

Family Involvement Survey Results - Kalkaska Public Schools

Survey invitations sent 299
 Returned w/ invalid address 29
 Responses 70 26%

What grade is your child in?

pre-K 9
 K 12
 1 17
 2 14
 3 13
 4 12
 5 8

Do you feel that you have been well informed of the family involvement activities that have taken place at your child's school?

yes 58 85%
 no 10 15%

What is the best way to communicate information to you?

newsletter 11 16%
 flyer 5 7%
 email 52 75%
 other 1 1%

Have you participated in any events as a parent and/or family this school year?

If so, how many?
 0 9
 1 10
 2 12
 3 8
 several 12

Which events did you attend?

Family Fun	13	Fun Run	3
Literacy Workshop	10	PreK Evening Activities	2
Halloween	6	Basketball Games	1
Blazer Bash	5	Can't remember	1
Game Night	5	Christmas Pancake Breakfast	1
Helped in Class	5	Girl Scouts	1
Book Fair	4	Instrumental Petting Zoo	1
Christmas Concert	4	Lunches w/kids	1
Doughnuts w/Dads	4	Nutrition	1
Field Trip	4	Parent Workshop	1
P/T Conferences	4	PreK Parent Committee	1
Winterfest	4	PTA Fundraisers	1
Book Club	3	School Improvement	1
Coffee w/Principal	3		

If not, why were you unable to attend?

working 7

previous out of town commitments

they always have the fun nights early and I can't get off work at 5pm, get all three kids from daycare and make it back to the school in time.

No money to pay for all the school related fuel costs...

too late for my kids to be out on a school night

bad behavior of kids was going to movie night, didnt

just had other things planned

I didn't know about other events

conflict with other activities or not enough notice

new to kalkaska and the school system

we sometimes cannot make it because we have 4 young children, and scheduling conflicts

Could not attend any coffee and donuts with principal because of work schedule.

Work scedule, lack of time, only parent home in the evening

the ones not attended due to work and other activities

business or lack of interest

working, other commitments

Some events I was working and could not attend

work =(

Other commetments

work and/or other activities going on

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On a scale from 1-10, please rate your overall satisfaction of the events you attended.

	highly dissatisfied			neither				highly satisfied			
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	NA
Parent Workshops	1	0	0	1	7	1	1	2	1	7	33
Family Fun Events	1	0	3	2	6	3	0	6	3	14	20
Coffee and Donuts with the Principal	1	1	1	0	4	0	2	2	2	3	33
Book Clubs	1	0	0	1	5	1	1	2	1	5	33
Literacy Night	0	0	0	2	6	1	0	1	3	11	29
Other	0	0	2	1	1	1	0	1	2	6	20

What kind of family involvement activities would you like to see happen next year?

- cannot think of any at this moment
- Didn't know about literacy night or book clubs, would like to see more hands on activities, maybe takehome activity or craft to take home. Loved to see the author would like to see more of that.
- I'd love family nights to start later so we could attend.
- Kaliseum swimming and skating event.
- father daughter dance would be nice, grandparents day
- we really enjoyed the literacy events we attended last year.... received books made crafts etc....
- I think what you have going now is great.
- more stuff on the weekends so i can actually be there i am a single parent
- More game nights, a family clothing swap, healthy nutrition workshop
- I think everything is fine the way it is.
- talent show
- To me it always seems way to rushed. You rush in to this classroom, on to the next, then eat super fast. It is too much!
- You guys are doing a wonderful job! Lots of cool ideas!
- field trips
- opportunities to learn about different topics with family fun activities
- I think Birch street is doing a great job!
- Everything we have done has been great.
- family movie nights
- I love the Blazer bash at the start of the year
- I would like to see a workshop for parents regarding education about our school and some of the great things that the teachers do. Maybe like a brag session for lack of a better term. I think if parents hear it they will talk about it. Word of mouth is powerful, and I don't think people know about all the great things the teachers do in the schools and specifically at Birch. Something so little as talking about a cool field trip the kids experienced, or the reading program. If the school talks positive so will the community. Pride needs to be fostered in this economically lower community. It is what will give people a boost, and children need to believe in themselves.
- Spanish club, more family fun nights,some weekend activities
- Math nights, technology nights(both computer and even smartboards if we have enough of them), and computer trainings/information for parents
- learning plant care, first aide fun nite,
- you use to do a reading readiness type group for younger siblings - met like once a month - that was nice but haven't seen anything on that in about 3 years.
- Some kind of casual event where parents, staff, and students can socialize and get to know each other better. BBQ, Bonfire, etc.
- ? sports night maybe. Where we could compete with our kids in contests? Like a family field day?
- Father daughter dances, Mother son dances. More family fun nites, like game night, literary nites etc.
- Math nights, family movie nights, family fit nights with active activities, maybe at the school or kaliseum, more tutoring opportunities for students, maybe with older honors students from h school.
- I like the idea of meeting with the principal, but it is always a time when most people are at work. How about having a evening with principal, doesn't have to be a meal.
- After school academic programs/clubs staffed by parents especially in the areas of science and mathematics. I'm certain finance and time constraints are key but outside speakers with positive life experiences and motivational messages would be of interest.
- My child will not be at Cherry Street next year

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Are you likely to attend more family involvement activities in the future?

yes	38
no	5
maybe	9

comments we have a lot of family activities and fun at home and enjoy our family time so to go to school and do it so much isn't as big of a deal.

I'm sure we will try to attend in the future especially once my other 2 boys are in the same school.

if they were on a Saturday it would be easier.

If time allows, absolutely.

Not sure it's all about timing and what going on at that time.

if notified well in advance, and the time they hold it

as often as work allows

I would love to.

About the same

depends on the schedules

Hopefully

yes, children are also involved in outside activities, so sometimes there is conflict with schedules. But we appreciate any involvement that the school provides as extra circicular and family support.

yes--will definitely attend more

logistics typically just won't allow it.

depends on work and sports schedules

we will try as schedules allow us to .

depends on what and when they are. My kids are involved in sports afterschool and most weeknights are tied up and the ones that aren't we spend together at home catching up on everything else...

We will attend all that interest us and we are able to attend

I would love to attend them all. I try but work does not always allow. I keep in close contact with teachers and they with me and never miss a conference.

I liked the book club but I had signed up for it and then didn't get the book till the club had been going and were almost done with the book.

Please list any other comments or concerns.

I have always enjoyed my daughter going to this school but this year I have not been much happy. I would like to see some improvement with communication with the teachers and some of the staff.

You know I used to be more involved with school functions but then I became a foster parent and it is hard to combine community events with parenting a foster care child. You just never know when you might run into someone or something the foster child might not want to do or see. I think it is just easier to play it by ear and try to give extra attention to my 1st and 2nd grader at home. I really am sorry about this attitude but sometimes you have to do what is best for everyone. I do want to say that I was called last week by Terri Noffsinger to contribute some baked goods to a craft show. And the kids and I had a great time making them together. So if there are more things I can do to help out the community that way I would be more than happy to do this. It was a great time and we thoroughly enjoyed it. The kids got a great sense of accomplishment out of it. Thanks

we really need a year book for our kids to have! I had one when I went to Rapid City and they are great memories to treasure!

If head start, preschool and/or daycare were available in Rapid City it would make coordinating the whole family easier; however, even the new Discovery Point doesn't accommodate the little ones, 3 and under.

Great job!

One additional thought is to pass a millage for busing so you do not strain the budgets of the parents so much and make it so difficult to find employment that allows you to take 1/2 the day off to play taxi driver. Not many people can afford to work in Traverse while driving back and forth to the school just so you people can spend a million on an unneeded addition to the high school.

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Please list any other comments or concerns.

have a great day

why not more weekend activities maybe once a month or something

I would like to see a get together of parents like a round table forum so we can generate ideas of fun things to do..

I'm not sure how I missed all of these events, but I didn't know about most of them.

Have activities like movie night held on Fridays.

The fun run was a great thing for the kids. But what did that money actually go for?? My son raised over \$50.00 and I have still had to pay for all field trips for him to attend this year! So my question is...where did the money go?

Keep up the good work :)

John and I might but not right now maybe later

A monthly or yearly note with all the activities on it would be great. Most of the time we didn't attend due to short notice or other activities were already planned weeks in advance.

I have a hard time getting away during the day. I would love to see more evening workshops/events.

My child is in the ECP class. I love the teachers. They are amazing.

I am very new to the community and yes will be trying to get more involved.

It is nice to see opportunities for families to hear what is happening in the schools and to voice their opinion, (as risky as that can be). I think as a community we need to have a sense of ownership, pride and involvement in our schools. I think that education about our schools and the system can only be good. I also think the Literacy nights have been very fun and well organized. Nothing is more frustrating than coming to an event that is a disorganized cluster.

my son just started pre k in feb and i've attended what i can if it fits in our schedule-- look forward to more events in the future and to get more involved as he gets into the school system more. he only goes 2 days aweek so i'm not 100% sure if i do get all the info for activities or not so emails would be great. thank you for taking the time to do this survey and get info.

I wish there were special scholarships for events like Spanish club. My kids were very disappointed that before they could get their participation slips in the club was filled. Also having four children at birch street it can strain finances to allow them to be involved in extra curricular activities.

Birch Street is amazing!

keep up doing something I feel it does help in many areas

nicer teacher aids on the play ground not all are mean but a couple stand out thr kids are people too

I'd love to hear of employment openings at the school - we both work in Traverse now...

Overall we are satisfied with the effort that KPS makes to keep the parents involved in their kid's education. I really like the PowerSchool App, it makes it really easy to keep track of my child's progress. It would be nice if there was a maximum length of time after the assignment was due that the grade would be entered, whether 7 days, 14, whatever.

My son had some issues where I felt his safety was at risk walking to hospital from school and I felt the school, teacher and principal did an excellent job reacting.

The reasons why we could not attend some were d/t the food that was provided was not allowed for my child. Its understandable that you can not fit everyones diet..but that is the reason we could not attend.

i signed up for the book clubs but was never given any more info. I would have enjoyed that. I also think that the girls on the run program is wonderful and would love if something like that was available throughout the year. Also would be interested in seeing a foreign language taught at the school. Maybe this could be done through an online program after school?

I feel that I am already very involved in my child and their education, we just really do not have the interest to come to these events, we read together and do many other things as a family.....just not interested in other events at school.....sorry.

Seems things need to be more organized.

My kids don't provide me with the information they receive in a timely manner if at all. Regarding Coffee & Donuts with the Principal I have two other kids in two different schools and we're lucky enough to be on time to all three let alone show up early for coffee and donuts and needing to make sure my other two are on time. I would like to volunteer again but time constraints haven't allowed but it would be nice to be tempted with specific email invitations as that would reach me and better allow me to review my calendar to see where/when I might be able to fit something in. For example I know there is a Lansing trip coming up but I have no clue when as my boy hasn't remember or been organized enough to get me the information including the permissions slip. I'm also open to being contacted and this is Bob Burgin and my email is burgin@northernlandco.com and I appreciate the efforts of this survey. Thank you.