

Cross Oaks Elementary School
Denton Independent School District
Matt Preston, Principal
Community and Student Engagement Survey
2016-2017

At Cross Oaks Elementary, our work is based firmly in our shared belief that all students are capable of learning at high levels, and we make all decisions considering first and foremost what will help our students grow as learners academically, socially, and emotionally. We understand that children learn best when they are motivated by a sense of belonging and community, so many diverse extracurricular activities are offered, providing exceptional educational activities in addition to traditional content instruction. These special clubs and programs include choir, chess, fishing, physical fitness, outdoor learning, dance, orchestra, artistic collaboration, and student leadership opportunities. Our stakeholders value an educational climate that reflects excellence not only in academics, but in our fine arts programs, character and behavior education systems, and in our opportunities for parent and community involvement.

These underlying beliefs and values are reflected in our school mission statement: **Learning for All**. Our vision is reflected in the belief that by working together in a professional learning community, we accept collective responsibility to do whatever it takes for all students to learn and achieve at high levels. In order to support our mission and vision, we commit to:

- Utilize ongoing data collection and analysis to drive instruction, intervention, and extension to meet the needs of all learners,
- Establish clear expectations for all students and staff,
- Consistently work with students in flexible small groups,
- Genuinely encourage students and one another with kind and positive attitudes,
- Form genuine relationships based on mutual trust, respect, and openness,
- Engage students in collaborative activities that are meaningful and relevant, and
- Utilize ongoing, meaningful goal and data-driven collaboration across content and grade levels.

Evaluation Category	Question Type	Questions	Answer (Yes or No)	Campus Rating
Fine Arts	Compliance	Does the campus provide TEKS-based fine arts courses taught by content specialists to meet state and local graduation requirements including the Arts and Humanities Endorsement?	Yes	Exemplary
	Parent	Does the campus provide multiple opportunities for parents and community members to attend public shows & performances?	Yes	
	Parent	Does the campus provide parents with a variety of evidence for evaluating fine arts programs?	Yes	
	Student	Does the campus provide fine arts students numerous opportunities to interact with arts experts such as through private lessons, clinics, master classes, and university/community arts collaborations annually?	Yes	
	Student	Does the campus provide students with opportunities to promote school and community culture/climate?	Yes	
<p>Our school offers students at multiple levels varied opportunities to participate in high quality fine arts programs. Both our school choir and orchestra have been recognized with rewards at local and regional competitions. All students in grade levels K through 5th have an official evening music performance over the course of the school year, each highly attended by parents and community members. A Fine Arts Night is held in May of each school year, featuring performances by the choir, orchestra, and dance/spirit squad, drama club, as well as framed student artwork displayed to highlight student achievement in the visual arts. Our choir and dance/spirit squad performed at many community events this year. We are fortunate to have access to multiple experts in the arts, through collaboration with local universities and other organizations. Our fine arts instructors continually seek new opportunities to grow and develop in their practice through professional development, and the classroom instruction provided to our students in music and art represent some of the finest the district has to offer. We have worked hard this year to deepen our connection to fine arts programs at Braswell High School, where all Cross Oaks students will eventually attend.</p>				

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Wellness and PE	Compliance	Does the campus seek information from parents related to food allergies at the time of new student enrollment?	Yes	Exemplary
	Parent	Does the campus offer opportunities to participate in community health and wellness events?	Yes	
	Parent	Does the campus provide community health and wellness resources and information?	Yes	
	Student	Does the campus provide developmentally appropriate bullying prevention education programming?	Yes	
	Student	Does the campus have procedures in place to assist students and staff during crises?	Yes	

Cross Oaks is committed to creating a safe and healthy environment for our children. Through our campus registration processes, we actively work with parents to identify students who suffer from food allergies and other health concerns that can impact their learning and safety at school. Students with severe allergies receive formal health and/or 504 plans to formally provide accommodations relating to safe dietary practices. Our health curriculum provides our teachers with diverse instructional opportunities to enhance our students' education regarding nutrition, wellness, and general health. Through our outdoor learning program, students learn where food comes from, how fruits and vegetables are grown, and essential components of a healthy diet. Information regarding healthy living and exercise are also emphasized in our physical education program. Our school counselor works closely with teachers to provide consistent, high quality anti-bullying and character building education to all of our students, and staff as well as parents are provided resources to accurately identify bullying and intervene to prevent incidences of bullying from occurring. Campus-wide systems such as golden tickets, awards assemblies, and Playworks recess activities provide essential character education programs to students and reward students who exemplify identified positive character traits in action.

Specifically, the Playworks training and curriculum has been utilized this year to meet students' social and emotional needs and give them valuable conflict resolution tools. We held our first annual Family Play Night in April to give parents the opportunity to play alongside their children and learn first-hand about our mission to provide positive play opportunities to all students.

The emotional and social needs of our students were also addressed this year through our play therapy program collaboration with Texas Woman's University, and we also established a coordinated mentor program that included collaboration with district high schools, parents and staff, and local churches.

Our PE program is exemplary at Cross Oaks. Coach Jones, Coach Ellis, and Coach Farris provide students with diverse and highly engaging physical learning activities so that they can develop in their physical health, personal character, and general wellness.

Evaluation Category	Question Type	Questions	Answer (Yes or No)	Campus Rating
Community and Parent Involvement	Compliance	Does the campus welcome parents and community members in planning initiatives?	Yes	Exemplary
	Parent	Does the campus implement programs to increase parent and community involvement including families without currently enrolled students?	Yes	
	Parent	Does the campus have a comprehensive, proactive communication plan to inform community members and parents regarding campus events?	Yes	
	Student	Does the campus provide opportunities for students and parents to be actively involved together on campus?	Yes	
	Student	Does the campus provide students with opportunities to participate in activities that help the community?	Yes	
<p>At Cross Oaks, we have multiple opportunities for parent and community partnerships. Parents serve on our campus leadership team, providing a voice from these stakeholders in campus decision making. Our PTA is strongly involved in providing high quality programs and services for our students, and these parents have established effective recruiting efforts in finding volunteers to serve our students and staff. Partnerships with local churches make our mentor programs, power pack weekend food program, and summer reading programs possible. Love and Logic parent training was provided to our families at an evening event.</p> <p>Highly attended campus events that promote parent involvement, established in conjunction with our PTA, include Grandparents Day, Donuts with Dad, Muffins with Mom, Family Math Night, Young Authors Night, Fall Festival, Fine Arts Night, evening music programs, and Family Science Night. Our students have opportunities to take their learning into the community through field trips, and we bring the community into the school to enhance learning through our college and career week, master naturalist stream clean project, and Young Authors Night.</p> <p>For the second straight year, each grade level participated in a unique service learning project, resulting in all Cross Oaks students having the opportunity to learn through service to the community.</p>				

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21st Century Workforce	Elementary Compliance	Does the campus guidance curriculum teach students the interpersonal skills necessary for college/career readiness?	Yes	Exemplary
	Secondary Compliance	Do the campus CTE programs include district and community stakeholders in an advisory capacity?	Yes	
	Parent	Does the campus actively cultivate business, community, and university partnerships to support 21st century workforce development?	Yes	
	Parent	Does the campus have systems in place for including parents in their child's preparation for the 21st century workforce?	Yes	
	Student	Does the campus offer enrichment and/or competitive events for the students to reinforce their 21st century workforce skills?	Yes	
	Student	Does the campus host "college days," "career days" or other events for students to show interest in post-secondary education?	Yes	
<p>Students at Cross Oaks Elementary School are well prepared for success in the future. Beginning in pre-kindergarten and continuing through fifth grade, our students learn and practice interpersonal skills emphasized by employers as critical to graduates' success in the workplace. These skills include team building, critical thinking and problem solving, conflict resolution, and effective communication. During our college and career week, students have the opportunity to experience firsthand community members representing a wide variety of career paths, and staff members share with students their own essential college experience. Our Destination Imagination student teams practice effective problem solving in a very deep and authentic way. By incorporating a wide variety of extracurricular programs at our school, we prioritize giving students high quality instruction in nontraditional content areas, to teach to the whole child and develop the unique talents of all our students.</p>				

Evaluation Category	Question Type	Questions	Answer (Yes or No)	Campus Rating
Second Language Acquisition	Compliance	Does the campus provide yearly LPAC training for all required staff?	Yes	Exemplary
	Parent	Does the campus provide opportunities for non-English speaking parents to know about student programs in the school and community?	Yes	
	Parent	Does the campus provide communication in both Spanish and English?	Yes	
	Student	Does the campus have procedures in place to promote students' exit from BIL/ESL within 5 years of identification in elementary and 3 years of identification in secondary?	Yes	
	Student	Does the campus offer opportunities for students to be exposed to multiple languages to promote second language acquisition?	Yes	

Cross Oaks strives to be a warm and welcoming school community, making parents feel valued and comfortable regardless of their language background. Parents who speak Spanish at home have access to school communication in their native language. Our receptionist and several staff members are bilingual, including our ESL specialist. Parents who do not speak English have consistent access to staff members they can speak to in their native language. Native English speakers are exposed to multiple other languages in the school setting, whether through our Spanish club or German/Spanish word of the day in PE. All ELL's are placed in an ESL-certified teacher's classroom, and these teachers receive frequent academic and social support from our ESL specialist. These teachers also receive best practices based in SIOP and sheltered instruction training regularly.

Evaluation Category	Question Type	Questions	Answer (Yes or No)	Campus Rating
Digital Learning Environment	Compliance	Does the campus conduct annual training for students regarding digital citizenship and acceptable use of technology?	Yes	Exemplary
	Parent	Does the campus provide technology training and professional development opportunities for all teachers, parents, and community members?	Yes	
	Parent	Does the campus provide a public Wi-Fi signal that parents and guests can use to connect to online resources?	Yes	
	Student	Does the campus utilize specialists in instructional technology to engage teachers and students with technology integration?	Yes	
	Student	Do the campus teachers actively leverage technology to engage students in the learning process?	Yes	

At the beginning of each school year and on an as-needed basis, students are trained in acceptable use practices by qualified staff members. These acceptable use policies, developed by the district, are also communicated to parents and staff. Multiple opportunities are provided in the summer and throughout the school year to provide teachers and staff with high quality technology training to enhance classroom instruction and learning opportunities for our students. These trainings include TIA (district technology integration academy), flipped model learning, Verso, Google Drive and Google Classroom, Google apps for education, interactive projector training, CAFÉ pensieve, and many others. Our campus offers a public Wi-Fi signal that is available to students, staff, and parents. Technology specialists are available to all teachers through the district, and regular technology trainings take place throughout the school year. A class set of Chromebooks and ipads is available through our library so that teachers can extend and enrich learning in the classroom through technology. All classrooms on campus have interactive projectors that further allow students the chance to engage more deeply with their learning. Our fourth and fifth grade classrooms contain sets of Chromebooks that are used regularly by students to apply their learning to new contexts and deepen their 21st century learning skills. Our 2nd and 3rd grade teachers have received district training to utilize Chromebooks similarly in their classrooms next year.

Evaluation Category	Question Type	Questions	Answer (Yes or No)	Campus Rating
Dropout Prevention Strategies	Compliance	Does the campus have a system of intervention (<i>Response to Intervention</i>) for supporting all students?	Yes	Exemplary
	Parent	Does the campus direct parents to research/information regarding the relationship between poor attendance and drop-out rates?	Yes	
	Parent	Does the campus provide opportunities for parents that reinforce the importance and value of education to students' futures?	Yes	
	Student	Does the campus have a systemic plan for maximizing attendance/minimizing absenteeism?	Yes	
	Student	Does the campus utilize age appropriate opportunities to engage students in college and career readiness activities to increase graduation rates/prevent dropouts?	Yes	

At Cross Oaks, we are proactive in our approach to working with parents and students to emphasize the importance of education to our children's future success. We have a multi-level campus RtI system to allow teachers to collaborate with school content experts to identify and put into place effective interventions, and to identify students in a timely manner who are struggling in their learning. Our campus attendance committee works collaboratively and clearly defines the role of the teacher, administrator, and other stakeholders in communicating attendance policies and encouraging students to be on time and at school each day. All teachers have parent newsletters that are sent home at least weekly, and we strive to involve parents in their children's education in multiple ways, including evening academic activities in math, reading, writing, and science. Our campus mentor program, play therapy collaboration, play-based learning opportunities, and high quality extracurricular activities give our students the opportunity to feel successful at school beyond academics, and these serve their vital social, emotional, and behavioral needs at school.

Evaluation Category	Question Type	Questions	Answer (Yes or No)	Campus Rating
Education Programs for Gifted and Talented Students	Compliance	Does the campus have a systemic plan to ensure that Gifted and Talented teachers meet the professional learning standard for new teachers (30 hours) and for annual updates (6 hours)?	Yes	Exemplary
	Parent	Does the campus provide parents with the opportunity to participate in meaningful experiences related to the education of gifted students?	Yes	
	Parent	Does the campus provide parents with opportunities to participate in the nomination/consideration of students for gifted and talented services?	Yes	
	Student	Does the campus provide opportunities for gifted and talented students to participate in extracurricular activities that reinforce a variety of academic and creative skills?	Yes	
	Student	Does the campus provide a variety of instructional and support services for gifted and talented students?	Yes	
<p>At Cross Oaks, we have established systems of support, including gifted and talented training, for our teachers who serve advance and gifted populations of students. Our campus gifted and talented specialist works regularly with teachers to provide techniques and practices to enhance and extend learning for students who have already mastered content taught and assessed in class. Teachers who serve gifted students are trained in various areas of giftedness, including quantitative, non-verbal, reading, and creativity, and are also trained in how to address the needs of students gifted in each of these areas. Parent support is also offered through campus and district EXPO nights that provide information about identifying and supporting our gifted children. Our extracurricular activities and clubs provide enrichment to our students, allowing them to express their talents in a wider variety of disciplines.</p>				