

2020 OLG Parent Survey Results

Thank you for your valuable time and input with our Parent Survey. More than half our families responded from a diverse group of parents (some with OLG graduates) across all grade levels. The School Commission has reviewed the survey results and identified key takeaways, both positive ones and areas that need improvement. I'm working with the Commission and the Archdiocese to implement next steps for this Spring and the '20 - '21 academic year.

A few insights from our survey...

Positive attributes

1. ***We have a strong, collaborative, and diverse parent and family community.*** Parents praised our community and diversity in the following ways:

- "I like the sense of community and the welcoming nature of both school and parish."
- "Even though it is a private school it is more diverse than our public school."

2. ***We prepare students for success in high school and have a strong math program.*** For example, parents reported:

- "My graduate was very prepared and tested into honors classes as a freshman."
- "Very prepared with leadership skills, academics, study habits, sense of social justice, classroom engagement and interest in pushing oneself in school."

We also had strong praise for our preschool program, which is a key advantage OLG offers in the community.

3. ***We are grateful for our superstar teachers and faculty.*** Thank you for praising various OLG faculty and staff members. There were so many positive comments for staff members and teachers; here are a few:

- "They treat all the littles with such kindness and my son, generally, loves going to school. "
- "There are several teachers we have had over the years that we think the world of and are one of the reasons we continue to stay at OLG"
- "[Their] patience, love and kindness toward each individual child (no matter how difficult) is admirable."

We are so thankful for all our teachers and staff. In light of the recent shift to "Remote Learning" in these COVID-19 times, we are especially grateful for the continued collaboration and support of our teachers, staff, and families.

4. ***We provide a solid, faith-based education.*** One parent wrote: "I appreciate that a solid education is available to my child that integrates the essentials of our faith with all their learning. Our kids get exposure to the call of daily life as a Christian as they go to school. That's irreplaceable." In all categories of rating our religious education we received 85% responses as "highly effective" and "effective," with a 95% rating in our service learning programs!

Next steps for all these positives: (a) Teachers and I, through the accreditation process, are revising our professional development plans, annual evaluations, and observations; (b) I have shared individual comments with teachers and staff to ensure they know that they are appreciated, and Educator Excellence Award nominations will come out soon; and (c) we will continue to improve our connections with parish for faith-driven activities and excellent service learning.

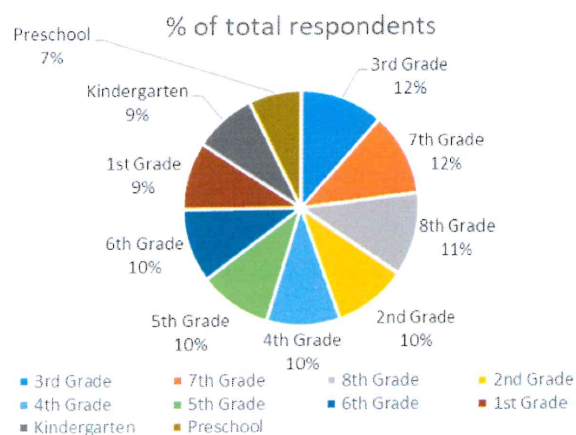


Figure 1 – Survey Respondents by Grade Level: We had good participation from parents in all grades, with a significant portion – 32% of all respondents – from our middle school families. We are pleased that parents are engaged and sharing feedback in an open and honest manner; it's reflective of our culture at OLG.

Areas for improvement

1. Improving communication with our families. Parents noted that we need more timely, transparent communication on substantive safety issues (such as the EDC personnel), and more consistent communication at the classroom-level across grades. For example, parents wrote:

- “[We want] better communication from school admin, teachers and staff to parents.”
- “[Concerns about] the EDC teacher that left, and the long delay in communication after the incident.”
- “Send immediate written communication about potential health or safety issues.”

Next steps: (a) I am working with the Archdiocese to change communication and safety policies regarding critical issues such as the EDC personnel matter; (b) I will assign specific School Commission members as liaisons to communicate parent concerns on key issues; (c) this year’s Fund-A-Need focuses on physical safety of campus and will be complete by Fall 2020 (within COVID-19 health restrictions); and (d) I will task the School Commission to evaluate and address safety on campus and to review and implement consistent classroom-level communications.

2. Standardizing our approach to discipline.

Maintaining appropriate discipline is essential to providing an effective, safe, and healthy learning community. Parents indicated there is room for improvement for both our younger and middle school students. For example, parents commented that:

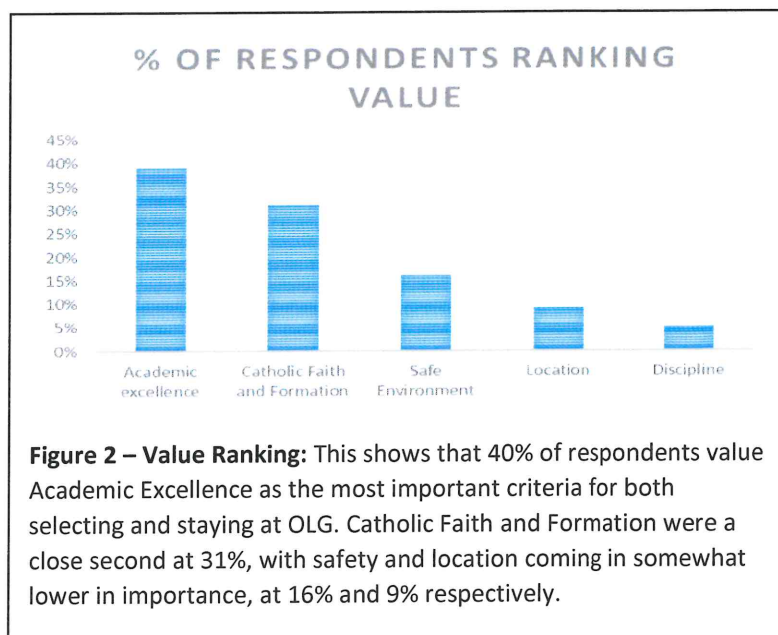
- “Better discipline and repercussions for children that misbehave and disrupt the classroom.”
- “Discipline is not enforced proportionally to the action and discipline is not enforced equally.”

Next Steps: (a) I am working with teachers to update our school-wide discipline policy and consistently and equitably enforce it (this includes using different strategies in primary versus middle-grade classrooms); and (b) I will ensure new hires and newer teachers receive training and ongoing mentoring on classroom management and discipline with supportive and responsive feedback from myself and additional peer support.

3. Improving our academic programs. There is clear feedback from parents on the uneven quality of classroom management and instructional quality in particular classrooms. For example, parents noted that:

- “Some teachers have high-functioning classroom management skills and others do not.”
- [OLG should] “build a stronger and cohesive middle school program and team” and “address the lack of a solid [middle school] science program.”

Next Steps: Our classrooms have benefited from the recent updating of our science kits (FOSS resources), and (a) I will schedule training around science instruction for Fall 2020; and (b) I am working with the Archdiocese and my peer principals to revisit OLG’s procedures for evaluating and providing feedback to teachers, and will use the resulting data to improve our professional development, teacher training, staffing, and classroom management programs.

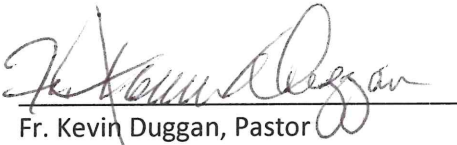


OLG will hold listening sessions and continue to act on parent feedback when significant issues arise. Again, we appreciate your candor and support. I am working on new policies with the help of the School Commission and Archdiocese, will provide ongoing updates, and will continue to collaborate with you to strengthen our school. Thank you for partnering with OLG and helping us foster Gospel values, inspire academic excellence, and develop service and leadership in our students and community.

Sincerely,

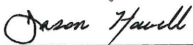


Anton Kramer, Principal



Fr. Kevin Duggan, Pastor

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Jason Howell, Commission Chair

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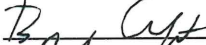
Brian Callahan, Commission

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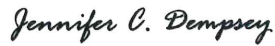
Daniel Campbell, Commission

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Brenda Croft, Commission

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Jennifer Dempsey, Commission

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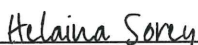
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