

# ELM Parent Survey Data (Collected 4/14/16 – 5/1/16)

English Survey Respondents = 169 Parents

Spanish Survey Respondents = 18 Parents

## 1. What are your thoughts about your child's homework?

### *English Survey Responses*

<b>Answer Choices</b>	<b>Responses</b>
My student has a manageable amount of homework	<b>35.33%</b> 59
My student sometimes feels overwhelmed, but typically completes the homework	<b>43.71%</b> 73
My student seems overwhelmed by homework more often than not	<b>20.96%</b> 35
Total	167

### *Spanish Survey Responses*

<b>Answer Choices</b>	<b>Responses</b>
Mi estudiante tiene una cantidad adecuada de tarea	<b>66.67%</b> 12
Mi estudiante a veces se siente abrumado(a), pero por lo general completa la tarea	<b>16.67%</b> 3
Mi estudiante parece estar abrumado(a) casi siempre por la tarea	<b>16.67%</b> 3
Total	18

2. How many hours does your student typically spend participating in extra-curricular activities, Monday-Friday?

*English Survey Responses*

<b>Answer Choices</b>	<b>Responses</b>
Between 0-3 hours	<b>46.71%</b> 78
Between 4-7 hours	<b>41.32%</b> 69
Between 8-11 hours	<b>10.78%</b> 18
Between 12-15 hours, or more	<b>1.20%</b> 2
Total	167

*Spanish Survey Responses*

<b>Answer Choices</b>	<b>Responses</b>
Entre 0-3 horas	<b>72.22%</b> 13
Entre 4-7 horas	<b>16.67%</b> 3
Entre 8-11 horas	<b>5.56%</b> 1
Entre 12-15 horas, o más	<b>5.56%</b> 1
Total	18

3. Do you feel that there is consistency in grading across classrooms of DIFFERENT SUBJECT AREAS (from English to Math to Science)?

*English Survey Responses*

<b>Answer Choices</b>	<b>Responses</b>
Yes, most teachers assess students the same way	<b>18.34%</b> 31
Some teachers seem to be similar to each other, while other teachers differ	<b>33.14%</b> 56
No, teachers seem to have their own methods of assessing students	<b>32.54%</b> 55
Not sure	<b>15.98%</b> 27
<b>Total</b>	<b>169</b>

*Spanish Survey Responses*

<b>Answer Choices</b>	<b>Responses</b>
Sí, la mayoría de los maestros evalúan a los estudiantes de la misma manera	<b>22.22%</b> 4
Algunos maestros parecen ser similares en la forma de evaluar, mientras que otros maestros difieren	<b>38.89%</b> 7
No, los maestros parecen tener sus propios métodos para evaluar a los estudiantes	<b>11.11%</b> 2
No estoy seguro(a)	<b>27.78%</b> 5
<b>Total</b>	<b>18</b>

4. Do you feel that there is consistency in grading across classrooms of the SAME SUBJECT AREAS (i.e. from one Math class to another)?

*English Survey Responses*

<b>Answer Choices</b>	<b>Responses</b>
Yes, most teachers assess students the same way	<b>16.57%</b> 28
Some teachers seem to grade similarly to each other, while others differ	<b>24.85%</b> 42
No, teachers seem to have their own methods of assessing students	<b>20.12%</b> 34
Not sure	<b>38.46%</b> 65
Total	169

*Spanish Survey Responses*

<b>Answer Choices</b>	<b>Responses</b>
Sí, la mayoría de los maestros evalúan a los estudiantes de la misma manera	<b>16.67%</b> 3
Algunos maestros parecen ser similares en la forma de evaluar, mientras que otros maestros difieren	<b>33.33%</b> 6
No, los maestros parecen tener sus propios métodos para evaluar a los estudiantes	<b>27.78%</b> 5
No estoy seguro(a)	<b>22.22%</b> 4
Total	18

5. How frequently do you login or read messages from the Jupiter Grades program?

*English Survey Responses*

<b>Answer Choices</b>	<b>Responses</b>
I interact with Jupiter Grades 3 or more times per week	<b>59.17%</b> 100
I interact with Jupiter Grades at least once a week	<b>33.14%</b> 56
I interact with Jupiter Grades once or twice per month	<b>6.51%</b> 11
I do not interact with the Jupiter Grades program	<b>1.18%</b> 2
Total	169

*Spanish Survey Responses*

<b>Answer Choices</b>	<b>Responses</b>
Reviso Jupiter Grades 3 o más veces por semana	<b>72.22%</b> 13
Reviso Jupiter Grades por lo menos una vez a la semana	<b>27.78%</b> 5
Reviso Jupiter Grades una vez o dos veces al mes	<b>0.00%</b> 0
No reviso el programa de Jupiter Grades	<b>0.00%</b> 0
Total	18

## 6. What are your feelings about Teacher-Parent communication?

### *English Survey Responses*

<b>Answer Choices</b>	<b>Responses</b>
I am satisfied with the level of communication Jupiter Grades provides	<b>37.13%</b> 62
I am usually satisfied with Jupiter Grades, and occasionally need more communication/information from teachers	<b>49.70%</b> 83
I am rarely satisfied with Jupiter Grades, and often need more communication/information from teachers	<b>10.78%</b> 18
I feel overwhelmed with information that Jupiter Grades provides - it is more communication than I would like	<b>2.40%</b> 4
Total	167

### *Spanish Survey Responses*

<b>Answer Choices</b>	<b>Responses</b>
Estoy satisfecho con el nivel de comunicación que proporciona Jupiter Grades	<b>66.67%</b> 12
Por lo general estoy satisfecho(a) con Jupiter Grades, y ocasionalmente necesito más comunicación / información de los maestros	<b>27.78%</b> 5
Rara vez me siento satisfecho(a) con Jupiter Grades, y muy seguido necesito más comunicación / información de los maestros	<b>5.56%</b> 1
Me siento abrumado(a) con la información que proporciona Jupiter Grades - es más comunicación de lo que quisiera	<b>0.00%</b> 0
Total	18

7. What are your patterns with School-Parent communication?

*English Survey Responses*

<b>Answer Choices</b>	<b>Responses</b>
I usually listen to the automated phone calls, and/or do my best to keep up with the Weekly Updates	<b>89.94%</b> 152
I sometimes listen to the automated phone calls, and/or sometimes read the Weekly Update e-mails	<b>6.51%</b> 11
I rarely listen to the automated phone calls, and/or read the Weekly Update e-mails	<b>1.78%</b> 3
Other or N/A	<b>1.78%</b> 3
<b>Total</b>	<b>169</b>

*Spanish Survey Responses*

<b>Answer Choices</b>	<b>Responses</b>
Usualmente escucho las llamadas telefónicas automatizadas, y / o hago lo posible por mantenerme al día con las actualizaciones semanales	<b>94.44%</b> 17
A veces escucho las llamadas telefónicas automatizadas, y / o a veces leo los correos de actualización semanal	<b>5.56%</b> 1
Raramente escucho las llamadas telefónicas automatizadas, y / o leo los correos de actualización	<b>0.00%</b> 0
Otro o no aplica	<b>0.00%</b> 0
<b>Total</b>	<b>18</b>

8. ELM would like to get more parents involved with the school - can you suggest ways you might like to see this happen?

*English Survey Responses (trends)*

- Schedule events after work hours
- Schedule events in the mornings
- Schedule events during the weekends, for working families
- Allow more than one e-mail per household, to spread more information
- Offer volunteer opportunities in advance
- Invite parents to watch/observe a regular class
- Have a tea/mixer to get parents on campus
- Offer parents volunteer opportunities in the classroom
- Hold an additional Open House during the second semester
- Work with the front office staff on customer service

*Spanish Survey Responses*

- Schedule meetings each quarter for students with academic problems
- Provide parents with incentives for volunteering
- Create more opportunities for parents to support teachers
- Send out more messages inviting parents to participate

**9. How do you feel about the safety of your child, while they are at ELM?**

*English Survey Responses*

<b>Answer Choices</b>	<b>Responses</b>
I feel my student is very safe	<b>68.67%</b> 114
I feel my student is somewhat safe	<b>28.92%</b> 48
I feel my student may not be safe	<b>2.41%</b> 4
Total	166

*Spanish Survey Responses*

<b>Answer Choices</b>	<b>Responses</b>
Siento que mi estudiante está muy seguro(a)	<b>77.78%</b> 14
Siento que mi estudiante está algo seguro(a)	<b>22.22%</b> 4
Siento que mi estudiante puede no estar seguro(a)	<b>0.00%</b> 0
Total	18

10. ELM does not currently offer any "after school care." If ELM offered a paid after school care system, would you be interested in enrolling your student?

*English Survey Responses*

<b>Answer Choices</b>	<b>Responses</b>
Yes	<b>15.57%</b> 26
No	<b>64.67%</b> 108
Maybe	<b>19.76%</b> 33
Total	167

*Spanish Survey Responses*

<b>Answer Choices</b>	<b>Responses</b>
Sí	<b>27.78%</b> 5
No	<b>44.44%</b> 8
Tal vez	<b>27.78%</b> 5
Total	18

11. Please mention one or two things you feel ELM is DOING WELL, and should continue into the next school year.

*English Survey Responses*

Strengths of School:

About 93% of responding parents interact with the Jupiter Grades program once a week (or more), which indicates strong parent-to-teacher communication. In fact, 85% of parents said they were satisfied with the level of communication ELM teachers provide through the use of Jupiter Grades.

In the open-ended portion of the survey, parents indicated that they appreciated the tutoring and clubs offered after school, free of cost. They acknowledge and appreciate the hard work of ELM's teachers, and note the school's high academic standards and rigor. Jupiter Grades and Weekly e-mail updates have made communication more clear and efficient. Parents also appreciate the "enrichment opportunities," such as art, orchestra, and the Dual Language Immersion (DLI) program.

Overall, "communication," "safety," and "high academic standards" were the most-frequently observed strengths of the school.

### *Spanish Survey Responses*

Parents feel that the school is doing well in terms of discipline, and communication via Jupiter Grades. They appreciate the informative phone calls home from teachers, and the extra-curricular activities that are offered. The front-office staff is positive and helpful.

12. Please mention one or two things you feel ELM should CHANGE, and either alter or stop completely for the next school year.

### *English Survey Responses*

#### Areas for Growth:

The amount of homework students are assigned at ELM has always been a hot-button issue. With 47% of respondents indicated their student participated in 1-3 hours of extra-curricular activities, and 43% reported 4-7 hours of extra-curricular activities, Monday-Friday only. In this active community, time is a precious resource. Only 35% of responding parents indicated their student is assigned a manageable amount of homework, while 44% "sometimes feel overwhelmed, but typically complete the work," and 21% feel consistently overwhelmed.

Parents who responded to the survey would really like to see specific times and dates that they can help out on campus - particularly in classrooms. They expressed that multiple reminders with specifics would be quite welcomed. They occasionally do not feel welcomed in the front office.

On the topic of safety, about 30% of respondents mentioned that they feel their child is "somewhat safe" on campus, as opposed to "very safe." This warrants further investigation - is this just a sign of the changing times on school campuses nation-wide, or is there something specific at ELM that should be addressed? Thirty-five percent of parents said they might be interested in enrolling their child in some form of paid after-school care, a service which ELM does not currently offer.

Open-ended responses to how ELM could improve covered a wide range, and many related to the large size of the school: more sports teams should be offered so more kids can participate, recognizing hard-working students who might be shy of the 4.0 GPA mark, and reducing class sizes. There is a desire to streamline homework and technology (meaning it is emphasized too heavily). Parents would also like more information about Common Core (math, in particular) and college readiness.

### *Spanish Survey Responses*

Parents would like to see an increase in the area of parent/teacher communication. They would like to see students assigned less homework and more projects. Parents request that concerts (band, orchestra, and choir) be scheduled in conjunction with the high school calendars, so the two do not conflict. Parents would prefer a stricter dress code, water bottles instead of milk for student breakfasts, better attitudes from the front-office staff, and more supervision for the Lost & Found area. Lastly, some parents feel we should re-examine our "zero-tolerance" policy for bad behavior.

### 13. What do you think the District Office can improve upon, to support your student's success?

#### *English Survey Responses (trends)*

- Continue to dedicate and increase resources for student activities outside the classroom (Luau, Math Field Day, Orchestra, sports, ASB, student trips).
- Communication needs improvement - when you changed the borders no one knew. Secondly, the technology is not being watched and is unsafe for the kids i.e. Gmail (parents need to have copies of what kids are sending/receiving like we get on our phones). Thirdly, the registration process on your campus kiosk is horrible!
- Reclassification of EL's
- Focus more on the student than the technology. Every kid doesn't need an iPad at school.
- Reduce numbers of students in classrooms
- Evaluating and assessing their school staff so we truly have people who can support our students properly. A school can only succeed with team effort from parents, students and staff...shadow the staff and you will see right away who is not supporting our students in and out of the classroom.
- Increase abilities to transfer between schools
- Increase the number of motivational assemblies
- The District really needs to address the academic pressure being put on our children and the epidemic of children diagnosed with "anxiety disorder" due to the demands of school. It is completely unhealthy for a child to spend 3-4 hours a night doing homework, having no time for leisure activity or when participating in extra circular activity needing to stay up late and lose precious and healing sleep due to the homework demand.
- Intermural sports for students that are not strong but still want to play.
- Having Jupiter, Canvas, and teacher individual websites is ridiculous to expect parents and students to monitor assignments. The District needs to have 1 central location to meet all the needs and get rid of the multiple sites.
- The district needs to look at the students time spend inside the classroom vs out! Also I wish the district would look at adding ROP classes back into the schools across the district like they had about 5 years ago. Our students need to gain more life skills than skills they may or may not use later on in life. All of the students are not going to be able to go to college for whatever the reason so more options for teaching life skills is needed.
- Another middle school is needed in the Eastlake area.
- More Common Core support for parents.
- Offer tutoring outside of school or specific ways parents can help their child succeed in academics. (Parent education classes on helping your child in a particular subject in school). Teachers go over this quickly at Open House but it's quick and only once a year. Helpful though but parents need more.

#### *Spanish Survey Responses*

Parents would like more tutoring opportunities for their students, and less homework in general. Parents would also like to be informed by the district about drastic changes that will affect students. They would prefer that students receive more technological help in the classroom, and healthier food choices offered on campus. In terms of programs, parents would like to see more GATE programs for students, and more extra-curricular opportunities offered, rather than just elective classes.