

2021 Lincoln Academy Family Survey Summary

2020/21 School Accountability Committee:

Parents: Lacy Cleveland, Megan Ross, Kristi Geisz

Staff: Rebecca Furst, Karen Dwyer, Ashleigh Betz, Brittany Kruger, Dawn Bennett, Ryan Younkerman

Board Member: Sarah Wasinger

(SAC will be recruiting additional parent/guardian representatives in the fall via announcement in the Lincoln Loop. Those who expressed interest on the survey will be contacted this spring.)

The School Accountability Committee thanks all families who provided feedback on the 2020/21 Family Survey. Your information on this survey, and the Back to Learning Surveys in the fall, help us identify needs of our students and families, adapt our program to immediate needs where we can, prioritize future plans, and recognize the important strengths of our staff and school.

Regarding the Lincoln Academy COVID Response:

In this unique year where so much was driven by public health policy and Covid-19 response, you expressed your appreciation for our teachers and staff who were dedicated to continually balancing safety and educational needs as they adapted instruction and materials when required, often with less than 24 hours' notice. You mentioned ways our Educational Assistants, Distance Learning Coordinators, DSS staff, teachers, and mental health staff contacted students, personalized care packages, repeated lessons, expanded reading plans, and creatively engaged with students who needed support. While there was no perfect answer to many challenges this year, we appreciate you recognizing that staff poured out their hearts in caring for their students.

We thank our families for their understanding and all of their extra support this year as well. We have missed our in-school volunteers, but we know our parents, grandparents, and caregivers have provided countless hours of educational and emotional support to students at home, from reteaching math concepts and practicing spelling words, to setting up Zoom playdates and rearranging work schedules when students had to quarantine.

Some families thought the pandemic response was handled extremely well, while others experienced significant frustrations. We are thankful for your continued support. Lincoln Academy remains committed to assessing and addressing the needs of students in the coming year. We anticipate hiring an additional Social Worker and an additional Middle School Special Education Teacher next year. We also plan to support teachers with two Instructional Coaches.

Number of Survey Responses

2021: 343 responses

2020: 369 responses

2019: 309 responses

“Overall, I am satisfied with Lincoln Academy “

2021: 88.75% (49.11% Strongly Agree, 39.64% Agree)

2020: 96.5% (72.0% Strongly Agree, 24.4% Agree)

2019: 94.2% (79.4% Yes, 14.9% Most of the time)

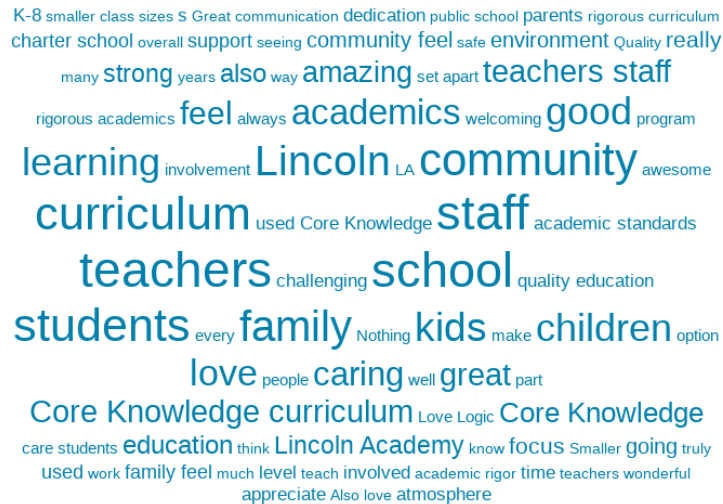
You pointed out Lincoln Academy’s strengths as being our Core Knowledge curriculum, our committed teachers who stayed positive in the face of ever-changing challenges, and our sense of community including our PTO and WatchDOGS.

We heard your desire to bring back our key student support programs such as Enrichment Groups and After School Help. Staff are eagerly waiting to meet with students in these capacities and others as soon as pandemic restrictions are lifted.

Families expressed concerns about rigor on both ends of the spectrum, Some feel that the program and homework expectations are excessive for their students, while others feel that their students need more challenge. We are committed to addressing the needs of all students. With our new administrative model next year, teachers will be able to work more closely with instructional coaches and principals for further curriculum support and instructional development.

When asked what sets Lincoln Academy apart from other school choices, our rigorous Core Knowledge curriculum and dedicated teachers consistently shine through:

Q2 In your opinion, what sets Lincoln Academy apart from other school choices available to your family?



A word cloud of responses to the question. The words are arranged in a roughly circular shape, with larger words being more prominent. The words include: K-8, smaller, class, sizes, S, Great, communication, dedication, public, school, parents, rigorous, curriculum, charter, school, overall, support, seeing, community, feel, safe, environment, Quality, really, many, strong, years, also, way, amazing, set, apart, teachers, staff, rigorous, academics, feel, always, academics, welcoming, good, program, learning, involvement, Lincoln, LA, community, awesome, curriculum, used, Core, Knowledge, staff, academic, standards, teachers, challenging, school, quality, education, students, every, family, Nothing, kids, make, children, option, love, people, caring, well, great, part, Core, Knowledge, curriculum, Love, Logic, Core, Knowledge, care, students, education, think, Lincoln, Academy, know, focus, Smaller, going, truly, used, work, family, feel, much, level, teach, involved, academic, rigor, time, teachers, wonderful, appreciate, Also, love, atmosphere.

“Overall, communication between my family and the school is effective.”

2021: 86.5% (43.5% Strongly Agree, 43% Agree)

2020: 92.3% (43.7% strongly agree, 48.6% agree)

2019: 93.4% (47.9% strongly agree, 45.5 agree)

Families indicated that they felt disconnected this year. Social distancing and health restrictions have hit our tight-knit community hard. Teachers and families were accustomed to informal check-ins that could not happen this year. We will be doing everything possible to return to vibrant, community-focused, in-person communications like our Parent Academies and Monday meetings. We will also aim to continue offering virtual options that have facilitated some families’ participation.

You requested more communication directly from our head of school, easier to find curriculum information, consistency in Monday email formats, more classroom stories shared with the community, and more communication about the middle school program and expectations. These will be addressed by our administration and may include:

- Moving Year-Long Plans to individual classroom pages
- Hosting a supplemental parent session regarding Middle School expectations, supports, and resources
- Returning to staggered in-person Parent Academies with recordings available afterward
- Offering virtual parent-teacher conferences who can't attend in-person.

- Hosting more live Parent Programs with recordings available afterwards on requested topics like Advanced Learning Plans and enrichment, READ Plans, arts and music in the Core Knowledge curriculum, technology/social media safety, and positive behavior interventions and supports.
 - ★ Special thanks to Ms. Kunau, Ms. Kruger, and Mrs. Rohwer for their “Peek Inside the Classroom” presentation and Mrs. Gimple for “Visual and Spatial Learners” presentation. You can find these recordings on the School Accountability Committee page under the Board of Directors.

<https://www.lincolnacademy.net/Page/2265>

Diversity and Inclusion

We heard the following concerns and suggestions regarding diversity:

- Bring out multiple voices, especially underrepresented groups, within CK curriculum
- Evaluate awards and songs for discriminatory or derogatory references
- Give students and parents cultural sharing opportunities (art, talent, traditions)

Fulfillment of Mission

The Mission of Lincoln Academy is to help students attain their highest social and academic potential through an academically rigorous, content-rich educational program in a safe, orderly, and caring environment.

“My student is reaching his/her Highest Academic Potential.”

2021: PreK-4: 86% (56.73% Strongly agree, 28.85% Agree)

5/6: 72% (30.86% Strongly agree, 40.74% Agree)

7/8: 68% (38.27% Strongly agree, 29.63% Agree)

2020: 85.4% (43.1 strongly agree, 42.3 Agree)

2019: 84.8% (41% strongly agree, 44% agree)

2018: 94.3% (51% strongly agree, 43% agree) had a “positive academic experience.” (wording difference)

“My student receives the academic support he/she needs to be successful.”

2021: PreK-4: 93.86% (64.25% Strongly agree, 26.57% Agree)

5/6: 84% (39.51% Strongly agree, 44.44% Agree)

7/8: 78% (43.90% Strongly agree, 34.15% Agree)

2020: 85.9% Strongly Agree or agree (44.3%, 41.6%)

2019: 87.3% Strongly agree or agree (46.2 %, 41.1 %)

2018: 91.2% Strongly agree or agree (62.6 Always, 28.6 Most of the time)

“School staff have high expectations for my student(s).”

2021: PreK-4: 94% (69.23% Strongly agree, 25.00% Agree)

5/6: 94% (52.5% Strongly agree, 41.25% Agree)

7/8: 91% (47.56% Strongly agree, 42.68% Agree)

2020: 65.6% Always, 26.2% Most of the time, 7.7% some of the time

2019: 64.5% Always, 27.9%Most of the time, 6.64% some of the time

“My student receives the social and emotional support needed. ”

2021: PreK-4: 89% (63.46% Strongly agree, 25.48% Agree)

5/6: 73% (34.57% Strongly agree, 38.27% Agree)

7/8: 72% (36.59% Strongly agree, 35.37% Agree)

2020: 81.3% Strongly agree/ agree (37.1, 44.2)

2019: 86.1% Strongly Agree/agree (40.9%, 45.2%)

2018: 92.1% Strongly agree/ agree (53.7%, 38.4%)

Logistical Survey Improvements for Next Year

SAC will be more strategic about comment boxes so they are meaningful but do not make the survey unnecessarily long.

We will aim to improve questions on the Specials pages.

We will include one final comment box at the end for comments that did not fit elsewhere.