

TUTU’S PANTRY

Week of June 5: Grade 2 is asked to donate non-perishable foods.

Turn in Those Calendars!

Bike Month Done, but TM Needs Your Riding Chart

Bike riders, you’ve done the hard work. Now, help Thurgood Marshall record at least 8205 minutes on the Bike-to-School Month tracking calendars provided several weeks ago. Deadline for turning them in (and a chance at prizes) is Monday (June 5). Remember, the pedaling can be to or from school … or just around the block. You can also include minutes spent on scooters, unicycles, and skates, or almost any exercise involving wheels.


Friday ‘Reading Kick-Off’ Offers Pizza, Free Books & More

You probably won’t meet a dog in eyeglasses, but the Summer Reading Kick-Off 5:30-7 p.m. tomorrow (June 2) will feature free pizza, and activities for kids and adults. The event offers Grades K-3 parents a chance to meet with teachers to talk about summer reading opportunities. Books will be given away, too!

And, remember, TM’s Library will be open 4-7 p.m. every Tuesday from June 26 to Aug. 22 (except for July 4). Frozen treats – as well as books – can be checked out.
**Student Increasingly Say Teachers are Offering Challenges, Encouragement & Help**

*Continued from Page 1*

- “My teacher gives me extra help and support if I need it” – moved to 79 percent from 73. (The largest rise: African-American students, up 7 points to 84 percent.)
- “My teacher challenges me to think in new ways” – rose to 71 percent from 66. (Largest bump: white students, up 9 points to 72 percent.)
- “My teacher encourages me to keep trying when I feel like giving up” – increased 10 points to 76 percent. (Largest increases: white and multi-racial students, both now at 75 percent, up from 64 and 63, respectively.)
- “My teacher shows us how our work will help us in real life” – rose 6 points to 63 percent. (Largest increase: white students at 64 percent, instead of 51.)

The data are particularly illuminating, as we can see growth in the number of students who feel their teacher challenges them and more students who feel their teacher gives them extra support and encouragement when work is hard. This points to an increase in teacher ability to differentiate for learners with different needs. A concern about the blended program was that HCC students would not be challenged at appropriate levels, and this does not appear to be true, based both on this climate data and the range in achievement for HCC students on Social Studies assessment data.

We saw increasingly positive responses related to teachers getting to know their students and students helping each other and caring about their learning. This year more than any other, teachers explicitly sought to encourage team-building, develop relationships between students, and get to know students other than the ones in their homeroom class (so more students had relationships with more adults).

Finally, we see that all students, and particularly white students, feel their teacher is challenging them to think in new ways. Students learned to take the perspective of classmates who see things differently, and think about Social Studies content from diverse perspectives. It is exciting to see how this carries over into our climate data.

In mid-June we expect to hear from the District whether our Social Studies waiver will be renewed. I will let you know as soon as I hear! Thank you to the many parents who have written to express your support.

---

**Seattle Public Schools, SPS, provides Equal Educational Opportunities and Equal Employment Opportunities and does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of sex; race; creed; color; religion; ancestry; national origin; age; economic status; sexual orientation, including gender expression or identity; pregnancy; marital status; physical appearance; the presence of any sensory, mental or physical disability; honorably discharged veteran or military status; or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal. SPS also provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups.**

*Have an article for Pup Press? Send it to Cliff Meyer at pup-press@tmlink.org. If your submission is not acknowledged within 24 hours, please call or text 206-366-5413*
GRADE LEVEL PICNICS!

TM PLAYGROUND 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

K/1st Grades – Monday, June 12
2nd Grade – Tuesday, June 13
3rd Grade – Wednesday, June 14
4th Grade – Thursday, June 15

• Bring your family and enjoy an end-of-the-year grade-level picnic! •
  • Bring your own food, blankets and outdoor toys. •
  • Incoming families welcome. •

We hope to see you on the playground!

Note: In the event of rain, the picnic will be canceled. Sorry!