

Jackson Middle School – Parent/Guardian Survey on School Climate and Communications

Appendix: Full Text of Open Questions

7. What specific activities and/or communication does the Jackson community do to make parents/guardians feel welcome?

1	The newsletter.
2	Newsletter and alerts are great
3	Emails from block teachers re class projects
4	Communication through the newsletter, pta meetings, and teacher emails are the best way to include parents.
5	Back-to-school packet at start of school year; 5th grade welcome for incoming parents; pta's volunteer coordinator e-mails about volunteer needs; up-to-date announcements in front of the school
6	I find the number of activities for parental involvement in the evening to be few. Not sure if this is typical for parents adjusting from elementary to middle school.
7	I like the PTA emails - and letters from the principal. Last year I really liked how Jill Sage would greet parents at one of the early meetings, but I can't remember which it was. Mostly, though, there is a lot of warmth and care by the staff consistently. It is family oriented and I value that so much. The teachers are amazing.
8	Back to school night; music concerts; plays
9	newsletters, parent night with to visit all of the child's classrooms.
10	A parent social once a year would be nice. A blog on the Jackson PTA website would allow us to share our thoughts. A "new parent intro guide" would be useful.
11	Murals, Grandparents'/Special Friend's day, Community participation at school events
12	Open house forum, teacher communication
13	School email newsletter, PTA newsletter emails, courteous and helpful office staff, staff

	participation in parent group activities like PTA, choir concerts, drama, etc.
14	The Jackson Journal is useful. The plays and musicals draw people in.
15	Grand parents day. Any of the performances,
16	The email shout outs by PTA and the newsletter by the staff/principal are both excellent ... the website is nice to be able to check on things in between.
17	Newsletter
18	I'm not sure that the newsletter gets sent regularly. Every few months I get an email but is it a monthly newsletter or a quarterly newsletter?
19	Events like the band concert and the school play.
20	Band concert, school play
21	I appreciate the ability to directly communicate via email with administrators and teachers, although have concerns that responses are not always prompt (within 2 days)
22	back to school night, plays, musicals, music concerts,
23	PTA meeting and back to school night
24	PTA, Auction, back to school night, conferences, email bulletins.
25	Mr. Rehm does such a great job with the school plays. He makes everyone in the audience and the kids feel very welcome.
26	field trip volunteers, classroom emails, web grades, newsletter
27	I call once in a while and am always satisfied that the office has time for me and cares about my concern.
28	??
29	Pre-school year events for entering 6th graders and parents. Concerts, etc.
30	I get regular newsletters. I get email from teachers. I am invited by the hardworking volunteer coordinator to come volunteer my time if possible.
31	I would love to know what these activities might be. Before our child started there were great parent meetings, however, now that we have a child attending she seems to be in the black hole of Jackson...while she loves Jackson, we are totally cut off from what is going on at school. There does not seem to be a bridge, and if there is one, we have not found it.

32	Grandparents and Special Friends Day, Back to School Night
33	We are new this year, but I appreciated my son's teachers contacting me with concerns as soon as they felt he was getting behind. He was able to get caught up in time for grades. Very much appreciated!
34	open school night, newsletters
35	I can't think of anything besides the meeting that I had with the principal, which went well. Communication with one of my son's teachers has been discouraging and unwelcoming.
36	The pasta feed prior to back to school night was fabulous! I loved it. The newsletter seems behind, and often comes out way after events have occurred. It would be great to have monthly or biweekly email notices of events.
37	The online Jackson Journal is a great source for dates and activities.
38	At conference time half the teachers were ill. There was no make up conference. It would be nice to have a make up conference.
39	Maybe have a grade level social some evening. All of the 6th grade parents are in shock about how we never see each other anymore. We saw each other almost every day in elementary school. We feel very disconnected from the school.
40	emails, concerts, plays, open house, conference, website
41	Plays Conferences
42	<p>I think it is a hard step for many parents - moving from a grade school environment where there is definitely more interaction with the teachers and a better sense of what is going on in the classroom to middle school where kids more "on their own." Kids have to bear the responsibilities for homework and so forth but is there a way for parents to feel included - not necessarily in classroom activities, but as a way to help their kids be more successful. It seems like Jackson already does a great job in promoting activities that become community activities.</p> <p>We heard about the talent show; it would have been great to have had the opportunity to see those talents showcased at a time more convenient for parents and other family members.</p> <p>Does the school do anything specifically for diversity? For many students, this is the first time they have been in such a diverse environment and it would be great to foster learning about other cultures. Don't know what this would look like.</p>

	We definitely feel, as 6th grade parents that we are learning our way around - probably not uncommon. I would have thought I would have a better feel since we are already almost in spring term.
43	PTA e-mail, school newsletter
44	grandparent visit
45	good monthly email. back-to-school night is well done
46	I have been very happy with the responsiveness of the teachers and Jill Sage at Jackson Middle School. Whenever I have had a question or concern I would be responded to usually that very day and the matter would be addressed immediately. I have really appreciated this.
47	I guess the only reason I marked #6 as Disagree is in the word, "regular". We have plays or band & choir concerts, but other than that there's no spaghetti feed or fun family-type community building.
48	The newsletter is great - usually identify the parent/guardian in context of the student - "Oh you're so and so's Dad?". Clearer connections are made that way.
49	Back to School Night, band concerts, plays, teacher conferences, WONDERFUL TEACHERS!
50	The school is difficult for the parents and children to find their way around, particularly for sixth graders. More big bright signs would be helpful
51	Jackson PTA e-mail list and newsletter
52	Signs and parking for major events would help a lot.
53	The PTA email
54	I would strongly recommend better directional (color-coded) signage at the entrance of the building. My daughter is completing her third year at JMS, and I still have to be reminded by her how to navigate the building.
55	Don't know
56	Don't know
57	Great newsletter. Teachers and administrators at PTA meetings.
58	I like the Jackson Journal. I'm not aware of any other communication from the "Jackson community."

59	Back to school night, Parent Teacher conferences, plays
60	Conferences, e-news.
61	Comforting atmosphere
62	Back to school night, Grandparents Day, Jackson Journal, PTA
63	Nothing I know of
64	Not much
65	I know who to communicate with the school administrators but it's confused at times. I find it not easy. Administrators are responsive to parents concerns, but it seemed to be a slow process. The teachers/administrators. that I have had contact with are friendly and so seem to listen.
66	<p>E-mail forwarded from parent regarding survey to 6th grade teacher- I took a moment and completed the survey. I feel it has some major faults in the survey that I feel will dramatically affect the true results... One such example is most are general questions like do your child's teachers communicate well with you on tasks in the classroom...luckily they at least have an area you can input comment. I made a note that you were the only teacher I hear anything from at the school and that why I do not get information from other teachers is puzzling (especially since all make you fill out your email address when you go to meet with them...why do they do this if they are not planning on communicating with you?). It makes assumptions that all teachers are communicating and teaching the same way with the same results. I would give you the highest marks and would give others a highly disagree...now which do I pick on the current survey...hummmm?</p> <p>I would much more prefer such a survey from each teacher and maybe one for administration that ranks them on specific tasks...imagine how helpful it would be to the district to know which teachers are doing a great job and which ones have the majority of their students parents/guardians saying they think they are coming up way short with specifics of where they are coming up short so they can be addressed. Now there is some data that can justify raises, specific warnings, and even termination with sufficient data to back it...and as a teacher I would want to know where I specifically could improve. The current survey will not give the teachers, the administration nor the district much I feel is true data worthy of evaluation...from my answers it would be an average score (even though I feel administration and you have done a fantastic job)</p>

8. What additional things would you like to see?

1	The building itself is fairly confusing. More signage might be good, i.e. "7th grade pod", or signs at each staircase indicating which classrooms are upstairs.
2	More opportunities to meet parents and families of students.
3	Parenting classes related to teens and preteens.
4	I would like our students to be able to carry backpacks to class, or at least the young ladies should be allowed purses. There are no sanitary products in the women's bathrooms for the young ladies, which needs to be changed. (They can get these in the office, but for many that is too far from class.) Lockers are not near to classrooms to make sanitary products accessible. Many parents have had to sew inside pockets into their daughter's clothes because the girls are NOT allowed to carry purses when they are on their periods. The school needs to recognize that we have a big problem in this regard, and it is very upsetting to students.
5	It would be nice to have more opportunities for parents/families to get together in smaller groups or similar groups to get to know one another....
6	More info nights, interesting speakers at pta meetings, parenting classes (like Oregon Partnership or those through SUN), maybe a volunteer recognition program within the school, updated bulletin boards on Jackson events and parent support ideas, and more interface with the nearby library.
7	More evening events.
8	Open gym nights for Jackson students and their parents
9	More info for incoming 6th graders and parents, inc. how schedules are set and low availability of some electives
10	I would like to see more parents involved in parent group activities. It seems like it is the same small group of parents doing a large majority of the work. I hope that this survey reaches more parents to let them know that their contribution of time and energy is significant and needed.
11	We were not at a Jackson feeder school, and I barely know any other parents. The PTA meetings I went to didn't seem conducive to making those connections. I think it would be nice to have some kind of gathering by grade at the school. I like Jackson, and so does my child, but I definitely don't feel connected.

12	I like the on-line system that some of the teachers use. It makes it very easy for the parent to make sure the student is on task. Wider use of this system is encouraged by this parent.
13	A family school event like a carnival or cultural fair that is not centered on a particular grade.
14	Nothing at this time
15	I would like to be invited to the school talent show. And also maybe a showing of the art created by the Jackson art, and wood shop students.
16	I would like to see the school talent shows. And I think it would be fun to have a gallery type showing of the art created by the students, including things made in wood shop or in the classrooms.
17	All school auction with teacher and student participation, carnival/fair
18	A couple of teachers need to retire.....soon!!!
19	At this age, most of the kids don't want their parents to be much involved physically at the school. I think Jackson does a good job.
20	I would like to see Activities that include people from all walks of life, cultures, and incomes. Not everyone can afford or would want to go to an art Auction where alcohol is served, for example. Jackson seems to have a policy of elitism on some levels other parents might get involved if they felt more welcome by the staff and other parents who already know their way around the school and its programs. Also sometimes the staff don't greet me when I come into the office. I see people sitting at the desk and they don't even look, up-this happens about 50% of the time. Please don't judge by appearances, or perceived differences. Thanks!
21	?
22	It would be beneficial to have more frequent school updates, something smaller than the newsletter. Capitol Hill has the Friday Flyer and I read that more thoroughly than the Jackson newsletter.
23	Better communication with the parents.
24	A spring parent-teacher conference
25	More recommendations on how to help students excel academically outside of regular school hours. Opportunities for student leadership activities, events, exercises. 'Outside the box' thinking to spur creativity and critical thinking that will help students beyond school and into adulthood.

26	Better communications to parents on student assignments to assure they are getting the work done and turned in on time. Especially with middle school students, their organization ability is very challenged and without clear communications on what is due there is no way for us to track it all and help them (relying on my son to assure all gets done on his own is scary...) :-)
27	More signage.
28	More parents being invited into classrooms for helping/volunteering
29	Educational classes for parents
30	I would like parents to be acknowledged when I enter the office.
31	It would be nice to have a picnic or a family event.
32	More information from the teachers about how my child is doing on his class assignments along the way instead of just at report card time. We only receive corrected homework twice a year. This doesn't allow us to be proactive parents and nor help us identify areas of weakness along the way.
33	Jackson email letter just lists activities and dates with no context. Hard to read. Stephenson news notes are easier on the eyes.
34	All teachers do email :) sorry, I know it would mean extra work for some who are already overworked.
35	Evening activities--movie night, coffee/dessert get-togethers, more musical performances
36	More communication from staff. Have all teachers communicate monthly with parents via email. More info on volunteer opportunities at school the school is neither very welcoming or not -maybe b/c it is a middle school and not an elementary school
37	50's dance; spaghetti feed; Girl's Night Out (yes! happening) but something else for 6th grade girls; art shows; Invited theatre and dance to raise funds for arts
38	Some of the admin are great, others not so much.
39	Better coordination of absence recording. We have called the attendance line to report an absence for the day and will still receive the automated call that evening.
40	More of an effort to reach out to 6th grade parents. Letting them know more information about PTA meetings, what to expect as far as Auction goes, forecasting, etc.

41	I have not met the new principal and like the opportunity to do so. The school feels big and somewhat intimidating.
42	They do a good job already
43	Children who excel in the classroom can be utilized as Teacher's Assistants. They could type emails to parents/make phone calls on the teacher's behalf to provide non-sensitive information to parents with greater frequency.
44	A school sponsored community volunteer day. That would provide families with a great way to get acquainted while doing something positive for the community.
45	Would like to see more events on a small scale, such as a few events for each grade level separate from each other - a 6th grade evening for parents and kids, 7th grade, etc. I also would like to see a regular update of what is going on in the classes in the newsletter, and have it mailed out once a quarter, instead of just online, although I realize that costs a lot of money. Two other areas I would like to see change are fundraisers - I think we could get creative fundraisers that don't involve selling stuff from a catalog, and would like to see the parents and kids have an active role in the school grounds - even a "hike" of the property sometime with ideas on what to do with the property mixed in. Lots of ideas...
46	Parents by grade get-together?
47	I would love to receive more newsletters from the school as to happenings and activities.
48	Mr. Wierth's communication with parents through email and written notices is exceptionally helpful and has made our 6th grade experience with Jackson especially good.
49	A chance to meet 2nd semester teachers
50	Some all Jackson community event might be nice like a carnival event
51	More social/school activities geared toward a "parent orientation"
52	Meet the staff stuff, chances for teachers and students to mingle better
53	More opportunities for parent involvement like @elementary school - if feasible
54	More ways for families to greet/meet each other & to get to know one another especially new families.

19. Are there other effective communication methods used at Jackson Middle School that weren't mentioned above? Please list

1	Would love to see more teacher websites. Would help us to be more proactive about upcoming assignments, tests.
2	I was not aware there was a school website. At the orientation this August, the PA system was not working, so parents could not hear what Vice Principal Sage was saying; we could not hear teacher introductions, any instructions, etc. The PA system in the auditorium needs to be fixed. It would help to have another orientation to the school in mid year.
3	Some teachers have used weekly homework reports: - half sheet of paper with missing items circled. Extremely helpful for parents to know how to help student! Wish they all did this at least in 6th grade.
4	Teacher websites can be useful, but few Jackson teachers use them.
5	There is a lack of consistent use of available technologies (weekly updates via e-mail, websites, etc.)
6	Teacher emails to parents regarding child's progress are great. Ms. Goodrich and Mr. Maddocks are great!
7	I previously stated how effective the teacher web site are. I really like this and encourage all of the teachers to use it.
8	This was above but is grossly underused... I realize our kids are supposed to be responsible for themselves, however it would be nice as a parent to have teacher websites with posted assignments since kids often do not write what the whole assignment is and teachers sometimes do not send home a flyer of the assignment. Plus it would be nice as a parent to see what the kids are really doing.. so much work is done at school that sometimes it seems like my student isn't really doing anything. Maybe post info. on what is happening in classroom daily so we can discuss with our student.
9	more teacher web sites, also need to keep current
10	no
11	None I can think of.
12	I very much like the progress reports sent home by the teachers, but not all of them do that. I like the either on paper or by email. I like it when they include grades and upcoming due

	dates.
13	Was not even aware there are teacher websites. I'll check that out. Any thought of deploying webgrade like Wilson (although many of their teachers don't use it!?)
14	Block Teacher sends a weekly email with updates that is VERY Helpful in keeping up with the project due dates.
15	teacher emails, web grades
16	bulletin Board in office
17	I had not heard of even half of the noted above, so it would sure be hard to use resources that are not known.
18	Donald Rose sends regular e-mail updates to all of his students' parents - very helpful in tracking progress.
19	I have only one teacher Donald Rose that emails me on any assignments or grades...
20	I feel that there have been very few "take home" flyers. Email is more effective for us, as long as the emails are timely.
21	It would be nice to have a quarterly newsletter from the teachers on what was happening in the class. Eighth grader do not like to talk to their parent about their work.
22	Not all teachers have websites. Hit or miss if your child is absent.
23	probably more regular e-mails (even short ones) when something of interest to the community comes up. It is great to get the Jackson Journal; but it would be also good to note when there are things that come up (the plays, concerts, etc....) that might be of value or may have slipped someone's mind.
24	Some teachers communicate well via email and website, but many have no website or routine email updates.
25	Teacher-Parent contact i.e. Mr. Meskel and Ms. Fairchild's info sheets
26	teacher e-mails
27	Dave Wierth is fantastic at keeping us parents informed about what is going on in his classroom. He is also great at responding to email ! The school should encourage more of its teachers to be as communication friendly!
28	It would be great if teachers had websites with homework assignments listed.

29	emails from teachers - very effective
30	in-person meetings, group get-togethers
31	Communication from individual teachers via email.
32	I like the webgrade being rolled out this year - all teachers should use for all grades
33	Some teachers do not have websites or a way to check, would be a nice way to connect to the student if more teachers used updated them regularly...I know the teachers are busy...
34	Really like the online grading updates from Math and Science teachers. Would like to see the same from all teachers.
35	I would like it if more teachers had websites. Back to school night is very informative.
36	Seems as if there are cliques in the lists sometimes--it's hard for a parent to be aware of all the important groups.
37	I'd appreciate getting the pta eblast sooner so I can be reminded about meetings
38	Wish teacher websites were used.
39	Phone calls are effective when used. Not all teachers have or use websites.

20. Is there additional information you would like to know about the school?

1	Please send SUN School information by email in addition to backpacks; students on not getting information on after school programs, though parents are told the school has them.
2	I love when the teachers send emails updating class projects. It is especially nice when teachers and administrators personalize notes so that we get to know the people our children are spending so much time with.
3	What are the on-going student-led projects through out the school.
4	No
5	I would like to know more about when the school is planning events and how to get involved and what that involvement would look like - earlier in the process.
6	How are electives chosen and more parent input on them... for instance, a teachers aide is a waste of a period and purely social. Perhaps adding yearbook as an option or as a shared option with making a monthly school newsletter with reporters/editors, etc. and students could submit articles. Photos not used for yearbook could also be used for the newspaper. (Journalism, the better title)
7	More evening conference times
8	No
9	When will all the teachers have websites? It is very nice to have a resource for homework assignments that have been forgotten or not written in the planner. It removes excuses.
10	A PA system would do wonders for communication of daily bulletin, emergency procedures and situations
11	As an involved 6th grade parent I do not feel like I am in the loop about events (like the Auction and play) that are happening at school.
12	I think there should be more things sent home via email or regular mail-NOT WITH STUDENT- advising activities and events happening at the school. i.e plays, musicals, fund raisers etc
13	No
14	Specific dates and sign up for Volunteering-

	and specific tasks
15	I didn't even know about teacher websites, PTA website & E-Blast. Do these exist?
16	I think there needs to be more promotion of these communication tools since I didn't even know about them. I think more outreach to new parents would be helpful.
17	A full year calendar of events, to include student activities and deadlines.
18	What is the average contribution for the capital campaign?
19	The teacher said they have their web sites up but they don't.
20	Do teachers really have websites?
21	I have been uninformed about the sports at Jackson like the basketball or volleyball.
22	School sports and teams
23	Not all teacher websites are being kept up Didn't know about the PTA website School website is not always current. Maybe an e-mail should be sent to notify when a new Jackson Journal has been added. Written newsletters and flyers never make it home....maybe they can be placed on the website.
24	Not really
25	No.
26	Plans for property for next 5 years.
27	Yes
28	I didn't know about PTA website or teacher websites. The last time I looked at the Jackson website it hadn't been updated recently, so I've stopped looking.
29	No. I feel I know where to get any info I need about the school.
30	Yes. I don't feel well informed about activities such as talent show, etc. Would love for all my student's teachers to keep updated website/calendar.
31	Can we have an outdoor clean-up day?
32	I never know which doors will be unlocked

**29. What communication tools used by your child's teachers do you find most effective?
Are there other methods you would like to see teachers use to communicate with parents?**

1	Email is the most effective. A teacher website would be great.
2	I like regular parent communication at this age. I don't see most teachers doing that this year. I like having a newsletter or an email letting me know what's going on - and what questions to ask my child.
3	Email is most effective.
4	Emails re student assignments and grades. The school should not assume information sent home in backpacks will reach the parents.
5	Email
6	Email and 1/2 sheet homework updates weekly
7	e-mail
8	Email
9	E-mail updates about upcoming work are great, but they are rare. I appreciate progress reports via e-mail, but few teachers do those either. Teacher websites can be great tools for students and parents.
10	Email is very effective and a great tool. Phone calls would be good, but I know that's impossible.
11	Email and web based grade reports. The teachers who use these methods are effective; however many do not use either method and you hear nothing from them all year.
12	some teacher s communicate with parents some teachers do not communicate at all so the answer above pertain only to the 2 or 3 teachers my child has who do send out communications.
13	The Webgrade is great - would like to see all the teachers use this tool and the ones that do on a more regular basis
14	I'd like to see regular e-mail communications about current school classroom activities etc.
15	Email works great
16	I find e-mail most effective for initial contacts/general information.

17	e-mail-. Some teachers are great with it, others starting to catch up. it's very helpful and convenient
18	Email and phone
19	Webgrade and email
20	Email is great! I really appreciate emails from Ms. Goodrich, Mr. Maddocks and Ms. Rosenberg. The other 4 teachers that he has don't communicate other than through report card grades. On occasion, one may send home a test to be signed or a grade print out to be signed. Not much at all. I would like regular communication about what topics are being studied, special projects that are coming up, how to help my child prepare, etc. I would like a stronger indication that the teacher knows personalized information about how my son is doing and what recommendations apply to him.
21	I have a problem with the above questions because 2 of the teachers provided regular information on my child's progress, but not the others. So it's hard to answer these questions. I wish they'd send monthly e-mails just saying what they're working on and major deadlines. It would only take 10 minutes - so why not?
22	e-mail is the best. Giving the information to the student is the worst.
23	Webgrade is great.
24	Email... I would love to have websites to check and get email progress reports... I love Mrs. Barnes and her reports via email... then when my child gets home I can congratulate him/her on getting over 100% and another A! I like knowing what is going on and in my child's quest to grow up that does not always translate home since he/she has been conditioned that I am not to get involved, it is the student's responsibility, but they fall short and then we are the ones scrambling to help them with little to no info. of assignments and no way to get that info. on weekends especially.
25	Email
26	Inform of assignment plan before they are due. Most teachers provide this info AFTER due dates.
27	Weekly updates
28	Web sites and e class are fantastic!
29	Email progress notes with links to log in and find out how my son is doing on his assignments and exams.
30	I like having progress reports. I prefer email because it doesn't get lost or forgotten by the

	student.
31	I find that regular progress reports sent by email to be the most effective, they don't get misplaced or lost. For some reason the 6th grade teachers have stopped sending them home. I would very much like to have just a short note with upcoming events and assignments and missing assignments. A current grade would be nice too!
32	Teacher email. Eager to see teacher websites and encourage use of webgrade
33	Regular email updates are wonderful and underutilized
34	She emails updates every week about what the class is doing. Very helpful!
35	EMAIL-love it
36	e-mail.
37	Some of my child's teachers give me an update on their academic progress on a regular basis. Other teachers tell me they only send progress information out if the child is earning a grade of a "C" or lower. That's not OK with me. I want to know my child's progress regardless of his grade in that class. If he's getting a "C", it's too late for me to help him. If he's getting an "A", I want to acknowledge that with him.
38	Email, web grades
39	Some teachers do send weekly progress reports via email- this works really well All the teachers should send a weekly report
40	Weekly report on whether all work has been turned. Letting kids know what their grade is as the term progresses, and sending home a list of components that make up the grade for my child before report cards come out.
41	Email. Email with link to the webgrades site.
42	I love Mr. Cameron's Thursday updates. All other classes my child has--I have no idea what his progress is unless he tells me or I ask.
43	I have been really happy with Jackson academically and my daughter loves it and her teachers. I just don't feel very connected which is odd after being heavily involved at Capitol Hill. May be due to larger different school with different needs.
44	Notes are sent home with students, I get them sometimes...emails would be good too.
45	Responding to my emails, and one teacher has a website, and Sharon Barnes has effective,

	"heads-up" emails when needed (very effective and appreciated).
46	Email, multimedia presentations
47	Email from one teacher is great...your survey is flawed in assuming that all teachers communicate the same...how about a question like Do all teacher communicate with you well? How many do not communicate with you well?
48	Email and teacher web sites are great.
49	Email...my phone number is listed wrong, and I have made several attempts to fix it through the office, but not effectively
50	Email is most effective
51	The web access to their assignments and current grades.
52	I would like my child's teacher to respond to me and follow through with meetings.
53	I personally like email, with personal visits set up as needed.
54	Regular e-mails from teachers with updates work well, especially when they prompt something to discuss with them. Some teachers are much better at this (Moloney, Maddocks) than others (Goodrich).
55	E-mail is the most effective if they use it. They say they would get one up and running. It took 3 months for them to do that.. I receive a email about late work and I did not know what they were working on so I could not have know what was like. Most eighth grader don't like to talk to parents about the schoolwork.
56	A weekly e mail newsletter about what the children are studying in class so we can offer our expertise, provide supplemental visual aides, if it applies. Return graded homework/class assignments at the end of every week via child.
57	Email, teacher website.
58	Email
59	I appreciate the email used by some teachers to send out progress reports. This is an easy way to keep parents up to date.
60	The homeroom teacher communicates with a weekly printed piece. I would love to see e-mail instead but do realize that everyone does not have access to e-mail.
61	e-mail

62	E-Mail & letters
63	The science teacher does communicate weekly but not any of the others
64	Effective: email for status/questions/concerns specific to my child (but not all the teachers use it or respond to email), teacher created planning tools (not the school planner!) Like to see: Web pages with curriculum goals and syllabus, calendar of projects and due dates. Specifically, more proactive communication regarding what's going on in the classroom
65	Email updates are great. Joe Maddocks uses this well. The other 7th grade teachers are not using this resource.
66	Term info sheets with a syllabus. I would like to find a way for the student planners to be used more effectively
67	Some teachers are great at using e-mail and communicating, others not so much
68	E-mail is best and my child's block teacher is very good at sending out regular updates. I have not received any information from any of his other teachers
69	Email ! Email ! Email !
70	e-mail is fantastic, because I regularly check my e-mail. Website via the teacher would be great.
71	Regular emails about academic progress are good; weekly, rather than once/twice per trimester, would be better. I suggest that excellent students be put to use as teacher's assistants. Confidentiality is key, so maybe preparing a "form letter" would work best. That way, the teacher's assistant could receive lists of email addresses from the teacher and simply sends form letter A or form letter B to each address on the list. These form letters simply state, "Your child completed every item due this week" or "Your child did not complete every item due this week".
72	Email
73	I like the idea of teachers putting the onus on parents to check their websites for information. I don't think that the teachers should have to reach out to each parent. They've got more than enough housekeeping to manage.
74	Emails from home room are great - would like to see at least one email or direct communication from the teacher to the parents during a quarter on the students' progress - not us coming to them. Just one personal message at least during a quarter shows the teacher is paying attention to our child, has an interest in their education and progress. Coming to the open house thing was ok, but for the teachers, who couldn't be there, there was no follow up by them - we had to seek them out. That should be the teachers'

	responsibility to connect with the parents.
75	Email works great. Once in awhile, a little comment on our kid might be good.
76	We don't receive any communication from our daughter's teachers.
77	Communication about grades and classroom activities varies by teacher.
78	E-mail or written communications sent home with child are most effective.
79	I like e-mails - less likely to get lost
80	Again, there is an inconsistency of which teachers communicate regularly. I appreciate the ones that do take the time to do so.
81	I like the periodic progress reports--and work reminders
82	E-mail, websites, letters home
83	Electronic communication because it takes my child out of the delivery loop
84	Only one of my child's teachers sends home a regular progress report--I'd like all of them to do this.
85	E-mail. It would be great if each teacher had a web page that listed homework, class work, etc.
86	Email, notes home. Comment: Electronic communication can be confusing--what's from the school, what's from the pta. PTA email blast appearance is not easy to decipher.
87	E-mail
88	Not all teachers keep me informed. Phone calls are best, then e-mail.