



FAQ – For families

What is the 2019-20 PPS Successful Schools Survey?

The PPS Successful Schools Survey provides families an opportunity to share how things are going at their student's school. PPS administrators, principals and teachers receive this transparent, comprehensive information about the experiences of all families in our schools.

Who will be surveyed?

We will survey students in grades 4, 5, 7-10 on their experiences in their classrooms and schools, and families about their perception of the school their child attends.

Who is giving this survey?

In 2019-20, Portland Public Schools is again partnering with Panorama Education to gather information students and families that will help us improve student experiences across the district. Panorama will help PPS deliver results quickly and provide training for District staff on how to use the results to make improvements. Panorama provides similar services to school districts around the country, so we will also be able to compare our results to other districts. For more information about Panorama, you can visit: <https://www.panoramaed.com/>.

What are some of the topics covered by this survey?

The survey will cover topics on sense of belonging, school safety, school climate, barriers to family engagement, as well as how students are thinking and feeling about diversity, equity, and inclusion in school.

When will the survey be given?

The current launch date is set for January 27th. The student window is scheduled to be open until February 14th and the family survey until February 28th.

How can I take the survey?

- For families: Families can take the survey online. When the survey opens, every PPS family member will receive a link via email and flyer from your student's school. Paper surveys will be made available when needed. The survey is available in the PPS's five supported languages: Spanish, Russian, Chinese, Somali and Vietnamese.
- For students: All student surveys will be administered online during the school day. Teachers will provide time during class for students to take the survey on a device.
- Staff will receive an email with a link for the survey.

I want to participate, but I am concerned about my privacy and the survey confidentiality. What are the privacy policy, terms of agreement, etc.?

- The survey is anonymous and not tied to classrooms, students, teachers or family members.
- No student IDs, nor directory data, will be shared for this survey. Individual results will not be reported or shared with anyone inside or outside PPS and Panorama without permission

Are students required to take it?

All students in grades 4, 5, 7, 8, 9 and 10 will be given the opportunity to take the survey during the school day. However, it is their choice to participate. If a student does not want to participate they can decline when the survey is offered. The survey should only take 10-15 minutes.

Are families going to be asked permission to have their child take the survey? What if I don't want my child to take the survey?

Families will receive communication about the survey shortly and we will post the survey on our website for viewing beforehand. We will use these results for educational and improvement purposes only. All schools will offer the survey to students in grades 4, 5, 7, 8, 9 and 10, but if a parent does not want their child to complete it or a child does not want to complete it, students may decline. PPS System Planning & Performance will provide a survey administration guide for the teacher/survey coordinator at each school stating this.

Why only grades 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10?

Surveying these grade levels will help us understand student experiences at elementary, middle and high school. By surveying only these grade levels we reduce the burden on students and schools, but still have a sample that represents students throughout PPS.

My child isn't in grades 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, or 10, can I take the survey? Can I take the survey more than once if I have children at different schools?

All families can take the survey regardless of the grade level of their student(s). Family members can take one survey per school that their student attends. For example, if a family member has a student in middle school and two students in high school, they would take one survey for the elementary school their student attends, and one survey for the high school that their students attend.