



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF
PALM BEACH COUNTY, FL

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

March 29, 2022

TO: School Board Members

THROUGH: Michael J. Burke, Superintendent *MJB*

FROM: Edward C. Tierney, Deputy Superintendent/Chief of Schools *ECT*
Glenda Sheffield, Ed.D., Chief Academic Officer *GS*
Adam Miller, Ph.D., Assistant Superintendent, Performance Accountability *AM*

SUBJECT: FY22 SCHOOL EFFECTIVENESS SURVEY (SEQ) RESULTS

The FY22 School Effectiveness Survey (SEQ) administration window was January 10 through February 21. The survey was administered online for students in Grades 3 through 12, all school-based staff, and parents of students in Grades Kindergarten through 12. The results are provided on [an interactive dashboard](#) available via the Test/Survey Reports site.¹ A high-level overview follows.

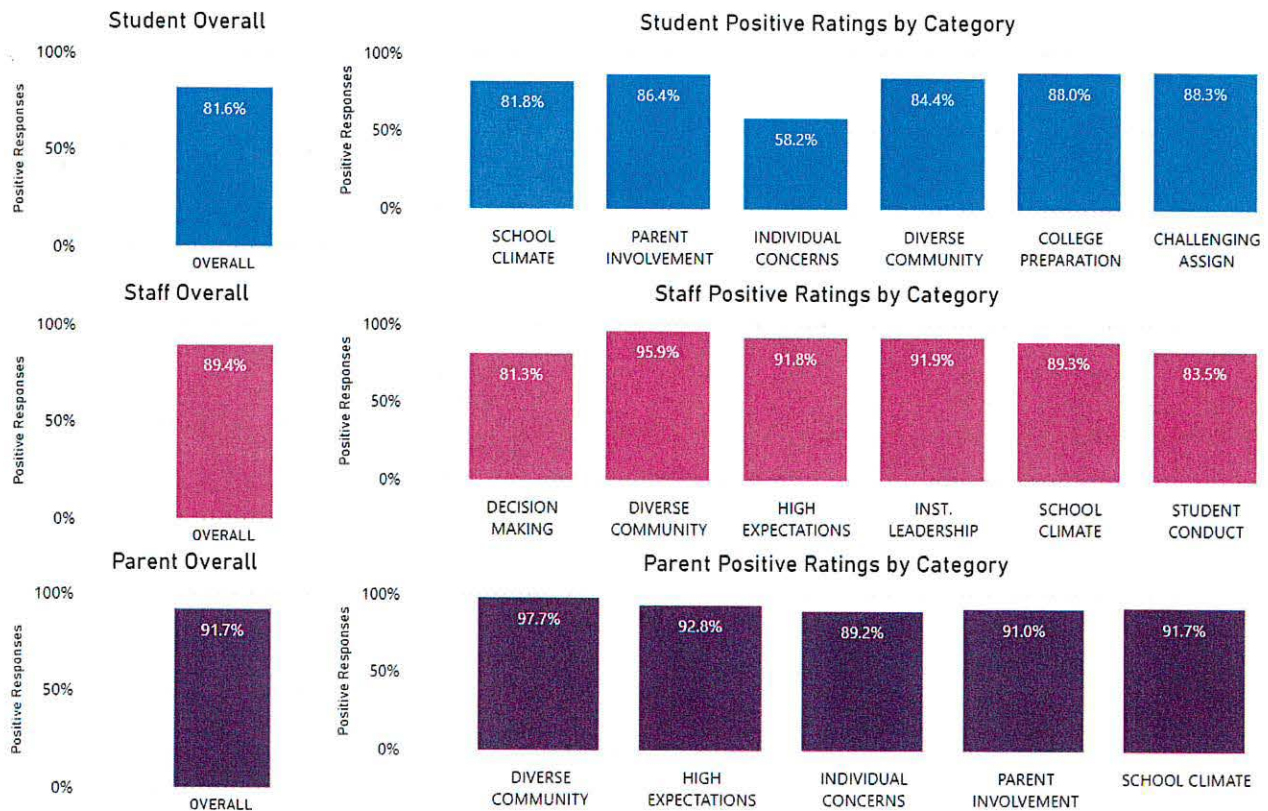
The SEQ was open to all groups defined above, and each individual chose whether to participate. There is no guarantee that those who responded to the survey were representative of all students, staff, or parents, particularly when participation is low. In general, we seek a participation rate of 80% to have confidence in the findings. This year, overall participation of students was 25.2%, staff was 43.2%, and parents was 2.7%. Participation varied across schools. Nineteen schools achieved student participation rates greater than 80%; five schools achieved staff participation rates greater than 80%; and no schools achieved the 80% benchmark for parents (highest parent participation was 41.7% at Sunrise Park Elementary).

Participants provided responses to each survey item by selecting from among four options: *Strongly Agree*, *Agree*, *Disagree*, and *Strongly Disagree*. In addition, there was an option for respondents to indicate *I don't know*. The data were summarized as the percent choosing *Strongly Agree* or *Agree*, excluding responses of *I don't know*.

¹ Navigation to the interactive dashboard from the District's homepage: The School District of Palm Beach County -> Departments -> Research and Evaluation -> SEQ Administration

Figure 1 below is from the Overview page of the SEQ Results Dashboard. Overall responses by participating students (81.6%), staff (89.4%), and parents (91.7%) were positive. Students provided positive ratings exceeding 80% across all question categories except *Individual Concerns* (58.2%; addresses issues such as bullying and teasing both in person and via social media). Staff tended to provide positive ratings near or above 90% in surveyed areas, with lower ratings for *Decision Making* (81.3%; teacher input for decision-making) and Student Conduct (83.5%; student behavior, bullying, respect, and rule enforcement).

Figure 1. SEQ Results Dashboard Overview Screen



The Dashboard provides the capability to explore the survey data for each school and participant group. Available views include: Overview (as shown in Figure 1), Item Ratings (responses to each survey question; organized by survey category), Items by School (listing of schools with rating summaries by category and participant group with capability to drill-down to questions), and Participation by School (summary of participation rates by school).

Staff are encouraged to explore the SEQ Results Dashboard with the following guiding questions:

1. Did participation meet 80%? If not, how can participation be improved?
2. In what areas did the participants indicate we are doing well? In what areas did they indicate concern?
3. How can we act upon these data this year and use for FY23 planning?

At the District level, there were lessons learned about the way the survey was administered to parents that will be used to make improvements next year. To increase participation next year and further validate the results, it is recommended that school leadership frequently connect the SEQ results to actions and events at their schools. Mentioning the SEQ throughout the instructional year helps stakeholders understand the importance and relevance of the SEQ and therefore may be more interested in giving their input to the SEQ next year. In addition, if parents also see the connection to the SEQ feedback throughout the school year (via school newsletters and websites, for example), they may be more inclined to participate in future SEQs. It is also recommended that teachers (grades 3-12) set aside 30 minutes at some point during the weeks-long SEQ administration window to have students log in and take the survey.

Questions concerning the SEQ should be directed to Paul Houchens, Director, Research & Evaluation, 561-434-8469.

MJB/ECT/GS/AM/PH/RC:wI

- c: Academic and Operating Chiefs
- Regional/Instructional Superintendents
- Assistant Superintendents
- Academic Directors
- Principals