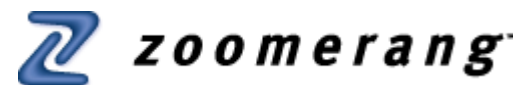


Deer Canyon Parent Survey 2008

Results Overview



Date: 6/4/2008 8:00 AM PST
 Responses: Completes
 Filter: No filter applied

#	Response
11. If you answered strongly disagree or no to any of the questions in this survey, please share your concerns here.	
1	I would REALLY like to see more homework. Homework gives children an opportunity to get individual help with the material covered in class.
2	I'm not sure what the difference is in Deer Canyon Foundation and PTA. I do understand that donations to the Foundation are tax deductible, but not to the PTA.
3	Mr. Scull has been awesome. We will miss him and hope that the new principal also exhibits the same patient, kind but firm direction and attention to kids.
4	I did not respond to any questions about next year because my son will be moving to Willow Grove.
5	I did not input this as strongly disagree but I do not feel like parents are asked to participate in programs such as Site Council or GATE. I haven't heard any requests to volunteer or support them. I also was not aware of the difference between the PTA and the Foundation until recently and am quite certain others may not be aware of the Foundation at all. I think the Foundation could do a better job of branding itself and letting parents know all the wonderful programs it supports.
6	The Silent Auction is a really enjoyable part of Family Fun Night and I would hate to see it go. At \$40- \$50 per person (plus babysitters), it's unlikely you'll get a good turn-out for the Gala. I think this will raise less money.
7	I answered "yes" to the change for the "Auction" because I would support the school, but have reservations about it.
8	Both of our children have teachers that do not communicate well! We would have liked feedback on concerns that we originally presented at the beginning of the school year, and on any of their own concerns periodically rather than all at once during conference/progress reporting times or only after our prodding. Also when we've asked for help to enable clearer continuity and to give our children a fairer playing field we were glossed over, our concerns were minimized, or we were flat out ignored. Having pre-warned our concerns this type of teacher behavior was rude and disrespectful, and further insulting when the teachers then addressed these as their concerns in the progress reports and without any clear strategy of how they will handle the concern. Furthermore, to be led to believe that our child was progressing accordingly and then graded down at the following trimester without any communication or warnings is totally unprofessional and very demeaning! All of this is unacceptable!
9	I would like a Gala event, but feel 40-50 is too much. 25 per person would be reasonable. I can't spend 100 for my husband and I to go then bid at an auction as well.
10	I dont think I am aware of the council and parent-opinion discussions.
11	Please explain difference between PTA and foundation and how donated money is currently spent to improve students' education.
12	My more "neutral" answers are based on the fact that my child is less likely to share information. He doesn't share or show me the things that he has no interest in.
13	N/A
14	It's a bit frustrating having all enrichment options on Friday mornings. A child cannot do both choir and Math Olympiad...Could some of these activities be offered afterschool?
15	We as a family enjoy the Family Fun Night. Would it be possible to have an adult night as well?
16	There are so many fundraisers. Since I have multiple children at several schools it is overwhelming and financially straining.
17	In having helped with the Silent Auction solicitation this year, I believe that more could be done in building relationships with community businesses. It might be worthwhile to explore partnerships with businesses who are willing to give a percentage back to the school regardless of when a family makes a purchase. (Like escript and Office Depot) I am not fond of the dinners out on specific nights since it may fall on a night my family would not ordinarily eat out. Programs need to be kept simple and easy to use.
18	I have been very pleased with Deer Canyon. My family really stretched our budget to live in the neighborhood and every day my son is in kindergarten I feel that money has been well spent.
19	I had never heard of the School Council Site. If there was information, I may have missed it.
20	I'm not even sure what the school site council is so can't say if I've been informed of their decisions.
21	I just wanted to share the very last survey about science,reading,PE,music..... Was so very difficult for many reasons. Of course I would not like to see any of those cut!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
22	NA
23	I do not know anything in regards to the different comittees that parents can participate.

24	I thought the PTA and the Foundation was the same thing.
25	Not sure exactly how the dollars are spent (on previous page) so I felt I really couldn't answer the questions fairly.
26	N/A
27	I don't think Family Fun Night should be changed.
28	n/a
29	I do not support the auction to be a gala night-adults only event. It would limit participation only to those who can afford to buy tickets to the event. Further, it would exclude the kids from participating in the silent auction, which some of them contributed and prepared items the items to the auction.
30	Typically, there's a one page very simple HW, and sometimes no HW at all. I've repeatedly asked for more advanced work (including HW) to be assigned to my child. I have seen no evidence of that. HW should be assigned every day (including Fridays).
31	I think a week of teacher appreciation is too excessive. Bringing lunches every day a present or gift each day and a large gift at the end??? Also Having room parents collect donations from families for parties and teacher gifts has gotten out of hand especially for families with several children. Lets reduce reuse and recycle instead of so much waste!!
32	I answered no to \$40-50 dinner/silent auction. At this point in our life, that seems to be a lot of money (from a one income family situation)
33	The school needs to look at how we can reduce copying costs and carrying heavy books home by the kids. It would be nice for the teachers to determine what could be scanned in and saved in a designated location / website. Paper / Books would still be available for the kids that don't have internet capability.
34	Each student regardless of grade level should have their own pencil box with their own ruler, scissors, crayons, etc. rather than the communal pot that is currently used in many classrooms. These supplies should be replaced by each family when the supplies are used. The continued purchase of non-expendables for classroom use: rulers, scissors, etc. should be eliminated. This would teach children more responsibility and place less burden on those who continually purchase supplies for the entire class. The paper towels, cleaning supplies, kleenex, etc. could still be part of the communal pot by requesting a nominal amount of supplies or money from each family at the beginning of the year.
35	I did not answer that I disagreed with the question about email communication because I appreciate the updates. However, I do have a problem with the format of the emails. There are a tremendous number of links in the email for all kinds of formatting and cute graphics. I get a lot of my email via a Blackberry and have to scroll through pages and pages of link addresses before getting to the text of the message. Even when viewing the messages on a computer the download time is greatly increased by all the superfluous links. During last years fire evacuation when bandwidth for the whole county got limited it really confounded retrieving important updates in a timely manner. PUSD should consider reformatting the email notifications to eliminate the unnecessary links.
36	There is not enough time for parents to be informed of field trips. All field trip should be planned/permission slip/money request slips sent out at the least a month before so that parents are well informed. There is not enough information given to parents in regards to homework. Communication needs to change to be more open!
37	Deer Canyon places too much emphasis on testing. I don't think all teachers look at students as a whole person. I think they look at them as scores. Most of these kids come from supportive, educated families. They are fed, well-behaved and ready to learn. I think teachers can focus more on how they learn and how they can bring out a "love of learning" in these kids, rather than training them to score high. I realize scores will play a role in their entire academic careers, but being inspired and motivated will do more in the long run to help these kids. I realize the State and the federal government's "no child left behind policy" mandates certain tests and scores. But Deer Canyon is buying in whole heartedly. Maybe its okay to be fifth in the district, with a lower score, but give kids a more holistic learning experience. I know the latest budget cuts have everyone worried about class size. Even at current class sizes, few teachers give students one on one attention. Most teach to the whole class.....I don't know whether five more kids in the class will change anything. My son has had some teachers who look at each child and others who look at the group, and it didn't seem to matter how large or small the class was. It really depends on the teacher. Honestly, my son will leave Deer Canyon with great scores, but with few "aha" moments in the classroom.