

**WILLIAM G. VINAL SCHOOL
NORWELL, MASSACHUSETTS**

**Results of School Improvement Council Action Survey
November 2006**

Demographics

- 136 families returned the survey, which is a 35% response
- These parents have 200 children at the Vinal School
 - PreK – 8 students
 - Kindergarten – 48 students
 - Grade 1 – 30 students
 - Grade 2 – 39 students
 - Grade 3 – 20 students
 - Grade 3 – 20 students
 - Grade 4 – 30 students
 - Grade 5 – 25 students

A. Satisfaction Levels

- Surveyed on satisfaction (1- extremely satisfied; 5 extremely unsatisfied; the number in each column is the number of people who responded with that rating)
- Percent satisfaction is percentage answering 1,2, and 3

COMMUNICATION HOME-SCHOOL CONNECTION	1	2	3	4	5	NA	Average	Percent Satisfaction
School Improvement Council Communication	45	36	29	8	1	23	2.03	93%
Communication between home and school/classroom	69	45	15	9			1.01	95%
Newsletter/web sites/class newsletter	71	44	23	1	2	1	1.71	98%
Elementary School Handbook	79	40	13	5	1	1	1.61	96%
Vinal School Curriculum Nights	75	33	12	5	1	3	1.60	95%
Kindergarten Orientation Activities	56	15	9	3	2	49	1.65	95%
Opportunity to be involved in the Vinal School community	85	33	12	2	1	1	1.50	98%

B. Agreement Levels

- Surveyed on agreement (1- strongly agree; 5 strongly disagree; the number in each column is the number of people who responded with that rating)
- Percent Agreement is the percentage answering 1, 2 and 3

MEETING LEARNING NEEDS	1	2	3	4	5	NA	Average	Percent Agreement
Vinal School provides instruction that enables students to demonstrate achievement of academic skills identified by Norwellized curriculum.*	48	53	15	1		17	1.78	99%
Curriculum instruction implemented at Vinal School meets the needs of diverse learners.	32	46	23	8	5	17	2.26	89%
My child clearly understands classroom expectations and how his/her performance will be graded.	59	50	15	2		5	1.68	99%
Homework assignments reinforce or expand on classroom learning.	52	47	15	2		15	1.75	98%
My child is given thorough and consistent feedback on his/her progress in order to meet learning goals.	45	51	21	2		11	1.83	97%
I believe that my child's teacher(s) effectively recognizes his/her strengths.	57	47	13	2	2	12	1.75	97%
The current report card system provides the information I need regarding my child's progress.	41	38	20	7	3	22	2.01	91%

*Copies of curriculum guides available in the office and Parent Resource Center.

REINFORCING CORE VALUES	1	2	3	4	5	NA	Average	Percent Agreement
The Vinal School promotes a positive and enthusiastic atmosphere.	85	31	12	2		1	1.46	98%
The Vinal School promotes my child's self-esteem and motivates him/her to learn.	64	50	13	3		2	1.65	95%
The Vinal School helps my child to develop in the areas of respect and kindness, risk-taking and responsibility.	70	43	11	2		7	1.56	98%
The Vinal School helps my child to develop in the areas of self-discipline and individuality.	60	41	21	4		6	1.75	97%
The Vinal School promotes an atmosphere of open-mindedness in respect to diversity through various learning experiences (i.e., Responsive Classroom, assemblies, special programs)	62	37	17	7	1	7	1.77	94%

SAFETY AND SECURITY	1	2	3	4	5	NA	Average	Percent Agreement
The dismissal procedure is safe and efficient.	58	35	21	9	4	4	1.96	90%
The visitor sign in procedure is adequate.	52	39	27	5	6	3	2.02	87%
The Vinal School is safe and secure.	49	45	25	6	2	3	1.95	88%
Traffic flow promotes safety.	48	43	20	13	3	4	2.15	91%
The emergency phone system promptly communicates important information.	76	31	9	0	5	9	1.57	94%

C. Individual Feedback

Ninety-six respondents provided individual feedback on the survey. The most commonly identified strengths of the Vinal School community are listed below. The number in parentheses reflects the number of respondents who mentioned this strength.

What are the greatest strengths of the Vinal School community?

1. Commitment/quality of the teachers, administration, staff. (40)
2. Warm, friendly, nurturing environment (30)
3. Involved supportive parents (28)
4. Parent-teacher/administration cooperation (21)
5. Quality education (19)
6. Value System/Core Values/Responsive Classroom (17)
7. All about the children (13)
8. Well-run and very organized (14)
9. Home-school communication (13)
10. Strong, supportive PTO (12)
11. Sense of community (12)
12. Great after school program (7)
13. Looking forward-bringing new programs and techniques to classroom (6)
14. Ensures safety of all students (5)
15. Clean environment/new facility (5)

Suggestions for improvement were more diverse, with many mentioned by just one respondent. The most common suggestions for improvement are listed below. The number in parentheses reflects the number of respondents who made this suggestion.

What suggestions do you have for improvement for the Vinal School community?

1. Improve ways to meet the needs of diverse learners/challenging those who are ready (10)
2. Smaller class size (8)
3. Holiday recognition (7)
4. More aides/assistance in classrooms/support for students who don't qualify for Special Education (6)
5. Coordinate curriculum and experiences within grades and with Cole School (6)
6. Report card categories/numbers a bit confusing (3)

Thank you to all who took part in this survey. The results will be shared with all families, the staff, the Superintendent, the Director of Teaching, Learning, and Technology, and the School Committee.

The members of the School Improvement Council read and reflected on every comment and will use the results to help create the next Vinal School Improvement Plan.

**WILLIAM G. VINAL SCHOOL
NORWELL, MASSACHUSETTS**

**Results of School Improvement Council Action Survey
November 2006**

15 Staff Members Responded

A. Satisfaction Levels

- Surveyed on satisfaction (1- extremely satisfied; 5 extremely unsatisfied)

COMMUNICATION HOME-SCHOOL CONNECTION	AVERAGE
School Improvement Council Communication	1.69
Communication between home and school/classroom	1.3
Newsletter/web sites/class newsletter	1.26
Elementary School Handbook	1.26
Vinal School Curriculum Nights	1.25
Kindergarten Orientation Activities	1.14
Opportunity to be involved in the Vinal School community	1.3

MEETING LEARNING NEEDS	Average
Vinal School provides instruction that enables students to demonstrate achievement of academic skills identified by Norwellized curriculum.*	1.35
Curriculum instruction implemented at Vinal School meets the needs of diverse learners.	1.57
My child clearly understands classroom expectations and how his/her performance will be graded.	1.16
Homework assignments reinforce or expand on classroom learning.	1.4
My child is given thorough and consistent feedback on his/her progress in order to meet learning goals.	1.28
I believe that my child's teacher(s) effectively recognizes his/her strengths.	1.0
The current report card system provides the information I need regarding my child's progress.	2.42

*Copies of curriculum guides available in the office and Parent Resource Center.

REINFORCING CORE VALUES	AVERAGE
The Vinal School promotes a positive and enthusiastic atmosphere.	1.46
The Vinal School promotes my child's self-esteem and motivates him/her to learn.	1.16
The Vinal School helps my child to develop in the areas of respect and kindness, risk-taking and responsibility.	1.21
The Vinal School helps my child to develop in the areas of self-discipline and individuality.	1.54
The Vinal School promotes an atmosphere of open-mindedness in respect to diversity through various learning experiences (i.e., Responsive Classroom, assemblies, special programs)	1.46

SAFETY AND SECURITY	AVERAGE
The dismissal procedure is safe and efficient.	1.46
The visitor sign in procedure is adequate.	1.8
The Vinal School is safe and secure.	1.66
Traffic flow promotes safety.	2.2
The emergency phone system promptly communicates important information.	1.42

C. Individual Feedback

Ten respondents provided individual feedback on the survey. The staff identified strengths of the Vinal School community are listed below. The number in parentheses reflects the number of respondents who mentioned this strength.

What are the greatest strengths of the Vinal School community?

1. Great people – Children/parents/staff- hardworking, enthusiastic, well-trained -teachers, principal, paraprofessionals (8)
2. Collaboration between staff and parents (4)
3. Students come first. (2)
4. Nurturing, community focused environment (2)
5. Staff works to accommodate all types of learners (2)
6. Support of parents and PTO (2)
7. Website is informative (1)
8. Newsletters keep community informed. (1)
9. Have needed resources and technology (1)
10. Open communication between staff members (1)
11. Class sizes typically small

Suggestions for improvement were more diverse, with most mentioned by just one respondent. They are listed below. Two people recommended the first suggestion listed. One person recommended the rest.

What suggestions do you have for improvement for the Vinal School community?

1. Keep class size as small as possible. (2 respondents)
2. Advertise Parent Resource Closet more
3. Need more areas to work with small groups
4. Need more instructional aides to help children of all abilities
5. Pick-up is confusing and unsafe
6. Morning Drop Off – early arrivals—parents walking around the building
7. Less parent entitlement – need to trust the education and skills of educators
8. Swings on playground
9. Entry Way- create a way so dirt doesn't spread out over walkway
10. Development of current curriculum that will assist the teacher in advancing the child's learning
11. More professional development
12. Fully staffed administrative team
13. Highly qualified recruitment
14. Funds for all curriculum area supplies

Thank you to all who took part in this survey. The results will be shared with all families, the staff, the Superintendent, the Director of Teaching, Learning, and Technology, and the School Committee.

The members of the School Improvement Council read and reflected on every comment and will use the results to help create the next Vinal School Improvement Plan.

