

# GARDNER DICKINSON PTO TEACHER SURVEY

The Gardner Dickinson PTO is looking for ways to improve and expand the level of communication and the services we can provide to our teachers and the families of our students. We need your help to accomplish this task. Please take a few minutes to answer the following questions. Your feedback will help us in our quest to determine the best ways to communicate with you as well as increase parental participation in classroom/school activities and events. Please take a moment to fill out this survey and return it to the PTO box by September 9<sup>th</sup>.

Your input provides us with valuable insights that illuminate our areas of strength as well as areas for continued growth. All answers are confidential, but if you would like to discuss this survey with a PTO Officer, please email us at [mplavoy@aol.com](mailto:mplavoy@aol.com).

**1. What the PTO Offers:** As our Gardner Dickinson family grows and changes, parents may wish to change the focus of the PTO. Given this, we want to know what areas of focus you value most. Please rate the following using the following scale 1-5 with 1 meaning not important at all and 5 representing very important – any item that should be a priority: **(Results in parenthesis)**

Question	Scale of Importance				
	Not at all	Not very	No Opinion	Some-what	Extremel y
Collect/Raise monetary donations to increase media/library collections/technology resources	1	2	3	4 (4)	5 (7)
Family-focused social events	1	2	3	4 (7)	5 (4)
Hold periodical PTO General Meetings (Executive Committee meetings are already open to all PTO members.)	1	2	3 (3)	4 (6)	5 (1)
Playground maintenance (includes purchasing new equipment, maintaining the grounds, spreading mulch and repairing equipment)	1	2 (1)	3 (1)	4 (4)	5 (5)
Provide funds for supplemental classroom materials	1	2	3 (1)	4 (4)	5 (7)
Provide Staff appreciation	1 (1)	2	3 (1)	4 (6)	5 (3)
Sponsor Community Education Programs (Internet safety, dealing with bullying, etc.)	1	2	3 (2)	4 (5)	5 (4)
Sponsor Enrichment programs such as special presentations and guest speakers that enhance curriculum, art enrichment, character education, featured authors	1	2	3	4 (6)	5 (6)
Sponsor parent-teacher-administration activities.	1	2	3 (3)	4 (8)	5 (1)
Sponsor/Support off-campus activities	1	2	3 (4)	4 (5)	5 (1)
Subsidize transportation expenses to reduce family costs for field trips	1	2 (1)	3 (2)	4 (6)	5 (3)

**Take a moment to share your thoughts, concerns, and ideas about the questions and topics on the back of this page. You can share as little or as much information as you would like. If you would like to speak to a PTO officer or the principal about a subject in this survey, please email [mplavoy@aol.com](mailto:mplavoy@aol.com) and someone will contact you.**

2. What activities or events would you like to see the Gardner Dickinson PTO conduct that would be beneficial for teachers and staff?

- social activities
- fundraiser for the bookroom and classroom libraries
- Support informational nights
- family fun day

- Talent show
- field trip to see high quality musical and theatrical events at formal venues.
- something involving parents, teachers and students working together.
- character education

3. What do you feel should be parents' goals in supporting you as a teacher?

- staying in touch with teachers
- informing teachers of children's needs
- following rules consistently through grades
- getting their kids ready to learn
- doing at home reading daily
- Teachers are working hard to help your children be successful in their studies and in life.
- Teachers care about the whole child.
- finding ways to help teachers to be inspired
- to be a partner in their child's education
- success of their child
- open communication
- help to raise funds for different activities

4. PTO Communications – Indicate your preferred mode of communication on PTO updates/events.

- (0) Bulletin Board
- (11) Email
- (4) Flyer
- (2) PTO Newsletter
- (3) Website
- (2) Other (Please specify): backpack express

5. What PTO Information is of most value to you as a teacher?

- upcoming events (3)
- schedule of events calendar
- donations
- parent teacher child connection
- helping with field trips

6. Which aspects of the PTO most satisfy you?

- great job year round
- generous with funds (2)
- open with suggestions
- pto helping with events
- helpfulness towards families in need
- supplement school supplies
- money raised to increase student and teacher resources (2)
- success through events so kids benefit
- parties that students attend

7. What improvements, if any, would you like to see in the PTO?

- be more goal oriented instead of problem focused in relation to teacher participation.
- make parents feel more welcomed and involved
- I think it's currently very good
- more funds directed towards academics
- Better way to get info home for the older grades.
- More speakers come to the school

8. What information do you wish parents knew about (Please feel free to use additional paper for this question:

Communicating with you:

- goal focused, not problem focused

- stop in
- call (2)
- E-Mail (8)

Teaching their children:

- Read with your children (2)
- don't help to much, have them figure out on their own
- Review agenda Daily
- Talking to your children daily about the school day
- parents are our partners (2)

Volunteering to help you:

- Fill out form in office (2)
- School has a policy
- Classes to like to foster independence

What you would rather parents not do:

- Show up for a discussion w/o an appointment
- Help their child at home first before asking for the schools help
- To not forget that teachers may make mistakes we are only human, a little patience and understanding works best.
- Criticize
- Be impolite

9. Comments and/or suggestions for additional ways the PTO can enhance the experience of our students, families, and teachers:

- consider splitting field trip money by student not by class.
- use funds for educational things
- be open to new fundraising ideas that may be educational.
- try a bus trip to a museum

10. What improvements, if any, would you like to see in the PTO, to improve the relationship between teachers, parents, and the community?

- keep good communication going.
- School staff needs to attend more meetings and be available to assist in events as needed.
- Work on communicating w/ teachers and parents.