



Frequently Asked Questions (As of 2-3-15)

What is a climate survey?

School climate is the quality and character of school life, such as whether the school feels welcoming and safe and whether our families, students and staff feel like they belong. A climate survey is a tool to gather this information from a lot of individuals in a short amount of time.

Why should I take the Successful Schools Survey?

The Successful Schools Survey is a chance for PPS to hear from all families. The Successful Schools Survey is a chance to get the voices of thousands of families at once and provide results that will be shared with the community and school staff.

Who is taking the survey?

Parents/Guardians, students in 5th, 7th and 10th grades and all PPS school-based staff.

Why 5th grade, 7th grade and 10th grades?

We want to hear the experiences of students in K-5 and K-8 schools, middle schools and high schools. Grades 5th, 7th and 10th were chosen to guarantee we hear from the early, middle, and upper age students.

How do I take the survey and where do I get the survey?

- For Parents/Guardians: online at www.oregonskitchentable.org; in paper from your school's front office; and in PDF form on www.oregonskitchentable.org and <http://www.pps.k12.or.us/> (please note that you will have to print the survey to fill out from a PDF).
- For 5th, 7th and 10th grade students will be at their school via internal PPS survey system and/or paper copy. Student survey opens the week of February 2, 2015.
- For Staff: at your school in paper or a PPS online survey. Links will be sent out for the staff surveys on February 2, 2013.

What does the California Healthy Kids Survey have to do with the Successful Schools Survey?

The PPS Successful Schools Survey was adapted from the California Healthy Kids Surveys (CHKS). The CHKS were developed by WestEd under contract from the California Department of Education. For more information visit the survey websites: www.chks.wested.org, www.cscs.wested.org and www.cal-schls.wested.org.

Where did the survey come from?

The PPS Successful Schools Survey was a product of research, staff and community groups who adapted the California Healthy Kids Surveys to better reflect our population and needs as a district.

I'm a parent or guardian. How do I answer the questions?

For the Parent/Guardian survey, please answer the questions based on your own experiences with your school.

Why are there gender and sexuality questions on all the surveys?

All students, families and staff must feel welcome, safe and supported at school so that they can thrive academically and socially. By asking gender and sexual identity questions we can gather information about their experiences and whether they feel welcome, safe and supported. Then we can use the information to help us better meet their needs.

Why would PPS need to know my age, gender, sexual orientation, race, and ethnicity?

We ask parents and guardians to provide this information because we want to hear about their individual experience at their school. If a parent/guardian would like to tell us more about their or their student's experiences, feel free to write your response in question 60: Is there anything else you'd like to tell us about your school?

What will you do with my answers?

Survey results will be shared with the community and school staff and are intended to provide PPS administrators, principals and teachers with transparent, comprehensive information about the experiences of all families in our schools. Your responses are confidential and will never be linked to your contact information.

How is survey related to the boundary review? How will it impact it, if at all?

This survey is not related to boundary review. This survey is related to school improvement plans that Principals and site councils are required to submit and monitor to the State. School climate is one of the main areas in school improvement plans. There will be a second survey this year for boundary review.

Are we somehow automatically entered in the Thorns raffle by taking the survey online?

Participants will automatically be entered into a random draw for the raffle prizes donated by the Portland Timbers, Portland Thorns, Adidas and Qdoba have joined us to encourage all PPS parents to participate in the Successful Schools Survey. We thank all of our partners for their strong commitment to helping build great schools for all PPS students.

Who is Oregon's Kitchen Table and why do I have to use their website?

Oregon's Kitchen Table is part of Portland State University's Policy Consensus Center and is hosting the Parent/Guardian Successful Schools Surveys. Please visit www.oregonskitchentable.org for more information. Completing the survey online is preferable so you can take future PPS surveys and to help with tabulating survey responses.

What will Oregon’s Kitchen Table do with the personal information I share?

When you participate in Oregon’s Kitchen Table, the answers you provide will be reported by the National Policy Consensus Center at Portland State University to our partners in an aggregate, anonymous form. The information you provide will not contain or be linked to any information that personally identifies you, including your name, e-mail address, or mailing address. Instead, your answers are linked to an anonymous ID number that is used internally. For more information about Oregon’s Kitchen Table privacy policy please refer to their website <http://oregonskitchentable.org/privacy-policy/>.

Why do I need to create an account with Oregon’s Kitchen Table to take the Successful Schools Survey?

You create an account which allows you direct access to the surveys relevant to you. By joining Oregon’s Kitchen Table, you will be notified of future PPS surveys. You can stop taking the survey and resume taking it during the time the survey is open Jan. 20 - Feb. 28.

You can also change your contact information (email) or zip code if either of those changes. This system also allows Oregon’s Kitchen Table to ensure that participation isn’t skewed – so a person only participates in one survey once for each school their child attends.

How secure is the survey information on Oregon’s Kitchen Table?

Your data and personal information is stored and can only be accessed and tagged to an individual with the National Policy Consensus Center. PPS cannot access the information connected to individual accounts. Data, in conjunction with any PPS survey, will not be shared with any entity not associated with the necessary analysis of the results, which in this case includes only PPS, PSU National Policy Consensus Center and DHM Research.

I am a Parent/Guardian and I do not have access to a computer or email address. How can I take the Successful Schools Survey?

Please visit your school’s front office. They will have paper copies of the Parent/Guardian survey in English, Chinese, Spanish, Somali, Russian and Vietnamese.

I speak a language that is not one of the translated languages. How do I take the Successful Schools Survey?

The Parent/Guardian Successful Schools Survey are available in Chinese, Spanish, Somali, Russian and Vietnamese. For support in a language that is not available please contact the PPS Language Line at (503) 916-3589.

Language Lines	Phone Numbers
中文 Chinese	(503) 916-3585
Español Spanish	(503) 916-3582
Soomaaliga Somali	(503) 916-3586
Русский Russian	(503) 916-3583
Tiếng Việt Vietnamese	(503) 916-3584
Other Languages	(503) 916-3589

I'm having trouble with the Oregon's Kitchen Table Website and taking the survey online. Who do I call for help?

Sarah Giles, Project Manager at OKT, at sarahgiles@pdx.edu and (503) 725-5248.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Parent/Guardian Surveys Online on Oregon's Kitchen Table

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