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Virginia Department of Education 2026 Parent Involvement Survey

Each school year, the Virginia Department of Education is required to report to the United States Department of Education the “percent of parents with a child receiving special education services who report that schools facilitated parent involvement as a means of improving services and results for children with disabilities.” **All families of children who receive special education services through Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) in Virginia’s public schools are asked to complete this short survey.** The VDOE will use the results of this survey to improve parental involvement in the special education process and improve outcomes for all students within the Commonwealth. It is important to note that your responses are recorded anonymously and cannot be personally linked to your child.

Parents with more than one child receiving special education services through IEPs in Virginia’s public schools should submit one survey for each child. Please note that you will need to use a different browser (Safari, Google, etc.) or another electronic device (laptop, cell phone, iPad, etc.) if you complete surveys for multiple children.

When completing this survey, you will answer questions designed to cause you to reflect upon your experiences during the past school year. If you have any questions about this survey, please contact Dr. Chiquita Seaborne, VDOE Family Engagement Specialist/Special Projects Coordinator, via telephone at (804) 418-4672, or via email at Chiquita.Seaborne@doe.virginia.gov.

Please mail your completed survey to:

ATTN: Survey Coordinator 20th Floor
Department of Special Populations
Virginia Department of Education
P.O. Box 2120
Richmond, VA 23218

Demographic Questions

Provide answers to the following demographic questions:

1. What school division did your child attend during the *past* school year?
2. What was your child's age during the *past* school year?
3. What was your child's grade level during the past school year? (preschool, elementary school, middle school, high school)
4. What was your child's PRIMARY educational disability during the *past* school year?
5. What is your child's Race/Ethnicity?

Survey Questions

Circle one answer for each question that best identifies your response to the following questions:

6. My child's school helped me become involved to improve services and results for my child with a disability.

Agree

Disagree

7. I was comfortable asking questions, discussing my child's progress, and expressing concerns about my child's special education program and services.

Agree

Disagree

8. My child's school and I participated in "two way" communication throughout the school year.

Agree

Disagree

9. I was provided information about school and community resources, supports, services, and school staff available to me to obtain assistance and information on the special education process.

Agree

Disagree

10. I was given information about the service and placement options available to my child and was offered the opportunity to ask questions during special education meetings.

Agree

Disagree

11. Please use this space to provide any additional comments.

12. Would you like someone from the VDOE to contact you regarding the questions in this survey or to discuss any other concerns with the special education process? Please circle your answer.

Yes

No

13. If you answered “YES” to question #12, please provide the following contact information:

Name:

Email:

Address:

Phone Number:

Additional Information

If you have questions regarding your child's special education services or want to speak with someone regarding this survey, you may also wish to reach out to the VDOE Parent Ombudsman for Special Education. The Ombudsman serves as a designated neutral party who advocates for a fair process and provides confidential, informal assistance and support to parents, guardians, advocates, educators, and students with disabilities. The Parent Ombudsman for Special Education serves as a resource to parents in non-legal special education matters. Additional information about the Parent Ombudsman’s responsibilities can be found on the VDOE website, at <https://www.doe.virginia.gov/programs-services/special-education/resolvingdisputes/parent-ombudsman-for-special-education>. The Parent Ombudsman can be reached via phone at (800) 422-2083, or via email at specialeducationombudsman@doe.virginia.gov.

The Center for Family Involvement (CFI) is another available resource for parents. The Center for Family Involvement works with families to increase their skills as advocates, mentors, and leaders so that families, children, and young adults with disabilities can lead the lives they want. For additional information about the CFI you may visit their website at www.centerforfamilyinvolvement.org. The CFI can also be reached by telephone at (877) 567-1122, or via email at cfihelpline@vcu.edu.

For additional information regarding parent training opportunities or parent advocacy, please visit the Parent Educational Advocacy Training Center (PEATC) website at www.peatc.org or call (800) 869-6782. You may also reach out to PEATC via email at partners@peatc.org.