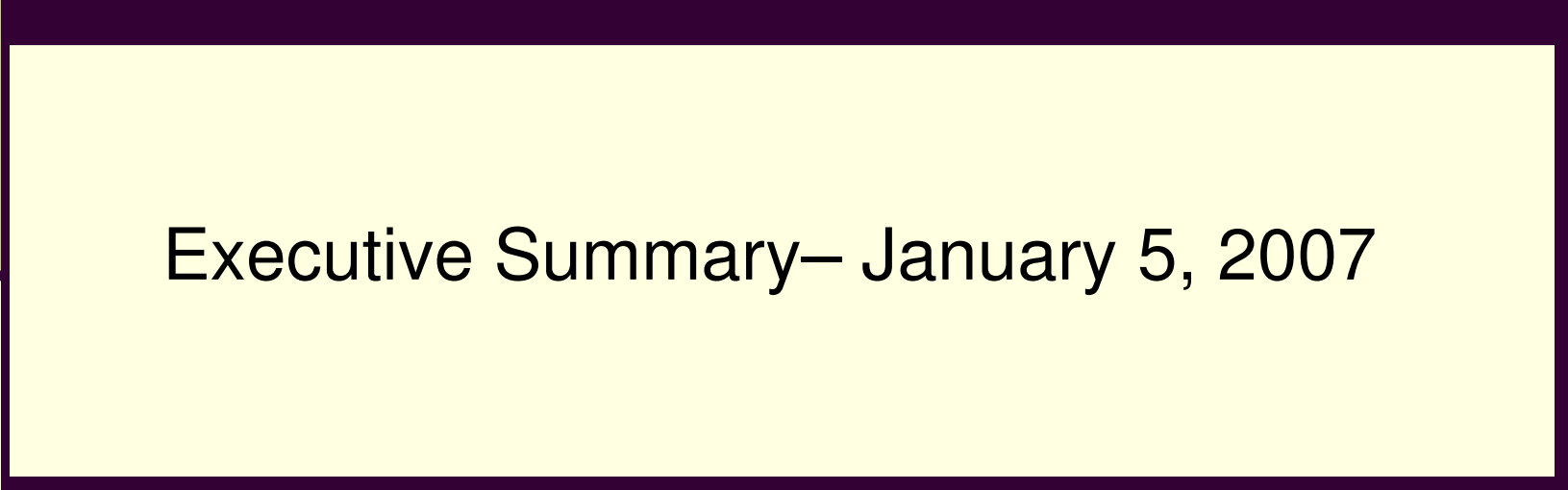





# Parent Involvement and Communication Survey



Executive Summary– January 5, 2007

# Survey Background

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- Survey was part of the Building Stronger Partnerships program developed by the National PTA
- Three Building Stronger Partnerships workshops have been conducted by the PTA and the district during the past several months – 18 of our buildings were able to take part in one or more of these workshops
- The survey was open mid-October through Dec. 1
- The goal of the survey was to establish a baseline on communication/involvement issues and to identify opportunities for improvement

# Results

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- 630 Responses
- Responses from 30 schools
- On-line and paper copies which were entered into the system
- Survey was promoted on-line, via school newsletters and websites, use of the autodialer system, etc.



# Questions

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- There were several key questions on the survey which tied back to specific program aspects of the Building Stronger Partnership series of workshops
- The series is based on a set of standards regarding involvement which were arrived at through national research conducted by the PTA – the questions relate to these standards: **communicating, parenting, student learning, volunteering, school decision making, and collaborating with the community**

# Results for Key Questions

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*1. From what source do you get most of your information about school?*

- Take-home folders (elementary)
- The school newsletter
- My child
- The school or district website or email

# Results continued . . .

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## ***2. How effective are the following toward improving communications?***

- Parent teacher conferences were rated very highly
- School newsletters are well received and well read
- Open houses/unpack your backpack nights offer initial opportunities for communications
- PTA and parent meetings are helpful but not as universally attended

# Results . . . .

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***3. As a parent, do you have trouble with the following?***

- **Motivating your child (#1 answer)**
- **Helping my child with homework**
- **Knowledge of school policies and procedures**

*More than 50% of the respondents said they would be interested in attending a class or workshop on how parents can help their children learn – reading, math, testing, and homework help were the top answers*

# Results . . .

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*4. Do you agree with the following statements?*

- I can talk openly with my child's teacher – an overwhelming YES
- Same for talking with the principal - YES
- I am well informed about what my child is doing in class – MIXED
- I feel that teachers need to be aware of home problems that may affect my child - MIXED

# Results . . .

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## ***5. What resources and services would you like to have available?***

- HOMEWORK HOTLINE (#1 Answer)
- Updated and informative school websites
- Email listserve for parents
- More family activities at school
- Child care before and after school
- Parent resource centers at school (interest in learning support materials)

# Additional Results . . .

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- More than 146 respondents were interested in volunteering at their school in a variety of capacities
- 101 respondents expressed an interest in a parent support group program
- Overall, parents want on-going progress information on their student(s) and more opportunities to meet formally with teachers
- Parents desire more direct communication from our schools

# Opportunities for Improvement

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- We have support to help with website and listserve development, as well as some very good models in the district
- LIS is piloting the Parent Assist program to accompany the Gradebook feature
- The district is working on D-Net, a district-wide listserve program
- Looking for ways to better inform students so they will in turn inform parents
- More ways for parent/teacher interaction
- Homework Hotline with Library project

## Parent Involvement Survey – Data Tables

Adams	Blue Grass	Buffalo	Central	Eisenhower	Fillmore	Garfield	Harrison	Hayes	Jackson	Jefferson	Kimberly Center East	Kimberly Center West	Lincoln	Madison	McKinley	Monroe	North	Select School	Smart	Sudlow	Truman	Walcott Elem	Walcott Int	Washington	West	Williams	Wilson	Wood	Young	Grand Total
24	22	29	71	22	4	70	29	6	9	2	2	4	7	13	10	2	64	2	10	51	10	4	10	43	30	39	15	23	3	630

### 1. From what source do you get most of your information about school?

Info_Source	Adams	Blue Grass	Buffalo	Central	Eisenhower	Fillmore	Garfield	Harrison	Hayes	Jackson	Jefferson	Kimberly Center East	Kimberly Center West	Lincoln	Madison	McKinley	Monroe	North	Smart	Sudlow	Truman	Walcott Elem	Walcott Int	Washington	West	Williams	Wilson	Wood	Young	Grand Total
Children	3	4	5	15	4		14	2	4	2		1	1	1		2	1	24	6	7	1	1		9	16	13	1	6		143
Friends	1	2		3			6	1	1									4	3	2			1	4	3	1		1		33
Internet/Web	1			39			1					1						15		16				1	2	12		1	1	91
Newsletter	4		9	2	5	1	43	19		2					4		1	7	1	6	2		5	11	2	10	5	13		152
Newspaper			1	1																										2
Other	1	1	1	10	2							1		1		1		6		13	1	1	1		7	2	4		53	
Principal																		1										1		2
Take Home Folders	14	15	13	1	10	3	5	7		4	1			5	5	7		3		2	5	2	2	15		1	4		1	125
Teachers					1		1		1	1	1		2		4			4		4	1		1	3			1	1	1	27
TV																					1									1

**Adams** - PTA; **Blue Grass** - Grapevine; Many apply, but take home folders gives me the MOST; **Buffalo** - used to attend here when younger; **Central** - auto-dialer; automated calls; children, weekly email, band website and school newspaper; daily announcements on line; phone (3); school website; weekly email; Weekly phone message; **Eisenhower** - I work there and I'm a parent there; PTA; **Garfield** - planner and notes; PTA; **Jackson** - PTA; **Lincoln** - wife; **McKinley** - newsletter; **North** - automated messages; automatic call system; brady street sign; phone (3); the school itself ; **Sudlow** - auto-dialer (2); email (10); phone; Student; **Truman** - PTA; **Walcott Elem** - planner; **Walcott Int** - phone; **West** - auto-dialer (2); beak & eye/school newspaper; booster Club; combination; phone; postcards; self for west high school; **Williams** - email (2); **Wilson** - papers in sons backpack; phone; PTA (2)

**2. How effective are the following toward improving communications between your family and the school?**

	Adams	Blue Grass	Buffalo	Central	Eisenhower	Fillmore	Garfield	Harrison	Hayes	Jackson	Jefferson	Kimberly Center East	Kimberly Center West	Lincoln	Madison	McKinley	Monroe	North	Smart	Sudlow	Truman	Walcott Elem	Walcott Int	Washington	West	Williams	Wilson	Wood	Young	Grand Total
<b>Open Houses</b>																														
Fair	10	12	5	26	6		27	11	1	3				2	5	3		24		23	4	1	2	9	9	9	5	9	2	208
Good	12	9	22	25	14	3	39	15	5	5	2		4	4	8	7	2	35	9	18	5	2	7	33	12	22	10	12	1	342
Poor	2	1	2	21	2	1	4	2		1		2		1				5	1	10	1	1	1	1	9	8		2		78
<b>Grade-level orientation sessions</b>																														
Fair	10	6	13	28	6	2	40	7	4	4	1		2	4	7	2	1	26	2	24	6	1	3	19	11	9	3	10	2	253
Good	8	8	14	22	12	1	20	13	2	4	1		2	1	6	5	1	28	7	17	1	2	4	22	10	15	9	7	1	243
Poor	6	8	2	22	4	1	10	8		1		2		2		3		10	1	10	3	1	3	2	9	15	3	6		132
<b>Parent-teacher conferences</b>																														
Fair	6	5	3	13	3	1	14	5	2			1			2	4		16	2	3	1	1	1	2	7	7	2	3		104
Good	18	16	26	52	18	3	56	23	4	9	2		4	7	11	6	2	48	8	44	8	3	9	41	19	27	13	18	3	498
Poor		1		7	1							1								4	1				4	5		2		26
<b>PTA meetings</b>																														
Fair	15	7	10	23	7	2	35	8	5	5			1	1	7	4	1	36	4	25	6	3	2	20	12	11	8	15	1	274
Good	7	9	16	11	12		35	14	1	4			1	5	5	6	1	16	2	19	3	1	6	19	6	18	7	7	1	232
Poor	2	6	3	38	3	2		6			2	2	2	1	1			12	4	7	1		2	4	12	10		1	1	122
<b>School newsletter</b>																														
Fair	9	9	5	25	5		19	4	3	1				4	4	2		21	2	11	6	3	2	8	6	9	2	6	3	169
Good	15	9	23	33	17	4	51	24	3	8	1		3	3	9	8	2	35	5	32	4	1	8	32	11	25	13	11		390
Poor		4	1	14							1	2	1					8	3	8				3	13	5		6		69

**3. As a parent, do you have trouble with any of the following?**

	Adams	Blue Grass	Buffalo	Central	Eisenhower	Fillmore	Garfield	Harrison	Hayes	Jackson	Jefferson	Kimberly Center East	Kimberly Center West	Lincoln	Madison	McKinley	Monroe	North	Smart	Sudlow	Truman	Walcott Elem	Walcott Int	Washington	West	Williams	Wilson	Wood	Young	Grand Total
<b>Your child's homework</b>																														
No	23	21	21	45	18	3	51	20	5	9	2		3	6	12	9		40	7	28	8	4	5	29	17	20	11	9	2	428
Some	1	1	7	16	3	1	13	7	1				1		1		2	15		16	1		4	8	10	6	4	10		128
Yes			1	11	1		6	2				2		1		1		9	3	7	1		1	6	3	13		4	1	73
<b>Attending school functions</b>																														
No	17	17	20	52	17	3	47	20	4	7	2		3	6	8	9	1	56	9	42	6	3	9	26	21	30	11	17	2	465
Some	4	5	6	14	5	1	15	7	2	2		1		1	1			4		5	3	1	1	13	7	3	4	4	1	110
Yes	3		3	6			8	2				1	1	1	4		1	4	1	4	1			4	2	6		2		54
<b>Getting in to see your child's teacher</b>																														
No	23	20	29	52	18	3	54	25	5	9	2		4	7	11	9	2	51	8	42	8	4	8	40	19	32	12	16	3	516
Some	1	1		10	4		10	2							2	1		9		7	1		1	1	7	3	2	4		66
Yes		1		10		1	6	2	1			2						4	2	2	1		1	2	4	4	1	3		47
<b>Dealing with your child's problem</b>																														
No	20	18	23	50	18	4	57	22	5	9	1		4	5	11	10	2	46	6	41	7	3	8	38	19	30	14	17	2	490
Some	2	3	6	18	2		10	4	1				2	1				15	3	7	2	1	2	3	6	1	1	2		92
Yes	2	1		4	2		3	3			1	2			1			3	1	3	1			2	5	8		4	1	47
<b>Knowing school policies</b>																														
No	17	14	26	43	20	4	59	24	6	7	2		3	5	12	10	2	53	7	40	6	3	8	37	17	29	11	17	3	485
Some	2	5	2	19			8	3		1			1	1				7	2	8	3	1	1	3	8	3	1	2		81
Yes	5	3	1	10	2		3	2		1		2		1	1			4	1	3	1		1	3	5	7	3	4		63
<b>Motivating your child</b>																														
No	18	17	18	39	15	3	47	21	3	8	1		3	4	9	9	2	37	6	28	5	1	8	31	16	13	12	12	1	387
Some	2	4	9	14	4	1	15	6	2	1	1			3	1	1		15	3	14	3	1	1	8	6	9	2	6	2	134
Yes	4	1	2	18	3		8	2	1			2	1		3			12	1	9	2	2	1	4	8	17	1	5		107

**4. Would you be interested in attending a class or workshop on how parents can help their children learn?**

	Adams	Blue Grass	Buffalo	Central	Eisenhower	Fillmore	Garfield	Harrison	Hayes	Jackson	Jefferson	Kimberly Center East	Kimberly Center West	Lincoln	Madison	McKinley	Monroe	North	Smart	Sudlow	Truman	Walcott Elem	Walcott Int	Washington	West	Williams	Wilson	Wood	Young	Grand Total
No	10	9	11	40	5	3	32	10	2	5		1	2	1	4		1	36	4	27	5	1	5	13	15	26	9	10	3	290
Yes	14	13	18	32	17	1	38	19	4	4	2	1	2	6	9	10	1	28	6	24	5	3	5	30	15	13	6	13		339

**5. If you checked "Yes" for question 4, please indicate below the types of workshops you would like to participate in to help you help your children learn. (Check all that apply)**

	Adams	Blue Grass	Buffalo	Central	Eisenhower	Fillmore	Garfield	Harrison	Hayes	Jackson	Jefferson	Kimberly Center East	Kimberly Center West	Lincoln	Madison	McKinley	Monroe	North	Smart	Sudlow	Truman	Walcott Elem	Walcott Int	Washington	West	Williams	Wilson	Wood	Young	Grand Total
Homework	7	5	7	14	8		21	9	2	1	1		1	4	4	2	1	12	6	11	4	1	1	16	9	7	3	9		166
Reading	10	8	10	12	13		29	11	3	1	1			3	5	6	1	6	4	9	3	1	2	13	6	7	4	5		173
Math	5	9	7	13	12		18	11	1	2				5	3	5	1	10	5	9	3	1	1	19	9	8	5	5		167
Art	4	1	3	4	6		12	9	2	3	2			2	1	7		2	2	6	2			12	2	2	1	2		87
Testing	7	7	6	16	10		18	11	1	2				3	3	6	2	8	4	10	3	1		11	7	4	2	8		150
Careers	4	1	8	23	2		9	3	1				2		2	5		19	2	13	1	2	2	11	11	7	2	7		137

**Other:**

**Adams** - Encouraging self-motivation; improving behavior; increasing self-motivation

**Blue Grass** - Helping children prepare and better deal with the stress of newly required testing.

**Buffalo**; helpful hints on what can be done at home to help children be successful ie: reading together, eating breakfast before school and so on.

**Central** - Develop Good Study Habits; Drug Prevention; how to challenge kids in all areas-- physically, socially, academically....how to push our kids, how to open up new worlds; how to talk to a teacher; Improving standard test taking;; Scholarship programs and how to qualify; self-motivation; TAG for arts

**Eisenhower** - grade level goals; writing curriculum; science activities; motivating him to want to learn; Overall everything to help my child achieve success; Tutor Program for Math and Reading at the school after hours Fee based on educational need and/or income level

**Fillmore** - Really anything that would help our son

**Garfield** - dealing with ADHD children; Learn more about the reading and math series the school is using; Motivating my student; motivating your child; school safety; self esteem/parenting/drug prevention

**Harrison** - I think parents should be informed before conferences what type of assessments their children are being given. I also think we should be told about the curriculum. ; Understanding "No Child Left Behind"

**Hayes** - any; spelling attention/focus

**Kimberly Center East** - Exploring Oral Exams.....If you know what I mean

**Kimberly Center West** - things to prepare for college

**Madison** - You must provide child care

**McKinley** - mean girl" behavior; How to Challenge My Child; How to learn when it's not done just for a test.

**North** - behavior management for teens; Earl is # 5 & I work long hours; help with study habits; How to be a supportive parent; Motivating & stressing importance of doing a good job; Working to capacity

**Smart** - Improving students organizational skills

**Sudlow** - creativity; educating my child on how to effectively deal with a bully; girls' bullying/harassment (not physical); Helping my child learn organization at his level; motivating child to take more responsibility; Motivating children to do homework; Motivation and accepting more responsibility related to schoolwork.; To get child motivated about school; where to go to get homework, quizzes and test schedules

**Walcott Int** - how to get curriculum information for classes

**Washington** - behavior issues; Finding other resources on getting help for child; getting kids to focus

**West** - dealing with teenagers!; motivating to do better in school; the school needs to do better in helping children get prepared for college

**Williams** - getting him interested in school; I am an educator myself, so I doubt you have information for me in this area. In fact, I probably know more than your teachers; student motivation

**Wood** - creative writing; How to advocate for the best placement for my child regarding higher academic needs; Motivating your child to do the school work; organizing, note taking; talented and gifted services

**6. If you checked “Yes” for question 4, where would you like these programs to be held? (Check one)**

	Adams	Blue Grass	Buffalo	Central	Eisenhower	Fillmore	Garfield	Harrison	Hayes	Jackson	Jefferson	Kimberly Center East	Kimberly Center West	Lincoln	Madison	McKinley	Monroe	North	Smart	Sudlow	Truman	Walcott Elem	Walcott Int	Washington	West	Williams	Wilson	Wood	Young	Grand Total	
Community		2	1	8	3			3	1	1	1			1	1	3		2	1	3		1		4	1	2		1			40
Home				1								1							1								1			4	
School	14	11	18	21	14	1	38	17	3	3	1		2	5	9	7	1	28	4	22	5	2	4	29	14	10	5	12		300	

**7. If you checked “Yes” for question 4, when would you like to have these meetings scheduled? (Check all that apply)**

	Adams	Blue Grass	Buffalo	Central	Eisenhower	Fillmore	Garfield	Harrison	Hayes	Jackson	Jefferson	Kimberly Center East	Kimberly Center West	Lincoln	Madison	McKinley	Monroe	North	Smart	Sudlow	Truman	Walcott Elem	Walcott Int	Washington	West	Williams	Wilson	Wood	Young	Grand Total
Week_Night	11	7	13	25	15	1	33	17	2	2	1	1	2	4	10	9	1	18	5	19	5	3	3	15	13	10	6	13		264
Before School	1	1		2	1		2	1						1				1								1	1			12
Weekday Morning	1	4		2			3	3						1	2	2		1	1	2				1	1	2		1		27
Weekday Afternoon	1	3	2	2	2		2	2		1				1		4		1		2	1	1		7			1	1		34
Saturday Morning	1	1	7	11	5	1	7	3	1	2	1			3	2	2	1	6		3				1	2	6	1	4		71
Saturday Afternoon	3		3	6	6	1	3	3		1				2				5		2			1	10	2			2		50

**8. Do you agree with the following statements?**

	Adams	Blue Grass	Buffalo	Central	Eisenhower	Fillmore	Garfield	Harrison	Hayes	Jackson	Jefferson	Kimberly Center East	Kimberly Center West	Lincoln	Madison	McKinley	Monroe	North	Smart	Sudlow	Truman	Walcott Elem	Walcott Int	Washington	West	Williams	Wilson	Wood	Young	Grand Total	
<b>I can talk openly with my child's teacher(s).</b>																															
No		1		4			1					1			1			3		1	1	1			4	4					22
Some	5	4	2	20	3		5	7	1						4			7	1	7			2	2	11	6	3	7	1	98	
Yes	19	17	27	47	19	4	64	22	5	9	2	1	4	7	8	10	2	54	9	43	9	3	8	41	15	29	12	16	2	508	
<b>I can talk openly with my child's principal.</b>																															
No	2	3	2	16	2		3	2		1				1				9		2		1		5	10	10	1	2		72	
Some	7	9	4	20	3		11	6	3	2		1	2	2	1			14	3	10	2		4	6	10	4	4	2		130	
Yes	15	10	23	36	17	4	56	21	3	6	2	2	3	4	11	9	2	41	7	39	8	3	6	32	10	25	10	19	3	427	
<b>I am well informed by the school or teachers about what my child is doing at school.</b>																															
No	2	7	3	18	2		4	5				1			3	2		17	2	7	1	1	3	3	12	11	1	6		111	
Some	11	6	9	29	8	2	23	10	3	3		1	3		1			17	3	22	2	1	4	10	14	10	4	7	1	204	
Yes	11	9	17	25	12	2	43	14	3	6	2	1	3	4	10	7	2	30	5	22	7	2	3	30	4	18	10	10	2	314	
<b>I feel that teachers need to be aware of home problems that may affect my child's work.</b>																															
No	6	1	2	10	1	1	9	7	1	2		1		1	1	2		8	5	14	1		2	5	6	13	3	1		103	
Some	7	6	7	26	6	1	15	3	4	1				1	3	2		19	3	14	3		1	13	8	12	1	7	2	165	
Yes	11	15	20	36	15	2	46	19	1	6	2	1	4	5	9	6	2	37	2	23	6	4	7	25	16	14	11	15	1	361	

**9. Check all of the following for which you have an interest in volunteering.**

146 people volunteered for 368 different tasks – database available with contact information

	Adams	Blue Grass	Buffalo	Central	Eisenhower	Fillmore	Garfield	Harrison	Hayes	Jackson	Kimberly Center West	Lincoln	Madison	McKinley	North	Smart	Sudlow	Truman	Walcott Int	Washington	West	Williams	Wilson	Wood	Grand Total
Advisory Committee	5	3	3	6	5	2	4	5		2		2	1	4	1	1	6	1	1	1	3	4	1	1	62
Career Guidance	2	2	3	6	2	1	5	4	1	2		1	2		1	1	3			2	4	5	2		49
Classroom	4	3	4		5	1	9	8		2	1	2	2	2	1	1	4		1	6	3	4	2		65
Clerical	2	3	4	4	3	2	5	1	1	2		1	1		4	1	1		1	2	3	5	1	2	49
Organizing Event	2	2	2	1	2	1	4	2		2			2	2	1	1				2	2	2	1	1	32
Supervising Event	5	3	6	10	3	2	12	10	1	3	1	1	1	2	2	1	6		1	5	4	7	1	5	92
Other	3		2		2		1	1						2	2	1	1				2	1		1	19
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>368</b>

**11. Check the kinds of resources and services you would like to see made available at the school.**

	Adams	Blue Grass	Buffalo	Central	Eisenhower	Fillmore	Garfield	Harrison	Hayes	Jackson	Jefferson	Kimberly Center East	Kimberly Center West	Lincoln	Madison	McKinley	Monroe	North	Smart	Sudlow	Truman	Walcott Elem	Walcott Int	Washington	West	Williams	Wilson	Wood	Young	Grand Total
Homework hotline	6	9	12	42	6	1	29	6	2	2			1	2	2	5	1	33	8	31	5	2	4	23	17	13	4	13		279
Before or after school child care	1	5	11	7	6	2	25	4	2	1				1	6	3	1	2	3	8	4	1		15	1	4	5	3		121
Parent resource center	11	10	13	26	7		22	9	3	4	1		1	3	5	5	1	24	4	16	3	3	1	13	12	7	6	10		220
Parent support group	4	3	2	11	3	1	18	2		3	1		1	2	2	2		10	3	8		1	1	10	3	6	1	3		101
Family activities at school	7	8	10	23	9	2	22	13	1	7	2		1	3	2	5		16	2	19	3	2	4	14	7	9	5	5		201
School website	12	4	10	32	11	2	19	10	1	2	1		2	2	4	7	1	27	7	29	4	1	6	15	13	19	6	15		262
E-mail listserv for parents	11	4	7	34	4	2	19	7		7			3	3	5	6	1	30	4	24	6		2	9	16	9	6	8	1	228

