

STUDENT CLIMATE AND MINDSET SURVEY ANALYSIS

Prepared for Kenai Peninsula Borough School District

May 2022



In the following report, Hanover Research analyzes results from a school climate survey to identify elements that promote a healthy school climate, identify areas of development, and establish an index for tracking progress on these items.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

This report presents the results of a survey administered by Hanover Research (Hanover) on behalf of Kenai Peninsula Borough School District (KPBSD). Hanover administered the survey to students in Grades 3-12 throughout the district. The survey seeks to create an index for measuring the district’s student climate, culture, and mindset in specific topic areas by grouping batteries of related items together in a scale. These scales/topic areas are:

- Scale 1: Community and Connectedness
- Scale 2: School Climate
- Scale 3: Social-Emotional Learning
- Scale 4: Student Mindset
- Scale 5: Instructional Depth
- Scale 6: Overall Wellbeing

METHODOLOGY

Within the report and data supplement, Hanover segments data by Grades 3-5 students and Grades 6-12 students.

The data supplement includes additional segmentations by specific grade level, school, and year. Results are only compared longitudinally for Grades 6-12, as Grades 3-5 answered questions on a different scale this year than in previous years. Hanover uses statistical tests at the 95 percent confidence level to compare results between each segmentation.

To analyze results, Hanover uses the mean score for individual items. Additionally, Hanover presents the percentage of positive responses (“Top 2s”) for individual items alongside mean scores within figures. Sample sizes may vary between mean scores and individual responses, as mean scores were only calculated for respondents who answered all items within a scale battery.

SURVEY SAMPLE

The current analysis (2022) includes responses from 2,774 students (832 in Grades 3-5; 1,942 in Grades 6-12; Figure ES.1).

Figure ES.1: Grade Distribution

GRADE	NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS 2022
Grade 3	241
Grade 4	295
Grade 5	296
Grade 6	308
Grade 7	371
Grade 8	323
Grade 9	300
Grade 10	252
Grade 11	244
Grade 12	144

SURVEY SCALES

Items in each scale use a set of Likert response options to measure students’ opinions or how often they engage in certain practices. In previous years, all respondents saw questions using a 7-point response scale (Figure ES.2). However, this year, the scales have changed and as such, results cannot be compared longitudinally. Each response option has a numeric value used to calculate mean scores.

Figure ES.2: Survey Scales and Response Options

AGREEMENT	CONFIDENCE	FREQUENCY	FREQUENCY
Scales 1, 2, and 4	Scale 3	Scale 5	Scale 6
1 = Disagree	1 = Unconfident	1 = Never	1 = Never
2 = Somewhat Disagree	2 = Somewhat Unconfident	2 = 1-2 Times	2 = Rarely
3 = Neither Disagree nor Agree	3 = Neither Confident nor Unconfident	3 = 3-4 Times	3 = Sometimes
4 = Somewhat Agree	4 = Somewhat Confident	4 = 5-6 Times	4 = Often
5 = Agree	5 = Confident	5 = 7-8 Times	5 = Very often
		6 = 9-10 Times	
		7 = More than 10 Times	

SECTION I: GRADES 3-5

This section presents analyses related to the district results for Grades 3-5 students, including:

- Overall scale scores in Community and Connectedness, School Climate, Social-Emotional Learning, Student Mindset, Instructional Depth, and Overall Wellness.
- Individual item scores in each category.

OVERALL SCALE SCORES

SCALE/TOPIC AREA	AVERAGE INDEX SCORE - 2022
Scale 1: Community and Connectedness	4.12
Scale 2: School Climate	4.17
Scale 3: Social-Emotional Learning	4.03
Scale 4: Student Mindset	4.29
Scale 5: Instructional Depth	4.16
Scale 6: Overall Wellness	3.90

INDIVIDUAL ITEM SCORES

Figure 1.1: Overall Community and Connectedness Items (1-5 Agreement Scale)

ITEM	PERCENT AGREE 2022	MEAN SCORE 2022
At this school, students are encouraged to do their very best.	88%	4.52
I am actively involved in clubs, athletics, and school activities.	71%	3.93
I believe that I can personally make a difference in my community.	71%	3.92
I care about my community.	94%	4.75
I care about my school.	91%	4.64
I have at least one teacher who makes me excited about the future	82%	4.31
I think it is important to participate in community service.	83%	4.35
It is easy to talk to adults at this school about things that are bothering me.	62%	3.59
It is easy to talk to adults outside of school about things that are bothering me.	62%	3.59
My teachers care about my health and well-being.	91%	4.6
Students in this school help each other, even if they are not friends.	68%	3.79

ITEM	PERCENT AGREE 2022	MEAN SCORE 2022
The principal frequently asks students about their ideas.	54%	3.33

n=726-812

Figure 1.2: Overall School Climate (1-5 Agreement Scale)

ITEM	PERCENT AGREE 2022	MEAN SCORE 2022
Adults at my school treat students with respect.	86%	4.47
I feel safe at school.	82%	4.30
I have fun at school.	80%	4.25
My teachers are fair.	83%	4.29
Students at my school treat me with respect.	67%	3.75
The school is a welcoming place for students and families like mine.	88%	4.53
When students break rules, they are treated and disciplined fairly.	70%	3.85
When students see another student being picked on, they try to stop it.	70%	3.84

n=737-808

Figure 1.3: Overall Social-Emotional Learning Items (1-5 Confidence Scale)

How confident are you in your ability to...

ITEM	PERCENT AGREE 2022	MEAN SCORE 2022
Clearly describe your feelings.	55%	3.35
Disagree without starting a fight or argument.	67%	3.80
Get along with students who are different from you.	84%	4.35
Make ethical and constructive choices.	80%	4.20
Recognize and compliment others' accomplishments.	84%	4.36
Remain calm even when under stress.	63%	3.58
Respect other people's opinions, even if they are different from yours.	85%	4.40
Stand up for myself without putting other people down.	75%	4.06
Think about what may happen before making a decision.	73%	3.94
Work in a team with other students.	81%	4.28

n=723-790

Figure 1.4: Overall Student Mindset Items (1-5 Agreement Scale)

ITEM	PERCENT AGREE (DISAGREE) 2021	MEAN SCORE 2022
I believe I can excel in all my classes.	81%	4.21
I believe I will graduate from high school.	87%	4.47
I can do well on tests, even if they are tough.	75%	4.02
I can find many ways around problems.	78%	4.07
I can finish tasks, even if they are tough.	81%	4.22
I can learn how to solve tough problems.	83%	4.31
I come to class prepared.	81%	4.23
I have a great future ahead of me.	83%	4.31
I have goals for my future.	86%	4.44
I have goals for this school year.	77%	4.13
I know what I am good at.	89%	4.53
I know what is hard for me to do.	89%	4.50
I meet the goals my teachers set for me.	81%	4.13
I work hard to achieve my goals.	86%	4.43
I believe I can excel in all my classes.	81%	4.21
I believe I will graduate from high school.	87%	4.47
I can do well on tests, even if they are tough.	75%	4.02

n=705-787

Figure 1.5 Overall Instructional Depth Items (1-7 Frequency Scale)

Within the past two weeks, how many times have your teachers asked you to...

ITEM	MEAN SCORE 2022
...compare different ways of solving the same problem?	4.32
...consider multiple sources of information before making your own opinion?	4.14
...develop multiple solutions to a problem?	4.19
...identify or define a problem?	4.38
...make connections between things you learned in different subjects or classes?	3.86
...seek out sources that go against your current knowledge or opinion?	3.76
...solve a new problem without help from your peers or teachers?	4.30
...support facts or opinions with credible resources?	4.26

n=603-719

Note: Instructional Depth uses a frequency scale going from 1 (Never) to 7 (More than 10 times) rather than a negative to positive scale. Hanover excludes percentages since the scale is continuous rather than balanced (i.e., any cutoff point would be arbitrary).

Figure 1.6 Overall Wellness Items (1-5 Frequency Scale)

ITEM	MEAN SCORE 2022
I chose to eat healthy foods when given different options.	3.74
I got to move around during the school day (e.g., recess, brain break).	4.06

n=765-778

SECTION II: GRADES 6-12

This section presents analyses related to the district results for Grades 6-12 students, including:

- Overall scale scores in Community and Connectedness, School Climate, Social-Emotional Learning, Student Mindset, Instructional Depth, and Overall Wellness.
- Individual item scores in each category.

OVERALL SCALE SCORES

Figure 2.1: Overall Results by Scale

SCALE/TOPIC AREA	AVERAGE INDEX SCORE - 2022
Scale 1: Community and Connectedness	3.75
Scale 2: School Climate	3.62
Scale 3: Social-Emotional Learning	3.84
Scale 4: Student Mindset	4.11
Scale 5: Instructional Depth	3.68
Scale 6: Overall Wellness	3.49

INDIVIDUAL ITEM SCORES

Figure 2.2: Overall Community and Connectedness Items (1-5 Agreement Scale)

ITEM	PERCENT AGREE 2022	MEAN SCORE 2022
At this school, students are encouraged to do their very best.	79%	4.15
I am actively involved in clubs, athletics, and school activities.	64%	3.72
I believe that I can personally make a difference in my community.	59%	3.55
I care about my community.	85%	4.41
I care about my school.	75%	4.09
I have at least one teacher who makes me excited about the future	79%	4.23
I think it is important to participate in community service.	75%	4.02
It is easy to talk to adults at this school about things that are bothering me.	46%	3.16
It is easy to talk to adults outside of school about things that are bothering me.	53%	3.38
My teachers care about my health and well-being.	76%	4.11
Students in this school help each other, even if they are not friends.	48%	3.19
The principal frequently asks students about their ideas.	38%	2.94

n=1,748-1,902

Figure 2.3: Overall School Climate Items (1-5 Agreement Scale)

ITEM	PERCENT AGREE 2022	MEAN SCORE 2022
Adults at my school treat students with respect.	68%	3.84
I feel safe at school.	70%	3.92
I have fun at school.	60%	3.50
My teachers are fair.	64%	3.71
Students at my school treat me with respect.	58%	3.53
The school is a welcoming place for students and families like mine.	70%	3.94
When students break rules, they are treated and disciplined fairly.	55%	3.47
When students see another student being picked on, they try to stop it.	42%	2.99

n=1,766-1,896

Figure 2.4: Overall Social-Emotional Learning Items (1-5 Confidence Scale)

How confident are you in your ability to...

ITEM	PERCENT AGREE 2022	MEAN SCORE 2022
Clearly describe your feelings.	43%	3.05
Disagree without starting a fight or argument.	67%	3.85
Get along with students who are different from you.	76%	4.08
Make ethical and constructive choices.	73%	4.03
Recognize and compliment others' accomplishments.	78%	4.18
Remain calm even when under stress.	57%	3.51
Respect other people's opinions, even if they are different from yours.	79%	4.17
Stand up for myself without putting other people down.	66%	3.82
Think about what may happen before making a decision.	67%	3.79
Work in a team with other students.	71%	3.91

n=1,798-1,861

Figure 2.5: Overall Student Mindset Items (1-5 Agreement Scale)

ITEM	PERCENT AGREE 2022	MEAN SCORE 2022
I believe I can excel in all my classes.	73%	3.96
I believe I will graduate from high school.	87%	4.52
I can do well on tests, even if they are tough.	66%	3.73
I can find many ways around problems.	75%	4.04
I can finish tasks, even if they are tough.	76%	4.06
I can learn how to solve tough problems.	78%	4.16
I come to class prepared.	78%	4.14
I have a great future ahead of me.	74%	4.08
I have goals for my future.	80%	4.25
I have goals for this school year.	72%	3.99
I know what I am good at.	82%	4.30
I know what is hard for me to do.	85%	4.36
I meet the goals my teachers set for me.	69%	3.83
I work hard to achieve my goals.	80%	4.19

n=1,716-1,836

Figure 2.6: Overall Instructional Depth Items (1-7 Frequency Scale)

Within the past two weeks, how many times have your teachers asked you to...

ITEM	MEAN SCORE 2022
...compare different ways of solving the same problem?	3.60
...consider multiple sources of information before making your own opinion?	3.65
...develop multiple solutions to a problem?	3.60
...identify or define a problem?	4.07
...make connections between things you learned in different subjects or classes?	3.37
...seek out sources that go against your current knowledge or opinion?	3.29
...solve a new problem without help from your peers or teachers?	3.78
...support facts or opinions with credible resources?	4.05

n=1,667-1,744

Note: Instructional Depth uses a frequency scale going from 1 (Never) to 7 (More than 10 times) rather than a negative to positive scale. Hanover excludes percentages since the scale is continuous rather than balanced (i.e., any cutoff point would be arbitrary).

Figure 2.7 Overall Wellness Items (1-5 Frequency Scale)

ITEM	MEAN SCORE 2022
I chose to eat healthy foods when given different options.	3.57
I got to move around during the school day (e.g., recess, brain break).	3.42

n=1,810-1,840

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