

## Bluffview Montessori School Parent Survey 2023

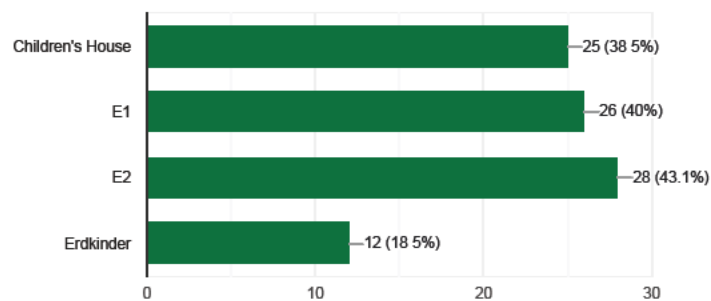
65 responses

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Current grade level(s) of your child(ren)?

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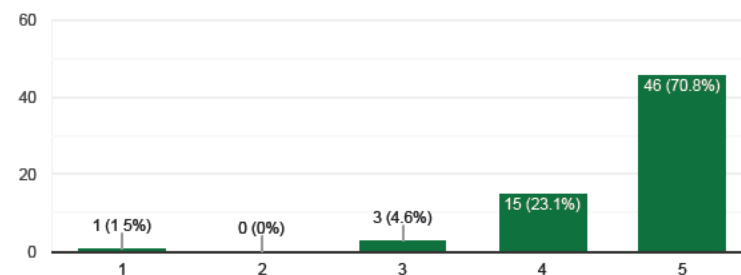
65 responses



I consider my child's school to be an excellent school.

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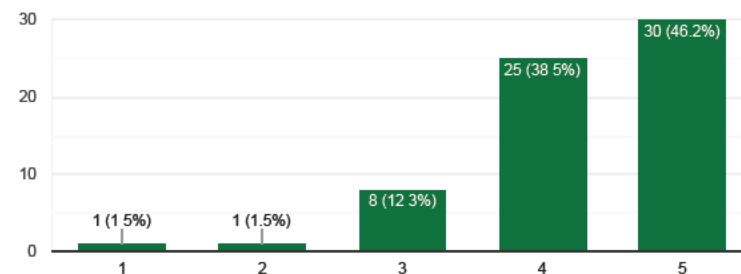
65 responses



I understand the school's academic expectations for my child.

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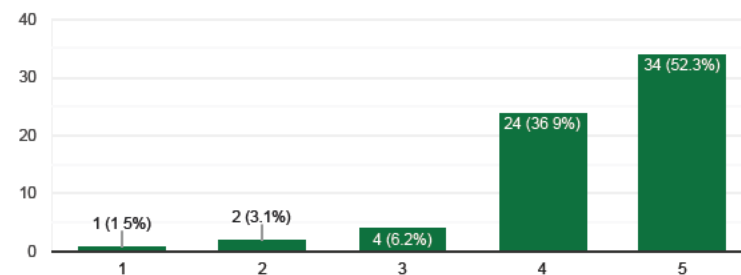
65 responses



My child gets the support he/she needs at school.

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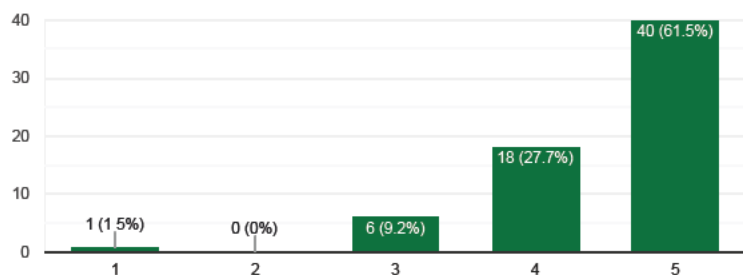
65 responses



My child's school does an excellent job of educating students.

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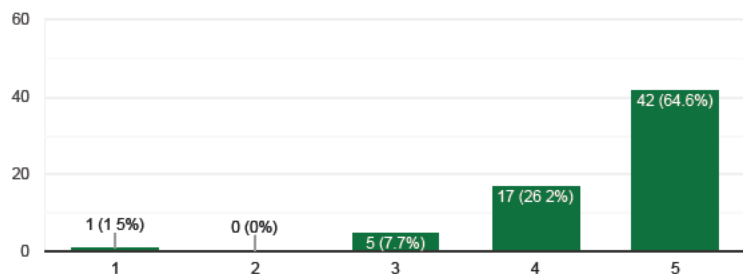
65 responses



My child's school supports the needs of my family.

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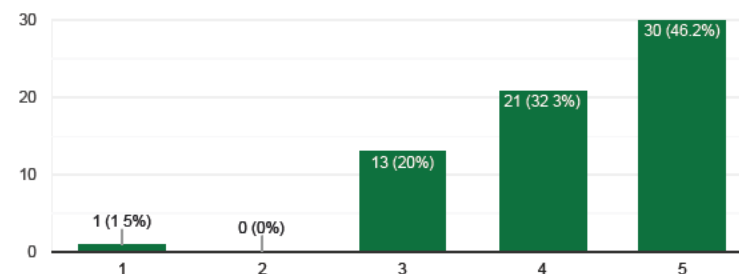
65 responses



My child's school does a great job of challenging my child to his/her full potential.

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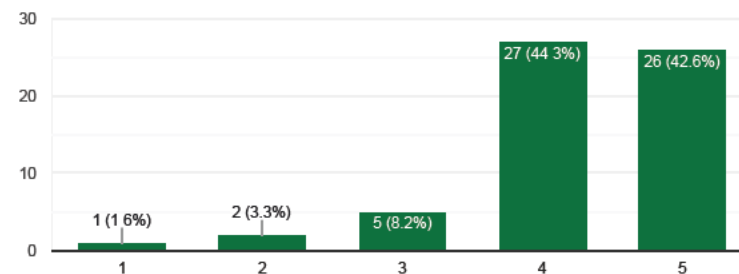
65 responses



My child's school makes effective use of technology for instructional purposes.

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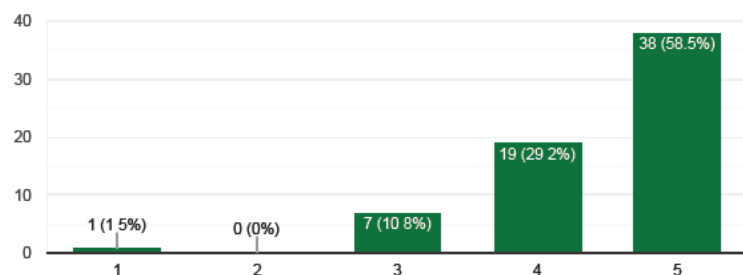
61 responses



My child's school offers him/her opportunities to explore areas of interest outside the core content areas.



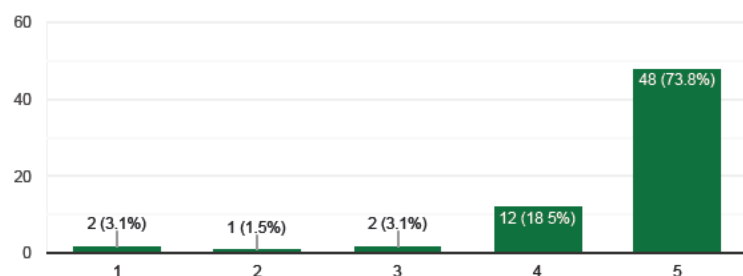
65 responses



I know how to get school information when I need it.



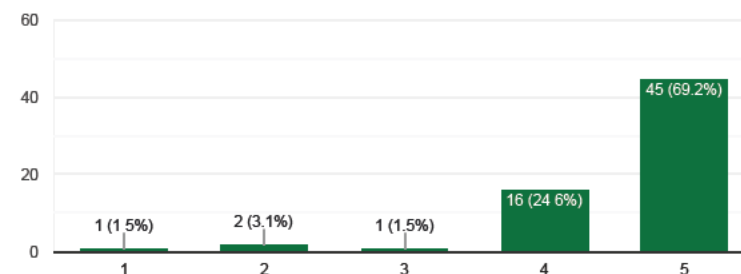
65 responses



I understand the school's vision/mission.



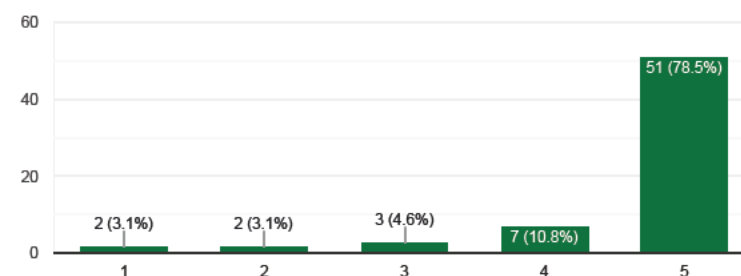
65 responses



The school uses many ways to communicate with parents, including website, email, handouts, and phone.



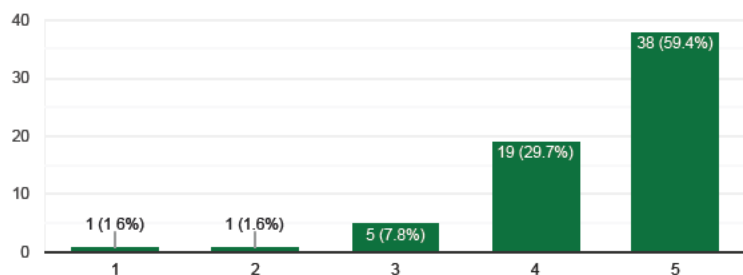
65 responses



The school website is reliable and up to date.

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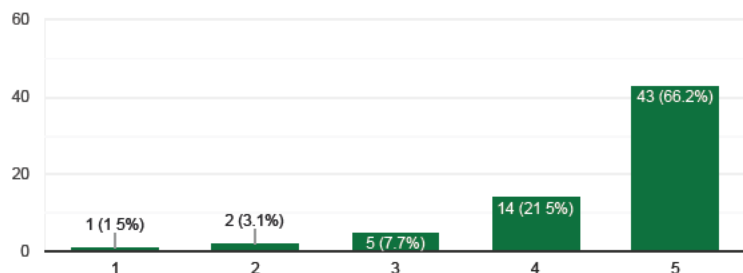
64 responses



Overall, school information is communicated effectively.

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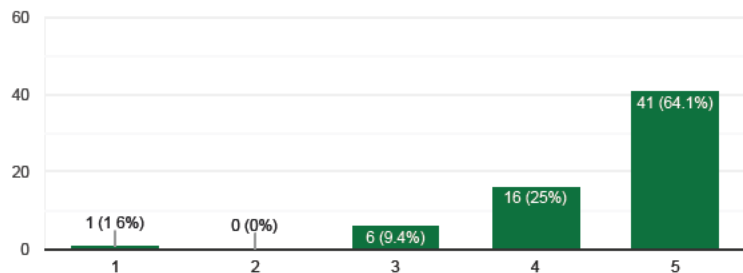
65 responses



My child's school informs me of behavior issues.

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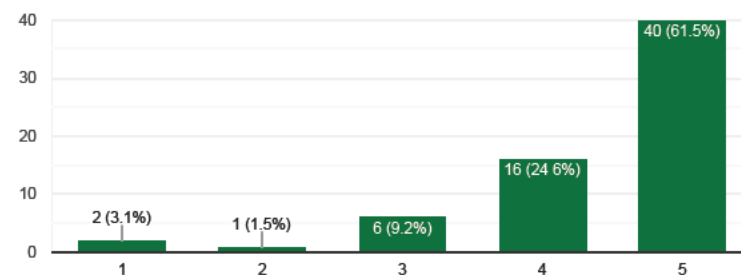
64 responses



The discipline policy of my child's school is fair and effective.

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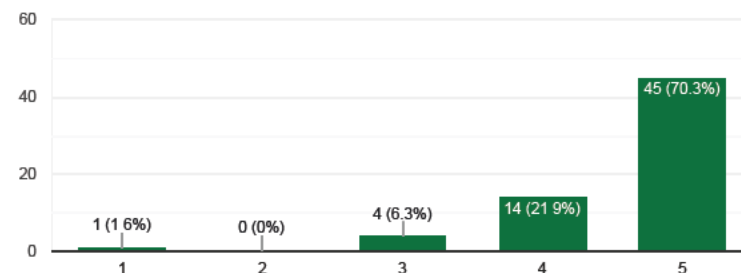
65 responses



My child's school offers its students a safe environment in which to learn.

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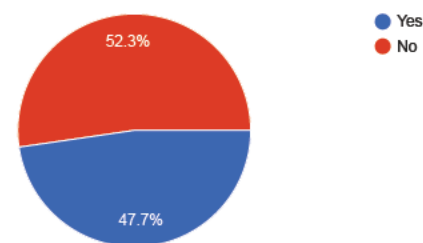
64 responses



Are you aware of the school's Family and Parent Engagement Policy?

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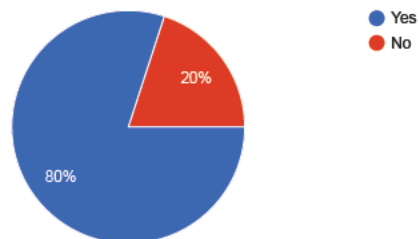
65 responses



Are you aware of the school's anti-bullying policy?

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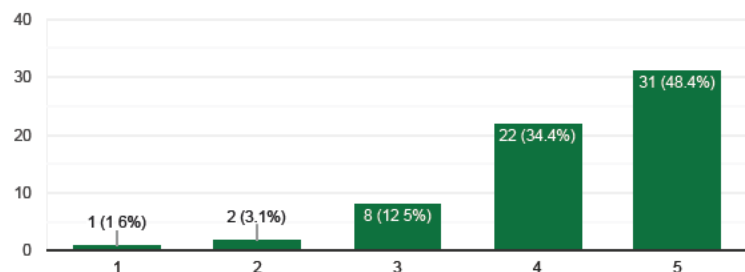
65 responses



My child is safe from emotional and physical bullying within school.

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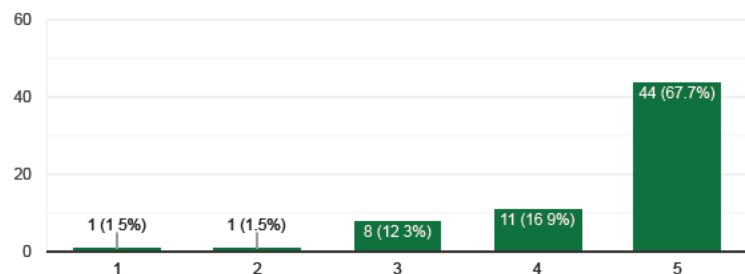
64 responses



My child is safe from bullying on the way to and from school.

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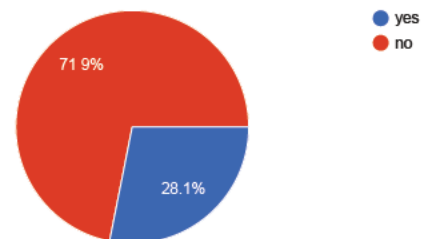
65 responses



Has your child ever been bullied in school?

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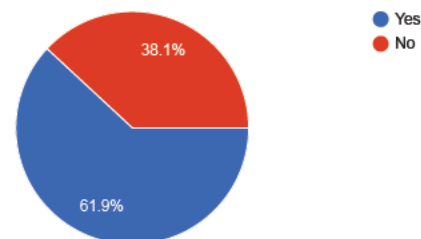
64 responses



If yes, did you report the bullying to anyone in school?

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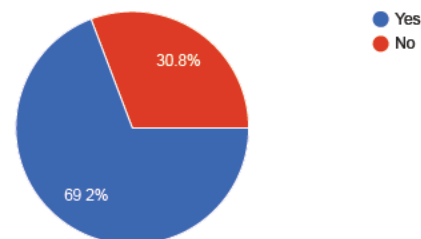
21 responses



If yes, were you satisfied with the way that the school dealt with the bullying incident?

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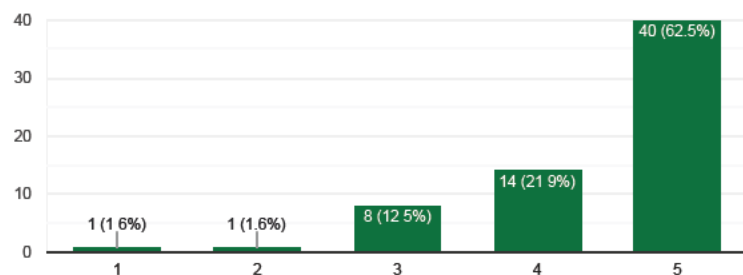
13 responses



The amount of homework given to my child is appropriate.

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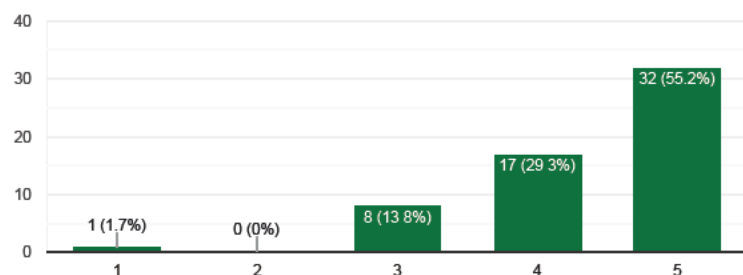
64 responses



The level of difficulty associated with my child's homework is appropriate.

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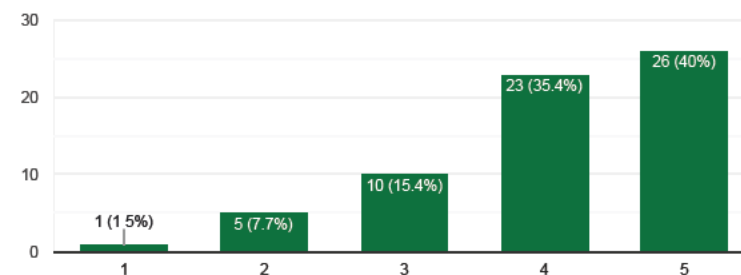
58 responses



I am informed of my child's academic progress on a regular basis.

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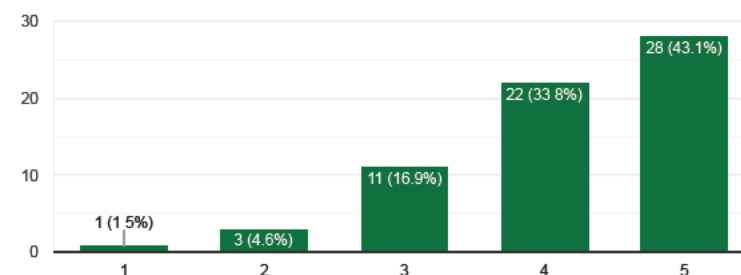
65 responses



It is clear to me what the teacher(s) expect of my child in terms of school work.

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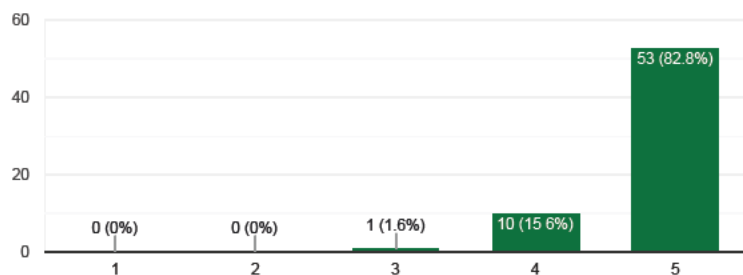
65 responses



I believe that parental/guardian involvement is positively related to a child's achievement.

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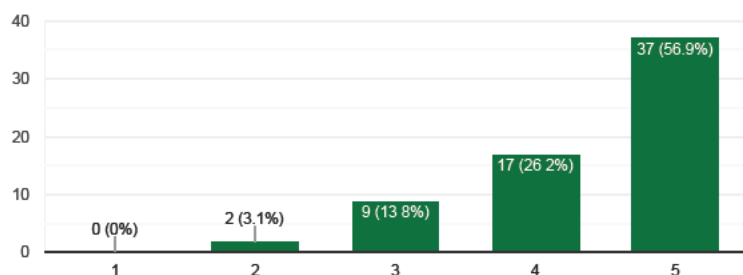
64 responses



I am encouraged to participate in school activities.

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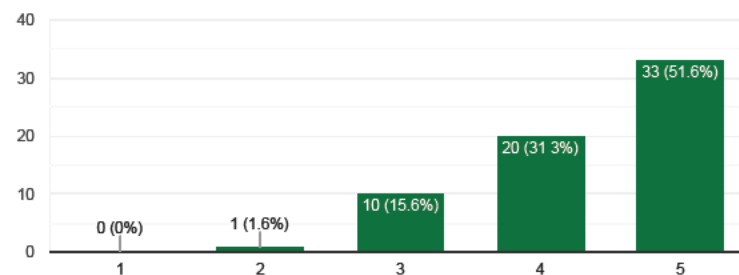
65 responses



I have the opportunities to be involved in the decisions that affect my child's education.

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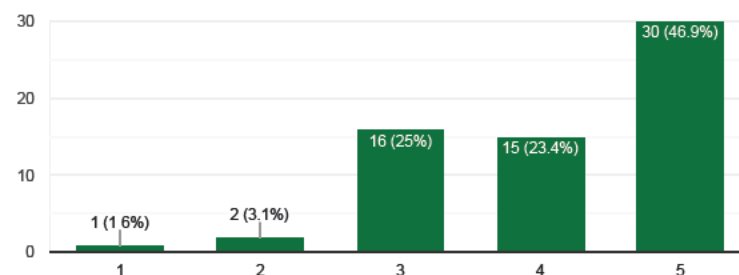
64 responses



I am actively involved in the decisions that affect my child's education.

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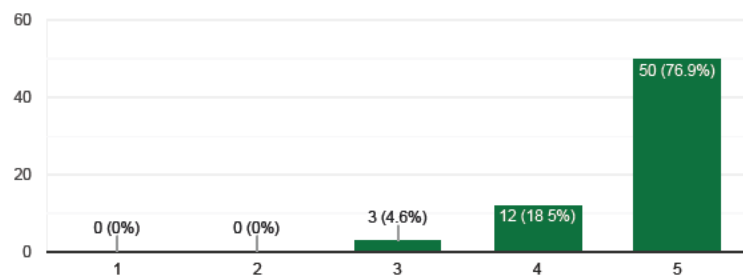
64 responses



I attend most school events offered to parents/guardians such as parent-teacher conferences.

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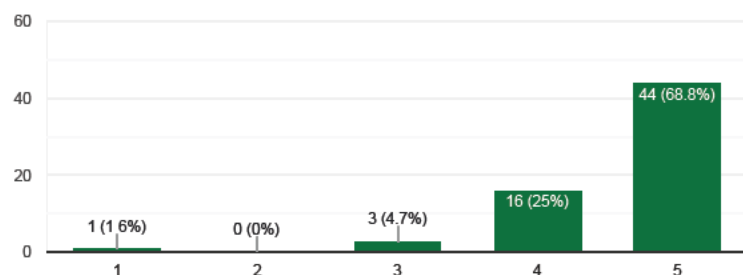
65 responses



School staff are responsive to parental/guardian concerns.

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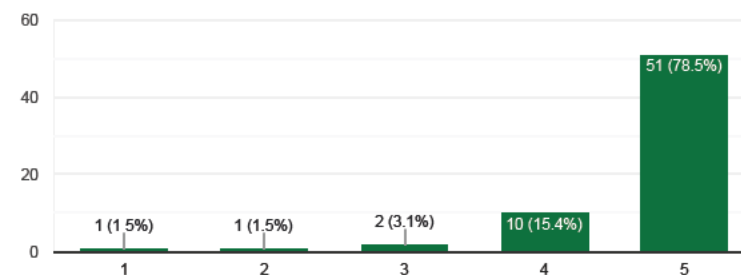
64 responses



I am satisfied with the overall quality of the school that my child attends.

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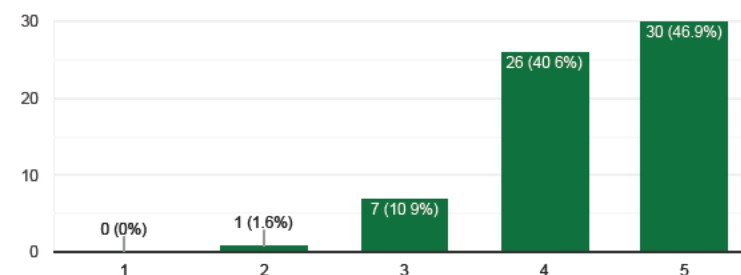
65 responses



My child's school does a very good job of meeting the needs of all its students.

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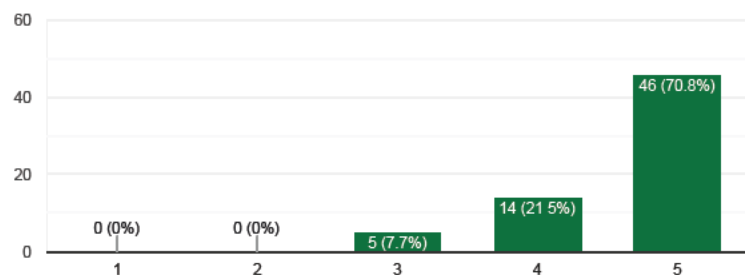
64 responses



My child's school provides students with a high quality education.

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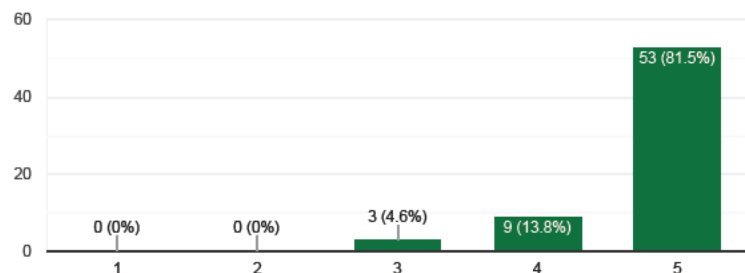
65 responses



School staff are accessible.

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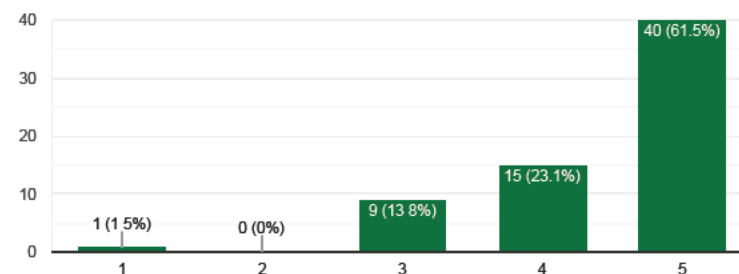
65 responses



When my child has a problem at school, he or she knows who to talk with there.

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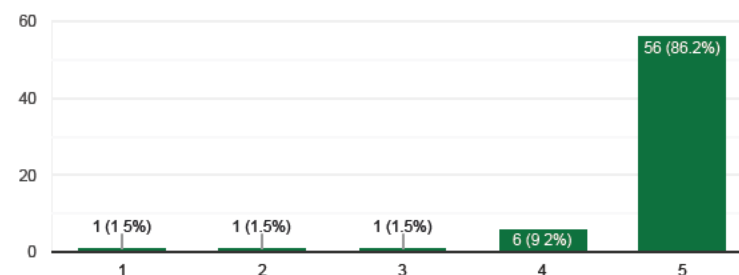
65 responses



I feel welcome at my child's school.

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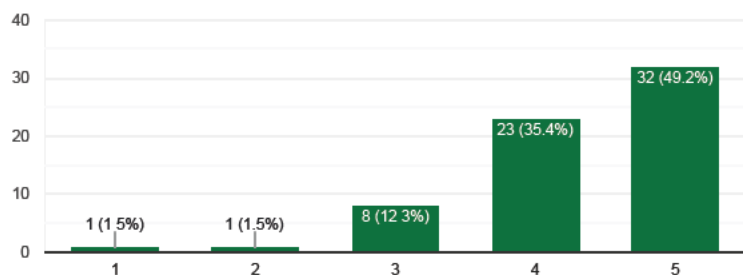
65 responses



My child enjoys school.

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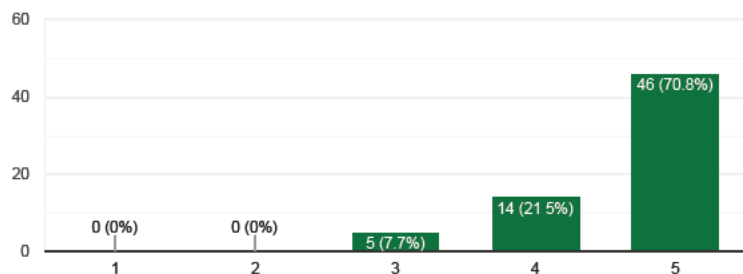
65 responses



School facilities are well maintained.

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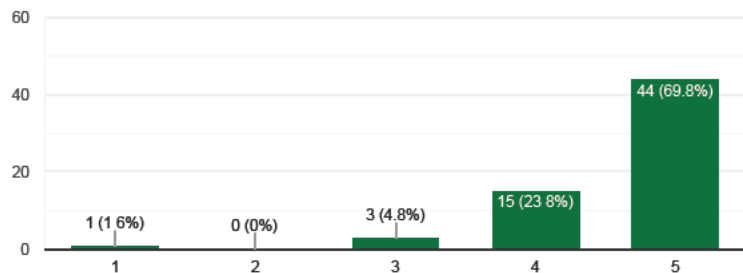
65 responses



School policies and practices support student success.

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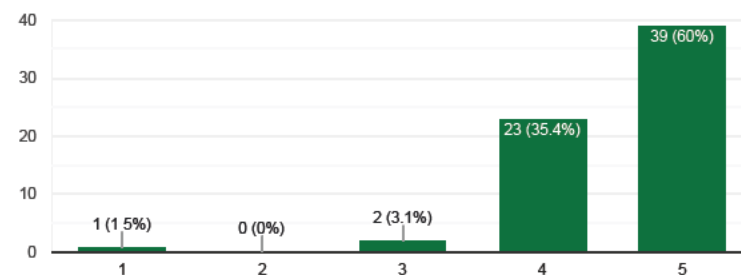
63 responses



School staff acts consistently; they do as they say.

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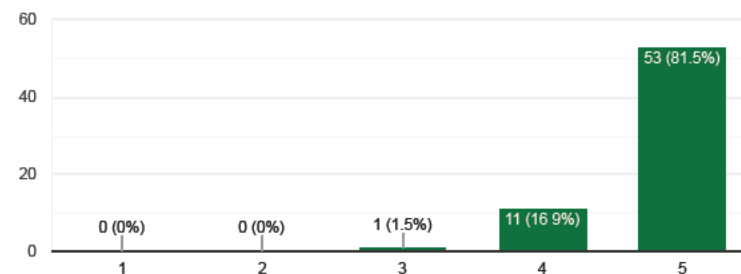
65 responses



School staff are courteous and helpful.

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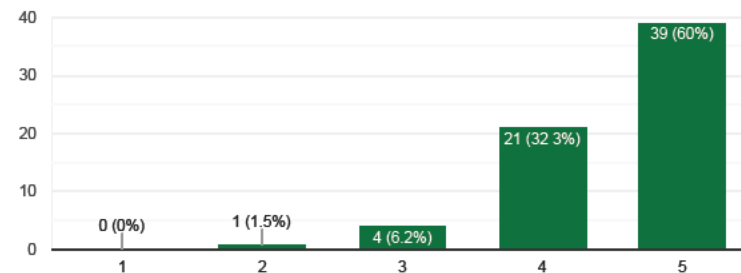
65 responses



Teachers at my child's school appear to be enthusiastic about teaching.

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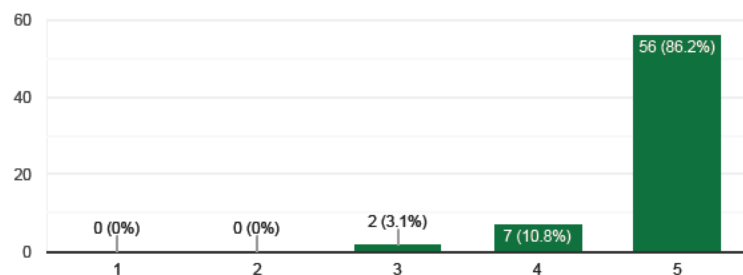
65 responses



My child's school encourages students to be responsible.

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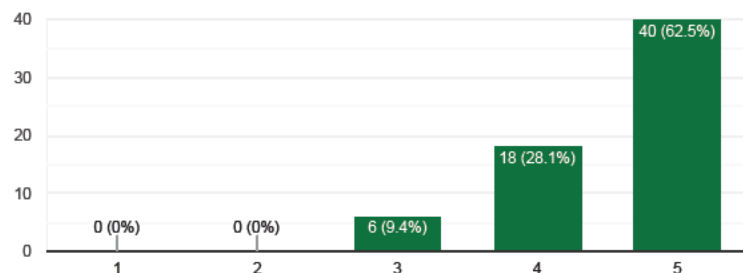
65 responses



My child's school recognizes students for their accomplishments.

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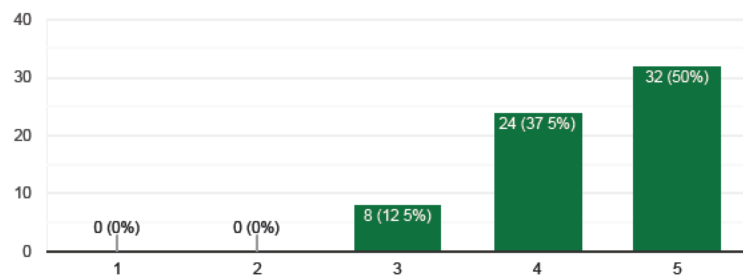
64 responses



My child's school sets high learning standards for its students.

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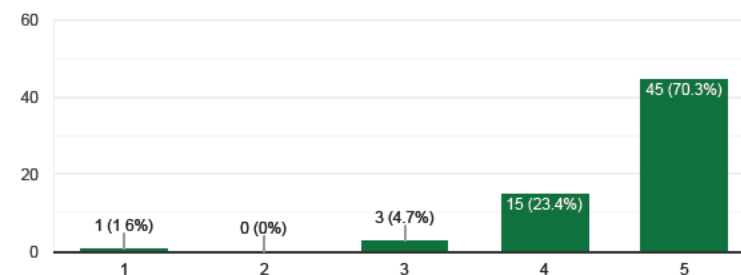
64 responses



The staff at my child's school are committed to my child's education.

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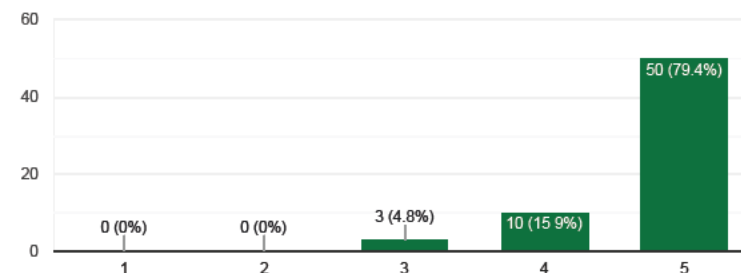
64 responses



My child's school prepares him/her to be a good citizen.

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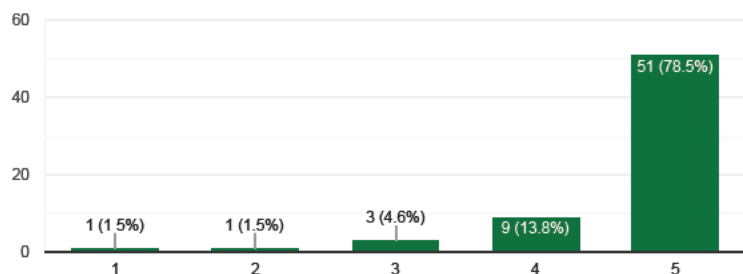
63 responses



I would recommend my child's school to a friend seeking a school for his or her child.

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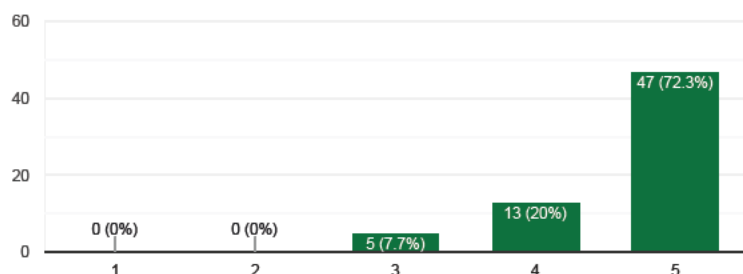
65 responses



My child is proud of his/her school.

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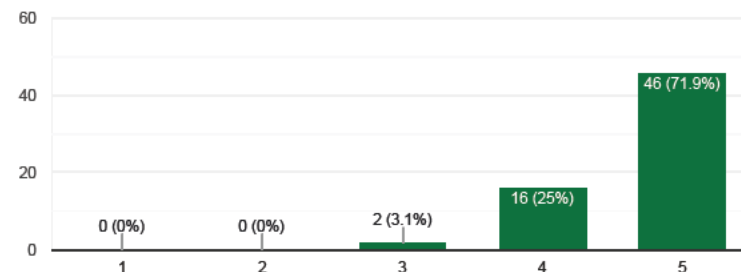
65 responses



My child's school is well regarded in the community.

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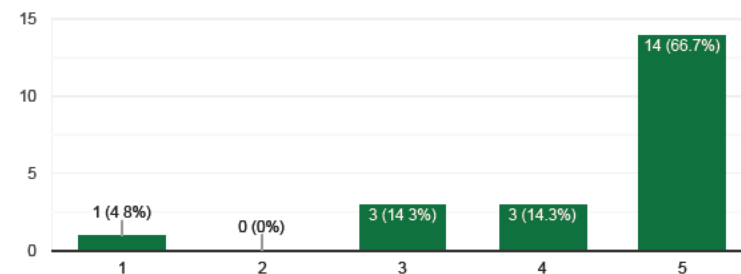
64 responses



Students with disabilities are provided with appropriate support to meet their instructional needs. (Only answer if your child receives special education services.)

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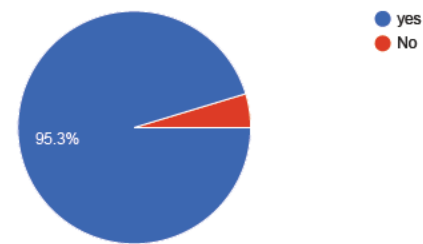
21 responses



My child has access to the internet outside of school.

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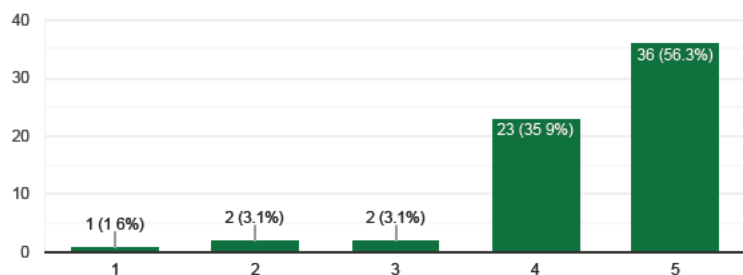
64 responses



I am satisfied with the quality of the school lunches.

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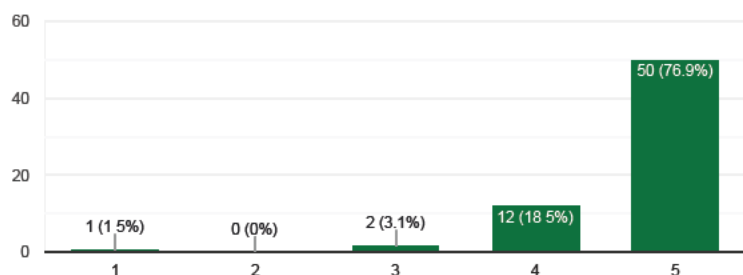
64 responses



I am satisfied with the leadership of the Head of School and administrative staff at my child's school.

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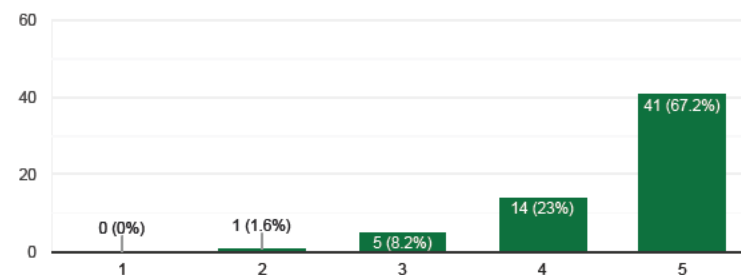
65 responses



I am satisfied with the vision and leadership of the Board of Directors.

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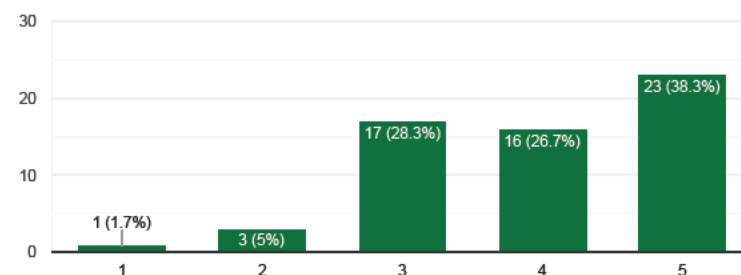
61 responses



The Board of Directors communicates effectively with the school community.

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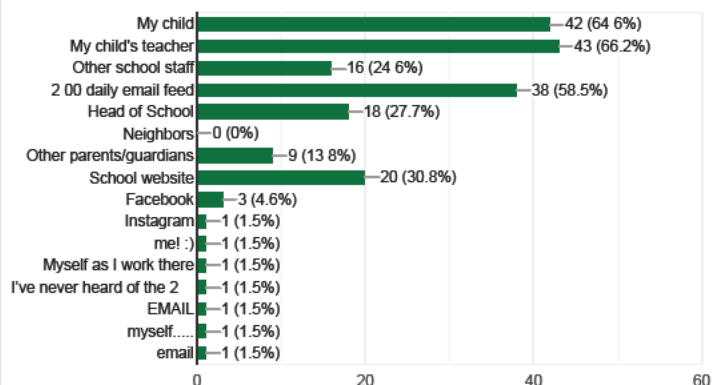
60 responses



## Where do you get most of the information about your child's school?



65 responses



## What are some things that Bluffview does well in general terms?

40 responses

Mostly everything

Teaches information in ways that kids can grasp, hands-on projects, teaches kids how to be good friends and citizens

Helping students when they are struggling and coming up with plans to help that student achieve what should be expected of them.

Meeting children where they are and treating them as individuals. Seeing each learner as uniquely gifted, without judgement of the various gifts.

Communication

Communication, fostering a welcoming environment

I love the communication received. Overall, I feel very well communicated with. The communications from Mr. Henry are always candid, honest, and timely. Overall communication with our teacher (Ms Megan) has been good, and I love the newsletters that come through. Bluffview welcomes and offers plenty of opportunities for parents to come in and observe and get a feel for the school prior to entering. There are many picnic etc events hosted that make us feel like we are part of a community. We also love the small feel of the school. I really love that there are assistants in Children's House as well. The school lunches are great, and I know that the staff who do these work incredibly hard to provide those.

Bluffview creates an environment where kids can learn from each other and help each other- this will make some lovely adults!

Teaches children to be independent and courteous to each other

Encouraging independence and responsibility

Communication

Parent teacher conferences

helping students that have special needs

They teacher respect and accountability. They also create a great environment for the students to learn and have fun learning

Bluffview is very welcoming for new students, my children had never been in a school setting before and the teachers and staff have the transition so smooth. The teachers have done a great job identifying and improving areas where students need a little extra help. The field trips are so much fun in children's house.

Treats everyone with respect and dignity; honors parental decision-making

displaying kindness, inclusivity and care

Only slightly better than district 861

Creates a free thinking learning environment for the young students.

Bluffview does a great job creating a safe, welcoming learning environment. It gives students space to explore how they engage with the world and does its best to meet students at their individual levels for learning.

#### Learning/academics

The sense of community and care for the children is incredible. Teachers, staff and administrators seem to all be incredibly engaged and invested in the children and their experiences.

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Listens, supports, communicates, welcoming

Creates an atmosphere conducive with the developmental needs of the children, exhibits unconditional positive regard for the students, supportive of family needs (i.e emergencies, crisis, communication).

Teaching independence! My son used to never want to do anything on his own and now he does with such confidence!

It has a small school feel with staff that really know the students. The access to staff is wonderful and issues are handled quickly. The teachers are great at being flexible to the needs of the kids while still knowing when to push a bit so they can grow.

The community is caring

Able to offer physical education, music, and art.  
Connects students with "the real world" such as the Bizarre, Young Reporters, etc.

Focus on each child as an individual and not just a student. Friendly environment

I think Bluffview helps students gain confidence and independence. I like the ability of students to explore new things.

Bluffview is great with many styles of learning and knowing each individual student.

Teaching children responsibility, Montessori

Welcoming to everyone.

I think in general the school does a good job with most things and the communication concerns our family had last year are significantly less of a problem this year so I am pleased about that.

Understanding a child's need.

Addresses bullying concerns.

Encourage students' curiosity and honor students' individuality, as learners and as people. Foster community and help students to see that they, too, are responsible for building and sustaining community.

Bluffview does a great job at creating a sense of community for everyone. I also feel like my kids now in their second year at Bluffview coming from traditional school have settled in nicely to what is expected of them but yet still able to be themselves. [REDACTED] and I talk about some of the amazing educational experiences and opportunities that [REDACTED] are getting to have within the classroom and afterschool and how grateful we are for that. I do believe that those experiences and opportunities are unique to Bluffview.

Oh and the lunches! :) We appreciate the thought and care that goes into nutritious food for the kids!

I think Bluffview is very welcoming to children and families with a broad variety of backgrounds. I also think Bluffview does a great job of meeting individual students' particular needs.

Do you have suggestions about what could be done to make Bluffview better?

33 responses

This year, my daughter has fallen behind in certain areas and I am not notified of this, until she tells me or until conferences, which are only twice a year. I feel as if a student is struggling, the parent should be made aware right away. For example, my daughter failed three spelling tests in a row, and only when she told me about it was I made aware.

I have a kid just above the curve for reading so he can't get help from certain programs. It would be nice if there was a program that helped them even more when they're struggling with reading

Teachers could communicate more with parents--more email updates throughout the year.

Better communication from teachers, maybe a simple website/portal with what they learning through photos?

I'd love to have a better pulse on what is being expected of my children on a daily basis, and how they're progressing in their learning. 2x/yr at conferences is nice but doesn't feel ample for us to be engaged on the home front. Perhaps a monthly email or call just to stay connected? Not sure that's feasible, but something along those lines would be great!

None at this time

I do worry sometimes about safety and security, though I think I would at any school in this time. I am not sure there is really anything extra that can be done, but if there were any opportunities to make improvements for safety/security that were made available, I would definitely support that as a parent. We did have 1 ask from the teacher about parents pitching in to purchase a school material. (some specific reading books, Bobs Books) I actually wish that these asks happened more as we are always looking for ways to support the school, and purchasing specific items is definitely something we can help with throughout the year. I liked that it was completely optional and anonymous.

I understand the Montessori teaching style, but I do wish that there were lessons to watch/see in person sometimes. It just matches my child's learning style better than trying to ask his peers who don't always want to or can help him learn more.

Space seems to be an issue - crowding in hallways, entryways, and classrooms. I don't know how this could be easily solved however.

Teach children that words can hurt, and children look different. Stop the boys will be boys mind set. Encourage more stem (especially women and people of color in stem)

Supervision has been an issue at recess



NA

A little more communication from teacher throughout the year on how a student is doing not just at conferences

No, it is great.

none

New staff that takes parents concerns seriously.

Allow parents to be a little bit more involved or supportive, not by having a pta but creating more of a parental community.

Find ways to engage advanced students more to challenge them.

increased mental health services,

Go through 12th grade

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Increase the communication between parents when students are involved in picking on others/bullying. There needs to be another step past talking with the students and making student plans.

Slowly increase homework sent home with E2 students to prepare them for Erdkinder.

The transition from E1 to E2 is a shocker for these kids. I have seen typical kids struggle with it, when you have a neurodivergent kiddo the stress is magnified. The fall and early winter for my daughter was so hard (that feels like an understatement). The staff were all new to her and her to them. Suddenly, dailies can become homework, recess is shorter, expectations are higher and more demanding, and celebrations of any kind are gone. They enter E2 at only about 9 years old. Still just elementary age kids. A transition of some kind at the end of the 3rd year in E1 would be helpful. I also think something to look forward to like birthdays or classroom celebration of some kind would help keep some of the fun of grade school there.

Communication should be improved overall. I shouldn't have to ask for updates on lunch balance and I should have a general idea of what my kids are learning.

When students make errors on their assignments, they should be shown how to get the proper answer instead of simply marking it wrong.

Send assignments home to be completed so they can be turned in on time and not get behind.



The only suggestion I have is that the behavior reports ( CH) could be more detailed and allow for 2 way communication. When working through behaviors it is necessary to have as much information as possible. It is possible to give more information without hindering instruction time. Home vs school is very different in most cases so families often won't see the concerning behaviors and home and vise versa.

More information about what my child is working on and how to support it at home. For example: pink shelf, blue shelf, green shelf doesn't mean anything to parents. Even during conferences taking the time to pull materials off the shelf to show how they work and what the child is doing would be helpful. It's hard to have conversations at home about school when you don't know the skill that goes with the name of the work.

I wish there was a little more consistency from classroom to classroom especially for families with more children. Specifically in regards to what is acceptable in a Montessori classroom in terms of works. The main example that comes to mind is that Mr. Josh has an art table available in his classroom for students in the mornings, while in Ms. Anna's class coloring can only be done as a part of a specific work. Since we don't offer art until 1st grade, having more space for self expression (even if limited) would be great.

Easily allow for Zoom parent-teacher conferences, keep up communication with parents, pay teachers higher wages (number one priority) - could a different partnership be set up with the District so that bluffview is "part" of the district versus a separate charter school?

Im extremely concerned about school bus anecdotes from my child and other parents, both my children will be riding the bus next year and I'm genuinely fearful of the experience. I'd like to see school bus supervision in the future.

Not at this time

Focus on challenging kids who are above the average mark

I love the way that Montessori allows students to work at their own pace and go as far as they can with a task/work. To that end, I would like to see strong students be challenged more consistently and in more areas--how can that be built into lessons and individual work time more clearly?

Throughout the year I think I may have thought of something but I cannot think of it at the moment! I'll get it to you when it comes to me. : )



Open forum-any comments are welcome. Good, bad, or indifferent as it relates to Bluffview and the 2022-23 school year.

17 responses

Na

Thank you!

Stop favoritism of some students.

The bus situation is ridiculous. It was bad all year and I am completely unsatisfied with the WAPS response. They need to have monitors on the buses with the number of issues that have occurred this year.

none

This is the best school any of my children have ever attended. My junior in high school just the other day said that Bluffview was by far his favorite school and he wishes it would have gone through 12th grade. He (nor I) have ever felt as included, cared about or invested in by any other school before or since Bluffview. Kuddos to you all. PS Ruth O'Rourke is also amazing!!!

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Awesome supportive school!!!! Great job!!!!

Overall Bluffview does a wonderful job with the students and I'm thankful we have them in the community.

Bluffview had been a blessing for one of my children. He has adapted well and is overcome behaviors that were an issue at the beginning of the year. His teacher has really taken his natural talent and interest and used it well instead of stiflingly his ability. My other child had been struggling since day 1. I love the environment here so it saddens me to say that I feel it's not a good fit. It will be a hard decision if we decide he not a good fit for bluffview.

There are too many emails. Perhaps because as a staff member I get a double dose. I often don't read them all (sometimes I even just delete them!). I'm not sure what to do about it, but my husband also feels like he gets bombarded with emails. Perhaps bolding headings in long emails so it is easier to skim for important info, and go back and read for the things that pertain to my family?

We love everything about Bluffview, except we feel like the "odd people out" as Christians who hold more traditional values. e.g. When we expressed a concern about a book our daughter purchased at the book fair (and books she's seen in the library), we felt like it wasn't a big deal to the people we communicated with and it was ignored, even after why we explained this is



important to us, to have labels on certain types of content. Other than that, we have loved our experience there and are grateful for the years we had our daughter there.

Dissatisfied for care opportunities for pre-school for snow days and ho idays, summers. There are no options for pre-schoolers with full-time working parents for snow days.

I would love to see a school calendar come out for events like concerts and May display and bridging at the beginning of the year so my family can request off work as appropriate

None

Thank you for everything the teachers and staff do for students every day. We're so grateful for Bluffview!

This year has been so great as far as communication is concerned! I feel like with both of my kids teachers - any conversation is welcome and there has been steps taken towards a solution rather. I really appreciate that! It's been so nice to get to know more staff and parents this year.

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