

# VPS Survey Results 2022

RESPONDENTS	2018	2019	2021	2022
• PS-PK-K	11	11	8	18
• 1-5 <sup>TH</sup> grade	16	17	21	22
• 6-8 <sup>th</sup> grade	7	12	12	11
<b>TOTAL</b>	34	40	41	51

SURVEY QUESTIONS	Scale of 1-5 (5 is best)			
	2018	2019	2021	2022
1. There is an adequate level of communication between the HOME & SCHOOL (newsletters, emails, texts, etc)	4.5	4.4	4.6	4.6
2. There is an adequate level of communication between the TEACHER & PARENT (emails, powerschool, conferences, etc)	4.2	4.3	4.2	4.4
3. The school is sufficiently transparent with respect to the school's finances, including fundraising	4.5	4.4	4.6	4.6
4. The school's tuition rate is reasonable considering the quality of the overall program	4.0	4.2	4.0	4.1
5. The school provides adequate academic support to students who are struggling	3.5	3.9	4.0	4.1
6. The school provide adequate enrichment opportunities to students who are capable of moving at a faster pace	3.8	4.0	4.1	4.1
7. Math lessons are sufficiently challenging	4.0	4.2	4.1	4.4
8. Language Arts lessons (grammar, writing, reading, etc) are sufficiently challenging	4.0	4.0	4.2	4.4
9. Science lessons are sufficiently challenging	4.3	4.1	4.3	4.1
10. Social Studies lessons are sufficiently challenging	4.3	4.2	4.3	4.4
11. Spanish and French are considered an integral part of the school's overall program	4.5	4.3	4.4	4.3
12. Music, Art, and PE are considered an integral part of the school's overall program	4.6	4.6	4.4	4.6
13. The STEAM & IB programs continue to be a "good fit" for the school	4.5	4.6	4.5	4.5
<b>ANNUAL AVERAGE</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>4.3</b>
<b>4-YEAR AVERAGE</b>	<b>4.2</b>	★★★★☆		

## Additional responses:

70% of respondents believe the quantity of homework is "about right"

97% of respondents either "agree" or "strongly agree" that the school is safe, healthy, and nurturing

93% of respondents either "agree" or "strongly agree" that the facility is well-maintained and clean

EXCERPT OF COMMENTS 2022	OVERALL STRENGTHS 2022
Consider more ways for parents to connect with each other	1. Home:School communication
Why is there so much fundraising?	2. Transparency with respect to school's finances
Why is there free dress on Wednesdays?	3. Music, Art, PE
More afterschool activities needed for the lower grades	4. STEAM & IB programs
The school relies on computers too much	AREAS NEEDING IMPROVEMENT 2022
Consider an option to pay tuition quarterly	1. Tuition rate
Communication between home and school could be improved	2. Support for struggling students
Upper grade classes are sometimes too small	3. Enrichment opportunities
Science needs be a little better across the school	4. Science lessons

# VPS SELF ASSESSMENT 2021-2022

At the beginning of the current school year, we outlined our goals for the year in the weekly newsletters. Below is our **SELF-ASSESSMENT** of our progress in meeting these goals.

GOALS		GRADE 1-5 SCALE 5 IS BEST
1	Continue implementation of the IB & STEAM programs	4-
Teachers continue to update their six <i>transdisciplinary units</i> of instruction which form the core of the <b>International Baccalaureate Program</b> . Two of these units are designed to have a <b>STEAM</b> component. At some grade-levels, these two units need further development. In addition to the six units, the school needs to focus greater attention on the <i>Learner Profile</i> and <i>Approaches to Learning</i> , both of which appear on the Report Card. Also, as enrollment returns to pre-pandemic levels, more funds must be allocated to professional development for these two programs.		
2	Continue implementation of Standards-based Grading SBG	3+
The school implemented SBG four years ago for two main reasons: (1) improve articulation of the curriculum, and (2) ensure each student's grades accurately reflect their knowledge (as evidenced by assessments & projects, rather than homework & classwork). The school needs to improve its communication with parents in regard to the articulation of the curriculum (much of which is available for review on the website). Additionally, there needs to be more consistency across grade-levels in the design of assessments. As enrollment returns to pre-pandemic levels, more funds must be allocated to professional development focusing on the development of assessment tools that support SBG.		
3	Implementation of new science and math programs	4-
<b>Mystery Science (K-5)</b> and <b>STEMscopes (6-8)</b> are two new science programs this year, following a few years of using another program which had many technical issues with its platform. Mystery Science has proven to be a strong program which is easily adaptable to the structure of the International Baccalaureate Program. However, it needs to be used more consistently across grade-levels as a primary resource. STEMscopes' alignment with the Next Generation Science Standards is a significant advantage. However, the program's lack of more hands-on learning opportunities is a definite disadvantage. Accordingly, the school must develop more lab-based activities to supplement the program. <b>Mathia-Flex</b> is the new middle school math program this year. The program is well-aligned with the local school district, into which most of our students matriculate for high school. It also provides opportunities for differentiation of instruction. However, the school must ensure a proper balance between direct instruction and the program's emphasis on online & self-directed learning.		
4	More effectively provide student support	4-
Prior to the pandemic, the school had a full-time <b>Resource Specialist</b> to support students with learning differences. This position was subsequently eliminated as enrollment declined during the pandemic. This school year, Mrs. Bolanos, our Librarian, did great work in providing reading support for students in K-5. This role should be further expanded next school year. As enrollment returns to pre-pandemic levels, the school must prioritize a full-time position.		
5	Provide more opportunities for staff collaboration & professional development	3+
Funding for professional development was significantly reduced as enrollment declined during the pandemic. As enrollment returns to pre-pandemic levels, the school must prioritize the importance of professional development for the teachers.		
6	Reach an enrollment of 150	4+
We began the current school year with 144 students. We currently have <b>153</b> . Many thanks to Mrs. Johnson in our Admissions Department for her great work! However, the school must remain focused on the long-term goal of reaching 160-165.		
7	Maintain a staffing structure that accurately reflects current enrollment	4
As enrollment declined during the pandemic, some staff positions were eliminated, and others reduced to 80% of full-time. As enrollment returns to pre-pandemic levels, the school must be committed to returning to a pre-pandemic structure.		
8	Increase funding for Tuition Assistance	4+
Over the past five years, the school's allocation of assistance has more than doubled to over \$100,000 annually. But this amount will need to increase annually as the school continues to rebuild enrollment following the pandemic.		
9	Increase Reserve Funds to \$1-million	4+
This school year, the school's reserve accounts surpassed \$1-million, which is approximately equal to six months of expenses. Ideally, the school should maintain reserves equal to one full year of expenses.		
10	More effectively market the school	4
Over the past few years, the school has steadily increased the number of visitors to our website. In recent months, social media engagement has increased significantly. The website still needs enhancements to reflect the school's program strengths.		