We want to know what you think!

This is NOT a test. There are NO wrong answers. We want to know what you think about your classes, homework, and clubs.

Your answers are confidential. No one will be told what you answered. Your answers will be combined with those of other students in your school and across the city to describe what CPS students think, do, and experience. These connections allow us to understand how to help students succeed in school.

This survey is voluntary. You do NOT have to answer any question that you do not wish to answer, but we hope you will answer as many questions as you can.

This is your chance to help improve your school—Don’t pass it up!

Thank you for your help.
1. How much do you agree with the following statements about your school?
   - I worry about crime and violence at my school.
   - Students at this school are often teased or picked on.
   - Students at this school are often threatened or bullied.
   - I sometimes stay home because I don't feel safe at school.

   Response categories: Strongly disagree, disagree, agree, strongly agree

2. How safe do you feel:
   - In the hallways and bathrooms of the school.
   - Outside around the school.
   - Traveling between home and school.
   - In your classes.

   Response categories: Not safe, somewhat safe, mostly safe, very safe

3. How much do you agree with the following statements about students in your school? Most students in my school:
   - Like to put others down.
   - Help each other learn.
   - Don't get along together very well.
   - Treat each other with respect.

   Response categories: Strongly disagree, disagree, agree, strongly agree

4. In the last year...
   - Have you had to be separated from your parent or someone you depend on for more than a few days?
   - Have you ever been afraid someone is going to hurt you?
   - Have you ever been afraid someone was going to bully you at school?
   - Have you ever been afraid someone was going to bully you online?
   - Have you ever been afraid someone might bully you because they thought you were gay, lesbian, bisexual, or transgender?

   Response categories: yes, no

5. How much do you agree with the following statements about your school?
   - I feel like a real part of my school.
   - People here notice when I’m good at something.
   - Other students in my school take my opinions seriously.
   - There’s at least one teacher or other adult in this school I can talk to if I have a problem.
   - People at this school are friendly to me.
   - I am included in lots of activities at my school.
   - The teachers here respect me.
- Students know the consequences for misbehaving at this school.

  *Response categories: Strongly disagree, disagree, agree, strongly agree*

6. How much do you agree with the following:
   - I can always find a way to help people end arguments.
   - I listen carefully to what other people say to me.
   - I'm good at taking turns and sharing things with others.
   - It is easy for me to make suggestions without being bossy.
   - I'm good at working with other students.
   - I'm good at helping people.

  *Response categories: Strongly disagree, disagree, agree, strongly agree*

7. How much do you agree with the following:
   - I always study for tests.
   - I set aside time to do my homework and study.
   - I try to do well on my schoolwork even when it isn't interesting to me.
   - If I need to study, I don't go out with my friends.
   - I keep track of my long-term assignments so I know when to turn them in.
   - I manage my time well enough to get all my work done.
   - I can keep my schoolwork and personal life organized.

  *Response categories: Strongly disagree, disagree, agree, strongly agree*

8. To what extent do the following describe you:
   - I finish whatever I begin.
   - I am a hard worker.
   - I continue steadily toward my goals.
   - I don't give up easily.

  *Response categories: Not at all like me, not much like me, somewhat like me, mostly like me, very much like me*

9. How much do you agree with the following:
   - When my teachers tell me not to do something, I know he/she has a good reason.
   - I feel safe and comfortable with my teachers at this school.
   - My teacher always keep their promises.
   - My teachers will always listen to students' ideas.
   - My teachers treat me with respect.

  *Response categories: Strongly disagree, disagree, agree, strongly agree*

10. How often do your parents do the following:
    - Check to see if you have done your homework.
My Voice, My School: Elementary Students

- Encourage you to work hard at school.
- Are supportive of the things I like to do outside of school.
- Listen to me when I need to talk.
- Show they are proud of me.
- Take time to help me make decisions.

Response categories: Never, some of the time, most of the time, all of the time

11. How much do you agree with the following statements about the community in which you live:
- Adults in this neighborhood know who the local children are.
- During the day, it is safe for children to play in the local park or playground.
- People in this neighborhood can be trusted.
- There are adults in this neighborhood that children can look up to.
- The equipment and buildings in the neighborhood, park, or playground are well kept.

Response categories: Strongly disagree, disagree, agree, strongly agree

12. What is the highest level of education you plan to complete?

Response categories: Not planning to complete high school; high school; career/technical school; 2 year community college or junior college; 4 year college or university; graduate or professional school; undecided; other

[The computer will select English or math at random and fill for [TARGET].]

13. How many of the students in your [TARGET] class:
- Feel it is important to come to school every day.
- Feel it is important to pay attention in class.
- Think doing homework is important.
- Try hard to get good grades.

Response categories: None, a few, about half, most, all

14. How much do you agree with the following statements about your teacher in your [TARGET] class? My teacher:
- Often connects what I am learning to life outside the classroom.
- Encourages students to share their ideas about things we are studying in class.
- Often requires me to explain my answers.
- Encourages us to consider different solutions or points of view.
- Doesn’t let students give up when the work gets hard.

Response categories: Strongly disagree, disagree, agree, strongly agree

15. How often does the following occur: In my class, we talk about different solutions or points of view.
16. How much do you agree with the following statements about your [TARGET] class:
   - This class really makes me think.
   - I’m learning a lot in this class.

   Response categories: Very little, some, quite a bit, a great deal

17. In my [TARGET] class, my teacher:
   - Expects everyone to work hard.
   - Expects me to do my best all the time.
   - Wants us to become better thinkers, not just memorize things.

   Response categories: Strongly disagree, disagree, agree, strongly agree

18. In your [TARGET] class, how often:
   - Are you challenged?
   - Do you have to work hard to do well?
   - Does the teacher ask difficult questions on tests?
   - Does the teacher ask difficult questions in class?

   Response categories: Never, once in awhile, most of the time, all of the time

19. How much do you agree with the following statements about your [TARGET] class:
   - I learn a lot from feedback on my work.
   - It’s clear what I need to do to get a good grade.
   - The work we do in class is good preparation for the test.
   - The homework assignments help me learn the course material.
   - I know what my teacher wants me to learn in this class.

   Response categories: Strongly disagree, disagree, agree, strongly agree

20. How much do you agree with the following statements about your [TARGET] class:
   - I usually look forward to this class.
   - I work hard to do my best in this class.
   - Sometimes I get so interested in my work I don't want to stop.
   - The topics we are studying are interesting and challenging.

   Response categories: Strongly disagree, disagree, agree, strongly agree

21. How much do you agree with the following statements about your [TARGET] class? The teacher for this class:
   - Helps me catch up if I am behind.
   - Is willing to give extra help on schoolwork if I need it.
   - Notices if I have trouble learning something.
• Gives me specific suggestions about how I can improve my work in this class.
• Explains things a different way if I don't understand something in class.

Response categories: Strongly disagree, disagree, agree, strongly agree

22. In my [TARGET] class, my teacher:
• Treats us unfairly.
• Makes me feel stupid.
• Says mean things to students.
• Disrespects students.

Response categories: Never, once in awhile, sometimes, most of the time

23. How much do you agree with the following statements about your [TARGET] class:
• I get distracted from my work by other students acting out in this class.
• This class gets out of control.
• My classmates do not behave the way my teacher wants them to.

Response categories: Strongly disagree, disagree, agree, strongly agree

24. How often does the following happen in your [TARGET] class?
• This class runs smoothly.
• The teacher wastes a lot of time.
• We sit around doing nothing.)
• The teacher seems really disorganized.

Response categories: Never, once in awhile, sometimes, most of the time

25. How much time per week do you spend studying or doing your homework for ALL of your classes?

Response categories: 2 hours or less per week; 3-5 hours per week; 6-9 hours per week; 10 or more hours per week

26. How often do you write a paper or essay of three or more pages (Never; once or twice a semester; once or twice a month; once or twice a week; almost every day)

Now we’d like to ask you some questions about your school, in general.

27. How much do you agree with the following statement:
• [For 8th graders only:] My classes this year are preparing me to do well in high school. (Strongly disagree, disagree, agree, strongly agree)

28. How often have you met with your counselor this school year?

Response categories: Never, once, twice, 3-5 times, more than 5 times
29. How often:
- Are you alone after school without adult supervision?
- Do you participate in academic activities (e.g., tutoring, homework help, etc.) after school?
- Do you participate in enrichment activities (e.g., clubs, sports/fitness, music, etc.) after school?

Response categories: Never, once or twice a month, once or twice a week, almost every day

30. In your LANGUAGE ARTS/READING class this year, how often do you do the following:
- Debate the meaning of a reading.
- Discuss connections between a reading and real life people or situations.
- Discuss how culture, time, or place affects an author’s writing.
- Improve a piece of writing as a class or with partners.
- Rewrite a paper or essay in response to comments.

Response categories: Never; once or twice a semester; once or twice a month; once or twice a week; almost every day

31. In your MATH class this year, how often do you do the following:
- Apply math to situations in life outside of school.
- Discuss possible solutions to problems with other students.
- Explain how you solved a problem to the class.
- Write a few sentences to explain how you solved a math problem.
- Write a math problem for other students to solve.

Response categories: Never; once or twice a semester; once or twice a month; once or twice a week; almost every day

32. In your SCIENCE class this year, how often do you do the following:
- Use laboratory equipment or specimens.
- Write lab reports.
- Generate your own hypotheses.
- Use evidence/data to support an argument or hypothesis.
- Find information from graphs and tables.

Response categories: Never; once or twice a semester; once or twice a month; once or twice a week; almost every day

33. Think about ONE of your parents/guardians. Last week, was this person:

Response categories: working at a job, unemployed (out of work), unable to work because of a disability, being a stay at home parent, in the military, I’m not sure

34. What was the highest level of education of this person?
Response categories: Less than high school, high school, GED, two year degree (like an associate’s degree or trade school), some college (they went to a four-year college but didn’t finish), finished a four-year college, finished a graduate degree (like a master’s degree, PhD, MD, or a law degree), I’m not sure

35. In general, how would you describe your health?

Response categories: Poor, fair, good, very good, excellent

36. When was the last time you saw a doctor or nurse for a check-up or physical exam when you were not sick or injured?

Response categories: In the past year, between a year and two years ago, more than two years ago, never

37. When did you begin receiving special education related services from your school?

Response categories: I do not receive special education related services; in elementary school; in middle school; in high school; not sure

38. The following questions ask about your use of technology FOR SCHOOL, including classes and after-school programs.

- I use technology to make something new and creative (like a movie, website, podcast, blog, graphic design, game design) for either a class or another school-based program.
- I use the internet to find information for school assignments.
- I use computer programs, such as Excel, PowerPoint, or Publisher, to complete school assignments or projects.

Response categories: Never, once or twice a semester, once or twice a month, once or twice a week, almost every day or every day

39. The following questions ask about your use of technology OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL.

- I use technology to make something new and creative (like a movie, website, podcast, blog, graphic design, game design) outside of school.
- I use technology to connect with others about social or community issues when I am outside of school.
- I use the internet to look up information I need outside of school (not including the use of social networking sites like Facebook or Twitter).
- I use computer programs, such as Excel, PowerPoint, or Publisher, for my own use outside of school.

Response categories: Never, once or twice a semester, once or twice a month, once or twice a week, almost every day or every day
[CPS is divided into 27 areas. The survey questions from here to the end are specific to each area; that is, each student will see only survey questions for his or her area. Note that not all areas have area-specific survey questions. A list of schools in each of these areas is on the last two pages of this document. If your student’s school is not listed, your student will have completed the survey at this point.]

[AREA 7]a

40. Do you take a longer unit test in the following subjects every 5 weeks?
   - Reading/English
   - Math
   - Science

   Response categories: Yes, no

41. The teacher discusses the results of each test with the following:
   - The whole class
   - Small groups of students
   - Each student individually

   Response categories: Never, some of the time, most of the time, all of the time

42. I am aware of my ISAT scores in Reading and Math from last school year.

   Response categories: Yes, no

43. I am aware of my level of achievement on the ISAT test from last year (warning - below- meets - exceeds).

   Response categories: Yes, no

44. Please indicate how much you agree or disagree with the following statements:
   - Since we have begun taking tests every 5 weeks, I am more aware of my progress in class.
   - Testing takes too much time from our school day.
   - Testing helps me to understand the areas where I need to improve.
   - It would be better if all tests were given during the same week.

   Response categories: Strongly Disagree, Disagree, Agree, Strongly Agree
45. How much do you agree with the following statements about your Language Arts class:
   - My teacher explains what the lesson is about
   - My teacher explains what we are learning and why it is important
   - My teacher demonstrates what she wants me to do before asking me to do it
   - My teacher gives me opportunities to practice with the whole class and with my classmates before I have to do it on my own
   - There are opportunities for me to talk with a partner, or small group every day in class so that I can share my thinking
   - When students talk, there a certain procedures and routines that our teacher uses to make sure that our conversation stays focused and on track

   Response categories: Strongly disagree, disagree, agree, strongly agree

46. To what extent are you being prepared to make decisions about high school enrollment:
   - My school has explained to me my options for high school and how to apply to high schools
   - My school has showed me what I need to do to be selected at a selective enrollment high school

   Response categories: Not at all, a little, somewhat, a great deal

47. How much do you agree with the following statements about classroom expectations, rules, and consequences:
   - The consequences for poor behavior are fair and consistent from student to student
   - If a student misbehaves one day, he or she will get a fresh start the next day

   Response categories: Strongly disagree, disagree, agree, strongly agree
48. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements about your school?
   • My teacher knows what kind of help I need to learn
   • My teacher monitors my learning
   • Visitors coming to our classroom interrupt learning
   • My teacher makes sure that I am learning
   • My teacher makes sure that I am on task at all times
   • I have a lot to contribute to the learning in my class
   • My teacher encourages us to help each other during class

   Response categories: Strongly disagree, disagree, agree, strongly agree

49. How often does the following occur:
   • My principal visits my classroom to see what we are learning.
   • Adults come to our classroom to observe our teacher.

   Response categories: Never, rarely, sometimes, often

50. In my English/reading class, we take an EPATH computer test every 5 weeks.

   Response categories: Yes, no

51. Please indicate how much you agree or disagree with the following statements:
   • My teacher discusses my progress on our EPATH tests.
   • I have set goals for my own improvement in each class and I know what I need to do to reach them.
   • My teachers allow students time to work independently in centers/workstations at least once per week.
   • My classmates regularly cheer students on who do well.
   • My classmates help students who are struggling, so we all do well.

   Response categories: Strongly disagree, disagree, agree, strongly agree

52. My teacher taught students class procedures for the following:
   • Taking notes
   • Working in groups
   • Following center instructions to work independently
   • Doing research for a project

   Response categories: Yes, no
53. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements:
   - Please indicate how much you agree or disagree with the following statements:
   - I can go to someone outside of school to help me with my homework.
   - My teachers know how well or how poorly I am doing in class.
   - The textbooks or materials we use in class help me better understand my teacher’s lessons.
   - I feel safe in my classroom.
   - I can use a computer when I need to for school work.

   *Response categories: Strongly disagree, disagree, agree, strongly agree*

54. For each item please mark how often your parent/guardian does the following.
   - My parent/guardian attends report card pick-up, parent conferences or other meetings that let him/her know how I am doing in my classes.
   - My parent/guardian attends sports, club, musical, theater or other social events that I am involved in
   - My parent/guardian attends special parent nights (e.g. parent holiday parties, bingo night, parent raffles…etc)

   *Response categories: Never, some of the time, most of the time, all of the time*

55. For each item please mark how often you have access to the following materials.
   - Dictionary or Thesaurus
   - News or information magazine
   - Posters that explain class concepts

   *Response categories: Never, some of the time, most of the time, all of the time*

56. How much do you agree with the following statements about your Principal?
   - My Principal is visible on school campus before and after school.
   - My Principal knows what my classmates and I are learning in class.
   - My Principal is easy to talk to.
   - My Principal has visited my classroom on more than one occasion this school year.
   - My Principal cares that students are doing their best.

   *Response categories: Strongly disagree, disagree, agree, strongly agree*
57. How much do you agree with the following statements about teaching and learning in general at your school?

- Other students in my grade level/subject area are learning similar things in similar ways.
- In my classes, different students sometimes do different assignments.
- In my classes, we sometimes have a choice on how to complete an assignment.
- My teachers will adjust the lesson to make sure that I understand.
- My teachers will meet with me and/or my family to discuss any concerns before grades are finalized.
- The grades that I receive on the work I do in class represent what I actually know.

*Response categories: Strongly disagree, disagree, agree, strongly agree*

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