

2011 Family Survey Results: Part 1

Hello families! Below please find the first installment of the results of the 2010-2011 Family Survey. Because the survey format was identical to 2010, we are able to compare answers over the past two years. Over the course of this year we will explore the survey in depth, sharing what we find with you and at times asking you to participate in examining the data and forming recommendations based on what we find.

Who completed the survey?

	2010	2011
Total number of students	746	777
Total number of families	543	564
Number of surveys completed	227	310
Percent of families represented	42%	55%

In 2011 we had a 12% increase in the percentage of families who completed the survey, as well as a 5% increase in percent of respondents identifying as Hispanic, a 7% increase in percent of respondents identifying as African American, and a 5% increase in the percentage of respondents whose children receive free and reduced lunch. We were thrilled to see the increase in participation overall, as well as the increased ethnic and economic diversity represented in the survey results.

Racial/ethnic identification	As a percent of total student body 2009-2010	As a percent of total completing 2010 survey*	As a percent of total student body 2010-2011	As a percent of total completing 2011 survey*
Hispanic	12.9	9.7	13	14.6
African American	54.4	44.2	53.8	51
Caucasian	24.5	37.6	24.2	27.6
Asian/Pacific Islander	3.8	3.5	4	4.2
Multi-ethnic	4.4	9.3	5	10.1

*Respondents could choose more than one answer

Students receiving free/reduced lunch	54	36.5	55	41.3
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Student grade level	Percent of 2010 respondents with students in grade	Percent of 2011 respondents with students in grade
K	18.8	17.1
1	21.4	19.4
2	20.5	18.7
3	17	16.5
4	14.4	15.9
5	16.6	15.2
6	12.7	13.0
7	12.7	10.5
8	15.3	9.2

Student program	Percent of 2010 respondents with students in program	Percent of 2011 respondents with students in program
Enhanced	37.4	38.4
Immersion	52.2	50.2
Both	7.8	7.3
Don't Know	2.6	4.1

A gap persists in the percent of Enhanced program vs. Immersion program families responding. We will be seeking ways to increase survey participation from families in our Enhanced program this spring.

Are families happy with their experience at ICS?

Question	Percent answered "Yes" in 2010	Percent answered "Yes" in 2011
ICS seems to be preparing my child(ren) well for the future.	95.8	94.2
I feel comfortable at ICS.	96.2	96.9
My child(ren) feel/s comfortable at ICS.	98.3	96.6
I would recommend ICS to a friend.	94.1	95.1

Our experience at ICS has been:	2010	2011
Better than expected	51.1	49.2
About what we expected	45.6	48.3
Worse/Don't Know	3.3	2.4

I expect my child(ren) to stay at ICS through 8 th grade	2010	2011
Yes	74.3	79.8
No	3	4.6
Don't know	22.8	15.6

How do families receive school news & information?

Tools that had response rate of over 50% "Very Helpful"	2010	2011
Reading monthly school newsletter (LINK)	61.8	61.2
Reading the weekly classroom newsletter	61.8	62.5
Seeing a note in backpack	56.7	57.7
Asking child's teacher	54.9	54.3
Looking in Wed. communication folder	53.6	65.9
Getting call from automated phone system	53.6	58.4
Getting an email from one of the list serves	51.9	59

We are excited to see significant increases in the number of parents who find the whole-school means of communication (such as Wed. Communication and SchoolReach calls/emails) very helpful!

What additional information would be helpful?

Over 50% of parents would like more information about:	2010	2011
My child's curriculum	62.9	51.5
My child's individual development	59.6	57
Special events in the classroom	53.1	44.7
Due dates for projects	51.6	45.1
What is happening in classroom on a regular basis	53.6	56.3

It is encouraging that an increasing number of parents feel that information about their child's curriculum is accessible! This year we hope to make even more strides in that area by launching a new section of our website (coming soon!) that will quickly connect you with classroom information and curriculum resources for your child.

We also recognize that for many families, the *most* important thing is knowing what happens inside your child's classroom day-to-day! Tr. Jenny will be leading a series of workshops for teachers this year so that we can share best practices and incorporate new strategies for inviting parents to connect with the classroom community.

Stay tuned for more results and analysis each week this fall! Send questions or comments regarding the survey to the Community Relations Committee via Tr. Jenny (jennyh@icscharter.com, x2500).