

# MIS PARENT SURVEY (GAKKO HYOKA)

## Report to Board of Directors & Trustees

### September 17, 2020

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*Innovative Bilingual  
Education for an  
Ever-Changing World*

# Online Parent Survey

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Survey offered on Google Forms as an online questionnaire.

In English and Japanese.

185 parents responded.

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

# Areas Covered by Survey

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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 – August 2020		Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
<b>School-Parent Communications</b>					
1	Communications are handled pleasantly and professionally.	41	55	3	1
2	Frequent communication occurs between parents and school.	27	63	9	1
3	I have been informed of what my son/daughter is expected to know and be able to do in each subject/class.	22	58	19	1
4	Parents receive feedback about student achievement and behaviour.	21	54	21	4
5	Parents are encouraged to share ideas for school improvement with admin staff and teachers.	20	59	18	3
6	Parents are kept aware of how well their children are doing in school.	23	53	21	3
7	Teachers provide me with suggestions on how I can help my son/daughter at home.	16	54	26	4
8	Teachers are willing to listen to parent concerns.	25	65	10	0
9	I read Nanohana every week.	52	43	4	1
10	The school returns phone-calls promptly.	47	51	2	0
11	The school keeps parents well informed about academic programmes.	28	60	12	0
<b>Teaching and Learning</b>					
13	Homework is assigned to my son/daughter on a regular basis.	39	50	9	2
14	I am encouraged by the teachers to discuss schoolwork with my child.	19	55	24	2
15	I am regularly informed about my son's/daughter's academic performance.	24	55	19	2
16	I believe teachers use a variety of approaches to meet the needs of my son/daughter.	27	55	16	2
17	My son/daughter is able to complete his/her homework assignments with limited assistance.	16	50	27	7
18	School staff members set high, but appropriate and achievable goals for students.	18	65	14	3
19	My son/daughter understands the content of lessons.	22	69	9	0
20	The school keeps track of each student's performance.	26	66	7	1
21	This school emphasizes the importance of learning English.	35	52	12	1
<b>School Climate</b>					
23	An atmosphere of respect and trust exists.	42	55	2	1
24	I believe that the school is effective in managing student behaviour on the campus and in the classroom.	37	57	5	1
25	I feel welcomed at my son's/daughter's school.	52	45	3	0
26	Students have a positive attitude towards school.	62	36	2	0
27	Success is expected of all students regardless of social or cultural differences.	53	45	2	0
28	Teachers have a positive attitude towards school.	46	52	2	0
29	The school buildings and grounds are clean and well maintained.	60	40	0	0
30	I am encouraged to give my time to support school events.	29	62	8	1
31	The school provides a variety of opportunities for involving parents in their son's/daughter's education.	21	57	19	3
32	The school provides a safe environment for my child.	52	45	2	1

# Patterns in Responses

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 7, 70:30.

# Communications - Top 6

1	Communications are handled pleasantly and professionally.	96
2	Frequent communication occurs between parents and school.	90
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
11	The school keeps parents well informed about academic programmes.	88

# 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.	80
4	Parents receive feedback about student achievement and behaviour.	75
5	Parents are encouraged to share ideas for school improvement with admin staff and teachers	79
6	Parents are kept aware of how well their children are doing in school.	76
7	Teachers provide me with suggestions on how I can help my son/daughter at home.	70

# Communications – Comments

## Overall, Comments were Positive:

- Parents are very positive about the use of Seesaw as a communication tool. They want less paper and more electronic forms and procedures (not via FAX or hand-delivered).
- The Office performance is commended by parents.
- Parents feel listened to and would welcome even more feedback regarding their children’s progress (Seesaw should provide this).
- We currently issue reports three times per year and issue individual test scores; however due to COVID we have not been able to have Parent Teacher Conferences.
- “As a parent, I have been incredibly impressed at how the school has utilized Seesaw as a communication tool. Seesaw allows me to regularly and easily communicate directly with my children’s teachers. Their communication back to me is quick and allows for us to best support our children together – from home and from school.”*



# Teaching and Learning – Top 5

13	Homework is assigned to my son/daughter on a regular basis.	89
16	I believe teachers use a variety of approaches to meet the needs of my son/daughter.	82
18	School staff members set high, but appropriate and achievable goals for students.	83
19	My son/daughter understands the content of the lessons.	91
20	The school keeps track of each student's performance.	92
21	This school emphasizes the importance of learning English.	87

# Teaching and Learning – Bottom 3

14	I am encouraged by the teachers to discuss schoolwork with my child.	74
15	I am regularly informed about my son/daughter's academic performance.	79
17	My son/daughter is able to complete his/her homework assignments with limited assistance.	66

# Teaching and Learning - Comments

## Overall, Comments were Positive and Constructive:

- Parents emphasized the importance of maintaining the school’s emphasis on developing English for all students while also fostering the Japanese language.
  - It is clear that distance learning due to the prevention of COVID, left a burden on families to provide extensive support, especially for youngest children.
  - However, parents also report knowing more about the curriculum and academic content as a result of distance learning and Seesaw.
- “I think the teachers are taking care of each and every child very carefully.”*
- “I want to praise the school for their response to the coronavirus through distance learning. Using Seesaw and Zoom allowed for my children to stay on-track with their learning while having teachers available to provide support and feedback. It also allowed me to track my children’s learning better.”*

# School Climate – Top 8

23	An atmosphere of respect and trust exists	97
24	I believe that the school is effective in managing student behaviour on the campus and in the classroom.	94
25	I feel welcomed at my son's/daughter's school.	97
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.	98
29	The school buildings and grounds are clean and well maintained.	100
32	The school provides a safe environment for my child.	97

# School Climate – Bottom 2

30	I am encouraged to give my time to support school events.	91
31	The school provides a variety of opportunities for involving parents in their son's/daughter's education.	78

# School Climate – Comments

## Overall, Comments were Extremely Positive:

–Parents are tremendously pleased with the climate of the school and the safety of their children, especially in light of the coronavirus.

–Parents remarked that they wish that they could be more involved and be able to connect more face-to-face via conferences and events, but understand that this is not possible during the current situation when parents are not allowed on campus.

*“We thank you from the bottom of our hearts for all the efforts you have made to deal with the coronavirus crisis to create an environment in which parents and students can feel secure.” “I feel comfortable when I visit MIS. I think the children feel the same way and go to school with such a comfortable feeling.”*

*“The school is nicely decorated and immaculately clean. Especially the library’s book selection is remarkable in every aspect.”*

# 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 an increase in satisfaction ratings in many areas and much higher 'Strongly Agree' ratings over the past two years. This suggests a greater overall confidence in the school.
- The written comments were constructive and will help guide our school improvement.