Palm Pointe’s 2016-2017 Title I Parent Involvement/Satisfaction Survey was deployed on Friday, March 31st, 2017. The window for responses closed on Tuesday, April 11th. Families had the option to complete a paper copy of the survey (sent home with students on March 31st) or to take the survey online at www.palmpointe.fau.edu. In addition to the paper copy sent home, the survey was advertised via ConnectEd phone calls on March 31st and April 10th, through Palm Pointe social media, in the Orbiter (parent monthly newsletter), and on the school website. The following is a comprehensive review of the results.

Part A: Results

Please identify your child’s/children’s grade band(s):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade Band</th>
<th># of Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Not Identified</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grades 6-8</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grades 3-5</td>
<td>211</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grades K-2</td>
<td>244</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There were a total of 542 responses: 491 paper-based were returned, and 51 online surveys were completed.

The 542 responders indicated their child’s/children’s grade bands. The total responses represented approximately 636 students, or 45% of Palm Pointe’s student population.

- K-2: 244
- 3-5: 211
- 6-8: 161
- No Response: ~20

1. I understand the curriculum/academic requirements for my child’s grade level.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Knowledge of Academic Requirements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strongly Agree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

90.4% of survey participants indicated a positive response to understanding their child’s/children’s academic requirements.
2. My child’s school informs me regularly about his/her academic achievement.

Comments:

- You must look at Skyward
- No graded paperwork comes home to see

3. I am aware of the Parent Information Resource Center (“FAU Room”) in the front office of my child’s school.

Comments:

- I’m aware of it, but don’t know the purpose for it.
4. I am informed in a timely manner about workshops/activities at my child’s school (by social media, ConnectEd, Orbiter, flyers/letters, emails, etc.) that educate/inform parents about curriculum/educational goals and are offered at flexible times.

![Communication Regarding Events](chart.png)

- Strongly Agree: 47.4%
- Agree: 40.8%
- Neutral: 8.9%
- Disagree: 2.4%
- Strongly Disagree: <1%
- No Response: 0%

88.2% of survey participants indicated a positive response to being informed in a timely manner about parent events.

**Comments:**

- Provide more information on social media.
- Send flyers home in advance, not a day or two ahead.
- I can’t always count on flyers or word of mouth about events occurring at school. I would love if there was some kind of forum or online calendar, besides skyward or even on skyward, letting me know so my son and I can be more involved. If there is I would love to know about it.

5. When is the most convenient time of day for you to attend parent involvement activities/workshops?

![Preferred Time for Parent Events](bar_chart.png)

- Before School: 89
- During the School Day: 139
- After School: 178
- Evenings (after 6pm): 196
- Other: 4

There were a total of 606 responses for this question.

The responses indicate that after school hours (4:30pm and later) is the most preferred time for scheduling parent events. However, given the significant number of responses for the other options, the survey shows that parent events should be offered at varying/flexible times.

**Comments:**

- Not able to attend. The school day is long, then we have homework, extracurriculars, dinner...working in daytime.
6. What parent involvement activities have you found most beneficial during the 2016 – 2017 school year? (Select all that apply.)

![Bar chart showing the most beneficial parent involvement activities for 2016-2017]

**There were a total of 1,461 responses for this question.**

- **Meet the Teacher**: 437
- **Curriculum Night**: 217
- **Information Sessions**: 146
- **Grade Level Events**: 227
- **School-Wide Events**: 191
- **Recognition Events**: 230
- **Other**: 13

The responses indicate that Palm Pointe families attended, and found value in a variety of Parent Involvement activities this year. The highest attended event, Meet the Teacher, was also identified as the most beneficial.

**Comments:**

- Meet the Teacher/Open House needs to be separated into elementary and middle school events. Way too hectic!!
- Curriculum Nights needs to be more informative.
- There are not very many school-wide events; they seem geared toward younger students.
- Upset that CSI was only one grade level during the school day. We’ve loved this event in the past as a whole family.
- I enjoyed this year’s CSI event; because it was just 5th grade, I felt they learned more.
- There have not been many events for 5th grade.
- Need more 3rd grade teacher/parent activities
- More 6th grade activities
- This is important to have a good rapport with the teachers.
- I am often not given enough advanced notice to attend.
- I have not heard of many of these events.
- Other: Science/History Fair, Honor Roll Ceremonies, SAC Meetings, Classroom Volunteer, Book Fair, Citizen of the Month, Intramural sports
7. What type of parent involvement activities are you interested in attending for the 2017 – 2018 school year?

- An event on a Saturday, like a field day or sporting competition
- More P.E. events!
- Would be great to have more educational events (e.g. chess/board game play, science/craft)
- More school fun (i.e. dances, carnival)
- Make Honor Roll later in the day (after 2pm)
- I’d love for an old-fashioned back to school night where we can get an understanding of more than just my child’s immediate classroom. A traditional parent-teacher conference would be nice too. Aside from the report cards, there is no individualized communication.
- Other: Carnival, Dances, Field Trips, Sports/Competitions

8. I am informed about the Title 1 program at my child’s school and the required Title 1 parent notifications, such as the annual Title 1 Meeting in September and the Parent Involvement Plan (PIP).

Strongly Agree: 28.6%
Agree: 36.5%
Neutral: 18.5%
Disagree: 7.2%
Strongly Disagree: 1.8%
No Response: 7.4%

65.1% of survey participants indicated a positive response to being aware of Title I programs.

27.5% of survey participants indicated a neutral or negative response. There is a need for Palm Pointe to improve in this area.
9. I know how to access the Parent Involvement Plan (PIP) and School Improvement Plan (SIP) on Palm Pointe’s website.

Comments:
- Wasn’t aware

![Online Access of PIP and SIP](image)

- Strongly Agree: 25.5%
- Agree: 31.7%
- Neutral: 21.8%
- Disagree: 14.9%
- Strongly Disagree: 3%
- No Response: 3.1%

57.2% of survey participants indicated a positive response to being aware of how to access the SIP and PIP online.

39.7% of survey participants indicated a neutral or negative response. There is a need for Palm Pointe to improve in this area.

10. I am aware that I have the opportunity to participate in the decision making process regarding parent programs, funding, and the development of the School Improvement Plan (SIP) and Parent Involvement Plan (PIP) at my child’s school.

Comments:
- Wasn’t aware

![Opportunities for Involvement](image)

- Strongly Agree: 26.4%
- Agree: 33.8%
- Neutral: 19.6%
- Disagree: 13.3%
- Strongly Disagree: 2.6%
- No Response: 4.3%

60.2% of survey participants indicated a positive response to being aware of their rights to participate in the decision making process of the SIP and PIP.

35.5% of survey participants indicated a neutral or negative response. There is a need for Palm Pointe to improve in this area.
### Strengths/Praise

- I’m so glad to have found Palm Pointe. Both of my boys have blossomed under the guidance and lessons of the AMAZING teachers (our child’s ESE teacher is awesome!!)
- We love Palm Pointe! Information is always sent home regarding any events and/or activities that are coming up in the months ahead. We have calendars every month, Facebook information, phone calls for reminders, and even emails from the teachers to keep us informed.
- We love the school!!
- Our child’s kindergarten teacher always keeps us up to date on everything!!
- We love Palm Pointe. Thank you for keeping us informed and able to be a part of our kids’ schooling.
- I am very pleased with the overall atmosphere created by the teachers and staff. They are very helpful to both my child and I.
- Great school and teachers!
- I am pleased with the level of communication from the school. My child is excited to go to school each day, and I’m confident that my child attends one of the best, if not THE best, schools in the county. I truly appreciate all that you do!
- Being our first year at Palm Pointe, and starting after the beginning of the school year, I am VERY impressed with the communication and staff at this school.
- The monthly newsletter is very helpful, as well as school phone calls.
- Skyward app is super helpful and utilized more!
- Very happy overall. Love our child’s third grade teacher!
- Love Palm Pointe and so does my daughter. Glad she can be a part of a great school with great teachers!
- School is new to us this year, but we have been very pleased with it so far! I look forward to learning more and growing as the years go by!
- We love Palm Pointe!
- Our child’s teacher has done an amazing job with parent contact and updates.
- It has been a great experience at Palm Point. My child has been shaped and molded by some of the ‘best’ teachers a parent could ask for. Thanks, Palm Pointe staff!
- Our family enjoys the school activities, like Kettle Korn and Kahoot, Are You Smarter than…, etc. Palm Pointe has the best parent activities!
- This year was the first with FSA game night for my daughter’s grade level rather than just a presentation. We both loved it!
- My son’s teacher gives feedback on his behavior and academics all the time.
- I enjoy my son’s teacher’s Remind App.
- PPE is a great school. My child’s teacher cares about her learning and her overall person.
- The teachers do a great job! Great emails!
- My child’s ESE teachers and paras have been amazing!
- Awesome school! My child’s first grade teacher is phenomenal!
- We love our child’s third grade teacher and all the staff at PPE!
- I love this school and appreciate everything you do!
- Another great year at Palm Pointe; keep up the good work!
- We love Palm Pointe and hope our daughter can go to school there, too!
- We love Palm Pointe!
- Love this school but I need to figure out how to get more involved… it is my fault I do not know about some of these things
- My child’s 8th grade teachers are AMAZING! Very helpful, and they are always available.
- This will be my child’s last year. Thank you for your good work and dedication to my child and I hope that you keep up the good work.
- Palm Pointe Educational Research School has been providing an excellent education for my children. I am kept informed of their progress in a timely manner. I think Curriculum Night is an excellent source of information. I think meeting with their teachers, face to face, is still very important. Feedback from their teachers, via email, has been prompt and pertinent - particularly from my child’s fifth grade teacher.
- Great teaching staff! My child’s ESE teacher takes care of him/her very well.
- I appreciate all the extra opportunities that are available, like chorus, band, and the award ceremonies. They’re an important part of a child’s educational experience.
• The staff and the teachers at Palm Pointe are doing an excellent job teaching and caring for the well-being of all the students. My wife and I are very much pleased with the quality of education that our children are receiving at Palm Pointe. Job well done! From two grateful parents, thank you so much!

Areas for Growth/Specific Feedback

• I did not know I could participate in the decision making process regarding programs. But I’m confident the parents that have the time/availability to help, can.
• A link from FAU website (Palm Pointe) would be helpful. I spend a lot of time trying to find where I need to be as I am across multiple devices.
• Events that are held during the week and during a school/work day are extremely hard to attend with one week notice.
• Curriculum night, in my opinion, is a show of face and does not allow time for questions to the teacher. Communication is not very strong between parents and teachers.
• We should know at least to some extent what will be taught during the year at the beginning of the year, and not just on a weekly basis.
• Open house – pure chaos!! Way too many people, hard to meet teachers, have to wait forever, lines way too long to buy planners and t-shirts, etc., no parking. Needs to be elementary at one time and middle school at another.
• I would like to be able to attend more functions. But unfortunately, many conflict with important religious/family events which take priority.
• I do not agree with certain disciplines taking place in class. When one child ruins it for the rest (for example, taking away recess.) One does wrong and the whole class gets punished. All should not be deprived when one is to blame.
• More FSA examples are supposed to be released around November of each year to work with our children (more materials access via internet, via mail or paper sent out to home.)
• The Reading log for each grade is supposed to be mandatory.
• A weekly information paper concerning the program should be sent out regularly.
• Math methodology should be sent home each week to help with homework and help parents get up-to-date so we can help our children.
• I would like it if my child’s tests could be handed back for review so he can see the mistakes and improve upon them.
• Please find a different way to let parents clap for their children during ceremonies. The one clap routine is getting old. A lot of parents feel like we are being reprimanded for celebrating our child’s achievements.
• Students should bring home more homework involving ALL subjects they study at school, which could involve more student-parent participation/interaction academically.
• Make outdoor play mandatory for lower grade levels 😊
• For full-time working parents, it would be very helpful if there are activities to interact with our kids’ teachers in the evenings (i.e. 5:00pm or later.)
• Please make parent events like honor roll or shows later in the day for working parents.
• I think it would be nice to know what my child is doing in the classroom as far as learning. It’s hard going from one grade that has consistent communication to another that doesn’t keep us as informed.
• I disagree with Donuts for Dads. Not all students have a male role model in their life, and it singles them out. You may want to reconsider how that affects children of same sex marriages, or those who have lost their father.
• Common Core Math confuses students more than it helps them!
• Palm Pointe needs a cheer program.
• We were disappointed that the kids’ homework was on iReady, being that we don’t have a computer. We have tablets, but iReady doesn’t work on them.
• Not much information about Title I.
• Would like a website or some type of easy access resource available to make the learning process better.
• Have mid-year curriculum/100 Book Challenge meetings to explain how it changes, prepares for next year.
• End-of-the-year info/resources to help students over the summer.
• I would love to see more school-wide events, as well as additional opportunities for families with siblings in other grades.
• Change school hours.
• Would like to receive a document indicating what classes our kids are taking each day (schedule) and what topics are being addressed each month, which can help us work on these topics at home.
• Would love to learn about additional resources available for students besides iReady – mainly writing and math skills.
• I wish there was an opportunity for working parents to have better options as far as times for PTO, etc.
• Concerned about the lack of homework. Students seem not to have homework. I think this is a great study habit for every child. I-Ready is okay in the class setting, but students should still have homework.
• Would like to have more information on volunteering at school. Unable to access the form online.
• Add chess/science club once a week
• Indoor PE (gym-like place)
• Advanced class learner once a week for projects/extra challenges
• More about the “Parent Information Center” such as what kinds of info is there? How to access? How helpful is it?
• Have flexible times for activities
• My child’s kindergarten teacher is great at responding to all my emails/inquiries about my child’s learning/growth!
• More afterschool clubs/programs for kids. Very disappointed that there are no clubs like Lego League or Technology Club, etc.
• At Curriculum Night, only 100 Book Challenge was discussed (at my child’s grade level). Randomly through the school year, math sheets were sent home and spelling words and activities. It would be helpful to have a snapshot of the year listing: projects and what month to look for them, homework to expect (i.e. math/spelling) so that parents can be aware of how the school year will go and what’s expected of their child.
• Group ½ day learning for advanced students (projects, extra challenges)
• Teachers should be personally involved with smaller groups
• Add chess/science/board games once a week; indoor PE
• I find it sends a mixed message when parent volunteers and students have a dress code, but some educators are wearing jeans, t-shirts and flip-flops (or open-toed shoes.) Teachers should be required to follow the same, or stricter dress code than their students to set a good example. [Commenter elaborated on an occasion when he/she personally observed a teacher dressed inappropriately at a school-wide event.]
• Where are the PPE sports? Our boys are signed up for track, but they only practice for 45 minutes per week with only one track meet.
• Would like to see more communication from teachers regarding students’ progress via parent/teacher conferences – regarding either positive or negative evaluations.
• Wish we knew lunch menus like we did last year.
• I would like to be notified in a timely manner when my child is falling behind.
• Would like to have all the middle school teachers on the team present when we are asked to meet.
• I would suggest having an honor roll ceremony for the last 9 weeks of school. I do not like that the kids are not honored for their hard work during that time.
• I would be interested in increased communication from the teachers about the specific curricula my child is learning, homework, and other information. One of my child’s teachers has a website, but it was only updated twice this year. There is no communication from her other teacher, whose grading, social studies coverage, and spelling could use improvement.
• I’m also very concerned about the discipline techniques used in my child’s class. Recess is constantly being retracted from the whole class for too much talking. This is a vicious cycle - children without recess behave badly, fidget more, and can’t concentrate. Recess empowers social learning, offers exercise, and studies show it improves test scores. There is a lot of teacher yelling being reported from my child’s class; maybe more recess would help with that.
• If more evening events for my child’s grade, I would attend. I love the chorus events. I don’t know how a child gets into the other organizations I’ve seen mentioned. Maybe I missed the note. Instead of little pieces of paper sent home, couldn’t we have an email?
• I feel that as my son advanced the school and/or the teacher strayed farther from being a research school.. meaning that you are not adapting to the different ways of learning. My son struggles in some areas, but other learning options are not clear and he doesn't get the attention needed to get higher scores. Think outside the box, not all kids learn the same and shouldn't be expected to conform. If they say they do not understand, then the teacher needs to listen and break it down a bit for them. Online credit retrieval works, but I don’t feel it was actually beneficial to his learning. If he can’t stay focused with a teacher, then how does online help?
• K pick up line was a mess at the beginning of the year. Make sure K parents are fully aware of the procedures early before school starts. Also, more information especially for K parents about Skyward and how to get an account as well as how to access it at the beginning of the year. Consider including it in your K blastoff like you did at that one technology night a couple years ago and it would be super helpful to know all about it.
• Student expectations regarding assignments are not clearly conveyed to parents. My student has an assignment that she doesn’t understand and the teacher is putting pressure on her. Teacher/parent communication is severely lacking. I’m very disappointed this school year. They bring home their normal homework, plus have to read for a half hour plus have to do I ready for 45 min a week! When is their time with their family? When is their time to enjoy exercise outside? They are children!!
• I understand the curriculum requirements, but I do wish the curriculum for social studies was enhanced for 5th graders. It’s all bits and pieces.

• I’m glad that the dress code is very leniently enforced! As long as it’s a polo shirt and bottoms of one of the restricted colors, any style should be fine. However, it seems like some teachers are lenient and some staff strict, so the same pair of pants passes with one person and not with another.

• As a parent of a K student, it’s been tough getting up to speed. It’s sad to say that the best resource has been the private Facebook page for K parents since some parents with older siblings are able to enlighten the first timers. I understand that parents of older kids may not need it but the K parents definitely need more communication that is clear and timely. As an example, MTSS has been a bit of a mystery. Before it was officially rolled out, my child made random statements about working with another teacher. After 20 questions I managed to figure out that a small set of kids must be working ahead of the others. While it’s great that children are working on different levels, shouldn’t parents be notified when this occurs? When MTSS was officially rolled out months later, I received a letter from my child’s new MTSS teacher with a brief explanation. Other parents said they got no letter or explanation of MTSS.

11b. (Addendum) What needs to be improved at Palm Pointe K-8 to increase student achievement? (The addendum was presented to the School Advisory Council on April 17th, and was available in the front office of Palm Pointe from April 17th to April 26th.)

Academics/Testing

• Refrain from FSA testing on a Friday or Monday.

• Finding different programs to use for Tier II and Tier III interventions. All students don’t respond to the same kind of interventions. If one program presented with fidelity doesn’t work for a student, try another one!

• Though iReady is important, time is taken away from instruction to fill the required “minutes” vs. taking the time to instruct/remediate gaps in student achievement. iReady should be used to supplement instruction, not replace it. Focus on foundation skills in K-2 (not just through 100 Book Challenge) By bridging gaps in lower grades, students will be more successful in testing grades. Small group instruction (Guided Reading) should be stressed w/accountability w/MTSS. Having “spirit” learning to engage students in learning vs. pounding intense academics ALL the time.

• Help students know how to deal with anxiety with everyday school and standardized testing – actually give them tools for how to cope.

• Make testing less of a ‘stress’ to kids. We all know FSA is the most important thing, but really it should be treated like other quizzes or tests the students have.

• Increase data meeting among grade levels. Really dig into the data, and create plans to close gaps, and keep providing rigor for above level students.

Communication

• Teachers must communicate better with parents consistently across all grade levels. Success would be improved with better communication! Weekly emails should be mandatory!

• I would love to have better communication from the teachers regarding academic success or challenges. Something other than me always requesting it.

• More feedback from teachers.

Discipline

• Student engagement aligns with procedures and discipline. Abide by or revise handbook/code of conduct. Don’t be afraid to make parents inconvenienced. Students are getting away with many items and laughing at any disciplinary actions. They have it too easy. Teach them… Care for them…..But be strict. If suspensions and BIC rates increase for a year, then don’t worry about frivolous data. It will be good long-term. Parents want their kids to go to a place like this when it is warranted.

• A majority of our students are engaged in their learning and strive to do well. However, there are a few who appear to lack motivation or perhaps have other issues they are attending to. These students need to be mentored individually – there is a state or federal program which brings mentors to assist these students. (We Care? Currently being used in West Palm Beach)

• Less penalizing of the WHOLE group for the misbehavior of 1 or 2 unruly students! This is very frustrating for those who do good and look forward to little bonuses.
Qualifications/Teacher Retention

- All staff need to be committed to increasing student achievement. I think we're going in the right direction with the staff development and planning opportunities provided to staff.
- Attracting and maintaining qualified and experienced teachers.
- For me, my child always has a teacher that leaves mid-year. Be more mindful of students when teachers are hired. Make sure the new teachers will stay.

Other

- Need more PCs in each classroom.
- Change school hours. Make schedules so that students get more instruction on foundational skills appropriate to each grade level. Provide intervention (Reading/Math) during resource time.
- More technology available!!
- Lighter backpacks
- More technology to help with District testing and standardized testing.

Part B: Analysis – Summary of Trends

After a thorough examination of all the compiled data, the following table indicates reoccurring trends in both Palm Pointe’s perceived areas of strength (+) and areas in need of growth (△).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>+</th>
<th>△</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In general, parents of Palm Pointe students understand their child's/children's academic requirements.</td>
<td>Improve consistency of communication school-wide regarding academic progress. Parents would like more specific feedback and information on how they can support learning at home. Consider holding scheduled parent-teacher conference days.*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall, families indicated that Parental Involvement Activities/Events are well advertised; suggestions were given as to how the school can broaden its advertisement efforts.*</td>
<td>Improve consistency of discipline policies and other initiatives (e.g. dress code, Reading log/homework, etc.)*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palm Pointe should continue offering Parental Involvement Activities/Events at flexible times, with large-scale events happening in the evenings.*</td>
<td>Restructure Meet the Teacher and/or Curriculum Night to improve the content offered, and ease the transitions/flow-of-traffic.*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade level family events were well-received.*</td>
<td>Improve the method for reporting on/advertising the Title I program, specifically as it relates to making parents aware of their right to participate in the decision-making process.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palm Pointe teachers demonstrate positive relationships with students and families.</td>
<td>Improve awareness about the FAU Parent Resource Room, including services/functions available, and provide frequent reminders.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*These items were also identified as trends in the SIP & PIP feedback provided by Palm Pointe faculty and the School Advisory Council.