

## Appendix A - Survey Instrument

### YEAR 2010/11 SATISFACTION WITH EDUCATION IN ALBERTA PRINCIPAL SURVEY

I – 1 Hello, my name is \_\_\_\_\_.

May I please speak with \_\_\_\_\_ (INSERT PRINCIPAL'S NAME)

- |                          |                              |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. YES, SPEAKING         | GO TO I - 2                  |
| 2. YES, I'LL GO GET THEM | RE-READ INTRODUCTION         |
| 3. NO, NOT AVAILABLE     | RECORD CALL BACK INFORMATION |

I – 2 Hello, my name is \_\_\_\_\_ I'm calling from CCI Research on behalf of Alberta Education. We are conducting a survey that annually gathers opinions on the education system in Alberta.

We are looking for information about the level of satisfaction with Alberta's education system, and to find out possible areas that can be improved or looked into further.

Are you willing to participate in this survey with me? It will take only a few minutes of your time.  
[Interviewer Prompt: If asked: This survey could take approximately 10 – 15 minutes of your time.]

- |             |                               |
|-------------|-------------------------------|
| 1, YES      | Go to I-3                     |
| 2. NO-LATER | RECORD CALL BACK INFORMATION  |
| 3. NO-NEVER | OKAY. THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME |

If more information is requested by person who answers telephone read section below.

1. If respondent is questioning the survey and the validity of it:

We can provide you with a contact name and phone number if you would like. You can contact Jim Peck of Alberta Education at (780) 422-1963 if you would like to know more about the survey. There is toll-free access to this number within Alberta if you dial 310-0000 first.

2. If respondent wants to know who we are:

We are calling from CCI Research, a survey research firm. We have been contracted by Alberta Education to conduct this survey to gather opinions on the education system in Alberta.

3. If respondent wants to know why we are calling from Ontario:

We are a Canadian Company that conducts research for government and education across the country. We have been contracted by Alberta Education to conduct this survey.

I-3 Please remember your answers are completely confidential and will be grouped together with others for reporting purposes. You are free to refuse to answer any question at any time. Please note, this call may be monitored or recorded for quality assurance purposes. Also remember that while answering the questions, please provide your opinions based on your role as a Principal.

[Interviewer Note: Some respondents may be principal at more than one school. If the respondent says that they work at multiple schools/jobs, say the following prompt.

Interviewer Prompt: "Okay, when we ask about "your school", please provide your opinions based on your overall experience as a Principal."]

**SECTION A**  
**[To be completed by 400 Respondents (All)]**

1. How satisfied are you with the quality of education students are receiving in your school?  
Are you ... **(READ LIST)**
  - 1 Very satisfied
  - 2 Satisfied
  - 3 Dissatisfied
  - 4 Very dissatisfied
  - 8 Refused
  - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
  
2. In your opinion, has the quality of education in your school improved, stayed the same, or declined in the past three years?
  - 1 Improved
  - 2 Stayed the same
  - 3 Declined
  - 8 Refused
  - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
  
3. In your opinion, has the quality of the Alberta K to 12 system improved, stayed the same, or declined in the past three years?
  - 1 Improved
  - 2 Stayed the same
  - 3 Declined
  - 8 Refused
  - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
  
4. Would you strongly agree, agree, disagree or strongly disagree with the following statement?
  - a. The highest priority of Alberta's education system is the success of the student?
    - 1 Strongly agree
    - 2 Agree
    - 3 Disagree
    - 4 Strongly disagree

- 8 Refused
- 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
5. To what extent do you agree with each of the following statements: **(Read List)**
- 1 Strongly agree
- 2 Agree
- 3 Disagree
- 4 Strongly disagree
- 8 Refused
- 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
- a. Students in your school find school work interesting
- b. Students in your school find school work challenging
- c. Students in your school clearly understand what they are expected to learn at school
- d. Students in your school are safe at school
- e. Students in your school are safe on the way to and from school
- f. Teachers in your school care about their students
- g. Students in your school are treated fairly by adults at their school
- h. Students in your school treat each other well at school
6. Would you strongly agree, agree, disagree or strongly disagree that the curriculum focuses on what students need to learn in each of the following areas... **(ROTATE) (READ LIST)**
- 1 Strongly agree
- 2 Agree
- 3 Disagree
- 4 Strongly disagree
- 8 Refused
- 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
- a. Reading
- b. Writing
- c. Mathematics
- d. Science
- e. Social studies
7. How satisfied are you with the variety of subjects available to students in your school? Are you **(READ LIST)**
- 1 Very satisfied
- 2 Satisfied
- 3 Dissatisfied
- 4 Very dissatisfied
- 8 Refused

- 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
8. How satisfied are you with the opportunities students in your school have to learn about the following topics:
- 1 Very satisfied
  - 2 Satisfied
  - 3 Dissatisfied
  - 4 Very dissatisfied
  - 8 Refused
  - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
- a. Music
  - b. Drama
  - c. Art
  - d. Computers
  - e. Health
  - f. Another language
  - g. Career education
9. How satisfied are you with the opportunities students in your school have to participate in physical education? Are you ...
- 1 Very satisfied
  - 2 Satisfied
  - 3 Dissatisfied
  - 4 Very dissatisfied
  - 8 Refused
  - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
10. How satisfied are you with the quality of teaching in your school? Are you... **(READ LIST)**
- 1 Very satisfied
  - 2 Satisfied
  - 3 Dissatisfied
  - 4 Very dissatisfied
  - 8 Refused
  - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable

11. How satisfied are you that *YOUR* input into the education of students is considered by Alberta Education? Are you... **(READ LIST)**
- 1 Very satisfied
  - 2 Satisfied
  - 3 Dissatisfied
  - 4 Very dissatisfied
  - 8 Refused
  - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
12. How satisfied are you that the leadership at the provincial level effectively supports and facilitates teaching and learning?
- 1 Very satisfied
  - 2 Satisfied
  - 3 Dissatisfied
  - 4 Very dissatisfied
  - 8 Refused
  - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
13. How satisfied are you that students in your school are taught attitudes and behaviours to be successful at work when they leave school? Are you... **(READ LIST)**
- 1 Very satisfied
  - 2 Satisfied
  - 3 Dissatisfied
  - 4 Very dissatisfied
  - 8 Refused
  - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
14. How satisfied are you that students in your school demonstrate attitudes and behaviours to be successful at work when they leave school? Are you... **(READ LIST)**
- 1 Very satisfied
  - 2 Satisfied
  - 3 Dissatisfied
  - 4 Very dissatisfied
  - 8 Refused
  - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable

15. Would you strongly agree, agree, disagree or strongly disagree that you are able to attract teachers to your school?
- 1 Strongly agree
  - 2 Agree
  - 3 Disagree
  - 4 Strongly disagree
  - 8 Refused
  - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
16. Would you strongly agree, agree, disagree or strongly disagree that you are able to retain teachers in your school?
- 1 Strongly agree
  - 2 Agree
  - 3 Disagree
  - 4 Strongly disagree
  - 8 Refused
  - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
17. Would you strongly agree, agree, disagree or strongly disagree that teachers' training has been adequate to meet the needs of students with special education needs?
- 1 Strongly agree
  - 2 Agree
  - 3 Disagree
  - 4 Strongly disagree
  - 8 Refused
  - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable

**SECTION B**

**[To be Completed by 200 Respondents, Remainder to go to Section C]**

18. How satisfied are you that Alberta's education system is contributing to students' development of: **(READ LIST)**
- 1 Very satisfied
  - 2 Satisfied
  - 3 Dissatisfied
  - 4 Very dissatisfied
  - 8 Refused
  - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable

- a. Intellectual skills
- b. Social skills
- c. Physical abilities
- d. Emotional wellbeing
- e. Spiritual awareness

19. To what extent do you agree with each of the following statements: **(Read List)**

- 1 Strongly agree
- 2 Agree
- 3 Disagree
- 4 Strongly disagree
- 8 Refused
- 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable

- a. Students in your school arrive at school ready to learn
- b. Students in your school are encouraged at school to be involved in activities that help the community
- c. Students in your school are encouraged at school to try their best
- d. Students in your school follow the rules
- e. Students in your school help each other when they can
- f. Students in your school respect each other
- g. Students can easily access programs and services at school to get help with school work
- h. Students in your school can get help at school with problems that are not related to school work
- i. When students need it, teachers in your school are available to help them
- j. In your school students receive the individual attention they require from teachers
- k. Your school provides the learning resources, such as text books, software, audio and video materials, that meet student needs
- l. Students in your school are encouraged to express their opinions and engage in an exchange of ideas
- m. Students in your school are encouraged to take part in classroom discussions and activities
- n. Students in your school are recognized for the positive things they do at school

19B. To what extent do you agree with each of the following statements?

- 1 Strongly agree
  - 2 Agree
  - 3 Disagree
  - 4 Strongly disagree
  - 8 Refused
  - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
- a. Your school promotes physical activity, health and wellness

- b. Students in your school are learning about how to stay healthy
  - c. Students in your school have healthy food choices in the cafeteria, canteen and vending machines
20. Are you very satisfied, satisfied, dissatisfied or very dissatisfied with the following:  
(**Interviewer prompt:** programs and services such as counselling or speech therapy)
- 1 Very satisfied
  - 2 Satisfied
  - 3 Dissatisfied
  - 4 Very dissatisfied
  - 8 Refused
  - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
- a. the accessibility of programs and services for students in your school
  - b. the effectiveness of programs and services for students in your school
  - c. the efficiency of programs and services for students in your school
21. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you that the students in your school can access the following services in a timely manner at school when needed:
- 1 Very satisfied
  - 2 Satisfied
  - 3 Dissatisfied
  - 4 Very dissatisfied
  - 8 Refused
  - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
- a. Academic counselling
  - b. Career counselling
  - c. School Library services
  - d. Supports for students with special needs
  - e. Student assessment services for students with learning difficulties
  - f. Services (beyond regular instruction) that help students to read and write
- 21B. Do students at your school have **access** to the school library.....?
- 1 Yes
  - 2 No
  - 8 Refused
  - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable

- a. Before class hours
- b. During classes
- c. After school

21C. Do students at your school have access to the school library **on-line**?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 8 Refused
- 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable

21D. To what extent does the school library at your school **contribute** to students' learning success? *Would you say...* **(READ LIST)**

- 1 A lot
- 2 Some
- 3 Very little
- 4 Not at all
- 8 Refused
- 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable

### SECTION C

**[To be Completed by 200 Respondents]**

22. To what extent are parents or guardians in your school involved in decisions about their children's education? *Would you say...*

- 1 A lot
- 2 Some
- 3 Very little
- 4 Not at all
- 8 Refused
- 9 Don't know/Not Applicable

23. How satisfied are you with the opportunity for parents or guardians in your school to be involved in decisions about their children's education? *Are you...* **(READ LIST)**

- 1 Very satisfied
- 2 Satisfied
- 3 Dissatisfied

- 4 Very dissatisfied
  - 8 Refused
  - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
24. To what extent are parents or guardians involved in decisions in your school? Would you say...
- 1 A lot
  - 2 Some
  - 3 Very little
  - 4 Not at all
  - 8 Refused
  - 9 Don't know/Not Applicable
25. How satisfied are you with the opportunity for parents or guardians to be involved in decisions in your school? Are you... **(READ LIST)**
- 1 Very satisfied
  - 2 Satisfied
  - 3 Dissatisfied
  - 4 Very dissatisfied
  - 8 Refused
  - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
26. How satisfied are you that the input of parents or guardians into decisions in your school is considered? Are you... **(READ LIST)**
- 1 Very satisfied
  - 2 Satisfied
  - 3 Dissatisfied
  - 4 Very dissatisfied
  - 8 Refused
  - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
27. How satisfied are you that the input of parents or guardians into the education of students is considered by your school board? Are you... **(READ LIST)**
- 1 Very satisfied
  - 2 Satisfied
  - 3 Dissatisfied
  - 4 Very dissatisfied

- 8 Refused  
9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
28. How satisfied are you that *YOUR* input into the education of students is considered by your school board? Are you... **(READ LIST)**
- 1 Very satisfied  
2 Satisfied  
3 Dissatisfied  
4 Very dissatisfied  
8 Refused  
9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
29. Would you strongly agree, agree, disagree or strongly disagree that the school council in your school is fulfilling its advisory role?
- 1 Strongly agree  
2 Agree  
3 Disagree  
4 Strongly disagree  
8 Refused  
9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
30. Would you strongly agree, agree, disagree or strongly disagree with each of the following statements: **(ROTATE) (READ LIST) In your school:**
- 1 Strongly agree  
2 Agree  
3 Disagree  
4 Strongly disagree  
8 Refused  
9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
- a. Teachers help students achieve learning expectations  
b. Teachers help students achieve high standards
- 30B. To what extent do you agree with each of the following statements?
- 1 Strongly agree  
2 Agree  
3 Disagree

- 4. Strongly disagree
  - 8 Refused
  - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
- 
- a. Students in your school have the opportunity to demonstrate their computer skills in word processing
  - b. Students in your school have skills to move electronic files from one place to another on a computer
  - c. Students in your school have skills to create multimedia presentations (with sound, pictures, video) for their projects/assignments
  - d. Students in your school have sufficient access to computers at schools to do their school work
  - e. Students in your school are prevented from accessing inappropriate material on the internet at school
  - f. Students in your school use technology such as computers to complete their tests or quizzes
  - g. Students in your school use the internet to do research on assignment topics
- 
31. Thinking about the teaching profession in general, would you strongly agree, agree, disagree or strongly disagree with each of the following statements. *The teaching profession requires teachers to ... (ROTATE) (READ LIST)*
- 1 Strongly agree
  - 2 Agree
  - 3 Disagree
  - 4 Strongly disagree
  - 8 Refused
  - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable
- 
- a. Have specialized knowledge and skills
  - b. Apply their specialized knowledge and skills using reasoned judgment
  - c. Provide a very valuable service to society
- 
32. Would you strongly agree, agree, disagree or strongly disagree that recent Bachelor of Education graduates are well prepared to meet their responsibilities as teachers?
- 1 Strongly agree
  - 2 Agree
  - 3 Disagree
  - 4 Strongly disagree
  - 8 Refused
  - 9 Don't Know/Not Applicable

33. Thinking back over the past three years, to what extent do you agree or disagree that professional development opportunities made available to teachers in your school have . . .

1 Strongly agree

2 Agree

3 Disagree

4 Strongly disagree

8 Refused

9 Don't Know/Not Applicable

- a. Effectively addressed the professional development needs of teachers?
- b. Contributed significantly to the on-going professional development of teachers?
- c. Been focused on the priorities of the school

34. Would you strongly agree, agree, disagree or strongly disagree with the following statements?

1 Strongly agree

2 Agree

3 Disagree

5 Strongly disagree

8 Refused

9 Don't Know/Not Applicable

- a. Alberta's education system uses research and consultation with Albertans to guide policy decisions
- b. Alberta Education uses on-going evaluation of the education system to improve student learning
- c. Alberta's education system ensures access to quality education to all students regardless of where they live
- d. Alberta's education system is accountable to the public
- e. Alberta's education system communicates effectively with the public

35. Are you very satisfied, satisfied, dissatisfied or very dissatisfied with the following:  
**(Interviewer prompt: Facilities are things like science labs, computer labs, art rooms and construction fabrication shops.)**

1 Very satisfied

2 Satisfied

3 Dissatisfied

4 Very dissatisfied

8 Refused

9 Don't Know/Not Applicable

- a. the facilities in your school meet the learning needs of students
- b. the facilities in your school meet the program delivery needs of teachers
- c. your school has enough space to meet the learning needs of students
- d. your school has enough space to meet the program delivery needs of teachers
- e. the equipment in your school meets the learning needs of students
- f. the equipment in your school meets the program delivery needs of teachers
- g. the gym and playground in your school meet the daily physical activity needs of students

**We've reached the end of the survey. On behalf of Alberta Education, I'd like to thank you very much for your time and cooperation.**