



# 2019 GREYSTONE CENTENNIAL THOUGHT EXCHANGE REPORT

Parkland School Division 70  
Greystone Centennial Middle School



## Q1 What are some things you appreciate and some concerns you have about our school this year?

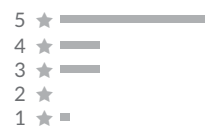
**Communication** Like getting texts with homework and upcoming events as my son rarely tells me!

4.3  (23   
Ranked #1 of 73





**Great Teachers** My Daughter has been at this school now for 3 years and her teachers are always willing to help her where she struggles.

4.1  (23   
Ranked #2 of 73





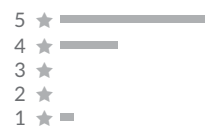
**Open communication** I appreciate that if I have concerns or questions, that I can check in and my child's teacher will respond, and is open to the dialogue.

4.1  (23   
Ranked #3 of 73



**The attention and care from the teachers** The engaged teachers has greatly increased my child's learning this year. They have supported my child's learning and made it a positive experience

4.1  (15   
Ranked #4 of 73



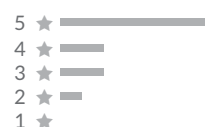
**My son's teachers are wonderful, and I appreciate that he stays with them for two years.**

4.1  (14   
Ranked #5 of 73





**Awesome Teachers** My child was able to open up and find a teacher that is wonderful and able to help him learn and grown as an individual

4.0  (23   
Ranked #6 of 73





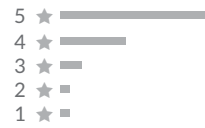
**Counselling Services** Would love to see this expanded to allow more one-one type services that students can access.

4.0  (23   
Ranked #7 of 73





**I appreciate the remind to each parent** so we know what our child is doing and needs to after school

4.0  (23   
Ranked #8 of 73





**I get the impression there are fewer incidents of bullying/fighting at school. It has a lot to do with cracking down on that sort of behaviour.** I remember my time in school and I'm very glad that my child doesn't have to deal with that as much and can focus on his studies. Thank you for that.

4.0  (15   
Ranked #9 of 73





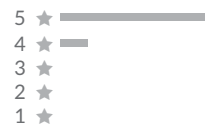
**Separation of grade levels make me feel more comfortable knowing the youngest and oldest are in their own area** Bullying and discussions that are inappropriate for certain grade levels can be eliminated this way

4.0  (15   
Ranked #10 of 73





**Greystone Centennial has such a caring and respectful group of teachers and support staff** The children feel safe and comfortable in the school environment

4.0  (6   
Ranked #11 of 73




**Consequences** Late / incomplete assignments. We have to teach kids this is not OK.

3.9  (24   
Ranked #12 of 73





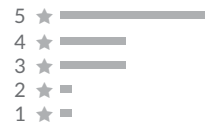
**School involvement. How they keep the kids busy during lunch hour** The school ensures that the kids have the time to do physical activity when there is a free time. Very important for kids to be active.

3.9  (23   
Ranked #13 of 73





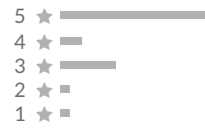
**Teacher professionalism** Having a teacher that understands teenagers is very important. I find the teachers at grey stone let the teens be teens but also educated them

3.9  (23   
Ranked #14 of 73





**Dealing with children that have disabilities. Grade 9 teachers are amazing at teaching to the levels of the kids. They also treat them like an adult.** It is very important for them to ensure all students realize no matter the disability they are all equal. That their dreams can be reached.

3.9  (22   
Ranked #15 of 73




**Excellent variety of sports and staff willing to step up for our kids.** So many kids wanting to play basketball this year and staff being willing to make an extra team, doubling their workload, giving all kids opportunity

3.9  (22   
Ranked #16 of 73





**Parent/Teacher interviews** Appreciate that meetings were one-one after report cards so that we had concrete things to discuss!

3.9  (22   
Ranked #17 of 73



**It would be nice to have the website updates regularly** Assist with communication

3.9  (19   
Ranked #18 of 73





**More information on website is needed.** I'm unable to attend council meetings, but would be interested in reading updates from PSD and the school. There are no meeting minutes posted.

3.9  (14   
Ranked #19 of 73





**The teachers and all the extras they do for the students** It has helped my child grow immensely this year, as a student and a person

3.9  (13   
Ranked #20 of 73





**I love how flexible all the staff is with special need curriculum** My child is special needs and doesn't often learn in a typical manner, so the flexibility and participation by the staff is very important

3.8  (23   
Ranked #21 of 73





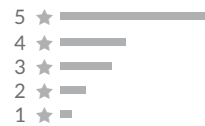
**Relationships** I love how the students and teachers have strong relationships and the students are respected and valued.

3.8  (23   
Ranked #22 of 73





**There are some amazing teachers.** My son is difficult, I appreciate the staff that puts time and effort into understanding him.

3.8  (23   
Ranked #23 of 73




**Very welcome environment for parents. Whenever you go into grey stone you feel like a member of the family.** It is very important they keep a great relationship with parents to ensure teachers and parents assist their child/student as much as possible.

3.8  (23   
Ranked #24 of 73



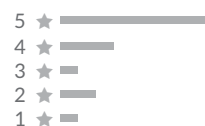
**I appreciate how the school made the transition easy for my child; from elementary to middle school.**

3.8  (21   
Ranked #25 of 73




**I'd like parents who drop off their children to be reminded that the loop around the front parking lot is a 2-lane, one-way road.** When exiting the loop, some drivers turn left from the right lane and vice versa. There are two lanes that exit; it's not one really wide lane.

3.8  (15   
Ranked #26 of 73





**On the days where buses aren't running, there should be a school-wide backup plan to create a fun atmosphere and help kids, one-on-one, who need it.** I could be misinformed, but my child left me with the impression that those days were incredibly dull. Everyday at school should be an opportunity.

3.8  (15   
Ranked #27 of 73





**Starting with Grade 7 our kids have the option of taking French. Kids who take that option are missing important core classes and discussions.** Learning a new language is important for kids' development. Wish that French would be offered in all Grades.

3.8  (6   
Ranked #28 of 73





**What I like about Greystone is the safe environment. Most teachers that we got to know are fantastic and I feel that my kids are in good care.** Safety of our kids is always important to me as a parent.

3.8  (6   
Ranked #29 of 73





**I like that the classes stay together for a while** Allows for better and more diverse friendships to grow

3.7  (24   
Ranked #30 of 73





**I appreciate the effort made to make my son comfortable at school and able to learn and grow.** It's not easy for him to socialize but he feels able to participate there.

3.7  (23   
Ranked #31 of 73





**I wish the communication was better with extra curricular activities and that the fees were up to date on the portal.** We can't always rely on the kids to relay information....and the fees to pay are never up to date.

3.7  (23   
Ranked #32 of 73





**Inclusiveness** Happy my son is accepted and included at Greystone.

3.7  (23   
Ranked #33 of 73





**Easy communication** busy lifestyle, we need the easy communication

3.7  (22   
Ranked #34 of 73





**Importance of Grade 9 students preparation for High School** It's a big transition to young students becoming young adults and to realize the responsibilities that wil l'll be in front of or to come in future.

3.7  (22   
Ranked #35 of 73





**Outdoor Education** There is a program designed and approved by Alberta Edmonton for grade 9 outdoor education. Such an amazing program!!!

3.7  (21   
Ranked #36 of 73





**The blocks in which French class takes place** I want my kids to learn French but not at the cost of them missing important core subjects.

3.7  (21   
Ranked #37 of 73





**Option choices are limited.** I'd like to see a better variety of options, and have the foods option available to more students.

3.7  (14   
Ranked #38 of 73




**Amazing support from staff for my special needs son** Without this support my son could not attend school

3.7  (13   
Ranked #39 of 73





**I like the variety of activities available** Allows my child to participate in things we may not think to try

3.6  (23   
Ranked #40 of 73





**I appreciate the variety of learning opportunity for kids. I really appreciate the "math groups" which allows kids to learn at their level.** My son excels at math so being in a higher math group allows him to further his skills.

3.6  (20   
Ranked #41 of 73





**I like the weekly emails** The weekly emails explaining what has been covered in the last week and what is coming up allows me to know what is going on in the class

3.6  (15   
Ranked #42 of 73





**The activities you have for the kids throughout the year.** Helps the kids fill comfortable and build lasting relationships with others within the school.

3.5  (21   
Ranked #43 of 73





**There's a lot of talk about cell-phone abuse in the classroom and at school. I wonder if banning them during recess is an overreaction.** Recess is their time. If a student is on their cell during class time, take the phone away and contact their parents to pick it up at the front desk.

3.5  (14   
Ranked #44 of 73





**I appreciate the help from the staff regarding my son** They are getting him the right steps to proceed with helping him

3.4  (23   
Ranked #45 of 73





**Sometimes tasks and things I consider it important learn seem to be left untaught.** Signing a signature, handwriting in general, writing an essay, mass that is not done with extensive graphs - it was so much simpler 20 years ago.

3.4  (23   
Ranked #46 of 73





**Communication can be lacking.** I would much prefer to know what is going on at school without having to either sign in to the website or look on Google classroom.

3.4  (22   
Ranked #47 of 73





**It would be nice if there was opportunity to interact with some of my childs other teachers** We only seem to ever meet with my child's home room teacher. It would be nice if we could get feedback from the other teachers as well.

3.4  (22   
Ranked #48 of 73





**I wish that there were parent/teacher meetings in the years prior to grade 9, instead of only student-led meetings.** It's not a comfortable situation to try and discuss your child's weaknesses in school and hear honest answers when the child is right there.

3.4  (15   
Ranked #49 of 73





**I would like to see recognition for students, perhaps awards for academics, sports, and leadership achievements. I'm not sure that an awards ceremony is necessary, but maybe consider some awards at the grade nine grad, where family is already attending.**

3.4  (15   
Ranked #50 of 73





**Variety of activities** We love all the activities and opportunities that are available for our child to participate in. These have helped to broaden our child's experiences

3.4  (15   
Ranked #51 of 73





**I'm glad that the school didn't have Innovation Week this year.** My kids never enjoyed it, and felt like it was a waste of time. I didn't see much educational value in it.

3.4  (13   
Ranked #52 of 73



**Communication, communication, communication!!! Get off of the FB train ladies.** Not everyone is on FB and it is difficult to find school wide info like try outs, trips, etc. Kids have missed out because of it!

3.4  (11   
Ranked #53 of 73





**Electives being taught during core subject classes.** How are kids supposed to enjoy learning an elective when they are falling behind in a core to do so? I have never heard of a school doing this.

3.3  (20   
Ranked #54 of 73



**Clubs/Choir** To include all students in choir/clubs - especially kids that are shy.

3.2  (23   
Ranked #55 of 73





**IPP or Supprt Plans need to be utilized more. They are legal documents that hold the staff accountable. It gives staff insight to student needs** I am so tired of my child missing 1/2 year of learning while the staff figure out what she needs.

3.2  (11   
Ranked #56 of 73







**Attendance system** I call the office and send the teacher a message about my child's absence and it still gets marked absence unknown and We get phone calls and message.

3.1  (24   
Ranked #57 of 73




**I do miss having a school agenda come home daily.** I feel a little disconnected to what his day is like and what he's working on.

3.1  (23   
Ranked #58 of 73





**It sure about the pos system and having the same teacher following them through each year. Especially if there is teacher student compatibility issue** It is hard enough to learn socially and emotionally and is hard to learn in an environment that causes teacher tension and limits student success.

3.1  (14   
Ranked #59 of 73



**A middle school seems to be less mature. or shows less maturity in students in grades 8 -9 than schools with only grades 7-8 and 9. As young generations grow up they will find out how big the world is .**

3.0  (23   
Ranked #60 of 73





**I feel there needs to be better communication from school to home.** Perhaps a monthly newsletter from Greystone would be helpful. I like to know of important dates well in advance.

3.0  (22   
Ranked #61 of 73




**The school seems to be going back to a very traditional style school and we preferred the forward thinking with former leadership.**

3.0  (20   
Ranked #62 of 73




**My concerns is bullying in school** my child has a hard time focussing on classes and its a growing concern with most parents and something has to be done to stop it

2.9  (22   
Ranked #63 of 73





**Thank you for the Quebec exchange.** Unique experience that my child wouldn't have had.

2.9  (22   
Ranked #64 of 73



**The Quebec trip** Well done putting this together, looking forward to the twins in AB.

2.9  (21   
Ranked #65 of 73





**Is a child is diagnosed with a learning need and requires support and IPP should be required.** Where is the accountability for parents the supports are actually happening (which they are not).

2.9  (11   
Ranked #66 of 73





**Bullying needs to stop** I dont think its handles appropriately buy tje staff

2.8  (23   
Ranked #67 of 73





**Bullying** Constantly happening, kids dont want to say anything as then it gets worse

2.8  (23   
Ranked #68 of 73





**Volleyball and Basketball** My daughter loves volleyball and basketball with her breaking her wrist in volleyball she couldn't do basketball this year but coaches are great

2.8  (23   
Ranked #69 of 73




**I am glad my child didn't have the same teacher as last year and has one this year that can accept them for who they are, warts and all.** Last year was tough, especially when it was clear the teacher clearly didn't care for my child. They absolutely hated going to school last year.

2.5  (21   
Ranked #70 of 73





**Homework load can be heavy at times** Kids need school/ home life balance

2.5  (11   
Ranked #71 of 73





**My child and I would have liked to have innovation week for the grade 9 kids this year. It was something that we really enjoyed in the previous years.** Being involved with your child's schoolwork is one thing; giving them guidance with an academic project that they are passionate about is even better.

2.3  (14   
Ranked #72 of 73





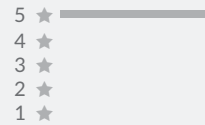
**The bus (non SN) that stops in front of school; in the parent/student drop of area needs to go. Kids can't see where their parents are. It should be moved further back where it used to be at the TS gate. Where it stops causes prolonged congestion**

2.3  (11   
Ranked #73 of 73





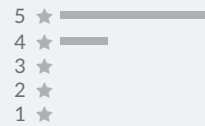
**Appreciate the open door policy. Always welcome and inviting**

3.8  (3   
Not enough ratings to rank




**Friendly greeting everyday! It's important because kids need to feel welcome especially if they have nerves in the morning.**

3.8  (4   
Not enough ratings to rank




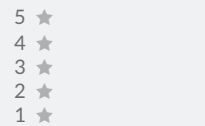
**Getting info out to parents from council Too many road blocks when trying to get fundraising idea out to parents.**

0.0  (0   
Not enough ratings to rank



**Have some AMAZING teachers this year for my child They took time to get to know and understand my child and the learning just comes. Relationship is SO important**

0.0  (0   
Not enough ratings to rank









**Quebec Exchange An amazing experience for my child that I could not have given them.**

0.0  (0   
Not enough ratings to rank









**Such friendly teachers and principal and vice principal.** As a parent, it's appreciated that we can easily have a conversation with accessible staff. It's important as it's a faster way to problem solve.

3.8  (3 )  
Not enough ratings to rank

- 5 
- 4 
- 3 
- 2 
- 1 

**We are blessed with our teachers this year.** Couldn't have asked for better teachers for my children this year. Has made all the difference for them

0.0  (0 )  
Not enough ratings to rank

- 5 
- 4 
- 3 
- 2 
- 1 