

MIS PARENT SURVEY (GAKKO HYOKA)

Report to Board of Directors & Trustees

May 23, 2019

1



*Innovative Bilingual
Education for an
Ever-Changing World*

Online Parent Survey

2

Survey offered on Google Forms as an online questionnaire.

In English and Japanese.

165 parents responded.

More than ever before as the online platform and email reminders facilitate responses.

Areas Covered by Survey

3

Parents were asked whether they 'agree' or 'disagree' with statements, in three sections.

Questions in each section:

- School-Parent Communications
- Teaching and Learning
- School Climate

Comments at the end of each section.

Summary of Survey Results

MIS Parent Survey - April 2019		Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
School-Parent Communications					
1	Communications are handled pleasantly and professionally.	34	62	3	1
2	Frequent communication occurs between parents and school.	26	65	8	1
3	I have been informed of what my son/daughter is expected to know and be able to do in each subject/class.	21	54	22	3
4	Parents receive feedback about student achievement and behaviour.	19	59	20	2
5	Parents are encouraged to share ideas for school improvement with admin staff and teachers.	21	58	20	1
6	Parents are kept aware of how well their children are doing in school.	20	50	26	4
7	Teachers provide me with suggestions on how I can help my son/daughter at home.	16	57	24	3
8	Teachers are willing to listen to parent concerns.	20	70	9	1
9	I read Nanohana every week.	55	40	5	0
10	The school returns phone-calls promptly.	40	58	2	0
11	The school keeps parents well informed about academic programmes.	24	50	21	6
Teaching and Learning					
13	Homework is assigned to my son/daughter on a regular basis.	40	52	8	0
14	I am encouraged by the teachers to discuss schoolwork with my child.	16	60	23	1
15	I am regularly informed about my son's/daughter's academic performance.	30	54	15	1
16	I believe teachers use a variety of approaches to meet the needs of my son/daughter.	26	60	13	1
17	My son/daughter is able to complete his/her homework assignments with limited assistance.	23	56	19	2
18	School staff members set high, but appropriate and achievable goals for students.	24	63	11	2
19	My son/daughter understands the content of lessons.	22	71	7	0
20	The school keeps track of each student's performance.	32	60	8	0
21	This school emphasizes the importance of learning English.	30	58	10	2
School Climate					
23	An atmosphere of respect and trust exists.	35	58	6	1
24	I believe that the school is effective in managing student behaviour on the campus and in the classroom.	27	62	10	1
25	I feel welcomed at my son's/daughter's school.	45	51	3	1
26	Students have a positive attitude towards school.	50	48	2	0
27	Success is expected of all students regardless of social or cultural differences.	45	53	1	1
28	Teachers have a positive attitude towards school.	36	60	4	0
29	The school buildings and grounds are clean and well maintained.	57	40	3	0
30	I am encouraged to give my time to support school events.	29	63	8	0
31	The school provides a variety of opportunities for involving parents in their son's/daughter's education.	30	59	10	1
32	The school provides a safe environment for my child.	42	52	6	0

Patterns in Responses

5

A simple way of gauging the strength of feeling for individual questions is to add Strongly Agree/Agree and compare it to Strongly Disagree/Disagree

For example for question 1, this becomes, 96:4. In this way we can identify opinion which is skewed either towards Agreement or Disagreement, or evenly spread, for example Question 6, 70:30.

Communications - Top 5

6

1	Communications are handled pleasantly and professionally.	96
2	Frequent communication occurs between parents and school.	91
8	Teachers are willing to listen to parent concerns.	90
9	I read Nanohana every week.	95
10	The school returns phone-calls promptly.	98

Communications – Bottom 5

3	I have been informed of what my son/daughter is expected to know and be able to do in each subject/class.	75
4	Parents receive feedback about student achievement and behaviour.	78
6	Parents are kept aware of how well their children are doing in school.	70
7	Teachers provide me with suggestions on how I can help my son/daughter at home.	73
11	The school keeps parents well informed about academic programmes.	74

Communications – Comments

Overall, Comments were Positive:

- Parents would prefer that more communications be shared online as opposed to on paper (i.e. via website, email or social media).
- The Office performance is commended by parents.
- Parents feel listened to and would welcome even more feedback regarding their children’s progress (looking at ‘See Saw’ as a tool).
- We currently issue reports three times per year, have Meet the Teachers Evenings at the beginning of the year, Parents’ Evenings twice per year, Open Day in September, and issue individual test scores when we receive them.

“Communication with my child’s teacher was great. We were well informed with our child’s performance & problems at school. She gave advice on how to assist our child at home, which really helped us. Communication to our child was also very clear and seemed easy for a kid. I felt my child was motivated to study & try her best.”

Teaching and Learning – Top 5

13	Homework is assigned to my son/daughter on a regular basis.	92
18	School staff members set high, but appropriate and achievable goals for students.	87
19	My son/daughter understands the content of the lessons.	93
20	The school keeps track of each student's performance.	92
21	This school emphasizes the importance of learning English.	88

Teaching and Learning – Bottom 3

14	I am encouraged by the teachers to discuss schoolwork with my child.	76
15	I am regularly informed about my son/daughter's academic performance.	84
17	My son/daughter is able to complete his/her homework assignments with limited assistance.	79

Teaching and Learning - Comments

Overall, Comments were Very Positive:

- Parents emphasized the importance of maintaining the school’s emphasis on developing English for all students while also fostering the Japanese language.
- Our aim is for complete bilingual fluency in English and Japanese. We therefore aim to strengthen children’s native language while still nurturing the additional language.

“With the amazing support from the Class Teacher and Japanese Teacher, my child grew in various aspects. Thank you so much!”

“As parents, we are very impressed at the progress our children have made as a result of the support and challenge offered them at MIS. They have also become truly bilingual in Japanese and English which is a trait that they will utilize throughout their lives to ensure their success. Thank you, MIS!”

School Climate – Top 8

23	An atmosphere of respect and trust exists	93
25	I feel welcomed at my son's/daughter's school.	96
26	Students have a positive attitude towards school.	98
27	Success is expected of all students regardless of social or cultural differences.	98
28	Teachers have a positive attitude towards school.	96
29	The school buildings and grounds are clean and well maintained.	97
30	I am encouraged to give my time to support school events.	92
32	The school provides a safe environment for my child.	94

School Climate – Bottom 2

24	I believe that the school is effective in managing student behaviour on the campus and in the classroom.	89
31	The school provides a variety of opportunities for involving parents in their son's/daughter's education.	89

School Climate – Comments

Overall, Comments were Extremely Positive:

–Parents are very pleased with the climate of the school and the well-being of their children.

–Parents would like information on how to best prepare their children for entrance into Junior Highs/Middle Schools. We will look into offering a Parent Coffee Morning on this.

“My child is very happy at MIS and enjoys going to school every day. I believe this is an accurate assessment of the positive school climate.”

“Thanks to MIS’s attentive, caring, and warm manner, my child settled in really quickly. Everyone who taught her are so caring and attentive that we never had to worry about how she is doing or being treated. She goes to school each day excited. We really appreciate the dedication of the MIS teachers & staff in making this an excellent school.

Conclusion

- The overall tone of the survey responses was very positive. 22 out of 30 questions had an overall satisfaction rating over 80%. 16 out of 30 questions had over a 90% satisfaction rating.
- In comparison to the last two year's data, there is a significant increase in satisfaction ratings in many areas and much higher 'Strongly Agree' ratings than last year. This suggests a greater overall confidence in the school.
- The written comments were constructive and will help guide our school improvement.

MIS Hosts Sakura Medal Book Bowl

16

- On April 25th, MIS hosted the All-Japan Sakura Medal Book Bowl.
- This is the first time that MIS has hosted an inter-school challenge.
- 11 International Schools from across Japan sent teams.
- Ahead of the competition, students read a number of children's chapter books and were quizzed, both in teams and in combined school competitions, to answer as many questions as possible.



MIS Hosts Sakura Medal Book Bowl

17

MIS students performed well!

