

May 12, 2006

Dear Parents,

Thank you to everyone who responded to the National Study of School Evaluation (NSSE), Parent Opinion Survey, in March. We have received the analysis and want to share the results with you.

If you remember you were asked to respond to statements about: *Quality of the Instruction, Support of Student Learning, School Climate/Environment for learning, Parent/School Relationships, and Resource Management, using the responses, strongly agree, agree, neutral, disagree, strongly disagree and N/A.*

Three top areas of agreement are:

- 98.1% of you agreed that the education offered at our school is of high quality.
- 92.2% of you agreed that students have access to a variety of resources to help them succeed in their learning.
- 94.8 of you agreed that our school provides sufficient opportunities for parent involvement.

A great school can get always be better. As part of our ongoing school improvement requirements established by SACS and SAIS, a School Improvement Team has been established. The School Improvement Team will look at all data, such as the NSSE survey, and make decisions that will guide our yearly goals.

Our Goals for 2006-2007 are:

1. Design and administer a 'beginning of the year' math assessment and an 'end of the year' math assessment. Pre test and post test scores will be documented.
2. Explore ways to show ITBS and additional data to parents to indicate how their student is learning.
3. To implement year one of our three-year technology plan, and to encourage and support teachers in making class oriented websites.
4. Create a St. Thomas More School Wellness Policy outlining the components to healthy student lifestyle choices (Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2000, Public Law 108-265).

As part of our commitment to quality education for your child we now have a School Improvement e mail address. If you have ideas toward school improvements please let us hear from you. That address is [SIP@stmga.org](mailto:SIP@stmga.org). Again thanks to everyone who responded to the NSSE Parent Opinion Survey. Please take a look at the entire survey that has been provided here for you.

Sincerely,  
Gail Msezane  
Principal

# Parent Opinion Inventory

School/District Name: **Saint Thomas More School**

Respondent Group: **Parents**

Report Date: **March 14, 2006**

Total Number of Respondents: **156**

	Number of Responses	Avg.	Standard Deviation	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Doesn't Apply Don't Know	
				N (%)	N (%)	N (%)	N (%)	N (%)	N (%)	
<b>QUALITY OF THE INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM</b>										
1. The education offered to students at our school is of high quality.	154	4.49	0.54	79 (51.3%)	72 (46.8%)	3 (1.9%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	
2. Our school is doing a good job teaching language arts (reading, writing, speaking, listening).	154	4.38	0.66	70 (45.5%)	75 (48.7%)	6 (3.9%)	3 (1.9%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	
3. Our school is doing a good job teaching mathematics.	155	4.23	0.72	57 (36.8%)	81 (52.3%)	12 (7.7%)	5 (3.2%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	
4. Our school is doing a good job teaching science.	154	3.88	0.85	34 (22.1%)	78 (50.6%)	27 (17.5%)	13 (8.4%)	0 (0.0%)	2 (1.3%)	
5. Our school is doing a good job teaching social studies.	154	4.21	0.64	48 (31.2%)	92 (59.7%)	10 (6.5%)	3 (1.9%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (0.6%)	
6. Our school is doing a good job teaching fine arts (music, visual arts, dance, drama).	156	4.37	0.58	65 (41.7%)	83 (53.2%)	8 (5.1%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	
7. Our school is doing a good job teaching physical education.	152	4.24	0.66	54 (35.5%)	83 (54.6%)	13 (8.6%)	2 (1.3%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	
8. Our school is doing a good job teaching health education.	155	3.99	0.79	37 (23.9%)	71 (45.8%)	26 (16.8%)	6 (3.9%)	0 (0.0%)	15 (9.7%)	
9. Our school is doing a good job teaching foreign languages.	155	3.64	0.96	25 (16.1%)	70 (45.2%)	42 (27.1%)	10 (6.5%)	6 (3.9%)	2 (1.3%)	
10. Our school is doing a good job teaching career/vocational courses.	152	3.08	0.85	5 (3.3%)	13 (8.6%)	45 (29.6%)	11 (7.2%)	3 (2.0%)	75 (49.3%)	
11. Our school is preparing students to deal with issues and problems they will face in the future.	154	4.05	0.78	44 (28.6%)	73 (47.4%)	26 (16.9%)	5 (3.2%)	0 (0.0%)	6 (3.9%)	
12. Students see a relationship between what they are studying and their everyday lives.	155	4.02	0.72	36 (23.2%)	87 (56.1%)	26 (16.8%)	2 (1.3%)	1 (0.6%)	3 (1.9%)	
13. Teachers use a variety of teaching strategies and learning activities to help students learn.	156	4.19	0.85	59 (37.8%)	79 (50.6%)	8 (5.1%)	8 (5.1%)	2 (1.3%)	0 (0.0%)	
14. Teachers challenge my student to do his/her best work.	153	4.25	0.69	57 (37.3%)	82 (53.6%)	10 (6.5%)	4 (2.6%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	
15. Teachers provide a reasonable and appropriate amount of homework to help students succeed in their studies.	155	4.18	0.75	52 (33.5%)	85 (54.8%)	11 (7.1%)	5 (3.2%)	1 (0.6%)	1 (0.6%)	
16. Teachers hold high expectations for student learning.	156	4.36	0.65	69 (44.2%)	76 (48.7%)	9 (5.8%)	2 (1.3%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	
<b>SUPPORT FOR STUDENT LEARNING</b>										
17. Teachers give students extra help in class when it is needed.	155	4.08	0.86	46 (29.7%)	74 (47.7%)	15 (9.7%)	7 (4.5%)	2 (1.3%)	11 (7.1%)	
18. Teachers are willing to give students individual help outside of class time.	155	3.95	0.88	38 (24.5%)	58 (37.4%)	27 (17.4%)	7 (4.5%)	1 (0.6%)	24 (15.5%)	
19. Our school offers learning opportunities that support the full range of student abilities.	154	3.72	1.04	31 (20.1%)	70 (45.5%)	24 (15.6%)	15 (9.7%)	6 (3.9%)	8 (5.2%)	
20. Our school recognizes the achievements of students for all types of accomplishments.	153	4.05	0.86	48 (31.4%)	74 (48.4%)	19 (12.4%)	9 (5.9%)	1 (0.7%)	2 (1.3%)	
21. The grading and evaluation of my child's schoolwork is fair.	155	4.32	0.61	61 (39.4%)	83 (53.5%)	9 (5.8%)	1 (0.6%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (0.6%)	
22. Reports on my child's progress are clear and easy to understand.	153	4.32	0.65	61 (39.9%)	83 (54.2%)	4 (2.6%)	4 (2.6%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (0.7%)	
23. A counselor/advisor is available to help my child select classes and provide guidance in planning for the future.	151	3.72	0.89	17 (11.3%)	43 (28.5%)	27 (17.9%)	5 (3.3%)	2 (1.3%)	57 (37.7%)	
24. Effective procedures are in place to support my communication with teachers.	154	4.27	0.71	60 (39.0%)	81 (52.6%)	9 (5.8%)	3 (1.9%)	1 (0.6%)	0 (0.0%)	
25. In our school, students have access to a variety of resources to help them succeed in their learning, such as technology, media centers, and libraries.	153	4.36	0.65	67 (43.8%)	74 (48.4%)	9 (5.9%)	2 (1.3%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (0.7%)	
26. Our school's facilities are adequate to support students' learning needs.	153	4.17	0.75	53 (34.6%)	78 (51.0%)	17 (11.1%)	5 (3.3%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	
27. Our school provides textbooks and supplies that are current and in good condition.	153	3.92	0.97	42 (27.5%)	70 (45.8%)	18 (11.8%)	15 (9.8%)	2 (1.3%)	6 (3.9%)	
28. Up to date computers and other technologies are used in our school to help students learn.	155	4.19	0.68	47 (30.3%)	87 (56.1%)	14 (9.0%)	1 (0.6%)	1 (0.6%)	5 (3.2%)	

## Parent Opinion Inventory

School/District Name: **Saint Thomas More School**

Respondent Group: **Parents**

Report Date: **March 14, 2006**

Total Number of Respondents: **156**

	Number of Responses	Avg.	Standard Deviation	Strongly Agree (5)		Agree (4)		Neutral (3)		Disagree (2)		Strongly Disagree (1)		Doesn't Apply Don't Know	
				N (%)	N (%)	N (%)	N (%)	N (%)	N (%)	N (%)	N (%)				
<b>SCHOOL CLIMATE/ENVIRONMENT FOR LEARNING</b>															
29. Teachers at our school treat my child fairly.	155	4.35	0.71	71 (45.8%)	71 (45.8%)	9 (5.8%)	4 (2.6%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
30. Class sizes at our school are appropriate for effective learning.	156	3.67	1.06	33 (21.2%)	72 (46.2%)	23 (14.7%)	17 (10.9%)	3 (1.9%)	3 (1.9%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
31. All students and staff at our school are treated with respect, regardless of race, religion, or gender.	155	4.47	0.64	82 (52.9%)	66 (42.6%)	3 (1.9%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (0.6%)
32. Adequate security measures are in place at our school.	156	4.13	0.73	45 (28.8%)	90 (57.7%)	14 (9.0%)	4 (2.6%)	1 (0.6%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	2 (1.3%)
33. Cheating is strongly discouraged at our school.	156	4.61	0.52	93 (59.6%)	55 (35.3%)	2 (1.3%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	6 (3.8%)
34. School rules apply equally to all students.	156	4.34	0.72	71 (45.5%)	69 (44.2%)	11 (7.1%)	4 (2.6%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (0.6%)
35. Substance abuse (e.g. drug/alcohol) is <u>not</u> a problem at our school.	155	4.50	0.55	74 (47.7%)	61 (39.4%)	4 (2.6%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	16 (10.3%)
36. Our school provides a safe and orderly environment for learning.	156	4.50	0.54	81 (51.9%)	72 (46.2%)	3 (1.9%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	12 (7.7%)
37. Safety measures are in place to protect students traveling to and from school.	156	4.31	0.64	57 (36.5%)	75 (48.1%)	11 (7.1%)	1 (0.6%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	20 (12.5%)
38. There are no problems with bullies at our school.	155	3.49	1.11	27 (17.4%)	43 (27.7%)	43 (27.7%)	13 (8.4%)	9 (5.8%)	20 (12.5%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
39. For the most part, I am satisfied with our school.	156	4.44	0.64	79 (50.6%)	70 (44.9%)	4 (2.6%)	3 (1.9%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
<b>PARENT/SCHOOL RELATIONSHIPS</b>															
40. Parent opinions are considered when important school decisions are made.	156	3.85	0.84	31 (19.9%)	76 (48.7%)	36 (23.1%)	4 (2.6%)	3 (1.9%)	3 (1.9%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	6 (3.8%)
41. I am satisfied with the quality of our school's student activities.	155	4.16	0.69	48 (31.0%)	86 (55.5%)	17 (11.0%)	3 (1.9%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (0.6%)
42. School rules are clearly communicated to parents.	155	4.42	0.60	72 (46.5%)	78 (50.3%)	3 (1.9%)	2 (1.3%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
43. Our school provides sufficient opportunities for parent involvement.	155	4.46	0.66	83 (53.5%)	64 (41.3%)	5 (3.2%)	3 (1.9%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
44. Our school uses technology to provide parents with important information about our school.	156	4.42	0.59	72 (46.2%)	80 (51.3%)	2 (1.3%)	2 (1.3%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
45. Parents feel welcome at our school.	156	4.42	0.73	81 (51.9%)	66 (42.3%)	5 (3.2%)	2 (1.3%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
<b>RESOURCE MANAGEMENT</b>															
46. Our school makes effective use of the financial resources available.	156	4.22	0.66	51 (32.7%)	76 (48.7%)	19 (12.2%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	10 (6.4%)
47. The quality of schools influenced my decision to live in this community.	154	3.82	1.02	34 (22.1%)	42 (27.3%)	24 (15.6%)	14 (9.1%)	1 (0.6%)	1 (0.6%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	39 (25.3%)
48. Our school and grounds are clean and well maintained.	156	4.32	0.60	59 (37.8%)	90 (57.7%)	5 (3.2%)	2 (1.3%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
49. Adequate time, space, and facilities are provided for student activities (e.g., extracurricular, sports).	155	4.08	0.82	47 (30.3%)	78 (50.3%)	18 (11.6%)	7 (4.5%)	1 (0.6%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	4 (2.6%)
50. Our schools have a positive impact on the community's property values.	155	4.32	0.61	53 (34.2%)	74 (47.7%)	8 (5.2%)	1 (0.6%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	19 (12.3%)