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ABSTRACT

This report summarizes findings of a survey conducted by the School Board of Broward County, Florida, to determine students' and their parents' perceptions of the district's 169 elementary and secondary schools. Out of a sample of 139,436 students and 147,789 parents, a total of 125,822 students and 26,276 parents responded. The survey gathered information in the following categories--instructional programs; school work and teaching; teaching processes; parent communication and involvement; student supervision; student support; student safety to and from school; student safety at school; weapons, gangs, drugs, and alcohol at school; physical harm and threats at school; neighborhood safety; and satisfaction and school cleanliness. Some of the findings include: (1) 56 percent of the students and 69 percent of the parents reported favorable perceptions of instructional programs related to mathematics, science, social studies, and language arts; (2) about 76 percent of parents said that teachers "always" or "usually" did a good job teaching their child; (3) parents of elementary school children held more favorable views than did those of secondary students toward instructional programs, teaching, and school-parent relations; (4) 6 percent of elementary students and 18 percent of secondary students reported that students "always" or "usually" carried weapons to school; and (5) higher percentages of students than parents reported that they had knowledge of student drug/alcohol use, gang membership, and student possession of weapons. Appendices contain 12 tables, 39 figures of student responses by grade level, and 37 figures of parent responses by school level. (LMI)

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The First Annual Report  
of Student and Parent Perspectives  
on Broward's Public Schools

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# Improving Our Schools 1995

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# Improving Our Schools

A Report of Student and Parent Perspectives  
on Broward's Public Schools

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The School Board of Broward County, Florida  
Spring 1995

## *Acknowledgments*

This report was supported by the School Board of Broward County.

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Superintendent of Schools

April 1995

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**Atlantic Research and Training  
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*A Message from  
Dr Frank R Petruzielo  
Superintendent of Schools*

Pursuant to our Blueprint: *Broward Schools of Excellence*, systemwide measures of accountability tied to the Major System Priorities are being developed and implemented on an ongoing basis. One of these measures is an Annual Customer Survey of the perceptions of our students and parents. The results of this year's first annual survey are enclosed for elementary, middle, and high schools. Analysis of data for other schools and centers serving K-12 students will be forthcoming.

Principals are expected to review this report and their school report and place both on file with their School Improvement Plan (SIP). School staff members are expected to accomplish the following:

- Careful examination of parent and student responses;
- Integration of data from other sources with perception data of parents and students (such as Critical Incident Report data, Florida School Report summaries, various test results, and other student and staff performance data);
- Involvement of School Improvement Teams, faculty and staff, Innovation Zone representatives, area and central office staff, and other interested parties in a formal review of these data for the purpose of developing specific goals for improvement;
- Incorporation of relevant data, objectives and strategies in SIPs, Annual Reports of School Progress, and School Safety Plans to address concerns which have been identified; and
- Review of current and anticipated resource allocations, based upon these findings, to insure the most effective alignment of resources with identified needs.

As a result of my preliminary review of these findings, I am particularly concerned with these challenges:

- Increasing visible and effective efforts which promote parent involvement in schools.
- Improving the level of student supervision in schools, especially in secondary schools.
- Listening carefully to students who are concerned about their safety at school and responding appropriately.
- Increasing student use of computers, especially among secondary students.
- Ensuring that students feel safe when they are transported on school buses.
- Ensuring that students can carry supplies and valuables to school without concern for theft.
- Removing all weapons from schools.
- Eliminating all drugs and alcohol from schools.
- Ensuring that physical violence against students and staff members is not tolerated and is dealt with swiftly.
- Improving the cleanliness of schools.

Let's commit ourselves to using the information in this report, listening to our important "customers," and *Improving Our Schools*.

Dr. Frank R. Petruzielo  
Superintendent of Schools

## Executive Summary

During the fall of 1994, Superintendent Frank R. Petruzielo and members of the School Board of Broward County called for an annual, large scale data collection process designed to determine the nature of student and parent perspectives on public schools in Broward County, Florida. The process provided each student in grades three through twelve and their parents with an opportunity to share their views.

The data collection process was designed and directed by the school district's Research and Evaluation Department during the spring of 1995. The process was comprised of collecting perspectives from students with a survey for elementary grades 3 - 5 and a survey for middle/high school grades 6 - 12. Parent perspectives were solicited with a survey mailed to each household with a child enrolled in grades kindergarten through 12. The data collection process was successful in the following ways:

- Students and parents responded to survey items using a scale including these five options: *Always -- Usually -- Sometimes -- Never -- Don't Know.*
- Student surveys were supplied to 139,436 students in grades 3 - 12 in 169 schools. A total of 125,822 completed surveys were processed.
- Parent surveys were mailed to 160,028 addresses. Postal records confirmed that 147,789 were delivered. A total of 26,276 parent surveys were returned to the school district in self-addressed, postage-paid envelopes.
- Surveys were scanned by the school district's Management Information Services office. Data files were transmitted to an external research firm for independent processing.

- Student and parent survey results were merged and used in the preparation of 169 school reports. These reports contained findings specific to each respective school. Reports were organized according to twelve major issues important to school improvement planning.

Twelve areas of inquiry were selected and defined for the data collection process. These related to issues important for school improvement planning. Each of these areas are defined below by a major question. Selected major findings are presented here.

### *Instructional Programs*

**Are instructional programs favorably perceived by students and parents?**

- More than half of the students (56%) and parents (69%) indicated that they "always" or "usually" liked instructional programs related to math, science, social studies, and language arts.
- Elementary level students held more favorable views toward instructional programs in math, science, social studies, and language arts than middle and high school level students. This was evidenced by the finding that 42% of the elementary students indicated that they "always" liked these programs while 23% of the middle and high school students rated the programs as "always."
- Elementary level parents held more favorable views toward instructional programs in math, science, social studies, and language arts than middle and high school level parents. It was noted that 34% of the elementary parents indicated that they "always" liked these programs while 25% of the middle and high school parents used the "always" rating.

### *School Work and Teaching*

**Is school work challenging and are teachers doing a good job teaching?**

- About 71% of the parents indicated that they thought that teachers "always" or "usually" made sure students were challenged by school work. It was noted that the percentage of parents who responded "always" declined from the elementary level (79%) to the high school level (54%).
- More than half of the students indicated that teachers "always" or "usually" did a good job teaching them, however, this percentage changed dramatically from the elementary level to the secondary level. The percentage declined from a high of 94% among 3rd graders to 48% among 11th graders.
- About 76% of the parents indicated that teachers "always" or "usually" did a good job teaching their child. It was noted that the percentage of parents declined from the elementary level (86%) to the high school level (59%).

### *Teaching Processes*

**Do teachers communicate the importance of school work, respond to student problems, and provide feedback on student performance?**

- Sixty-nine percent (69%) of the parents indicated that teachers "always" or "usually" helped their child with his/her problems or questions. It was noted that the percentage of parents declined from the elementary level (81%) to the high school level (50%).
- Seventy (70%) of the parents indicated that teachers "always" or "usually" kept them informed of how their child was doing in school. The percentage declined from the elementary level (83%) to the high school level (45%).

### *Parent Communication & Involvement*

**Do schools communicate with parents and encourage them to be involved in the school?**

- About 48% of the students in grades 3-12 indicated that their school "always" or "usually" wanted their parents involved at school. This finding changed across grade levels. The highest percentage was found among 5th graders (68%). The percentage declined consistently to 18% among 12th graders.
- Seventy (70%) of the parents indicated that school staff members "always" or "usually" wanted parents to be involved at their child's school. Parent perspectives declined from 83% at the elementary level to 45% at the high school level.
- Fifty-one percent (51%) of the parents indicated their child's school had "always" or "usually" asked them to share their ideas and/or concerns about the school. This finding was the highest among elementary parents (62%) and declined considerably to the high school level (30%). In addition, it was noted that among middle school and high school parents the percentage who indicated they had "never" been asked exceeded the percentage who had indicated they had "always" been asked. The "never" to "always" percentages among middle school parents was 29% to 17%. The "never" to "always" percentages among high school parents was 38% to 12%.

### *Supervision of Students*

**Do school staff members supervise students and demonstrate a concern for student safety?**

- Teacher supervision in hallways was examined at the secondary level where students regularly change classes. A total of 46% of the students indicated that their teachers "always" or "usually" stood outside their classroom doors during class changes.

- A total of 79% of the parents indicated that students were "always" or "usually" supervised at school.

#### *Student Support*

**Are students supported with technology, rules, and individual assistance?**

- About 42% of the students indicated that they "always" or "usually" use a computer at school. This finding was the highest among elementary students (56%) and lowest among secondary students (30%). It was noted that the percentage of students who indicated that they "never" used a computer at school varied greatly by level. At the elementary level only 2% indicated "never" while 26% of the secondary students "never" used a computer.
- Seventy (70%) of the parents indicated that their child "always" or "usually" used up-to-date equipment, like computers, at school.
- Across all grade levels, a total of 28% of the students indicated that students "always" or "usually" followed school rules. In addition, it was noted that 27% of the secondary students and 8% of the elementary students indicated that students "never" followed rules at school.
- Across all grade levels, almost 44% of the students indicated that when they had reported incidents of crime at school, someone "always" or "usually" took action to correct the problem. It was noted, however, that 41% of the secondary students didn't know if action had been taken. This percentage at the elementary level was 17.

#### *Student Safety to and from School*

**Are there concerns for the safety of students while they travel to and from school?**

- Across grade levels, a total of 69% of the students indicated that they "always" or "usually" felt safe on the way to and from school while 7% responded that they "never" felt safe.

- Sixty-three percent (63%) of the parents indicated that they thought their child was "always" or "usually" safe walking home from school or the bus stop.

#### *Student Safety at School*

**Are there concerns for the safety of students while they are at school?**

- A total of 56% of the students indicated that they "always" or "usually" felt safe from crime at school while 17% "never" felt safe.
- The percentage of secondary students who indicated that they "never" felt safe from crime at school exceeded the percentage of students who indicated that they "always" felt safe from crime at school. Twenty-three (23%) percent of these students responded "never" while 17% responded "always." In contrast, at the elementary level, the percent who responded "never" was 22% and 54% responded "always."
- Elementary students more often indicated that they felt safe from crime at school than in their neighborhood. About 54% indicated that they "always" felt safe from crime at school while 34% indicated that they "always" felt safe from crime in their neighborhood.
- Secondary students more often indicated that they felt safe from crime in their neighborhood than at school. About 17% indicated that they "always" felt safe from crime at school while 33% indicated that they "always" felt safe from crime in their neighborhood.
- About 7% of the student indicated that they "never" felt safe from crime in school or in their neighborhood.



- Forty-two percent (42%) of the students indicated that they could "always" or "usually" carry money, school supplies, and other important things to school without worrying that those things would be taken from them. About 29% of the students indicated that they "never" could carry those items without worry of theft. Responses to this issue varied by school level. It was noted that 20% of the elementary students and 36% of the secondary students indicated that they could "never" carry valuables to school.
- A total of 56% of the parents indicated that their child could "always" or "usually" carry books, money, and other items to school without fear of theft or damage.

***Weapons, Gangs, Drugs, & Alcohol at School***  
Are there concerns for weapons, gangs, drugs, and alcohol at school?

- Nearly 13% of the students indicated that students "always" or "usually" carried weapons to school. Responses on this issue changed from the elementary level (6%) to the secondary level (18%).
- Twenty percent (20%) of the students indicated that students at their school were "always" or "usually" a member of a gang. Responses on this issue changed from the elementary level (10%) to the secondary level (29%).
- Sixteen percent (16%) of the students indicated that students "always" or "usually" used drugs or alcohol at school. Responses on this issue changed from the elementary level (3%) to the secondary level (28%).

***Physical Harm and Threats at School***  
Are there concerns for the physical safety of students and staff members while at school?

- Nearly 10% of the students indicated that other students "always" or "usually" wanted to hurt them while they were at school.

- Nearly 42% of the students indicated that students "always" or "usually" threaten or fight with each other while they are at school.
- About 11% of the students indicated that students "always" or "usually" threaten or attack school staff members at their schools. This percentage remained consistent across grade levels. The percentage of students responding "sometimes" changed significantly and consistently from the 3rd grade (15%) to the 12th grade (44%). -

***Neighborhood Safety***

Are there concerns for the physical safety of students while in their neighborhoods?

- Student and parent perspectives on neighborhood safety differed. About 59% of the students indicated that they "always" or "usually" felt safe from crime in their neighborhood. A total of 82% of the parents indicated that their child was "always" or "usually" safe from crime in their neighborhood.
- Student and parent perspectives on alcohol and drug use in neighborhoods differed. A total of 27% of the students indicated that students "always" or "usually" used alcohol and/or drugs in their neighborhood. About 9% of the parents thought students "always" or "usually" had alcohol and/or drugs in their neighborhood.
- Student and parent perspectives on gangs in neighborhoods differed. A total of 20% indicated that students in their neighborhood were "always" or "usually" members of gangs. About 6% of the parents indicated that students in their neighborhood were "always" or "usually" members of youth gangs.

- Student and parent perspectives on student possession of weapons in neighborhoods differed. About 22% of the students indicated that students in their neighborhood "always" or "usually" carried weapons in their neighborhood. A total of 5% of the parents indicated that students "always" or "usually" carried weapons in their neighborhood.

#### *Satisfaction & School Cleanliness*

##### **Are parents and students satisfied with the schools and are schools clean?**

- Nearly 64% of the students indicated that they "always" or "usually" felt good about the things they were doing in school.
- Almost 83% of the parents indicated that they "always" or "usually" felt good about the things their child did at school. This finding was strongest at the elementary level (90%) and declined to the high school level (72%).
- About 81% of the students indicated that their school was "always," "usually," or "sometimes" clean. It was noted that 8% of the elementary students and 24% of the secondary students indicated that their schools were "never" clean.
- Ninety-five percent (95%) of the parents indicated that their child's school was "always," "usually," or "sometimes" clean and well-maintained.

The data collection process reported here was the result the first annual survey of students and parents. As with some large scale processes, several operational issues limited the efficiency of data collection. Some of these issues are listed here.

- Mailing labels did not include the necessary "TO THE PARENTS OF:" wording.
- Mailing labels, in some instances, were incorrect. This problem was traced to the vendor's mailing software which ostensibly was to correct addresses not change correct addresses to incorrect addresses.

- In some instances, surveys mailed on dates which were beyond the date stated for return. This resulted from the vendor underestimates, printing delays, an insufficient supply of envelopes, and shipping delays contributed in pushing the completion of necessary steps to a critical point where, eventually, no time margin existed for error. This caused some surveys to be received after the date specified for return.
- School numbers for nine middle schools were left off the survey.

Accordingly, preliminary plans indicate that the 1995-96 administration of the surveys will be conducted differently. Additional considerations for include:

- A summer planning session targeting an October/November administration date.
- The time allowed for printing, packaging and mailing, as well as return date, will be extended.
- Mailing labels will be revised.
- Parent surveys will be printed on optical mark scanning forms to eliminate the need for separate answer sheets.
- School staffs will be expected to take a series of steps to gain greater parent participation.

Overall, the district was viewed as successful in providing an opportunity for students and parents to share their perspectives on issues relevant to school improvement planning. In addition, resulting data should provide a basis for further inquiry on issues like student safety, teaching processes, and student/parent satisfaction. Finally, data compiled through this inquiry will provide a basis for monitoring progress during the next few years.

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*Major System Priorities of the  
Broward County Public School District*

- ◆ Improving Student Achievement and School Effectiveness
- ◆ Addressing Growth
- ◆ Achieving Desegregation
- ◆ Ensuring Student and Employee Safety and Security
- ◆ Attracting, Retaining, and Training the Best Teachers, Principals, and Support Personnel
- ◆ Developing and Expanding Partnerships
- ◆ Utilizing Technology to Improve Student Achievement and Increase Productivity and Efficiency

# Improving Our Schools

## The First Annual Report of Student and Parent Perspectives on Broward's Public Schools

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### *This Report*

This report summarizes the results of activities undertaken by the Broward County Public School District to obtain perspectives held by students and their parents on the nature of Broward's public schools. It was prepared to help members of the School Board, district administrators, and area administrators in identifying issues of concern expressed by students and parents. In addition, it was prepared to assist school staff members in using the 169 school reports prepared from survey data. School reports and this report were devised to support school level planning for school improvement. This report contains the following sections:

- ◆ *Executive Summary*
- ◆ *The Challenge of Obtaining Data for School Improvement*
- ◆ *The Response by Students and Parents*
- ◆ *Results of the Survey*
- ◆ *Using Results for School Improvement*
- ◆ *Enhancements for Future Surveys*
- ◆ *Appendix with Data Tables*

## Summary of Major Findings

Twelve areas of inquiry related to school improvement were selected and defined for the data collection process. Each of these areas are defined below by a major question and presented with selected findings.

### *Instructional Programs*

**Are instructional programs favorably perceived by students and parents?**

- More than half of the students (56%) and parents (69%) indicated that they "always" or "usually" liked instructional programs related to math, science, social studies, and language arts.
- Elementary level students held more favorable views toward instructional programs in math, science, social studies, and language arts than middle and high school level students. This was evidenced by the finding that 42% of the elementary students indicated that they "always" liked these programs while 23% of the middle and high school students rated the programs as "always."
- Elementary level parents held more favorable views toward instructional programs in math, science, social studies, and language arts than middle and high school level parents. It was noted that 34% of the elementary parents indicated that they "always" liked these programs while 25% of the middle and high school parents used the "always" rating.

### *School Work and Teaching*

**Is school work challenging and are teachers doing a good job teaching?**

- About 71% of the parents indicated that they thought that teachers "always" or "usually" made sure students were challenged by school work. It was noted that the percentage of parents who responded "always" declined from the elementary level (79%) to the high school level (54%).
- More than half of the students indicated that teachers "always" or "usually" did a good job teaching them, however, this percentage changed dramatically from the elementary level to the secondary level. The percentage declined from a high of 94% among 3rd graders to 48% among 11th graders.
- About 76% of the parents indicated that teachers "always" or "usually" did a good job teaching their child. It was noted that the percentage of parents declined from the elementary level (86%) to the high school level (59%).

### *Teaching Processes*

**Do teachers communicate the importance of school work, respond to student problems, and provide feedback on student performance?**

- Sixty-nine percent (69%) of the parents indicated that teachers "always" or "usually" helped their child with his/her problems or questions. It was noted that the percentage of parents declined from the elementary level (81%) to the high school level (50%).
- Seventy (70%) of the parents indicated that teachers "always" or "usually" kept them informed of how their child was doing in school. The percentage declined from the elementary level (83%) to the high school level (45%).

### **Parent Communication & Involvement**

**Do schools communicate with parents and encourage them to be involved in the school?**

- Fifty-one percent (51%) of the parents indicated their child's school had "always" or "usually" asked them to share their ideas and/or concerns about the school. This finding was the highest among elementary parents (62%) and declined considerably to the high school level (30%). In addition, it was noted that among middle school and high school parents the percentage who indicated they had "never" been asked exceeded the percentage who had indicated they had "always" been asked. The "never" to "always" percentages among middle school parents was 29% to 17%. The "never" to "always" percentages among high school parents was 38% to 12%. *About 48% of the students in grades 3 - 12 indicated that their school "always" or "usually" wanted their parents involved at school. This finding changed across grade levels. The highest percentage was found among 5th graders (68%). The percentage declined consistently to 18% among 12th graders.*
- Seventy (70%) of the parents indicated that school staff members "always" or "usually" wanted parents to be involved at their child's school. Parent perspectives declined from 83% at the elementary level to 45% at the high school level.

### **Supervision of Students**

**Do school staff members supervise students and demonstrate a concern for student safety?**

- Teacher supervision in hallways was examined at the secondary level where students regularly change classes. A total of 46% of the students indicated that their teachers "always" or "usually" stood outside their classroom doors during class changes.
- A total of 79% of the parents indicated that students were "always" or "usually" supervised at school.

### **Student Support**

**Are students supported with technology, rules, and individual assistance?**

- About 42% of the students indicated that they "always" or "usually" use a computer at school. This finding was the highest among elementary students (56%) and lowest among secondary students (30%). It was noted that the percentage of students who indicated that the "never" used a computer at school varied greatly by level. At the elementary level only 2% indicated "never" while 26% of the secondary students "never" used a computer.
- Across all grade levels, a total of 28% of the students indicated that students "always" or "usually" followed school rules. In addition, it was noted that 27% of the secondary students and 8% of the elementary students indicated that students "never" followed rules at school.
- Seventy (70%) of the parents indicated that their child "always" or "usually" used up-to-date equipment, like computers, at school.
- Across all grade levels, almost 44% of the students indicated that when they had reported incidents of crime at school, someone "always" or "usually" took action to correct the problem. It was noted, however, that 41% of the secondary students didn't know if action had been taken. This percentage at the elementary level was 17.

***Student Safety to and from School***

**Are there concerns for the safety of students while they travel to and from school?**

- Across grade levels, at total of 69% of the students indicated that they "always" or "usually" felt safe on the way to and from school while 7% responded that they "never" felt safe.
- Sixty-three percent (63%) of the parents indicated that they thought their child was "always" or "usually" safe walking home from school or the bus stop.

***Student Safety at School***

**Are there concerns for the safety of students while they are at school?**

- A total of 56% of the students indicated that they "always" or "usually" felt safe from crime at school while 17% "never" felt safe.
- The percentage of secondary students who indicated that they "never" felt safe from crime at school exceeded the percentage of students who indicated that they "always" felt safe from crime at school. Twenty-three (23%) percent of these students responded "never" while 17% responded "always." In contrast, at the elementary level, the percent who responded "never" was 22% and 54% responded "always."
- Elementary students more often indicated that they felt safe from crime at school than in their neighborhood. About 54% indicated that they "always" felt safe from crime at school while 34% indicated that they "always" felt safe from crime in their neighborhood.
- Secondary students more often indicated that they felt safe from crime in their neighborhood than at school. About 17% indicated that they "always" felt safe from crime at school while 33% indicated that they "always" felt safe from crime in their neighborhood.

- About 7% of the student indicated that they "never" felt safe from crime in school or in their neighborhood.
- Forty-two percent (42%) of the students indicated that they could "always" or "usually" carry money, school supplies, and other important things to school without worrying that those things would be taken from them. About 29% of the students indicated that they "never" could carry those items without worry of theft. Responses to this issue varied by school level. It was noted that 20% of the elementary students and 36% of the secondary students indicated that they could "never" carry valuables to school.
- A total of 56% of the parents indicated that their child could "always" or "usually" carry books, money, and other items to school without fear of theft or damage.

***Weapons, Gangs, Drugs, & Alcohol at School***  
**Are there concerns for weapons, gangs, drugs, and alcohol at school?**

- Nearly 13% of the students indicated that students "always" or "usually" carried weapons to school. Responses on this issue changed from the elementary level (6%) to the secondary level (18%).
- Twenty percent (20%) of the students indicated that students at their school were "always" or "usually" a member of a gang. Responses on this issue changed from the elementary level (10%) to the secondary level (29%).
- Sixteen percent (16%) of the students indicated that students "always" or "usually" used drugs or alcohol at school. Responses on this issue changed from the elementary level (3%) to the secondary level (28%).



***Physical Harm and Threats at School***

**Are there concerns for the physical safety of students and staff members while at school?**

- Nearly 10% of the students indicated that other students "always" or "usually" wanted to hurt them while they were at school.
- Nearly 42% of the students indicated that students "always" or "usually" threaten or fight with each other while they are at school.
- About 11% of the students indicated that students "always" or "usually" threaten or attack school staff members at their schools. This percentage remained consistent across grade levels. The percentage of students responding "sometimes" changed significantly and consistently from the 3rd grade (15%) to the 12th grade (44%). -

***Neighborhood Safety***

**Are there concerns for the physical safety of students while in their neighborhoods?**

- Student and parent perspectives on neighborhood safety differed. About 59% of the students indicated that they "always" or "usually" felt safe from crime in their neighborhood. A total of 82% of the parents indicated that their child was "always" or "usually" safe from crime in their neighborhood.
- Student and parent perspectives on alcohol and drug use in neighborhoods differed. A total of 27% of the students indicated that students "always" or "usually" used alcohol and/or drugs in their neighborhood. About 9% of the parents thought students "always" or "usually" had alcohol and/or drugs in their neighborhood.
- Student and parent perspectives on gangs in neighborhoods differed. A total of 20% indicated that students in their neighborhood were "always" or "usually" members of gangs. About 6% of the parents indicated that students in their neighborhood were "always" or "usually" members of youth gangs.

Student and parent perspectives on student possession of weapons in neighborhoods differed. About 22% of the students indicated that students in their neighborhood "always" or "usually" carried weapons in their neighborhood. A total of 5% of the parents indicated that students "always" or "usually" carried weapons in their neighborhood.

***Satisfaction & School Cleanliness***

**Are parents and students satisfied with the schools and are schools clean?**

- Nearly 64% of the students indicated that they "always" or "usually" felt good about the things they were doing in school.
- Almost 83% of the parents indicated that they "always" or "usually" felt good about the things their child did at school. This finding was strongest at the elementary level (90%) and declined to the high school level (72%).
- About 81% of the students indicated that their school was "always," "usually," or "sometimes" clean. It was noted that 8% of the elementary students and 24% of the secondary students indicated that their schools were "never" clean.
- Ninety-five percent (95%) of the parents indicated that their child's school was "always," "usually," or "sometimes" clean and well-maintained.

## The Challenge of Obtaining Data for School Improvement

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### The Commitment

During the fall of 1994, Superintendent Frank R. Petruzielo and members of the School Board called for the initiation of an annual, large scale data collection process designed to determine the nature of student and parent perspectives on Broward's public schools. The process would ensure that each student and parent would have an opportunity to share views of various issues associated with educational quality.

The data collection process, in this regard, was designed and directed to:

- gather information on school performance,
- determine the perspectives of school stakeholders,
- develop a shared commitment to continuous school improvement among school staff members and parents,
- confront and react to school level performance indicators,
- devise meaningful and appropriate school improvement strategies,
- establish performance measures to support the monitoring of school improvement activities and results, and
- initiate school improvement activities.

### The Challenge

Superintendent Frank R. Petruzielo directed the Research & Evaluation Department to devise a data collection process that would provide each school with student and parent perspectives on the respective school. Further, this information would be provided before the finalization of School Improvement Plans proposed for the 1995-96 school year.

### Guiding Principles

Superintendent Frank R. Petruzielo indicated that the data collection process would be guided by the following principles:

- Survey data would be processed by an organization other than the school district.
- Each school would receive a school specific report incorporating parent and student findings according to key issues.
- Each elementary, middle, and high school would be involved.
- Each vocational technical center, alternative school, and exceptional student education center would be involved. (Findings for these schools are not reported in this document.)
- Data files would be maintained in order to monitor the progress of schools and the district.
- The process would be used each year to monitor progress, document accomplishments, and support ongoing planning.

- The survey planning process would be collaborative and allow each member of the School Board to contribute survey items.
- All students in grades 3-12 would have an opportunity to share their perspectives.
- The student survey would not greatly intrude on the operation of each school.
- The student and parent surveys would solicit perspectives on the same issues.
- All parents would have an opportunity to share their perspectives.
- The parent survey would be easy-to-complete and return.
- The parent survey would be printed in English as well as other appropriate languages.

## *Areas of Inquiry*

Twelve areas of inquiry were selected and defined for the data collection process. These areas related to issues which might contribute to school level planning. The areas listed here are defined by one or more major questions.

### *Instructional Programs*

- Are instructional programs favorably perceived by students and parents?

### *School Work and Teaching*

- Are students challenged by school work and teachers?

### *Teaching Processes*

- Do teachers communicate the importance of school work, respond to student problems, and provide feedback on student performance?

### *Parent Communication and Involvement*

- Do schools communicate with parents and encourage them to be involved in the school?

### *Supervision of Students*

- Do school staff members supervise students and demonstrate a concern for student safety?

### *Student Support*

- Are students supported with technology, rules, and individual assistance?
- Are students helped to understand race and cultural differences?

### *Student Safety to and from School*

- Are there concerns for the safety of students while they travel to and from school?

### *Student Safety at School*

- Are there concerns for the safety of students while they are at school?

### *Weapons, Gangs, Drugs, and Alcohol at School*

- Are there concerns for weapons, gangs, drugs, and alcohol at school?

### *Physical Harm and Threats at School*

- Are there concerns for the physical safety of students while at school?

### *Neighborhood Safety*

- Are there concerns for the physical safety of students while in their neighborhoods?

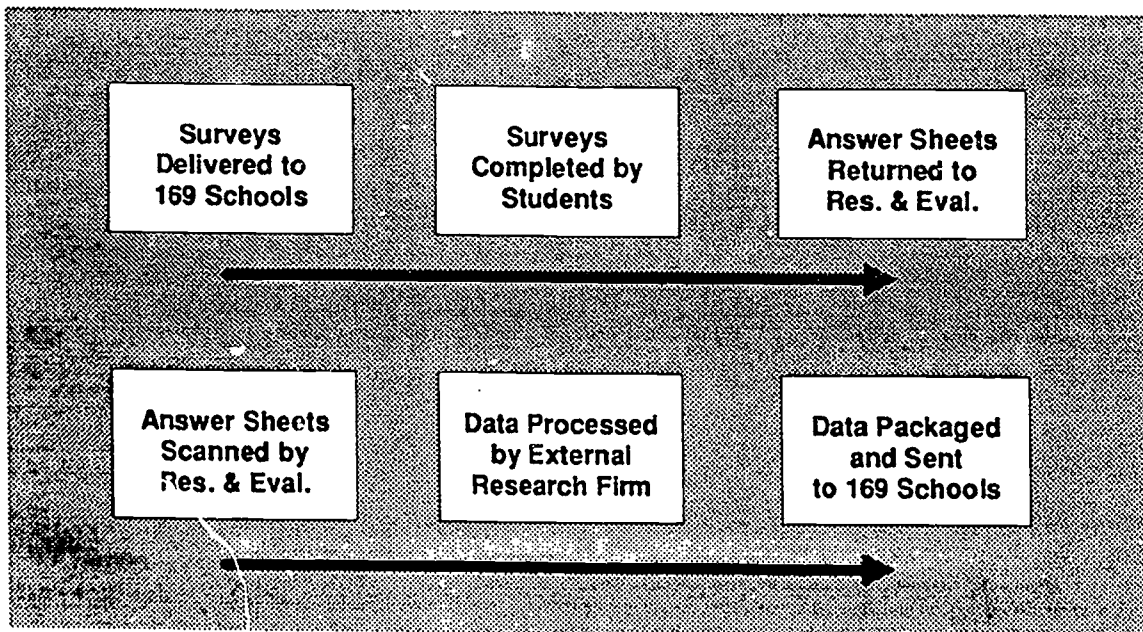
### *Satisfaction and School Cleanliness of the School*

- Overall, are parents and students satisfied with the schools?
- Are schools perceived to be clean?

## The Student Survey

Two surveys were designed for completion by students. One was designed for elementary students and the other for middle and high school students. The survey process was coordinated as described here.

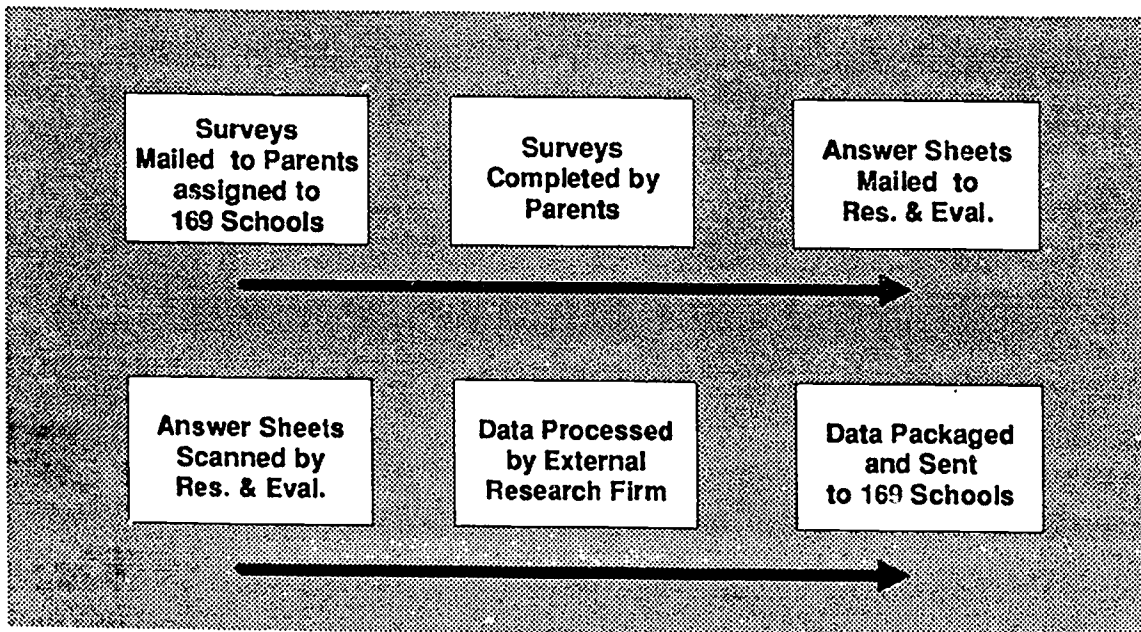
- ◆ Both surveys were comprised of a question sheet and an answer sheet.
- ◆ The elementary survey was administered to students in grades three, four, and five.
- ◆ Students in grades 6 - 12 completed the secondary survey.
- ◆ Answer sheets were prepared on scan forms.
- ◆ Students responded to survey items using a scale including these five options: *Always -- Usually -- Sometimes -- Never -- Don't Know*
- ◆ Students in all elementary, middle, and high schools completed a survey.
- ◆ Response forms were scanned by Management Information Services Department.
- ◆ The original data file was transmitted to an external research firm for processing.
- ◆ A report was prepared for each school summarizing student perspectives.



## The Parent Survey

The parent survey was designed to solicit perspectives on the same issues addressed by the student surveys. The parent survey process was coordinated as described here:

- ◆ A listing of home addresses was prepared using student addresses. This file was edited to exclude duplicate addresses. This was accomplished in order to reduce the number of duplicate surveys received by parents.
- ◆ Parent surveys were mailed directly to the students' addresses.
- ◆ A self-addressed, postage-paid envelope was provided for use by the parents.
- ◆ Parents responded to survey items using a scale including these five options: *Always -- Usually -- Sometimes -- Never -- Don't Know*
- ◆ Surveys were returned by parents to the district school board office.
- ◆ Survey answer sheets were scanned by the Management Information Services Department.
- ◆ The original data file was transmitted to an external research firm for processing.
- ◆ A report was prepared for each school summarizing parent perspectives.



## The Response by Students and Parents

The data collection process yielded completed surveys from both groups. The following table presents the number of respondents by group.

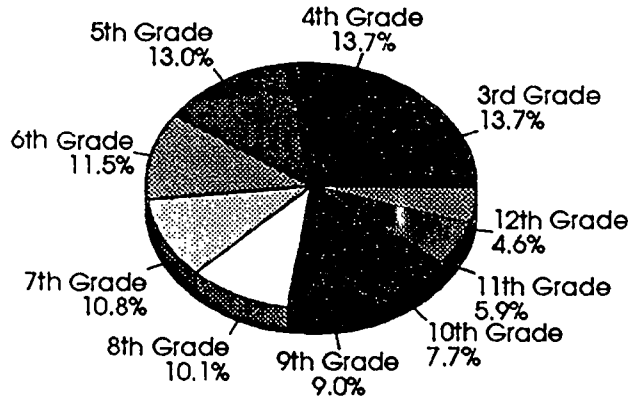
| Group    | Grade levels | Group Size | Number Processed |
|----------|--------------|------------|------------------|
| Students | 3 thru 12    | 139,436    | 125,822          |
| Parents  | K thru 12    | 160,028    | 26,276           |
| Total    |              | 299,464    | 152,098          |

A total of 169 schools participated in the initial data collection process. This group of schools was comprised of all elementary, middle, and high schools. Student and parent surveys were received from each school.

| Type of School | Number |
|----------------|--------|
| Elementary     | 116    |
| Middle         | 31     |
| High School    | 22     |
| Total          | 169    |

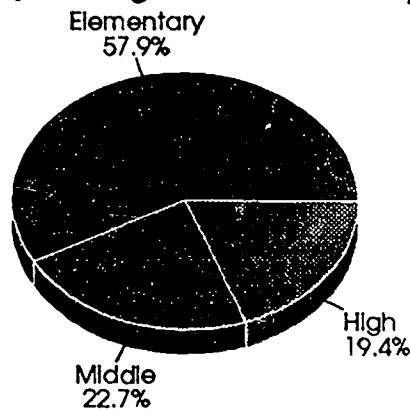
Students in grades 3-12 completed the survey. The percentages of students by grade level who responded to the survey is illustrated here.

### Percent of Students by Grade Level Responding to the Student Survey



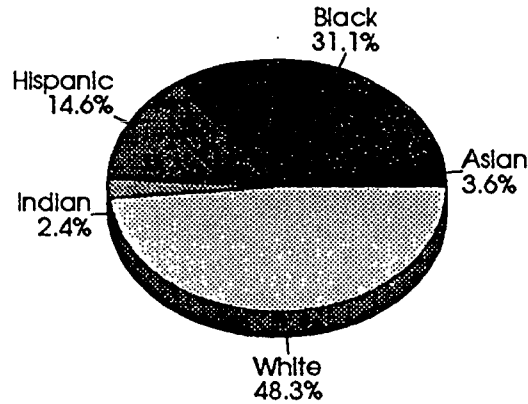
The percentages of parents who responded are illustrated here by school level.

### Percent of Parents by School Level Responding to Parent Survey

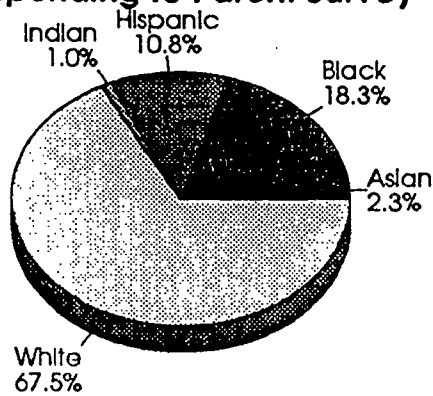


The percentages of students and parents who responded to a survey are presented in the following graphics by their identified race category.

**Percent of Students by Race Responding to Student Survey**



**Percent of Parents by Race Responding to Parent Survey**





## Results of the Survey

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This section presents a summary of results of the survey according to each of the twelve areas listed below. Results are summarized across all students and parents.

- ◆ *Instructional Programs*
- ◆ *School Work and Teaching*
- ◆ *Teaching Processes*
- ◆ *Parent Communication and Involvement*
- ◆ *Supervision of Students*
- ◆ *Student Support*
- ◆ *Student Safety to and from School*
- ◆ *Student Safety at School*
- ◆ *Weapons Gangs Drugs and Alcohol at School*
- ◆ *Physical Harm and Threats at School*
- ◆ *Neighborhood Safety*
- ◆ *Satisfaction and School Cleanliness*

Survey findings reported on the following pages include a summary of student and parent responses together. Responses are limited to those of "*Always*" or "*Usually*." These rating options were selected to assist the reader in understanding findings.

## Instructional Programs

Information was sought from students and parents on four major types of instructional programs including reading/language arts, science, social studies, and math. Findings are summarized below. Selected graphics are included on the next page. A complete set of data tables is included in the appendix of this report.

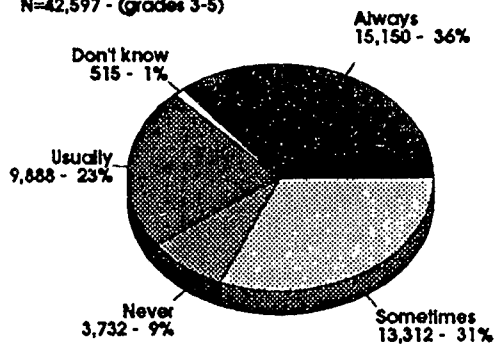
| Student Perspectives<br>on Subjects Studied at School<br>All students - Grades 3-12 |         |   |               |
|---|---------|---|---------------|
| I like ...  | N       | Percent<br>Responding<br>Always or<br>Usually | Rank<br>Order |
| Science   | 124,801 | 60%   | 1             |
| Math  | 124,725 | 59%   | 2             |
| Social Studies  | 124,826 | 54%   | 3             |
| Reading & Writing   | 124,853 | 52%   | 4             |

| Parent Perspectives<br>on Subjects Studied at School |        |   |               |
|--|--------|---|---------------|
| I like the school's<br>... program.                  | N      | Percent<br>Responding<br>Always or<br>Usually | Rank<br>Order |
| Math   | 25,723 | 72%   | 1             |
| Reading & Writing                                    | 25,740 | 71%   | 2             |
| Science  | 25,722 | 68%   | 3             |
| Social Studies                                       | 25,688 | 66%   | 4             |

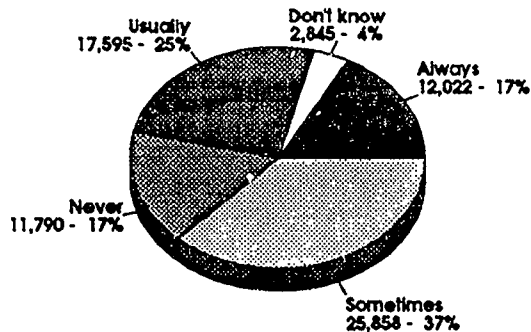
## Instructional Programs

**Elementary Students:**  
I like to do **READING** and **WRITING** at my school.

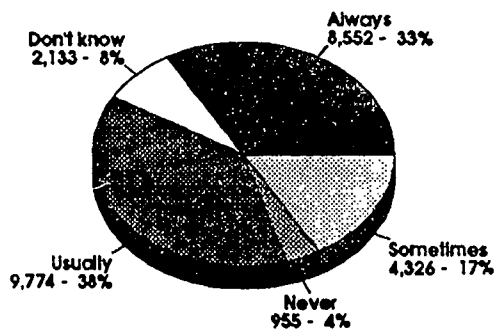
N=42,597 - (grades 3-5)



**Secondary Students:** N=67,370 - (grades 6-12)  
I like the **READING** and **LANGUAGE ARTS** classes at my school.



**Parents:** N=25,740  
I like the school's **READING & LANGUAGE ARTS** program.



## School Work and Teaching

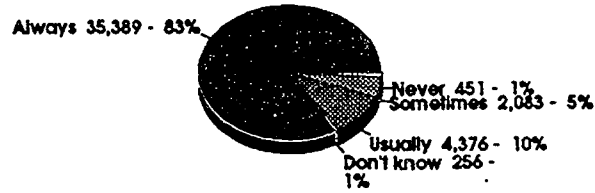
This page presents a summary of student and parent perspectives on the challenge of school work and the overall job teachers are doing. Selected graphics are included on the next page. A complete set of data tables is included in the appendix of this report.

| Student & Parent Perspectives on School Work and Teaching |  |         |                                      |
|---|--|---------|--------------------------------------|
| Respondent Group  | Item   | N       | Percent Responding Always or Usually |
| Students  | My school work is not too hard and not too easy.                                   | 124,879 | 50%                                  |
| Parents   | The teachers make sure that my child is challenged by the work he/she is assigned. | 25,758  | 71%                                  |
| Parents   | The teachers are preparing my child to do well in the next grade.                  | 25,744  | 76%                                  |
| Students  | My teachers do a good job teaching me.   | 124,804 | 76%                                  |
| Parents   | The teachers are doing a good job teaching my child.                               | 25,764  | 77%                                  |

# School Work and Teaching

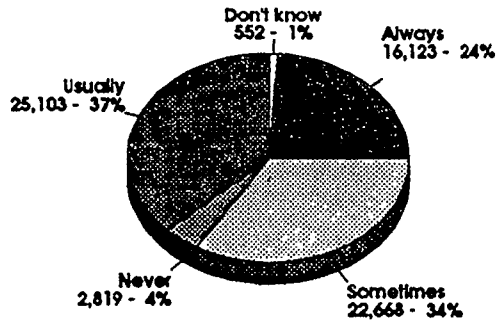
## Elementary Students: My teachers do a good job teaching me.

N=42,653 - (grades 3-5)



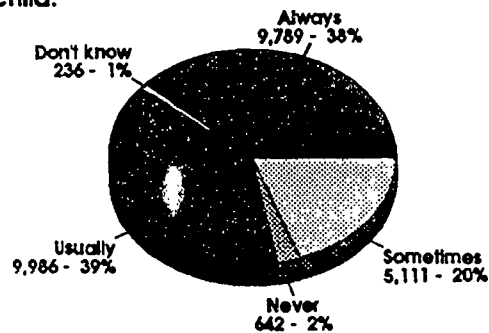
## Secondary Students: My teachers do a good job teaching me.

N=67,265 - (grade 6-12)



## Parents: The teachers are doing a good job teaching my child.

N=25,764



## Teaching Processes

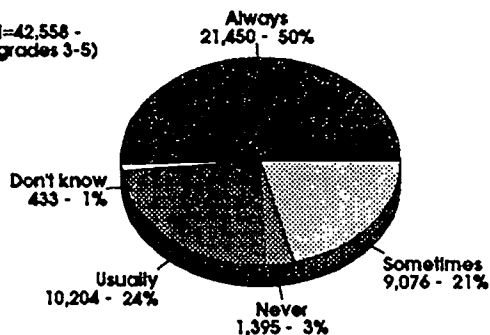
Survey results related to key teacher activities are summarized on this page. Selected graphics are included on the following page. A complete set of data tables is included in the appendix of this report.

| Student & Parent Perspectives on How Teachers Help Children Learn |                  |   |         |                                      |
|---|------------------|---|---------|--------------------------------------|
| Issue   | Respondent Group | Item  | N       | Percent Responding Always or Usually |
| Reinforce that School Work is Important                           | Students         | My teachers make sure I understand my school work.  | 124,928 | 72%                                  |
|   | Parents          | My child's teachers make sure that the students understand that school work is important. | 25,770  | 77%                                  |
| Help with Questions & Problems                                    | Students         | My teachers help me with problems and questions.  | 124,772 | 65%                                  |
|   | Parents          | The teachers help my child with problems or questions he/she has in class.                | 25,755  | 70%                                  |
| Give Feedback   | Students         | My teachers let me know how well I'm doing at school.                                     | 124,820 | 60%                                  |
|   | Parents          | The teachers keep me informed of how my child is doing in school.                         | 25,784  | 71%                                  |

# Teaching Processes

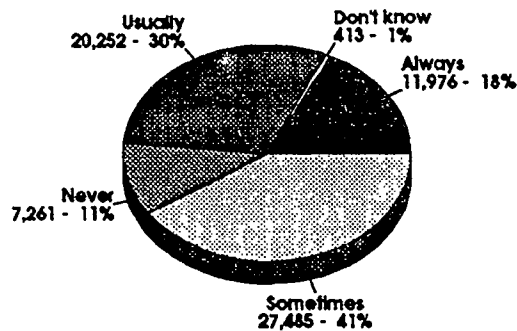
**Elementary Students:**  
My teachers let me know how well I'm doing at school.

N=42,558 -  
(grades 3-5)



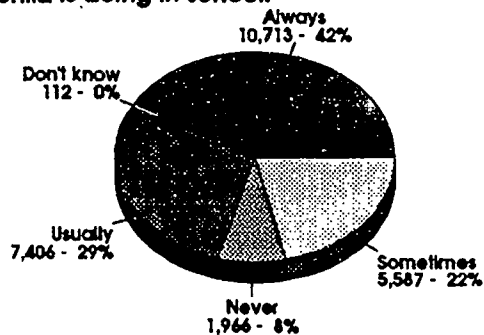
**Secondary Students:**  
My teachers let me know how well I'm doing at school.

N=67,387 - (grades 6-12)



**Parents:**  
The teachers keep me informed of how my child is doing in school.

N=25,784



## Parent Communication and Involvement

Parent involvement is a critical factor to the success of children in school. Survey results on this important factor are summarized on this page. Selected graphics are included on the following page. A complete set of data tables is included in the appendix of this report.

| Student & Parent Perspectives on Parent Communication and Involvement |                  |   |         |                                      |
|---|------------------|---|---------|--------------------------------------|
| Issue   | Respondent Group | Item  | N       | Percent Responding Always or Usually |
| Parent Involvement  | Students         | My school wants my parents to be involved at school.                                  | 124,767 | 48%                                  |
|   | Parents          | The school staff wants me to be involved at my child's school.                        | 25,741  | 69%                                  |
| Communication with Parents & Students                                 | Parents          | My child's school has asked me to share my ideas and/or concerns about the school.    | 25,717  | 50%                                  |
|   | Parents          | I know the school rules and policies.   | 25,753  | 93%                                  |
|   | Parents          | The school's discipline rules and policies are fair.                                  | 25,674  | 86%                                  |
|   | Parents          | When I have asked for information at my child's school, the staff responded promptly. | 25,739  | 74%                                  |
|   | Students         | My school announces activities, sports, and parent meetings.                          | 124,810 | 79%                                  |

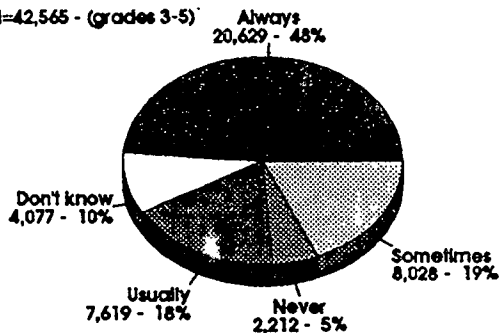
| Parents: How many times have you visited the school this year? N=25,059 |             |             |                      |
|---|-------------|-------------|----------------------|
| Once  | Twice       | Three times | More than four times |
| 2,290 = 9%  | 3,514 = 14% | 4,062 = 16% | 14,775 = 59%         |



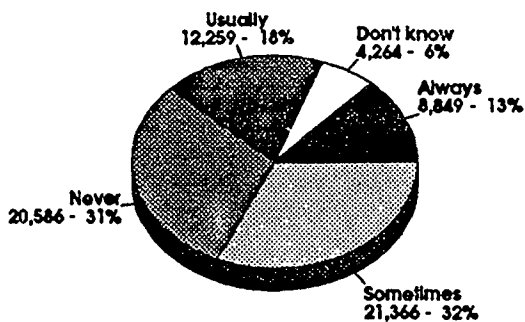
# Parent Communication and Involvement

## Elementary Students: My school wants my parents to be involved.

N=42,565 - (grades 3-5)

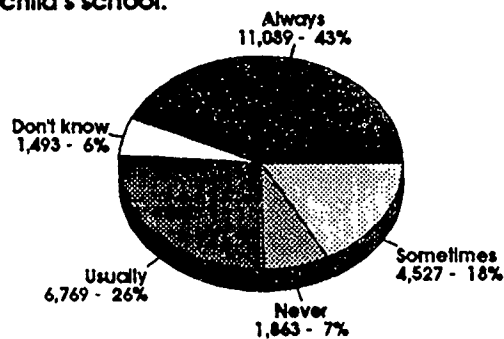


## Secondary Students: N=67,324 - (grades 6-12) The school encourages my parents to be involved at school.



## Parents: The school staff wants me to be involved at my child's school.

N=25,741



## Supervision of Students

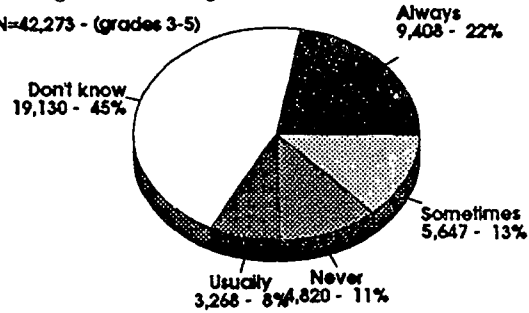
The supervision of students at school contributes to a safe and orderly climate in which students have the best opportunities for success. Survey results on student supervision are summarized on this page. Selected graphics are included on the following page. A complete set of data tables is included in the appendix of this report.

| Student & Parent Perspectives on Supervision of Students |                  |  |         |                                      |
|--|------------------|--|---------|--------------------------------------|
| Issue  | Respondent Group | Item   | N       | Percent Responding Always or Usually |
| Staff Concern for Student Safety                         | Students         | Teachers stop fights, disagreements, and arguments between students.                             | 124,230 | 68%                                  |
|  | Students         | Teachers, administrators, counselors, and other adults at school are interested in my safety.    | 124,152 | 70%                                  |
| Preventative Actions                                     | Parents          | The staff makes sure that the students follow the dress code at my child's school.               | 25,651  | 63%                                  |
|  | Parents          | The staff take steps to ensure that students do not bring drugs or alcohol to my child's school. | 25,724  | 64%                                  |
|  | Students         | Teachers stand outside their classroom doors during class changes.                               | 124,165 | 40%                                  |
|  | Parents          | In my child's school, the children are supervised.   | 25,746  | 79%                                  |

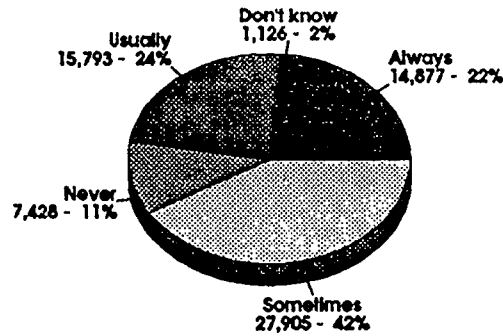
# Supervision of Students

**Elementary Students:**  
Teachers stand outside their classroom doors during class changes.

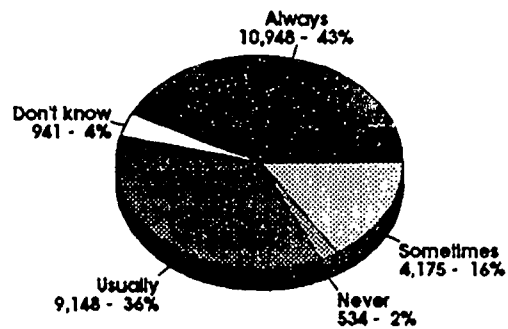
N=42,273 - (grades 3-5)



**Secondary Students:** N=67,129 - (grade 6-12)  
Teachers stand outside their classroom doors during class changes.



**Parents:** N=25,746  
In my child's school, the children are supervised.



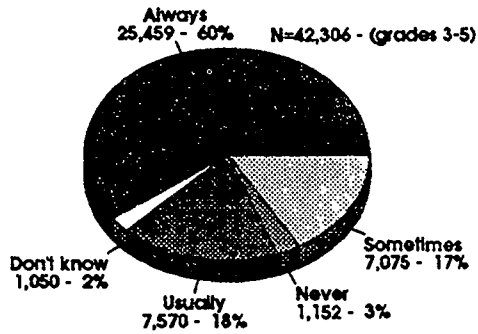
## Student Support

Schools support students in many ways other than instruction. Survey results on student support are summarized on this page. Selected graphics are included on the next page. A complete set of data tables is included in the appendix of this report.

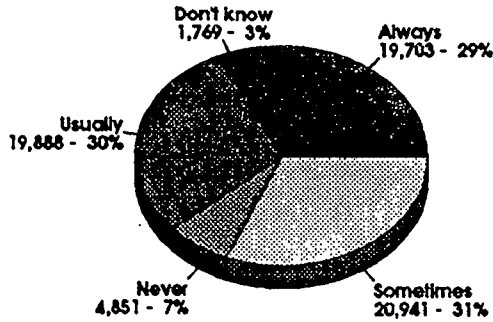
| Student & Parent Perspectives on Student Support |                  |   |         |                                      |
|--|------------------|---|---------|--------------------------------------|
| Issue  | Respondent Group | Item  | N       | Percent Responding Always or Usually |
| Computers at School                              | Students         | I use computers at my school.   | 124,687 | 55%                                  |
|  | Parents          | My child uses up-to-date equipment, like computers in school.                                       | 25,732  | 70%                                  |
| Race & Culture                                   | Students         | I learn about people of different races and cultures at school.                                     | 124,688 | 56%                                  |
|  | Parents          | My child learns about various races and cultures at school.   | 25,714  | 68%                                  |
| School Rules                                     | Students         | Students follow school rules when they are at school.   | 124,567 | 28%                                  |
| Student Assistance                               | Students         | Adults at my school (teachers, administrators, counselors, etc.) help when I need help.             | 124,228 | 68%                                  |
|  | Parents          | I know that someone at the school will assist my child at school, when needed.                      | 25,752  | 77%                                  |
|  | Students         | When I have reported incidents of crime, someone at school has taken action to correct the problem. | 123,966 | 44%                                  |

# Student Support

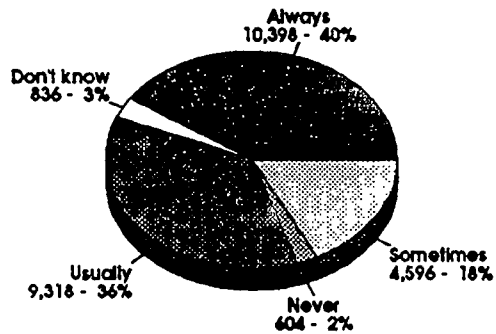
**Elementary Students:**  
Adults at my school (teachers, administrators, counselors, etc.) help me when I need help.



**Secondary Students:** N=67,152 - (grade 6-12)  
Adults at school are willing to help me when I need help.



**Parents:** N=25,752  
I know that someone at the school will assist my child at school, when needed.



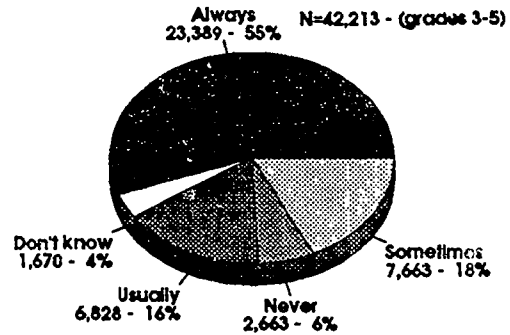
## Student Safety to and from School

The movement of children to and from school is of concern to teachers, administrators, and parents. Survey results on this issue are summarized on this page. Selected graphics are included on the following page. A complete set of data tables is included in the appendix of this report.

| Student & Parent Perspectives on Student Safety to and from School   |                  |   |         |                                      |
|--|------------------|---|---------|--------------------------------------|
| Issue  | Respondent Group | Item  | N       | Percent Responding Always or Usually |
| School Bus Transportation  | Students         | I feel safe when I ride the school bus.                                 | 124,583 | 32%*                                 |
|  | Parents          | My child is safe when he/she rides the school bus.                      | 8,888** | 73%                                  |
| Safety to & from school  | Students         | I feel safe on the way to and from school.                              | 123,959 | 69%                                  |
|  | Parents          | My child is safe walking home from school or the bus stop.              | 25,645  | 63%                                  |
|  | Students         | Other students want to hurt me while I'm on the way to and from school. | 124,066 | 7%                                   |
| <p>Note: *This value was not limited to the perspectives of only those children who ride a school bus to school. Consequently, it may not be accurate.</p> |                  |   |         |                                      |
| <p>Note: **This is the number of parents who indicated that their child rides a school bus to school.</p>  |                  |   |         |                                      |

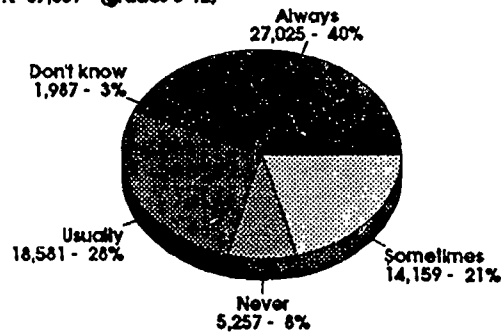
# Student Safety to and from School

**Elementary Students:**  
I feel safe on the way to and from school.



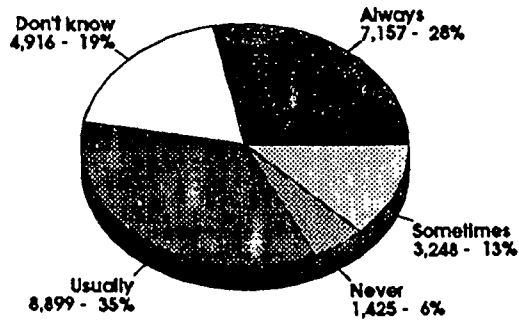
**Secondary Students:**  
I feel safe on the way to and from school.

N=67,009 - (grades 6-12)



**Parents:**  
My child is safe walking home from school or the bus stop.

N=25,645



## Student Safety at School

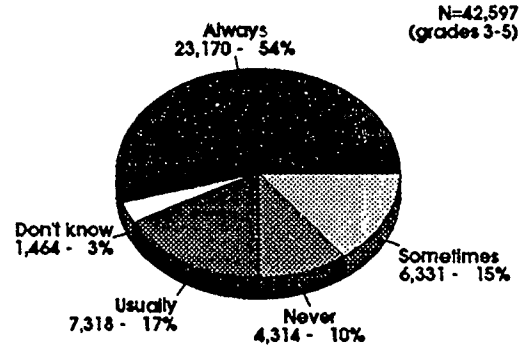
The data collection process provided parents and students an opportunity to express their perspectives on safety in our schools. Survey results on the issue are summarized on this page. Selected graphics is included on the following page. A complete set of data tables are included in the appendix of this report.

| Student & Parent Perspectives on School Safety at School |                  |   |         |                                      |
|--|------------------|---|---------|--------------------------------------|
| Issue  | Respondent Group | Item  | N       | Percent Responding Always or Usually |
| Crime at School  | Students         | I feel safe from crime at school.   | 124,723 | 56%                                  |
|  | Parents          | My child is safe at his/her school.   | 25,724  | 75%                                  |
| Safety at School   | Students         | I feel safe during recess, extracurricular activities, sports, and weekend activities at school.                          | 124,670 | 62%                                  |
| Theft at School  | Students         | I can carry money, school supplies, and other important things to my school without worrying these will be taken from me. | 124,946 | 42%                                  |
|  | Parents          | My child can bring books, money, and other items to school without fear of theft or damage to the items.                  | 25,732  | 56%                                  |

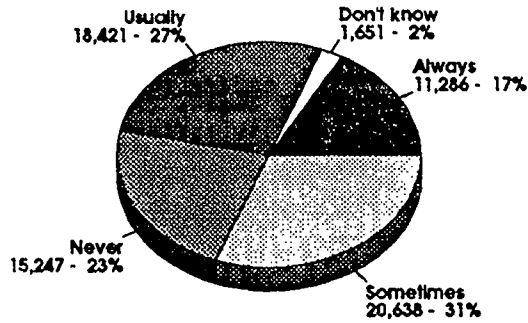


# Student Safety at School

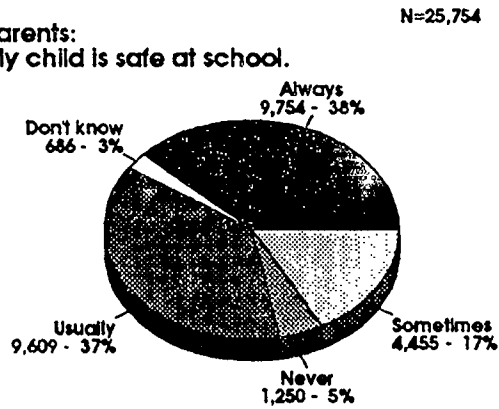
Elementary Students:  
I feel safe from crime at school.



Secondary Students: N=67,243 (grades 6-12)  
I feel safe from crime at my school.



Parents: N=25,754  
My child is safe at school.



## Weapons Gangs Drugs and Alcohol at School

Survey results on student and parent perspectives on weapons, gangs, drugs, and alcohol in schools are presented here. Selected graphics are included on the following page. A complete set of data tables is included in the appendix of this report.

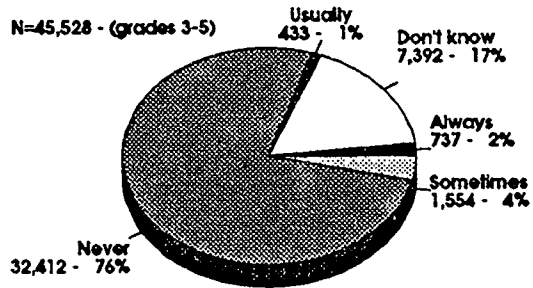
| Student & Parent Perspectives on Weapons, Gangs, Drugs, and Alcohol at School |                  |   |         |                                      |
|---|------------------|---|---------|--------------------------------------|
| Issue   | Respondent Group | Item  | N       | Percent Responding Always or Usually |
| Weapons at School   | Students         | Students carry weapons at my school.                          | 124,611 | 13%                                  |
|   | Parents          | Students do not carry weapons at my school.                   | 25,622  | 22%*                                 |
| Gangs at School   | Students         | Students at my school are members of gangs.                   | 124,557 | 20%                                  |
|   | Parents          | Students at my child's school are members of youth gangs.     | 25,634  | 10%                                  |
| Drugs & Alcohol at School   | Students         | Students use alcohol and/or drugs when they are at my school. | 124,619 | 16%                                  |
|   | Parents          | Students bring drugs or alcohol to my child's school.         | 25,719  | 12%                                  |

Note: \*This item may have confused some parents in that it was the only item on the survey that was expressed as a negative. Forty-six percent of the respondents selected "Don't know" for this item.

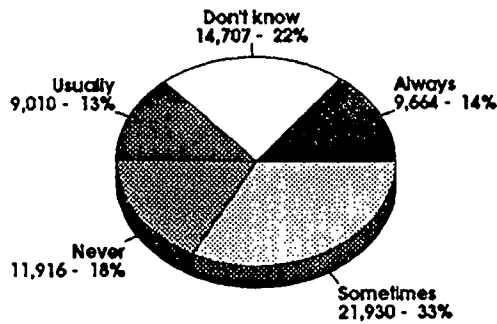
# Weapons Gangs Drugs and Alcohol at School

**Elementary Students:**  
Students use alcohol and/or drugs when they are at my school.

N=45,528 - (grades 3-5)

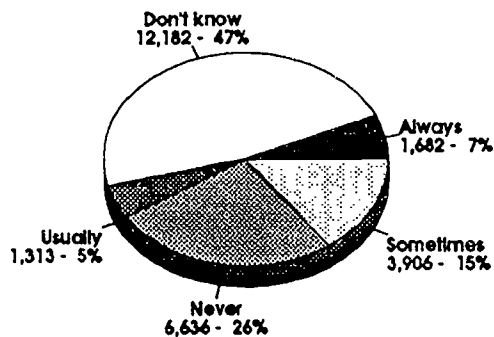


**Secondary Students:** N=67,227 - (grades 6-12)  
Students use alcohol and/or drugs when they are at my school.



**Parents:**  
Students bring drugs or alcohol to my child's school.

N=25,719

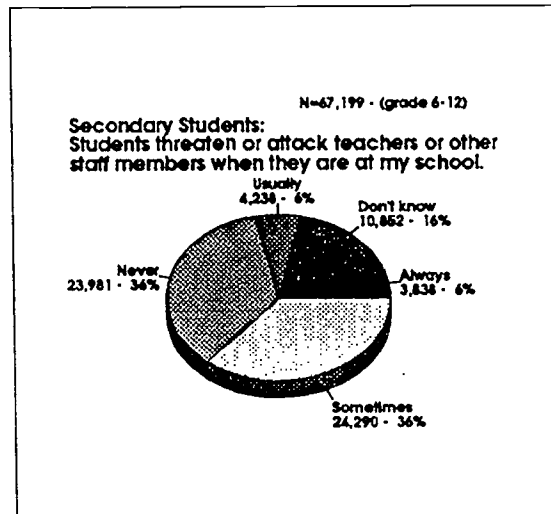
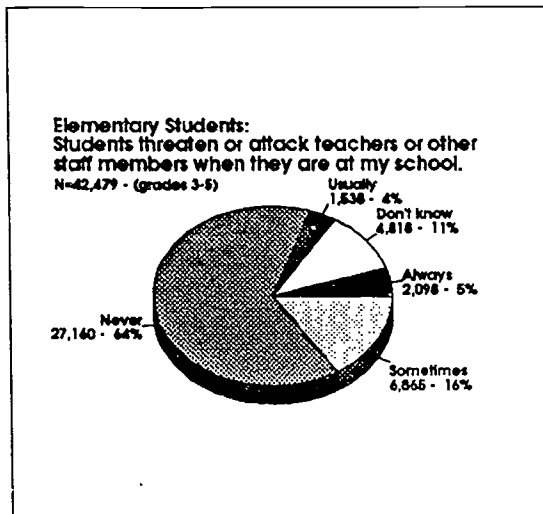
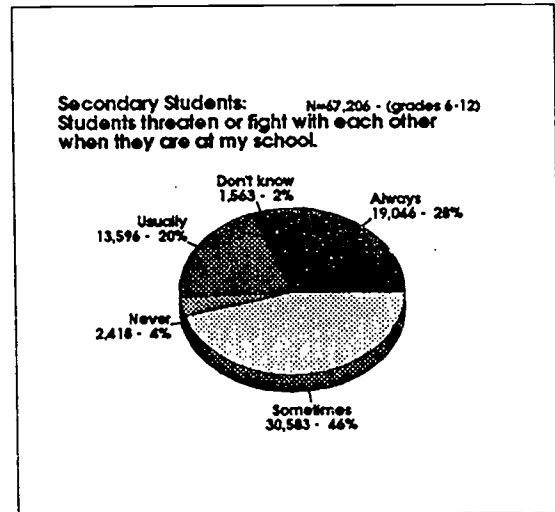
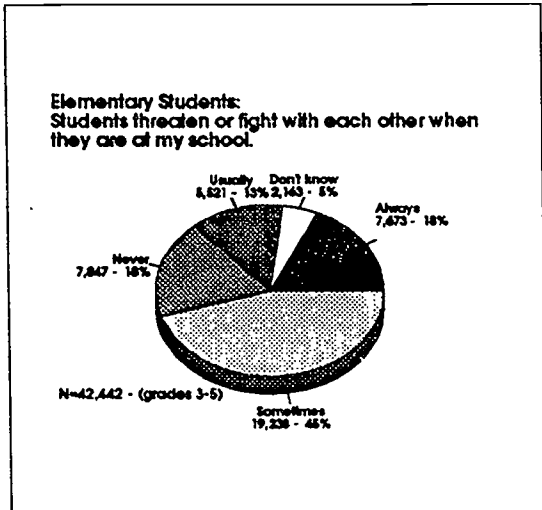


## Physical Harm and Threats at School

The physical/psychological safety of students and staff members was the focus of three questions on the student surveys. Results on these issues are summarized here. Selected graphics are included on the following page. A complete set of data tables is included in the appendix of this report.

| Student Perspectives on Physical Harm and Threats at School |                  |  |         |                                      |
|---|------------------|--|---------|--------------------------------------|
| Issue   | Respondent Group | Item   | N       | Percent Responding Always or Usually |
| Threats on Students   | Students         | Other students want to hurt me while I'm at school.                    | 124,062 | 10%                                  |
|   | Students         | Students threaten or fight with each other when they are at my school. | 124,489 | 42%                                  |
| Threats on Staff  | Students         | Students threaten or attack teachers or other staff members.           | 124,509 | 11%                                  |

# Physical Harm and Threats at School



## Neighborhood Safety

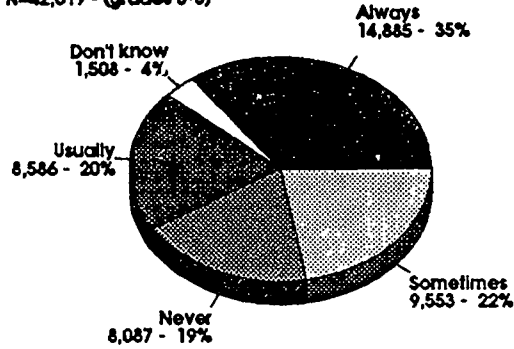
The student and parent surveys addressed safety in our neighborhoods with regard to crime, drugs, alcohol, gangs, and weapons. Survey results on these issues are summarized here. Selected graphics are included on the next page. A complete set of data tables is included in the appendix of this report.

| Student & Parent Perspectives on Neighborhood Safety |                  |   |         |                                      |
|--|------------------|---|---------|--------------------------------------|
| Issue  | Respondent Group | Item  | N       | Percent Responding Always or Usually |
| Crime  | Students         | I feel safe from crime in my neighborhood.              | 124,864 | 60%                                  |
|  | Parents          | My child is safe from crime in my neighborhood.         | 25,658  | 82%                                  |
| Drugs & Alcohol                                      | Students         | Students use alcohol and/or drugs in my neighborhood.   | 124,539 | 27%                                  |
|  | Parents          | Students have drugs or alcohol in my neighborhood.      | 25,626  | 9%                                   |
| Gangs  | Students         | Students in my neighborhood are members of gangs.       | 124,537 | 20%                                  |
|  | Parents          | Students in my neighborhood are members of youth gangs. | 25,634  | 6%                                   |
| Weapons  | Students         | Students carry weapons in my neighborhood.              | 124,753 | 21%                                  |
|  | Parents          | Students carry weapons in my neighborhood.              | 25,664  | 6%                                   |

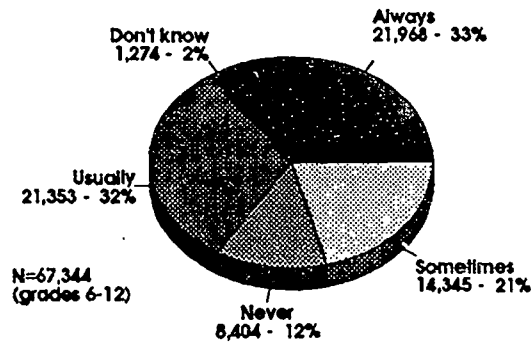
# Neighborhood Safety

## Elementary Students: I feel safe from crime in my neighborhood.

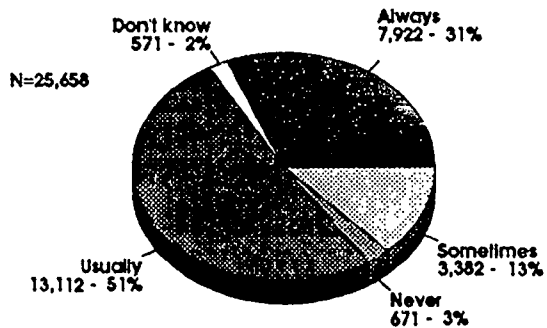
N=42,619 - (grades 3-5)



## Secondary Students: I feel safe from crime in my neighborhood.



## Parents: My child is safe in my neighborhood.



## Satisfaction and School Cleanliness

Student and parent expressed their overall satisfaction with the school and school activities. In addition two items solicited views on the cleanliness of schools. Survey results on these issues are summarized here. Selected graphics are included on the following page. A complete set of data tables is included in the appendix of this report.

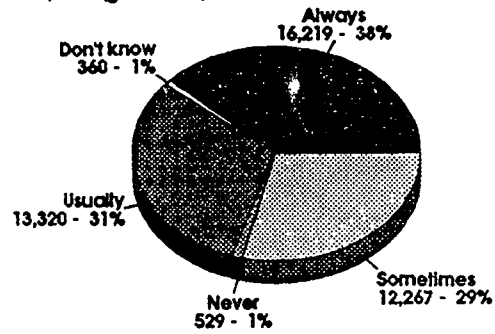
| Student & Parent Perspectives on Satisfaction and School Cleanliness |                  |   |         |                                      |
|--|------------------|---|---------|--------------------------------------|
| Issue  | Respondent Group | Item  | N       | Percent Responding Always or Usually |
| Satisfaction   | Students         | I like going to this school.                          | 124,829 | 59%                                  |
|  | Parents          | My child likes going to this school.                  | 25,760  | 82%                                  |
|  | Students         | I feel good about the things I do at school.          | 125,137 | 64%                                  |
|  | Parents          | I feel good about the things my child does at school. | 25,768  | 83%                                  |
|  | Students         | I am happy / welcome at this school.                  | 124,866 | 62%                                  |
|  | Parents          | I feel welcome when I visit my child's school.        | 25,759  | 81%                                  |
| Cleanliness  | Students         | My school is clean.                                   | 122,728 | 50%                                  |
|  | Parents          | The school is clean and well maintained.              | 25,680  | 80%                                  |



## Satisfaction and School Cleanliness

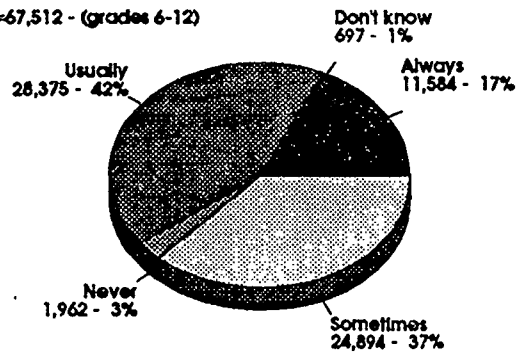
### Elementary Students: I feel good about the things I do at school.

N=42,695 - (grades 3-5)



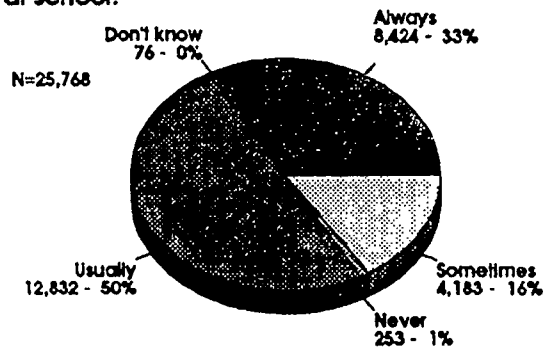
### Secondary Students: I feel good about the things I do at school.

N=67,512 - (grades 6-12)



### Parents: I feel good about the things my child does at school.

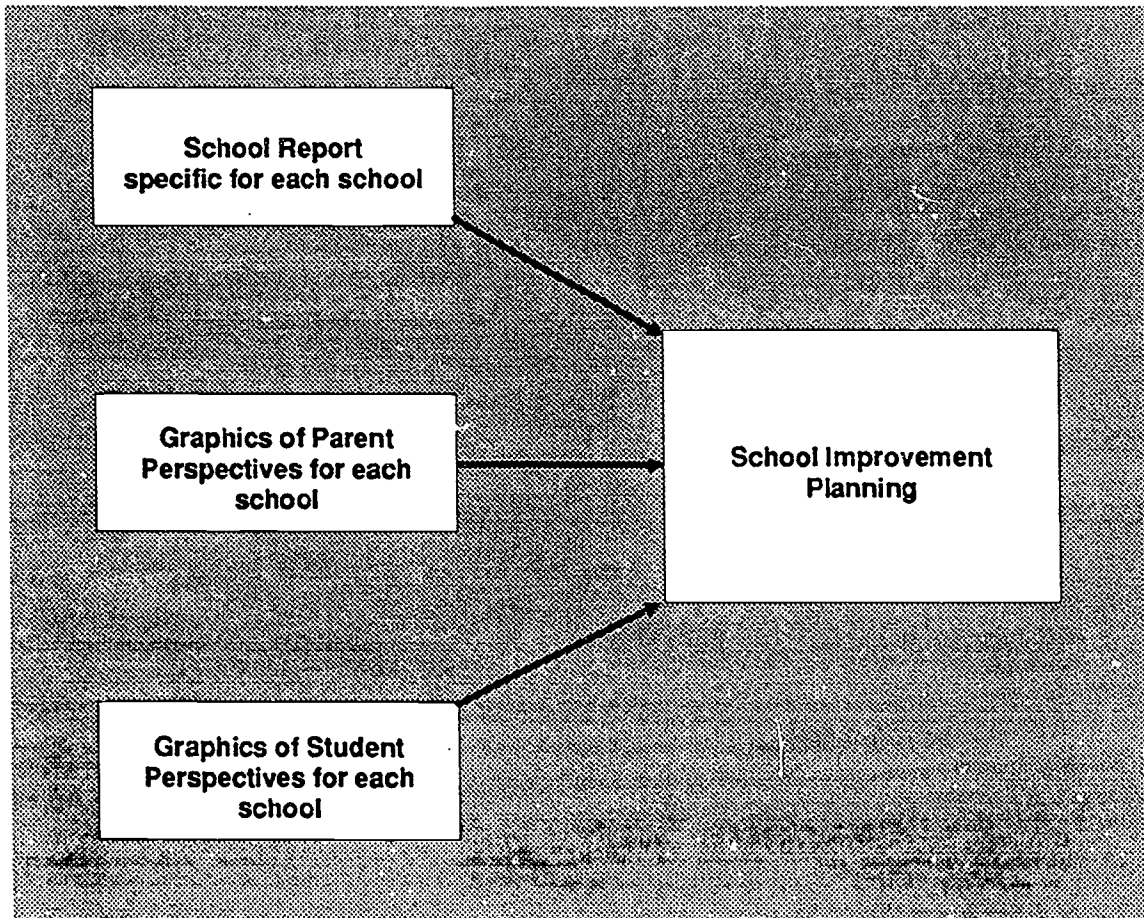
N=25,768



## Using Results for School Improvement

As stated earlier in this report, the major purpose of the data collection process was to provide each school with information to support school level planning for school improvement. Survey findings were to contribute to school improvement plans for the 1995-96 school year. In addition, findings would provide each school with baseline data on which progress would be monitored. To this end, the following items were provided to each school:

- ◆ Each school received a copy of this report.
- ◆ A school report comprised of twelve worksheets was prepared for each school.
- ◆ A set of twelve graphics reflecting student perspectives on selected survey items was prepared for each school.
- ◆ A set of eleven graphics reflecting parent perspectives on selected survey items was prepared for each school.
- ◆ Reports and graphics were sent to each school in a portfolio.



## Enhancements for Future Surveys

The data collection process described in this report was the initial attempt by the Broward County Public School District to communicate with all parents and students. This task presented some logistical challenges not previously encountered. Listed here are several enhancements which will be used in support of future large scale attempts to hear from all stakeholders.

- ◆ A summer planning session targeting an October/November administration date.
- ◆ The time allowed for printing, packaging and mailing, as well as return date, will be extended.
- ◆ Mailing labels will be revised.
- ◆ Parent surveys will be printed on optical mark scanning forms to eliminate the need for separate answer sheets.

In addition to these enhancements, the data collection process will be expanded to invite input from these groups:

- ◆ school level employees including administrative, instructional, and support employees
- ◆ district level employees
- ◆ a random selection of households without children enrolled in a public school
- ◆ a random sample of workplaces in Broward County

## Working Together to Value Student and Parent Perspectives

Gathering perspectives from a large number of respondents who are not located at the same place can be problematic. The process implemented during the Spring of 1995 required support, cooperation, and hard work on the part of many offices in the school district. In addition to each of the schools, the following offices or departments are acknowledged.

### Survey Planning

- ◆ Superintendent
- ◆ School Board Members
- ◆ Policy Planning, Accountability, Desegregation, & Technology
- ◆ Research & Evaluation
- ◆ Strategic Planning & Accountability
- ◆ Community Relations Department
- ◆ K-12 Curriculum
- ◆ School Principals
- ◆ Deputy, Associates, & Area Superintendents
- ◆ Parent Groups

### Survey Materials

- ◆ Purchasing Department
- ◆ Accounting Department
- ◆ Budget Department

### Survey Preparation & Printing

- ◆ Graphic Arts Department
- ◆ McFatter Voc. Tech. Ctr., Printing Program
- ◆ Sheridan Voc. Tech. Ctr., Printing Program
- ◆ Multicultural Education
- ◆ Instructional Television

### Survey Distribution

- ◆ Warehousing
- ◆ McFatter Voc. Tech. Ctr., Commercial Vehicle Driving Program
- ◆ Mailing Services

### Survey Processing

- ◆ Management Information Services
- ◆ Evaluation & Testing Department

Appendix

DATA TABLES

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- ◆ *Instructional Programs*
- ◆ *School Work and Teaching*
- ◆ *Teaching Processes*
- ◆ *Parent Communication and Involvement*
- ◆ *Supervision of Students*
- ◆ *Student Support*
- ◆ *Student Safety to and from School*
- ◆ *Student Safety at School*
- ◆ *Weapons Gangs Drugs and Alcohol at School*
- ◆ *Physical Harm and Threats at School*
- ◆ *Neighborhood Safety*
- ◆ *Satisfaction and School Cleanliness*

# INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS

## READING, WRITING, AND LANGUAGE ARTS PROGRAMS

S5- Student item: I like to do READING and WRITING at my school.

p5- Parent items: I like the school's READING and LANGUAGE ARTS PROGRAM.

|            | s5- I like to do<br>READING and WRITING at<br>my school. |        | p5- I like the school's<br>READING and LANGUAGE<br>ARTS program. |        |
|------------|--|--------|--|--------|
|            | Count  | %      | Count  | %      |
| Always     | 33174  | 26.6%  | 8552   | 33.2%  |
| Usually    | 30614  | 24.5%  | 9774   | 38.0%  |
| Sometimes  | 40777  | 32.7%  | 4326   | 16.8%  |
| Never      | 16718  | 13.4%  | 955  | 3.7%   |
| Don't Know | 3570   | 2.9%   | 2133   | 8.3%   |
| Total      | 124853   | 100.0% | 25740  | 100.0% |

## SCIENCE PROGRAMS

s7: Student Item: I like to do SCIENCE at my school.

p7: I like the school's SCIENCE program.

|            | s7- I like to do<br>SCIENCE at my school. |        | p7- I like the school's<br>SCIENCE program. |        |
|------------|---|--------|---|--------|
|            | Count                                     | %      | Count                                       | %      |
| Always     | 45930                                     | 36.8%  | 8015  | 31.2%  |
| Usually    | 29362                                     | 23.5%  | 9544  | 37.1%  |
| Sometimes  | 32596                                     | 26.1%  | 4379  | 17.0%  |
| Never      | 14748                                     | 11.8%  | 865   | 3.4%   |
| Don't Know | 2165                                      | 1.7%   | 2919  | 11.3%  |
| Total      | 124801                                    | 100.0% | 25722                                       | 100.0% |

Data Tables on

# SCHOOL WORK and TEACHING

PERSPECTIVES ON TEACHING

s9- Student item: My teachers do a good job teaching me.

p9- Parent item: The teachers are doing a good job teaching my child.

p11- Parent item: The teachers are preparing my child to do well in the next grade.

|            | s9- My teachers do a good job teaching me. |        | p9- The teachers are doing a good job teaching my child. |        |
|------------|--|--------|--|--------|
|            | Count                                      | %      | Count  | %      |
| Always     | 64035                                      | 51.3%  | 9789   | 38.0%  |
| Usually    | 30777                                      | 24.7%  | 9986   | 38.8%  |
| Sometimes  | 25531                                      | 20.5%  | 5111   | 19.8%  |
| Never      | 3446                                       | 2.8%   | 642  | 2.5%   |
| Don't Know | 1015                                       | .8%    | 236  | .9%    |
| Total      | 124804                                     | 100.0% | 25764  | 100.0% |

|            | p11- The teachers are preparing my child to do well in the next grade. |        |
|------------|--|--------|
|            | Count  | %      |
| Always     | 10616  | 41.2%  |
| Usually    | 8917   | 34.6%  |
| Sometimes  | 4535   | 17.6%  |
| Never      | 921  | 3.6%   |
| Don't Know | 755  | 2.9%   |
| Total      | 25744  | 100.0% |

# TEACHING PROCESSES

## IMPORTANCE OF SCHOOL WORK

s10- Student item: My teachers make sure I understand my school work.

p-10- Parent item: My child's teachers make sure that the students understand that school work is important.

|              | s10- My teachers make sure I understand my school work. |               | p10- My child's teachers make sure that the students understand that school work is important. |               |
|--------------|---|---------------|--|---------------|
|              | Count   | %             | Count  | %             |
| Always       | 60667   | 48.6%         | 11772  | 45.7%         |
| Usually      | 28779   | 23.0%         | 8061   | 31.3%         |
| Sometimes    | 29790   | 23.8%         | 4450   | 17.3%         |
| Never        | 4907  | 3.9%          | 745  | 2.9%          |
| Don't Know   | 785   | .6%           | 742  | 2.9%          |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>124928</b>   | <b>100.0%</b> | <b>25770</b>   | <b>100.0%</b> |

## RESPONSIVENESS TO QUESTIONS

s3- Student item: My teachers help me with problems and questions.

p3- Parent item: The teachers help my child with problems or questions he/she has in class.

|              | s3- My teachers help me with problems and questions. |               | p3- The teachers help my child with problems or questions he/she has in class. |               |
|--------------|--|---------------|--|---------------|
|              | Count  | %             | Count  | %             |
| Always       | 49682  | 39.8%         | 8193   | 31.8%         |
| Usually      | 31621  | 25.3%         | 9702   | 37.7%         |
| Sometimes    | 37795  | 30.3%         | 6481   | 25.2%         |
| Never        | 4990   | 4.0%          | 670  | 2.6%          |
| Don't Know   | 684  | .5%           | 709  | 2.8%          |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>124772</b>  | <b>100.0%</b> | <b>25755</b>   | <b>100.0%</b> |



Data Tables on

# TEACHING PROCESSES

FEEDBACK ON PERFORMANCE

s14- Student item: My teachers let me know how well I'm doing at school.

p15- Parent item: The teachers keep me informed of how my child is doing in school.

|            | s14- My teachers let me know how well I'm doing at school. |        | p15- The teachers keep me informed of how my child is doing in school. |        |
|------------|--|--------|--|--------|
|            | Count  | %      | Count  | %      |
| Always     | 41488  | 33.2%  | 10713  | 41.5%  |
| Usually    | 33620  | 26.9%  | 7406   | 28.7%  |
| Sometimes  | 39577  | 31.7%  | 5587   | 21.7%  |
| Never      | 9150   | 7.3%   | 1966   | 7.6%   |
| Don't Know | 985  | .8%    | 112  | .4%    |
| Total      | 124820   | 100.0% | 25784  | 100.0% |

# PARENT COMMUNICATION and INVOLVEMENT

**PARENT and STUDENT COMMUNICATION**

- p18- Parent item: My child's school has asked me to share my ideas and/or concerns about the school.
- p14- Parent item: The teachers keep me informed of how my child is doing in school.
- p19- Parent item: When I have asked for information at my child's school, the staff responded promptly.
- p26- Parent item: I know the school rules and policies.
- p27- Parent item: The school's discipline rules and policies are fair.
- s-13- Student item: My school announces activities, sports, and parent meetings.

|              | p18- My child's school has asked me to share my ideas and/or concerns about the school. |               | p14- The teachers keep me informed of how my child is doing in school. |               |
|--------------|---|---------------|--|---------------|
|              | Count   | %             | Count  | %             |
| Always       | 6782  | 26.4%         | 13441  | 52.2%         |
| Usually      | 6069  | 23.6%         | 6477   | 25.1%         |
| Sometimes    | 5936  | 23.1%         | 3994   | 15.5%         |
| Never        | 5716  | 22.2%         | 1613   | 6.3%          |
| Don't Know   | 1214  | 4.7%          | 246  | 1.0%          |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>25717</b>  | <b>100.0%</b> | <b>25771</b>   | <b>100.0%</b> |

|              | p19- When I have asked for information at my child's school, the staff responded promptly. |               | p26- I know the school rules and policies. |               |
|--------------|--|---------------|--|---------------|
|              | Count  | %             | Count                                      | %             |
| Always       | 11098  | 43.1%         | 16425                                      | 63.8%         |
| Usually      | 7850   | 30.5%         | 7485                                       | 29.1%         |
| Sometimes    | 4511   | 17.5%         | 1287                                       | 5.0%          |
| Never        | 1157   | 4.5%          | 144  | .6%           |
| Don't Know   | 1123   | 4.4%          | 412  | 1.6%          |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>25739</b>   | <b>100.0%</b> | <b>25753</b>                               | <b>100.0%</b> |

|              | p27- The school's discipline rules and policies are fair. |               | s13- My school tells me about activities, sports, and parent meetings. |               |
|--------------|---|---------------|--|---------------|
|              | Count   | %             | Count  | %             |
| Always       | 11373   | 44.3%         | 70436  | 56.4%         |
| Usually      | 10102   | 39.3%         | 28151  | 22.6%         |
| Sometimes    | 3135  | 12.2%         | 19925  | 16.0%         |
| Never        | 514   | 2.0%          | 3690   | 3.0%          |
| Don't Know   | 550   | 2.1%          | 2608   | 2.1%          |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>25674</b>  | <b>100.0%</b> | <b>124810</b>  | <b>100.0%</b> |

# PARENT COMMUNICATION and INVOLVEMENT

## PARENT INVOLVEMENT

s-16 Student Item (elementary): My school wants my parents to be involved at school.

s-16 Student item (secondary): The school encourages my parents to be involved at school.

p17- Parent item: The school staff wants be to be involved at my child's school.

p42- Parent item: How many times have you visited the school this year.

|            | s16- My school wants my parents to be involved at school. |        | p17- The school staff wants me to be involved at my child's school. |        |
|------------|---|--------|---|--------|
|            | Count   | %      | Count   | %      |
| Always     | 37116   | 29.7%  | 11089   | 43.1%  |
| Usually    | 22202   | 17.8%  | 6769  | 26.3%  |
| Sometimes  | 32086   | 25.7%  | 4527  | 17.6%  |
| Never      | 23642   | 18.9%  | 1863  | 7.2%   |
| Don't Know | 9721  | 7.8%   | 1493  | 5.8%   |
| Total      | 124767  | 100.0% | 25741   | 100.0% |

|             | p42- How many times have you visited the school this year? |        |
|-------------|--|--------|
|             | Count  | %      |
| Once        | 127039   | 83.5%  |
| Twice       | 2290   | 1.5%   |
| Three times | 3514   | 2.3%   |
| 4 or more   | 4062   | 2.7%   |
| E           | 14775  | 9.7%   |
|             | 418  | .3%    |
| Total       | 152098   | 100.0% |

# SUPERVISION of STUDENTS

**STAFF CONCERNS and INTERVENTIONS for STUDENT SAFETY**

s-33 Student item: Teachers stop fights, disagreements, and arguments between students.

s-34 Student item: Teachers, administrators, counselors, and other adults at school are interested in my safety.

|              | s33- Teachers stop fights and arguments between students. |               | s34 - Adults at school are interested in my safety. |               |
|--------------|---|---------------|---|---------------|
|              | Count   | %             | Count   | %             |
| Always       | 55284   | 44.5%         | 61576   | 49.6%         |
| Usually      | 28928   | 23.3%         | 25779   | 20.8%         |
| Sometimes    | 29585   | 23.8%         | 21675   | 17.5%         |
| Never        | 6770  | 5.4%          | 6828  | 5.5%          |
| Don't Know   | 3663  | 2.9%          | 8294  | 6.7%          |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>124230</b>   | <b>100.0%</b> | <b>124152</b>                                       | <b>100.0%</b> |

Data Tables on

# SUPERVISION of STUDENTS

**PREVENTATIVE ACTIONS**

p-29 Parent item: The staff makes sure that the students follow the dress code at my child's school.

p-24 Parent item: The staff take steps to ensure that students do not bring drugs or alcohol to my child's school.

s-31 Student item: Teachers stand outside their classroom doors during class changes.

p-21 Parent item: In my child's school, the children are supervised.

|              | p29- The staff makes sure that the students follow the dress code at my child's school. |               | p24- The staff take steps to ensure that students do not bring drugs or alcohol to my child's school. |               |
|--------------|---|---------------|---|---------------|
|              | Count   | %             | Count   | %             |
| Always       | 7342  | 28.6%         | 10686   | 41.5%         |
| Usually      | 8739  | 34.1%         | 5829  | 22.7%         |
| Sometimes    | 4341  | 16.9%         | 2650  | 10.3%         |
| Never        | 1311  | 5.1%          | 1176  | 4.6%          |
| Don't Know   | 3918  | 15.3%         | 5383  | 20.9%         |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>25651</b>  | <b>100.0%</b> | <b>25724</b>  | <b>100.0%</b> |

|              | s31- Teachers stand outside their classroom doors during class changes. |               | p21- In my child's school, the children are supervised. |               |
|--------------|---|---------------|---|---------------|
|              | Count   | %             | Count   | %             |
| Always       | 28676   | 23.1%         | 10948   | 42.5%         |
| Usually      | 20375   | 16.4%         | 9148  | 35.5%         |
| Sometimes    | 35857   | 28.9%         | 4175  | 16.2%         |
| Never        | 13952   | 11.2%         | 534   | 2.1%          |
| Don't Know   | 25305   | 20.4%         | 941   | 3.7%          |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>124165</b>   | <b>100.0%</b> | <b>25746</b>  | <b>100.0%</b> |

# STUDENT SUPPORT

## COMPUTERS AT SCHOOL

s11- Student item: I use computers at my school.

p12- Parent item: My child uses up-to-date equipment, like computers, in school.

|              | s11- I use computers at my school. |               | p12- My child uses up-to-date equipment, like computers, in school. |               |
|--------------|------------------------------------|---------------|---|---------------|
|              | Count                              | %             | Count   | %             |
| Always       | 30928                              | 24.8%         | 10120   | 39.3%         |
| Usually      | 21791                              | 17.5%         | 7851  | 30.5%         |
| Sometimes    | 50355                              | 40.4%         | 5155  | 20.0%         |
| Never        | 19020                              | 15.3%         | 1333  | 5.2%          |
| Don't Know   | 2593                               | 2.1%          | 1273  | 4.9%          |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>124687</b>                      | <b>100.0%</b> | <b>25732</b>  | <b>100.0%</b> |

## RACE and CULTURE

s12- Student item: I learn about people of different races and cultures at my school.

p13- Parent item: My child learns about various races and cultures through classroom activities.

|              | s12- I learn about people of different races and cultures at my school. |               | p13- My child learns about various races and cultures through classroom activities. |               |
|--------------|---|---------------|---|---------------|
|              | Count   | %             | Count   | %             |
| Always       | 38311   | 30.7%         | 8633  | 33.6%         |
| Usually      | 31705   | 25.4%         | 8844  | 34.4%         |
| Sometimes    | 41481   | 33.3%         | 5601  | 21.8%         |
| Never        | 9728  | 7.8%          | 929   | 3.6%          |
| Don't Know   | 3463  | 2.8%          | 1707  | 6.6%          |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>124688</b>   | <b>100.0%</b> | <b>25714</b>  | <b>100.0%</b> |

# STUDENT SUPPORT

## STUDENT ASSISTANCE

s32- Student item: Adults at my school (teachers, administrators, counselors, etc.) help when I need help.

p23- Parent item: I know that someone at the school will assist my child at school, when needed.

|              | s32- Adults at my school help me when I need help. |               | p23- Adults at school will help my child when needed |               |
|--------------|--|---------------|--|---------------|
|              | Count  | %             | Count  | %             |
| Always       | 54318  | 43.7%         | 10398  | 40.4%         |
| Usually      | 29679  | 23.9%         | 9318   | 36.2%         |
| Sometimes    | 30607  | 24.6%         | 4596   | 17.8%         |
| Never        | 6446   | 5.2%          | 604  | 2.3%          |
| Don't Know   | 3178   | 2.6%          | 836  | 3.2%          |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>124228</b>                                      | <b>100.0%</b> | <b>25752</b>   | <b>100.0%</b> |

## SCHOOL RULES AND STUDENT BEHAVIOR

s37- Student item: When I have reported incidents of crime, someone at school has taken action to correct the problem.

s22- Student item: Students follow school rules when they are at school.

|              | s37- When I report crime at schools, someone takes action |               | s22- Students follow school rules when they are at school. |               |
|--------------|---|---------------|--|---------------|
|              | Count   | %             | Count  | %             |
| Always       | 39030   | 31.5%         | 12309  | 9.9%          |
| Usually      | 15032   | 12.1%         | 21932  | 17.6%         |
| Sometimes    | 19448   | 15.7%         | 65264  | 52.4%         |
| Never        | 13385   | 10.8%         | 22519  | 18.1%         |
| Don't Know   | 37071   | 29.9%         | 2543   | 2.0%          |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>123966</b>   | <b>100.0%</b> | <b>124567</b>  | <b>100.0%</b> |

# STUDENT SAFETY to and from SCHOOL

**SAFETY to and from SCHOOL**

s38- Student item: I feel safe on the way to and from school.

p32- Parent item: My child is safe walking home from school or the bus stop.

s36- Student item: Other students want to hurt me while I'm on the way to and from school.

|              | s38- I feel safe on the way to and from school. |               | p32- My child is safe walking home from school or the bus stop. |               |
|--------------|---|---------------|---|---------------|
|              | Count   | %             | Count   | %             |
| Always       | 58492   | 47.2%         | 7157  | 27.9%         |
| Usually      | 27446   | 22.1%         | 8899  | 34.7%         |
| Sometimes    | 24783   | 20.0%         | 3248  | 12.7%         |
| Never        | 9010  | 7.3%          | 1425  | 5.6%          |
| Don't Know   | 4228  | 3.4%          | 4916  | 19.2%         |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>123959</b>                                   | <b>100.0%</b> | <b>25645</b>  | <b>100.0%</b> |

|              | s36- Other students want to hurt me while I'm on the way to and from school. |               |
|--------------|--|---------------|
|              | Count  | %             |
| Always       | 5141   | 4.1%          |
| Usually      | 4087   | 3.3%          |
| Sometimes    | 14137  | 11.4%         |
| Never        | 89004  | 71.7%         |
| Don't Know   | 11697  | 9.4%          |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>124066</b>  | <b>100.0%</b> |



Data Tables on

STUDENT SAFETY to and from SCHOOL

SCHOOL BUS TRANSPORTATION

s17- Student item: I feel safe when I ride the school bus.

p33- Parent item: My child is safe when he/she rides the school bus.

|            | s17- I feel safe when I ride the school bus. |        | p33- My child is safe when he/she rides the school bus. |        |
|------------|--|--------|---|--------|
|            | Count  | %      | Count   | %      |
| Always     | 23572  | 18.9%  | 4059  | 15.9%  |
| Usually    | 16217  | 13.0%  | 5443  | 21.3%  |
| Sometimes  | 15744  | 12.6%  | 2580  | 10.1%  |
| Never      | 10937  | 8.8%   | 882   | 3.4%   |
| Don't Know | 58113  | 46.6%  | 12635   | 49.4%  |
| Total      | 124583                                       | 100.0% | 25599   | 100.0% |

# STUDENT SAFETY THEFT and CRIME at SCHOOL

**THEFT at SCHOOL**

s21- Student item: I can carry money, school supplies, and other important things to my school without worrying they will be taken from me.

p-22 Parent item: My child can bring books, money, and other items to school without fear of theft or damage to the items.

|              | s21 -I can carry money, school supplies, and |               | p22- My child can bring books, money, and other items to school without fear of theft or damage to the items. |               |
|--------------|--|---------------|---|---------------|
|              | Count  | %             | Count   | %             |
| Always       | 28907  | 23.1%         | 5947  | 23.1%         |
| Usually      | 24137  | 19.3%         | 8489  | 33.0%         |
| Sometimes    | 32510  | 26.0%         | 6249  | 24.3%         |
| Never        | 35782  | 28.6%         | 4217  | 16.4%         |
| Don't Know   | 3610   | 2.9%          | 830   | 3.2%          |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>124946</b>                                | <b>100.0%</b> | <b>25732</b>  | <b>100.0%</b> |

Data Tables on

# STUDENT SAFETY THEFT and CRIME at SCHOOL

**SAFETY and CRIME at SCHOOL**

s19- Student item: I feel safe from crime at my school.

p20- Parent item: My child is safe at his/her school.

s18- Student item: I feel safe during recess, extracurricula activities, sports, and weekend activities at school.

|              | s19- I feel safe from crime at my school. |               | p20- My child is safe at his/her school. |               |
|--------------|---|---------------|--|---------------|
|              | Count                                     | %             | Count                                    | %             |
| Always       | 42076                                     | 33.7%         | 9754                                     | 37.9%         |
| Usually      | 28097                                     | 22.5%         | 9609                                     | 37.3%         |
| Sometimes    | 29442                                     | 23.6%         | 4455                                     | 17.3%         |
| Never        | 21379                                     | 17.1%         | 1250                                     | 4.9%          |
| Don't Know   | 3729                                      | 3.0%          | 686                                      | 2.7%          |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>124723</b>                             | <b>100.0%</b> | <b>25754</b>                             | <b>100.0%</b> |

|              | s18- I feel safe during recess and on weekends at my school. |               |
|--------------|--|---------------|
|              | Count  | %             |
| Always       | 51519  | 41.3%         |
| Usually      | 25348  | 20.3%         |
| Sometimes    | 17336  | 13.9%         |
| Never        | 6599   | 5.3%          |
| Don't Know   | 23868  | 19.1%         |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>124670</b>  | <b>100.0%</b> |

**WEAPONS GANGS  
DRUGS and ALCOHOL at SCHOOL**

**WEAPONS at SCHOOL**

s26- Student item: Students carry weapons at my school.

p28- Parent item: Students do not carry weapons at my child's school.

|              | s26- Students carry weapons at my school. |               | p28- Students do not carry weapons at my child's school. |               |
|--------------|---|---------------|--|---------------|
|              | Count                                     | %             | Count  | %             |
| Always       | 7422                                      | 6.0%          | 2992   | 11.7%         |
| Usually      | 8066                                      | 6.5%          | 2512   | 9.8%          |
| Sometimes    | 34713                                     | 27.9%         | 3858   | 15.1%         |
| Never        | 44505                                     | 35.7%         | 4499   | 17.6%         |
| Don't Know   | 29905                                     | 24.0%         | 11761  | 45.9%         |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>124611</b>                             | <b>100.0%</b> | <b>25622</b>   | <b>100.0%</b> |

**GANGS at SCHOOL**

s27- Student item: Students at my school are members of gangs.

p30- Parent item: Students at my child's school are members of youth gangs.

|              | s27- Students at my school are members of gangs. |               | p30- Students at my child's school are members of youth gangs. |               |
|--------------|--|---------------|--|---------------|
|              | Count  | %             | Count  | %             |
| Always       | 10577  | 8.5%          | 1187   | 4.6%          |
| Usually      | 14829  | 11.9%         | 1327   | 5.2%          |
| Sometimes    | 30881  | 24.8%         | 4865   | 19.0%         |
| Never        | 26339  | 21.1%         | 5472   | 21.3%         |
| Don't Know   | 41931  | 33.7%         | 12783  | 49.9%         |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>124557</b>                                    | <b>100.0%</b> | <b>25634</b>   | <b>100.0%</b> |

Data Tables on

# WEAPONS GANGS DRUGS and ALCOHOL at SCHOOL

**DRUGS / ALCOHOL at SCHOOL**

s25- Student item: Students use alcohol and/or drugs when they are at my school.

p25- Parent item: Students bring drugs or alcohol to my child's school.

|              | s25- School: Students use alcohol and/or drugs when they |               | p25- Students bring drugs or alcohol to my child's school. |               |
|--------------|--|---------------|--|---------------|
|              | Count  | %             | Count  | %             |
| Always       | 10717  | 8.6%          | 1682   | 6.5%          |
| Usually      | 9633   | 7.7%          | 1313   | 5.1%          |
| Sometimes    | 24085  | 19.3%         | 3906   | 15.2%         |
| Never        | 55416  | 44.5%         | 6636   | 25.8%         |
| Don't Know   | 24768  | 19.9%         | 12182  | 47.4%         |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>124619</b>  | <b>100.0%</b> | <b>25719</b>   | <b>100.0%</b> |



PHYSICAL HARM and THREATS  
at SCHOOL

PHYSICAL THREATS and HARM at SCHOOL

s35- Student item: Other students want to hurt me while I'm at school.

s23- Student item: Students threaten or fight with each other when they are at my school.

|            | s35- Other students want to hurt me while I'm at school. |        | s23- Students threaten or fight with each other when they are at my school. |        |
|------------|--|--------|---|--------|
|            | Count  | %      | Count   | %      |
| Always     | 6771   | 5.5%   | 30343   | 24.4%  |
| Usually    | 5968   | 4.8%   | 21320   | 17.1%  |
| Sometimes  | 27438  | 22.1%  | 56620   | 45.5%  |
| Never      | 75166  | 60.6%  | 11868   | 9.5%   |
| Don't Know | 8719   | 7.0%   | 4338  | 3.5%   |
| Total      | 124062   | 100.0% | 124489  | 100.0% |

Data Tables on

PHYSICAL HARM and THREATS  
at SCHOOL

THREATS on SCHOOL STAFF MEMBERS

s24- Student item: Students threaten or attack teachers or other staff members when they are at school.

|            | s24- Students threaten or attack teachers or other staff members |        |
|------------|--|--------|
|            | Count  | %      |
| Always     | 6886   | 5.5%   |
| Usually    | 6499   | 5.2%   |
| Sometimes  | 34429  | 27.7%  |
| Never      | 59249  | 47.6%  |
| Don't Know | 17446  | 14.0%  |
| Total      | 124509   | 100.0% |

# NEIGHBORHOOD SAFETY

**SAFETY and CRIME in NEIGHBORHOODS**

s20- Student item: I feel safe from crime in my neighborhood.

p-37- Parent item: My child is safe from crime in my neighborhood.

|              | s20- I feel safe from crime in my neighborhood. |               | p37- My child is safe in my neighborhood. |               |
|--------------|---|---------------|---|---------------|
|              | Count   | %             | Count                                     | %             |
| Always       | 41901   | 33.6%         | 7922                                      | 30.9%         |
| Usually      | 32344   | 25.9%         | 13112                                     | 51.1%         |
| Sometimes    | 27231   | 21.8%         | 3382                                      | 13.2%         |
| Never        | 19957   | 16.0%         | 671                                       | 2.6%          |
| Don't Know   | 3431  | 2.7%          | 571                                       | 2.2%          |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>124864</b>                                   | <b>100.0%</b> | <b>25658</b>                              | <b>100.0%</b> |

**DRUGS and ALCOHOL in NEIGHBORHOODS**

s28- Student item: Students use alcohol and/or drugs in my neighborhood.

p34- Parent item: Students have drugs or alcohol in my neighborhood.

|              | s28- Students use alcohol and/or drugs in my neighborhood. |               | p34- Students have drugs or alcohol in my neighborhood. |               |
|--------------|--|---------------|---|---------------|
|              | Count  | %             | Count   | %             |
| Always       | 20380  | 16.4%         | 1100  | 4.3%          |
| Usually      | 13104  | 10.5%         | 1135  | 4.4%          |
| Sometimes    | 26802  | 21.5%         | 5705  | 22.3%         |
| Never        | 35720  | 28.7%         | 6058  | 23.6%         |
| Don't Know   | 28533  | 22.9%         | 11628   | 45.4%         |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>124539</b>  | <b>100.0%</b> | <b>25626</b>  | <b>100.0%</b> |



Data Tables on

# NEIGHBORHOOD SAFETY

## GANGS in NEIGHBORHOODS

s30- Student item: Students in my neighborhood are members of gangs.

p36- Parent item: Students in my neighborhood are members of youth gangs.

|            | s30- Students in my neighborhood are members of gangs. |        | p36- Students in my neighborhood are members of youth gangs. |        |
|------------|--|--------|--|--------|
|            | Count  | %      | Count  | %      |
| Always     | 13188  | 10.6%  | 741  | 2.9%   |
| Usually    | 12063  | 9.7%   | 814  | 3.2%   |
| Sometimes  | 24632  | 19.8%  | 4039   | 15.8%  |
| Never      | 34027  | 27.3%  | 7005   | 27.3%  |
| Don't Know | 40627  | 32.6%  | 13035  | 50.9%  |
| Total      | 124537   | 100.0% | 25634  | 100.0% |

## WEAPONS in NEIGHBORHOODS

s29- Student item: Students carry weapons in my neighborhood.

p35- Parent item: Students carry weapons in my neighborhood.

|            | s29- Students carry weapons in my neighborhood. |        | p35- Students carry weapons in my neighborhood. |        |
|------------|---|--------|---|--------|
|            | Count   | %      | Count   | %      |
| Always     | 16278   | 13.0%  | 751   | 2.9%   |
| Usually    | 10789   | 8.6%   | 706   | 2.8%   |
| Sometimes  | 27199   | 21.8%  | 3934  | 15.3%  |
| Never      | 38306   | 30.7%  | 7470  | 29.1%  |
| Don't Know | 32181   | 25.8%  | 12803   | 49.9%  |
| Total      | 124753  | 100.0% | 25664   | 100.0% |

# SATISFACTION and SCHOOL CLEANLINESS

s15- Student item: I am happy at this school.

p16- Parent item: I feel welcome when I visit my child's school.

|              | s15- I am happy at this school. |               | p16- I feel welcome when I visit my child's school. |               |
|--------------|---------------------------------|---------------|---|---------------|
|              | Count                           | %             | Count   | %             |
| Always       | 44203                           | 35.4%         | 14162   | 55.0%         |
| Usually      | 32969                           | 26.4%         | 6791  | 26.4%         |
| Sometimes    | 34158                           | 27.4%         | 3257  | 12.6%         |
| Never        | 10838                           | 8.7%          | 973   | 3.8%          |
| Don't Know   | 2698                            | 2.2%          | 576   | 2.2%          |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>124866</b>                   | <b>100.0%</b> | <b>25759</b>  | <b>100.0%</b> |

## SCHOOL CLEANLINESS

s39- Student item: My school is clean.

p31- Parent item: The school is clean and well maintained.

|              | s39- My school is clean. |               | p31- The school is clean and well maintained. |               |
|--------------|--------------------------|---------------|---|---------------|
|              | Count                    | %             | Count   | %             |
| Always       | 27979                    | 22.8%         | 11512   | 44.8%         |
| Usually      | 32958                    | 26.9%         | 9143  | 35.6%         |
| Sometimes    | 38457                    | 31.3%         | 3683  | 14.3%         |
| Never        | 20911                    | 17.0%         | 1007  | 3.9%          |
| Don't Know   | 2423                     | 2.0%          | 335   | 1.3%          |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>122728</b>            | <b>100.0%</b> | <b>25680</b>                                  | <b>100.0%</b> |

Data Tables on

# SATISFACTION and SCHOOL CLEANLINESS

**SATISFACTION with the SCHOOL**

s4- Student item: I like going to this school.

p4- Parent item: My child likes going to this school.

|            | s4- I like going to this school. |        | p4- My child likes going to this school. |        |
|------------|----------------------------------|--------|--|--------|
|            | Count                            | %      | Count                                    | %      |
| Always     | 45243                            | 36.2%  | 12497                                    | 48.5%  |
| Usually    | 27960                            | 22.4%  | 8555                                     | 33.2%  |
| Sometimes  | 34661                            | 27.8%  | 3491                                     | 13.6%  |
| Never      | 14135                            | 11.3%  | 1137                                     | 4.4%   |
| Don't Know | 2830                             | 2.3%   | 80                                       | .3%    |
| Total      | 124829                           | 100.0% | 25760                                    | 100.0% |

s1- Student item: I feel good about the things I do at school.

p1- Parent item: I feel good about the things my child does at school.

|            | s1- I feel good about the things I do at school. |        | p1- I feel good about the things my child does at school. |        |
|------------|--|--------|---|--------|
|            | Count  | %      | Count   | %      |
| Always     | 34025  | 27.2%  | 8424  | 32.7%  |
| Usually    | 45508  | 36.4%  | 12832   | 49.8%  |
| Sometimes  | 41696  | 33.3%  | 4183  | 16.2%  |
| Never      | 2710   | 2.2%   | 253   | 1.0%   |
| Don't Know | 1198   | 1.0%   | 76  | .3%    |
| Total      | 125137   | 100.0% | 25768   | 100.0% |

Notes

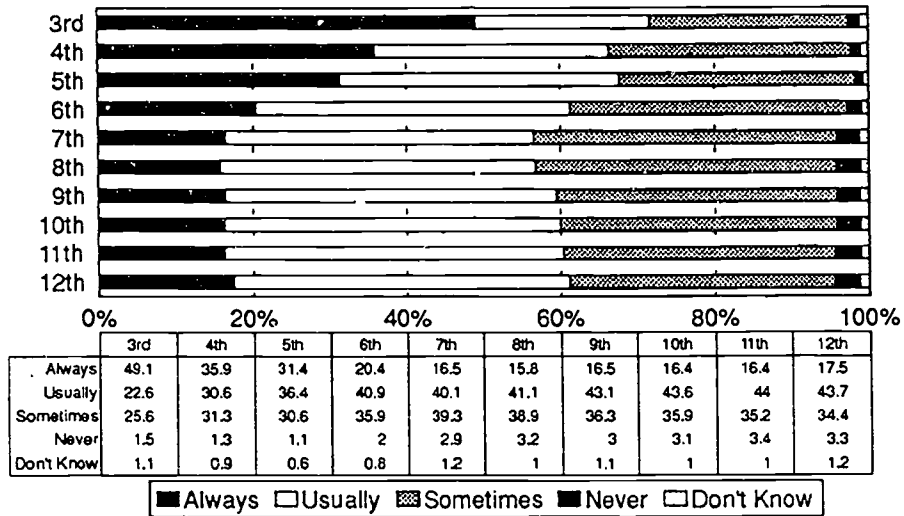


Appendix  
Graphics of  
Student Responses by  
Grade Level

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### I feel good about the things I do at school.

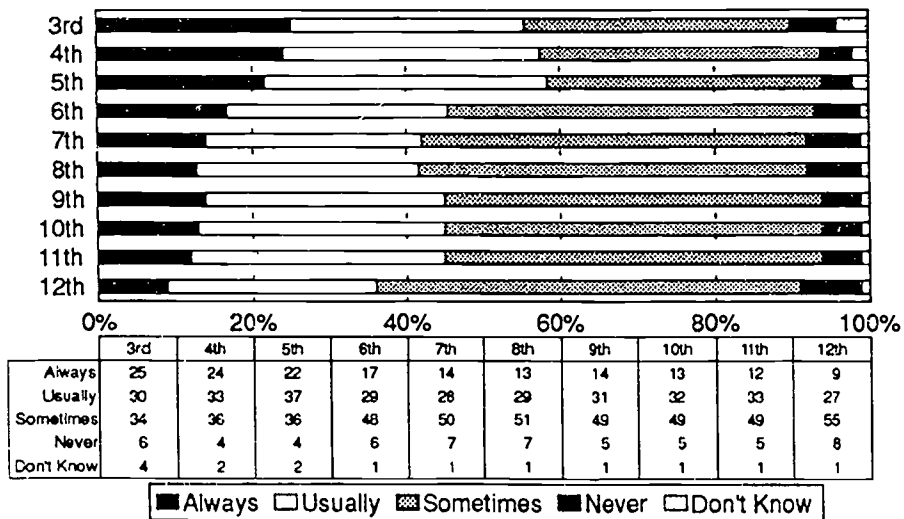
1995 Student Survey, N=125,137



Student Item #S1

### My school work is not too easy and not too hard.

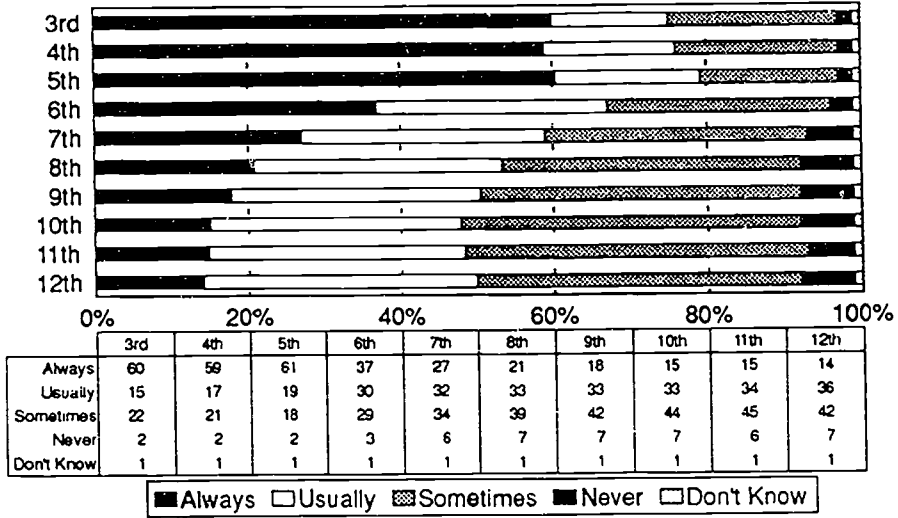
1995 Student Survey, N=124,879



Student Item #S2

### My teachers help me with problems and questions.

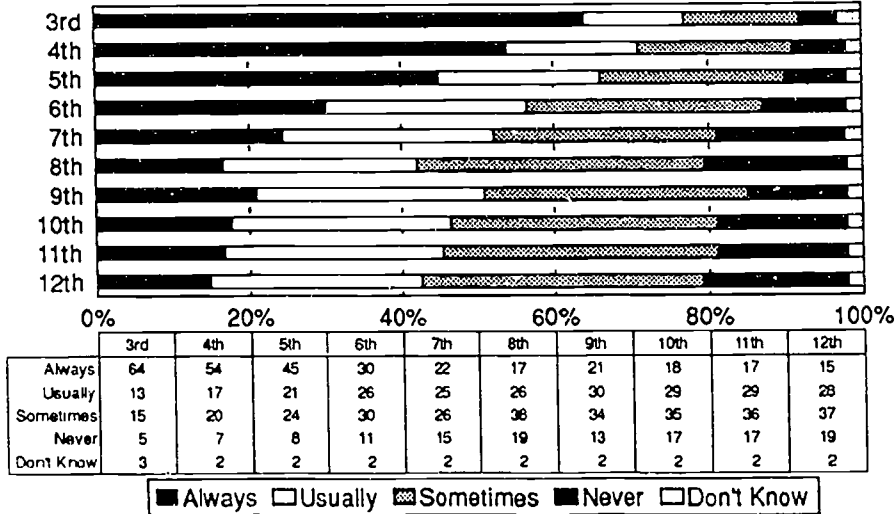
1995 Student Survey, N=124,772



Student Item #S3

### I like going to this school.

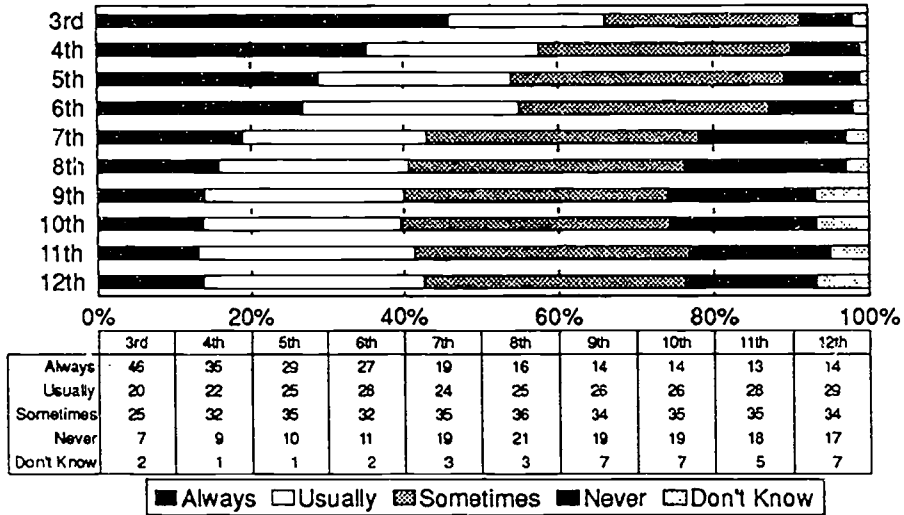
1995 Student Survey, N=124,829



Student Item #S4

### I like to do READING and LANGUAGE ARTS at my school.

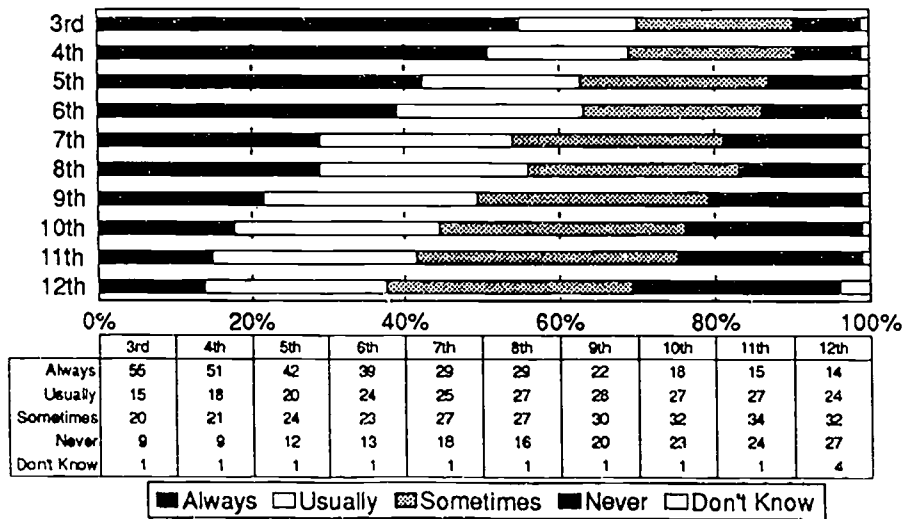
1995 Student Survey, N=124,853



Student Item #S5

### I like to do MATH at my school.

1995 Student Survey, N=124,725

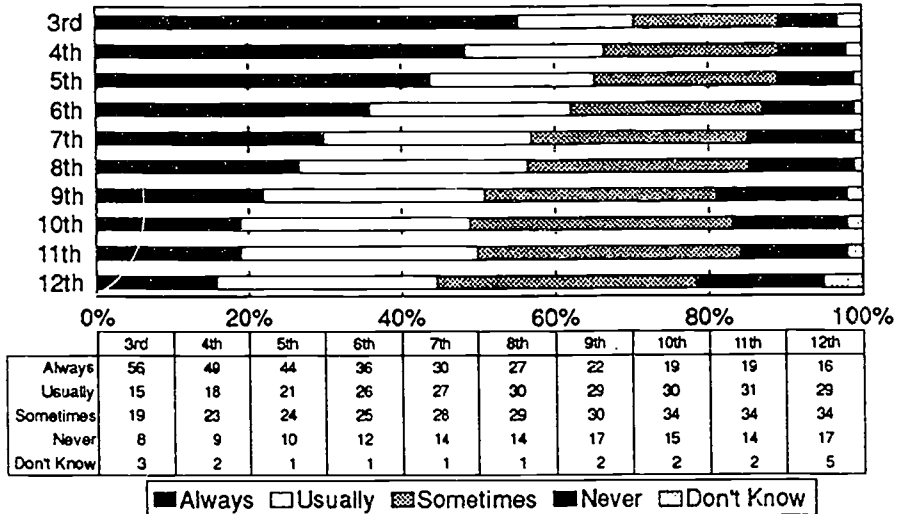


Student Item #S6



### I like to do SCIENCE at my school.

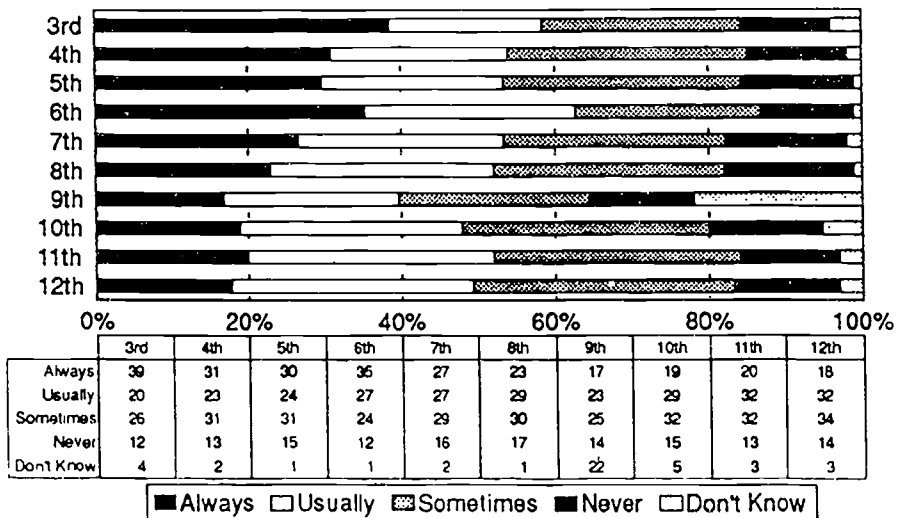
1995 Student Survey, N=124,801



Student Item #S7

### I like to do SOCIAL STUDIES at my school.

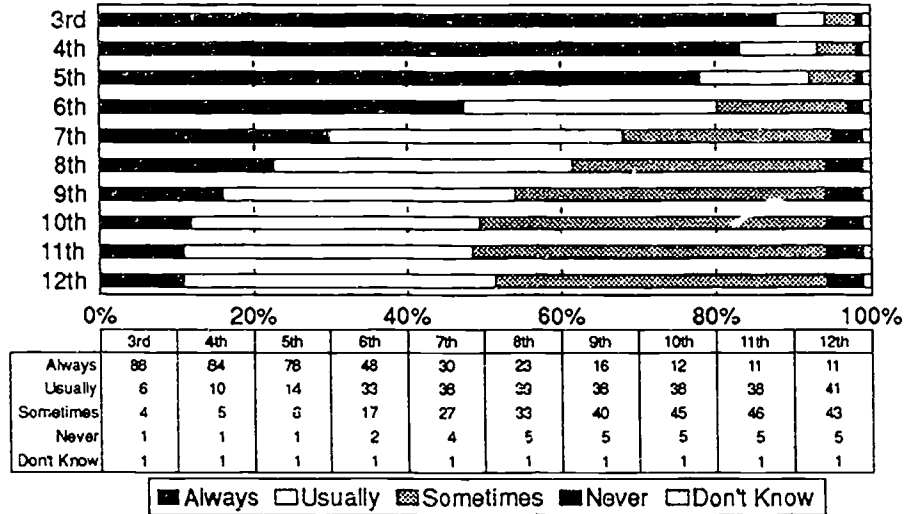
1995 Student Survey, N=124,826



Student Item #S8

### My teachers do a good job teaching me.

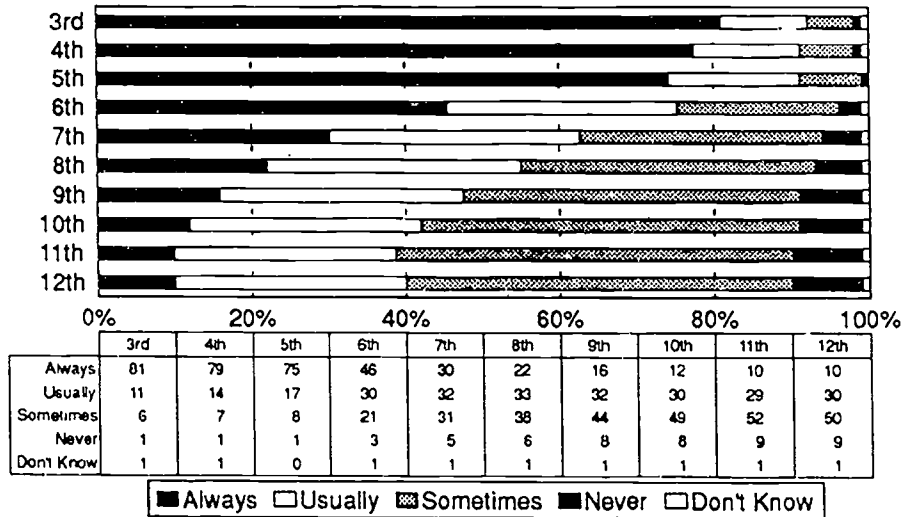
1995 Student Survey, N=124,804



Student Item #S9

### My teachers make sure I understand my school work.

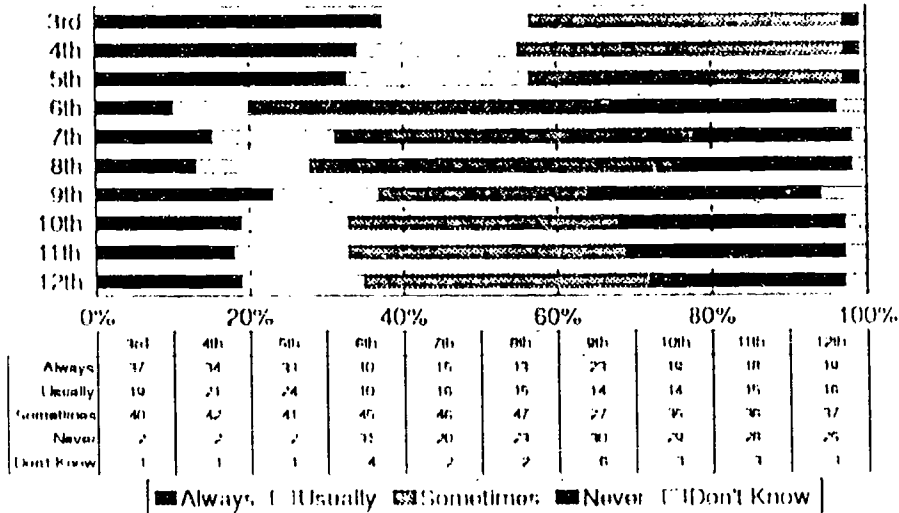
1995 Student Survey, N=124,928



Student Item #S10

### I use computers at school.

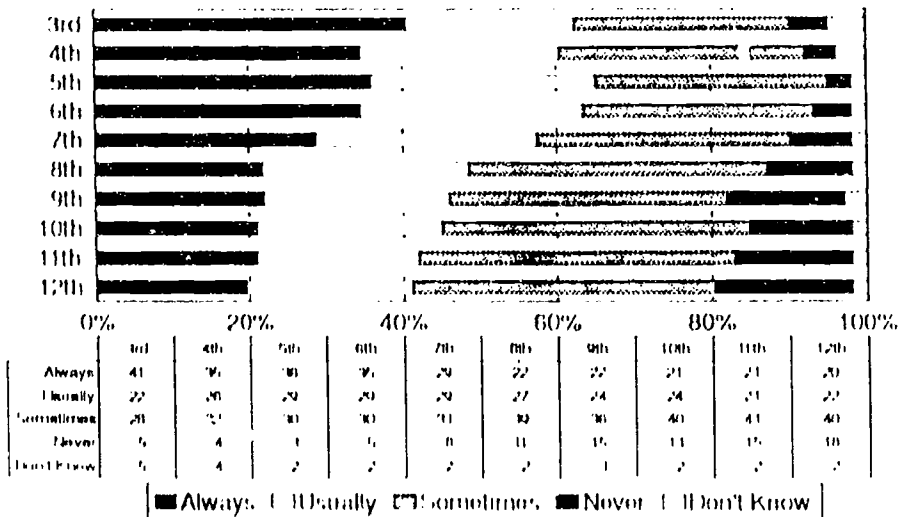
1995 Student Survey, N=124,687



Student Item #511

### I learn about people of different races and cultures at my school.

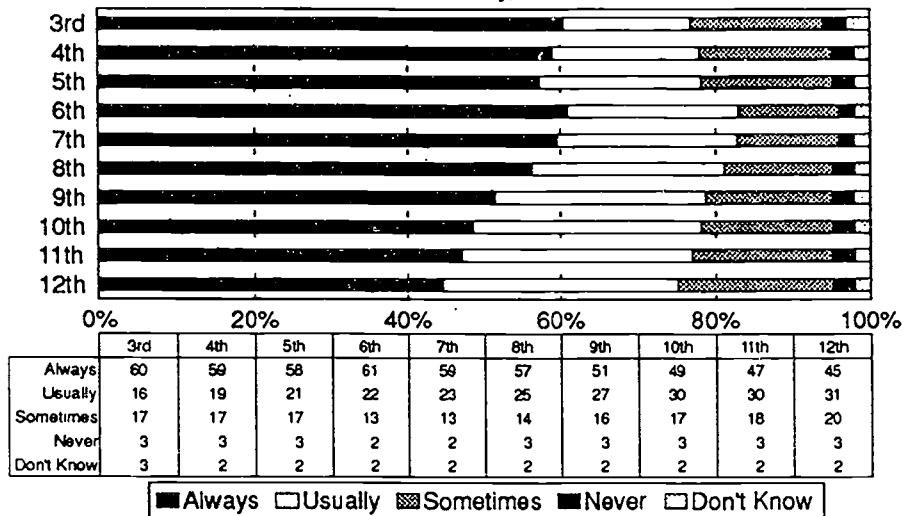
1995 Student Survey, N=124,688



Student Item #512

### My school tells me about activities, sports, and parent meetings.

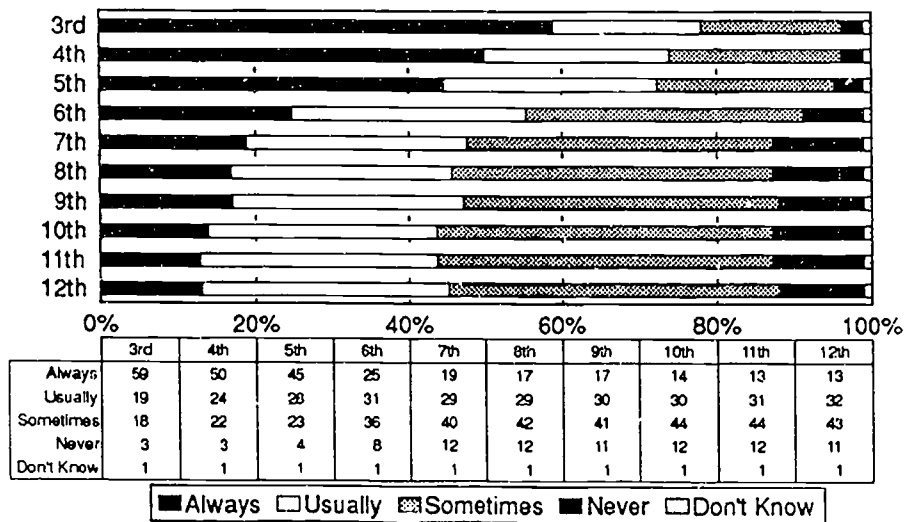
1995 Student Survey, N=124,810



Student Item #S13

### My teachers let me know how well I'm doing at school!

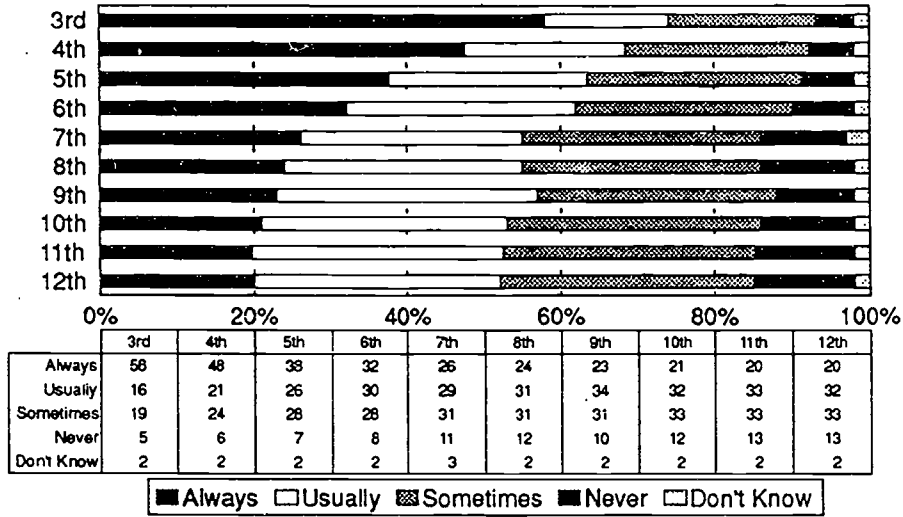
1995 Student Survey, N=124,820



Student Item #S14

### I am happy at this school.

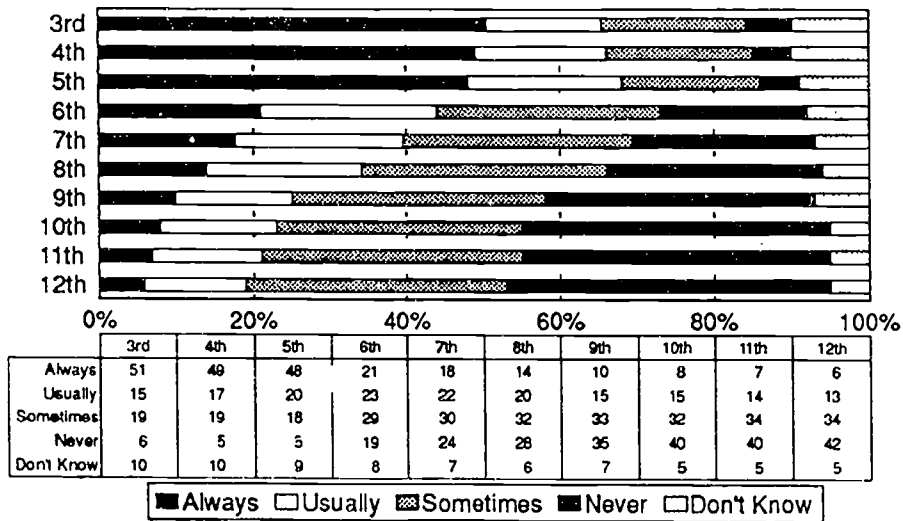
1995 Student Survey, N=124,866



Student Item #S15

### My school wants my parents to be involved at school.

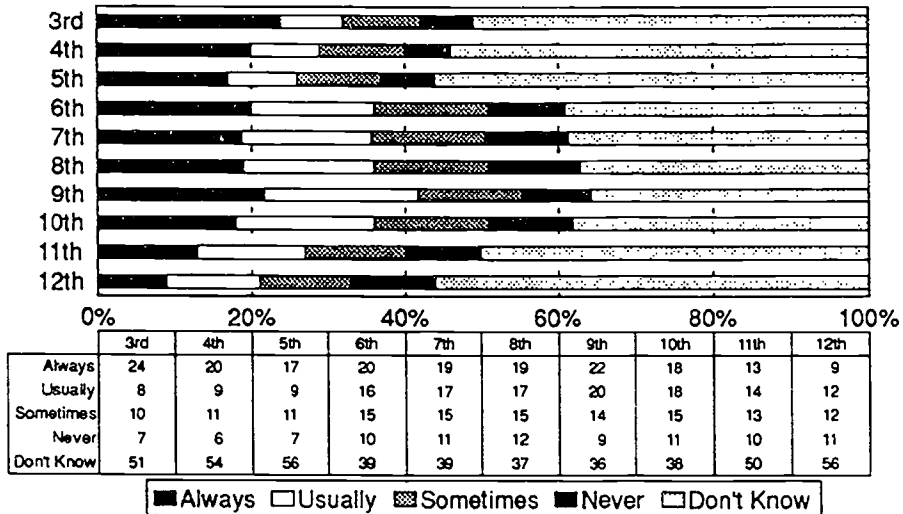
1995 Student Survey, N=124,767



Student Item #S16

### I feel safe when I ride the school bus.

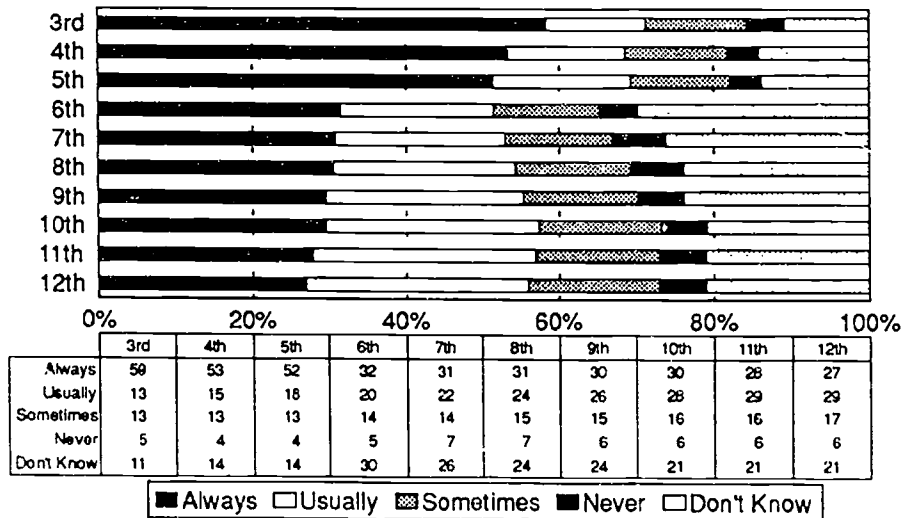
1995 Student Survey, N=124,583



Student Item #S17

### I feel safe during recess and on weekends at my school.

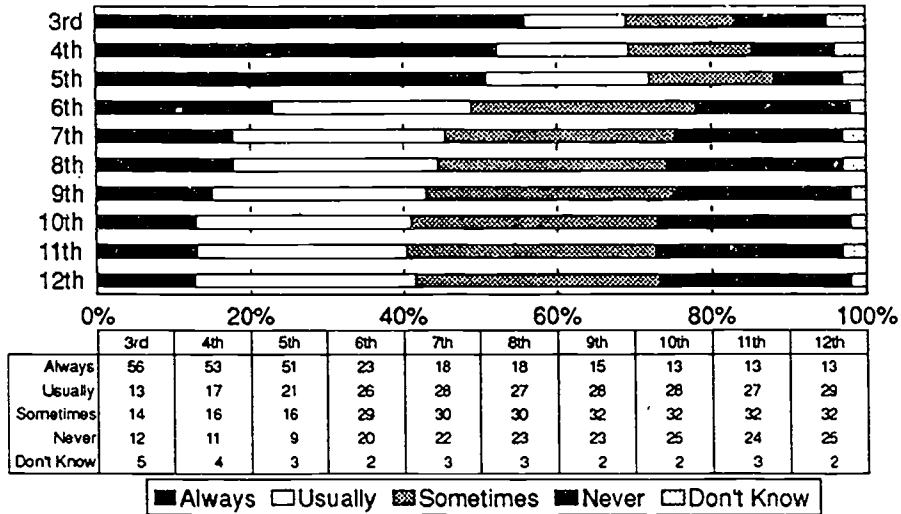
1995 Student Survey, N=124,670



Student Item #S18

### I feel safe from crime at my school.

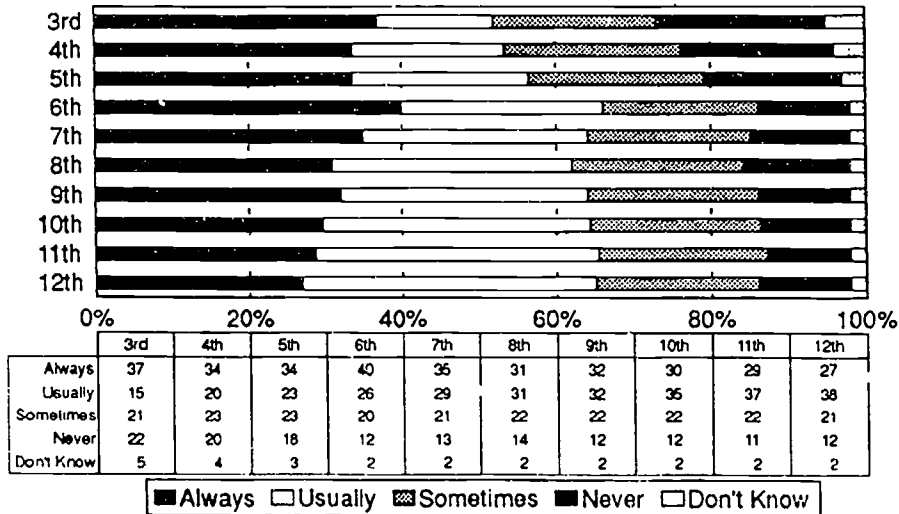
1995 Student Survey, N=124,723



Student Item #S19

### I feel safe from crime in my neighborhood.

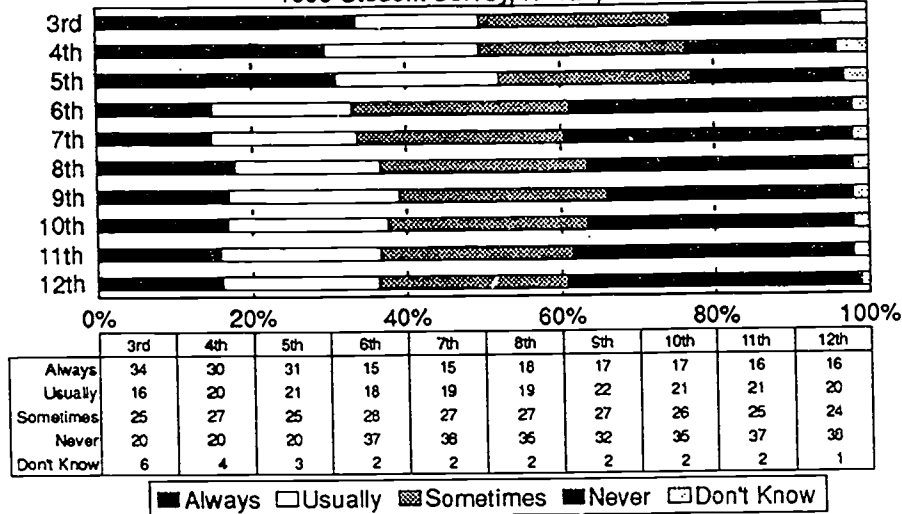
1995 Student Survey, N=124,864



Student Item #S20

**I can carry money, school supplies, and other important things to my school without worrying they will be taken from me.**

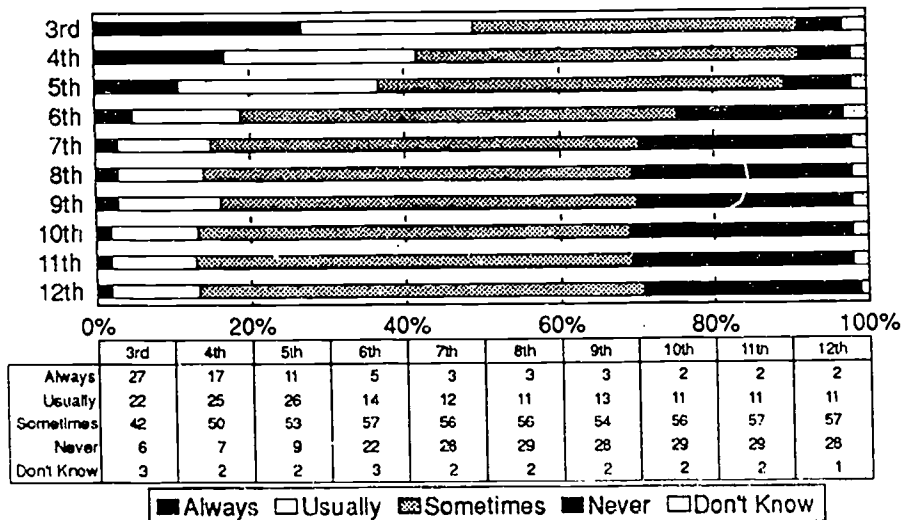
1995 Student Survey, N=124,946



Student Item #S21

**Students follow school rules when they are at school.**

1995 Student Survey, N=124,567

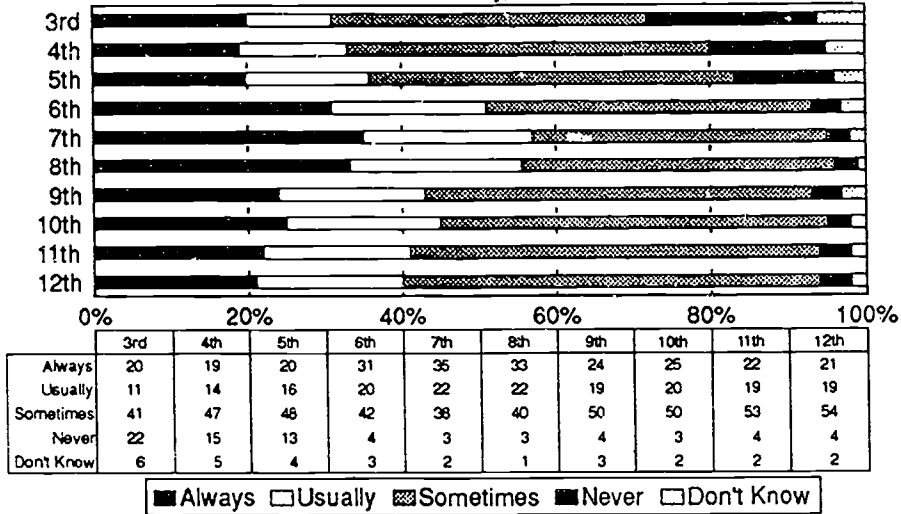


Student Item #S22



### Students threaten or fight with each other when they are at my school.

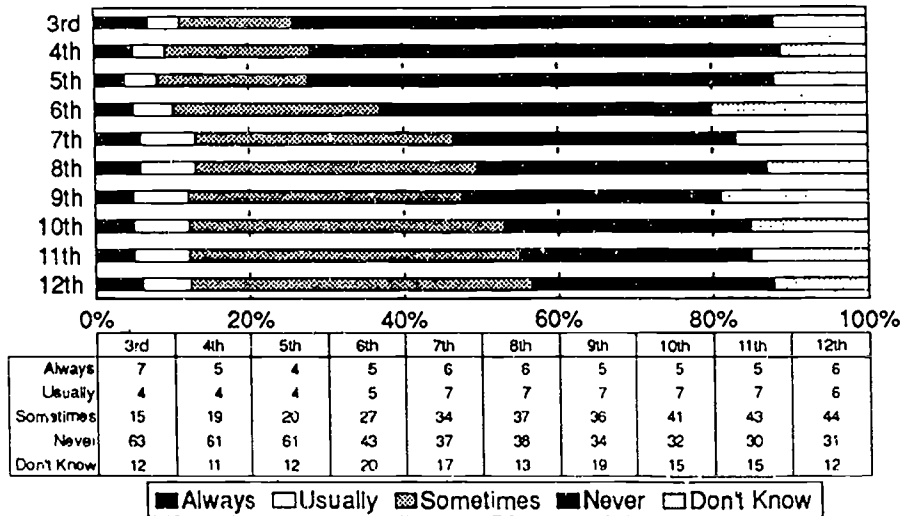
1995 Student Survey, N=124,489



Student Item #S23

### Students threaten or attack teachers or other staff members when they are at my school.

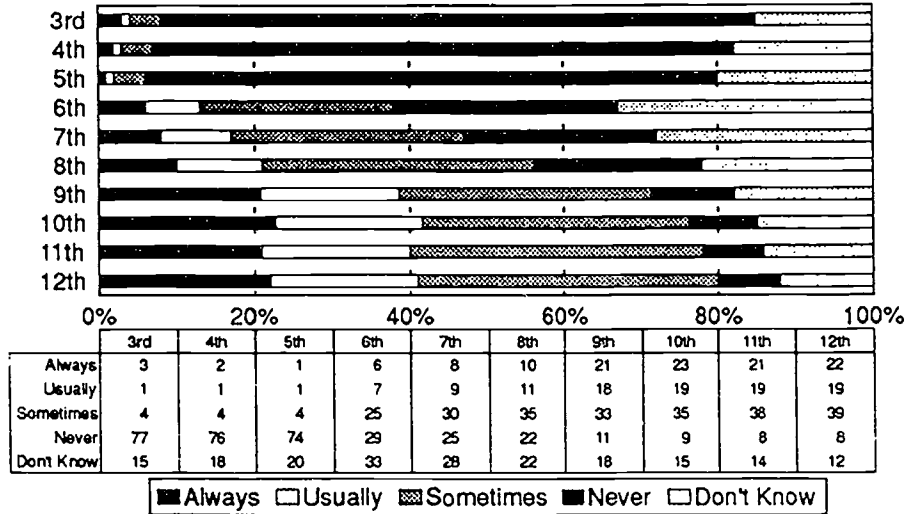
1995 Student Survey, N=124,509



Student Item #S24

### Students use alcohol and/or drugs when they are at my school.

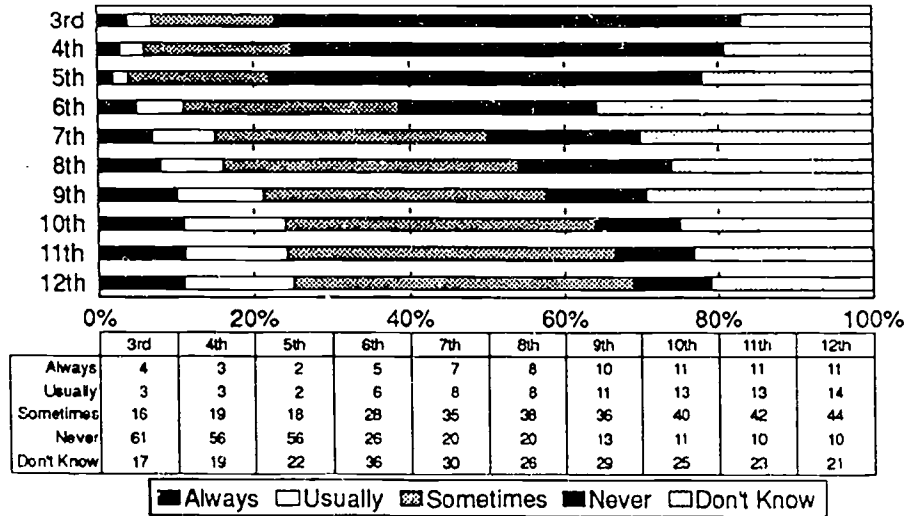
1995 Student Survey, N=124,619



Student Item #S25

### Students carry weapons at my school.

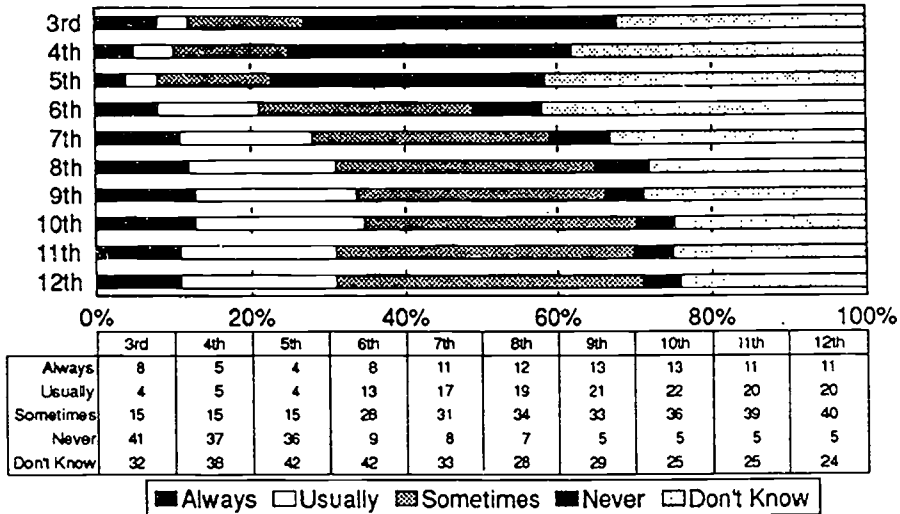
1995 Student Survey, N=124,611



Student Item #S26

### Students at my school are members of gangs.

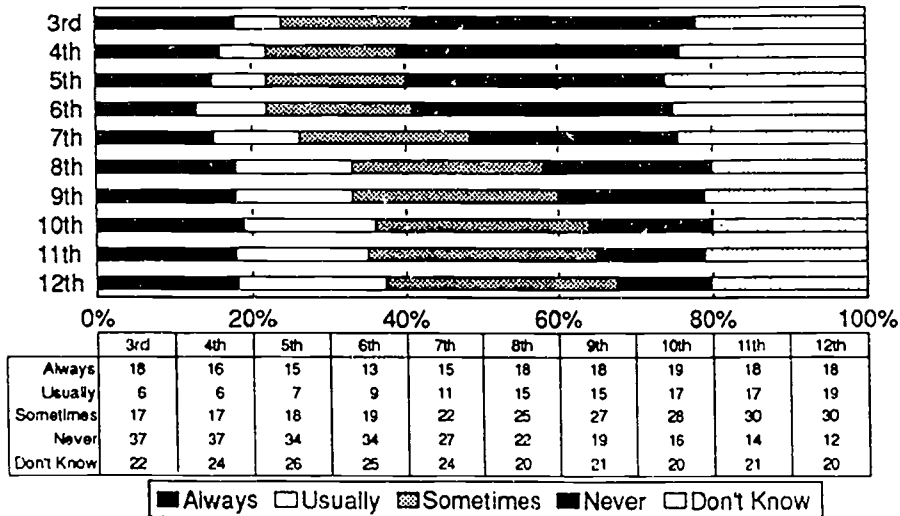
1995 Student Survey, N=124,557



Student Item #S27

### Students use alcohol and/or drugs in my neighborhood.

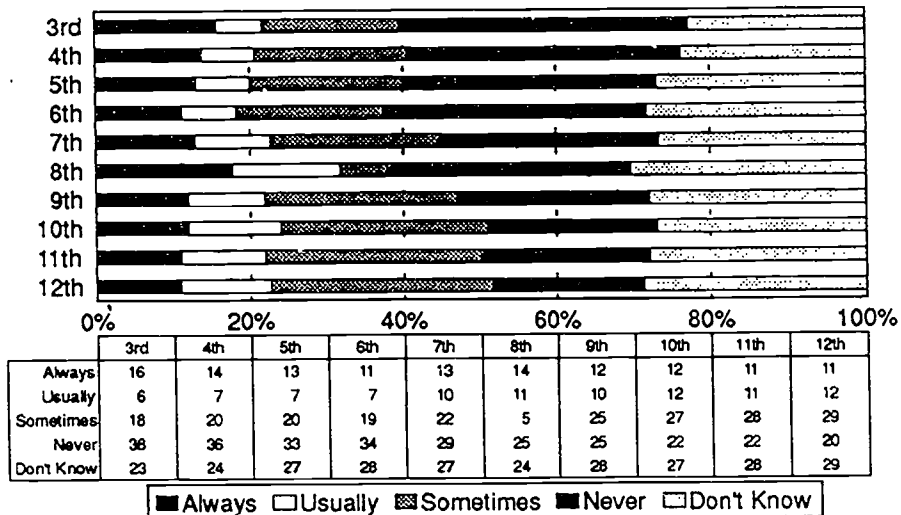
1995 Student Survey, N=124,539



Student Item #S28

### Students carry weapons at my school.

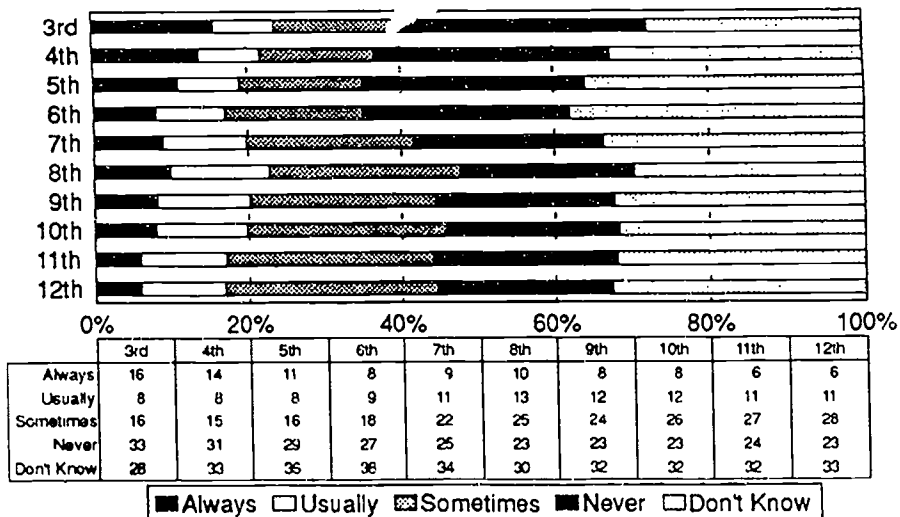
1995 Student Survey, N=124,753



Student Item #329

### Students in my neighborhood are members of gangs.

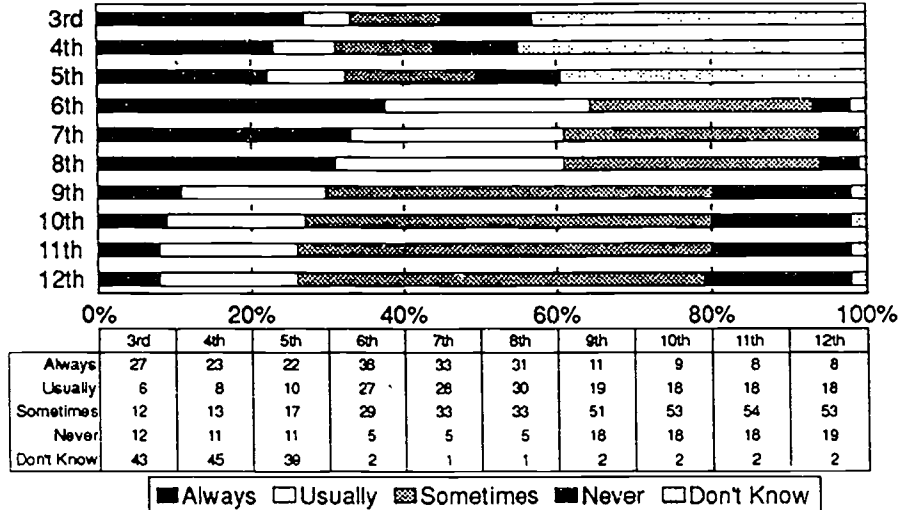
1995 Student Survey, N=124,537



Student Item #S30

### Teachers stand outside their classroom doors during class changes.

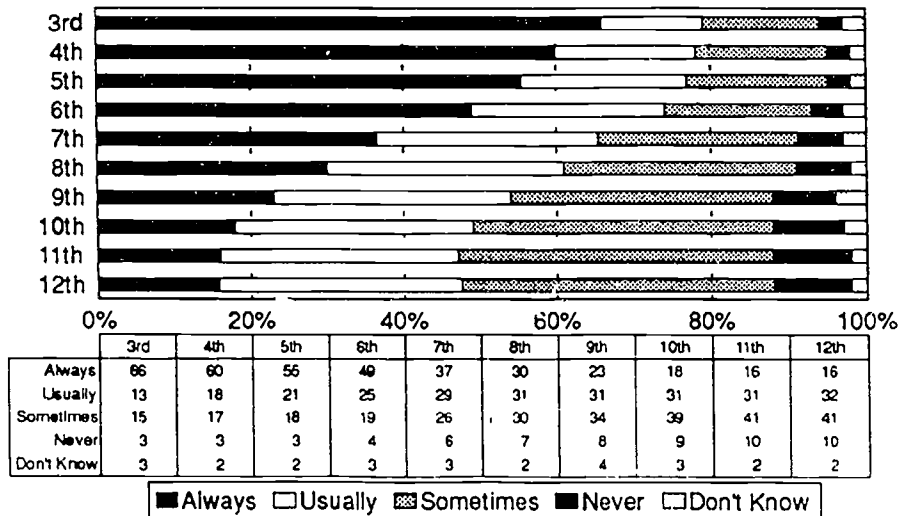
1995 Student Survey, N=124,165



Student Item #S31

### Adults at my school (teachers, administrators, counselors, etc.) help me when I need help.

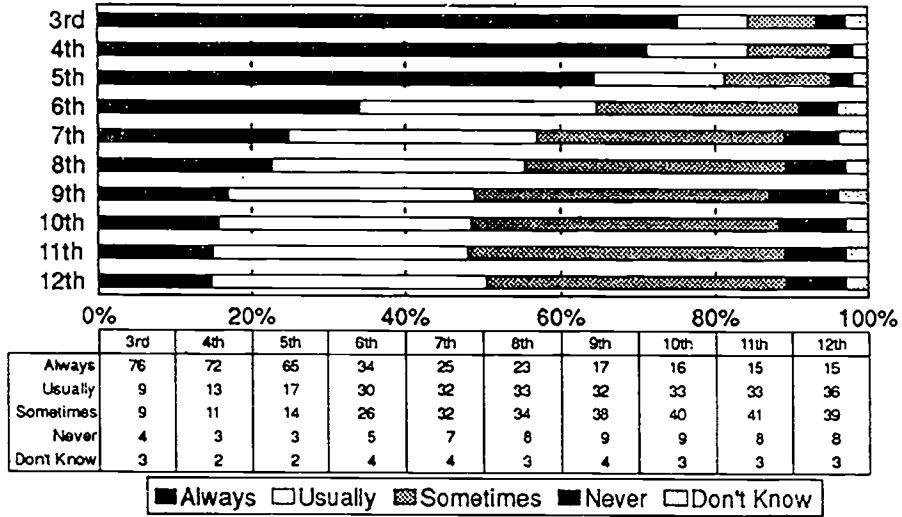
1995 Student Survey, N=124,228



Student Item #S32

### Teachers stop fights and arguments between students.

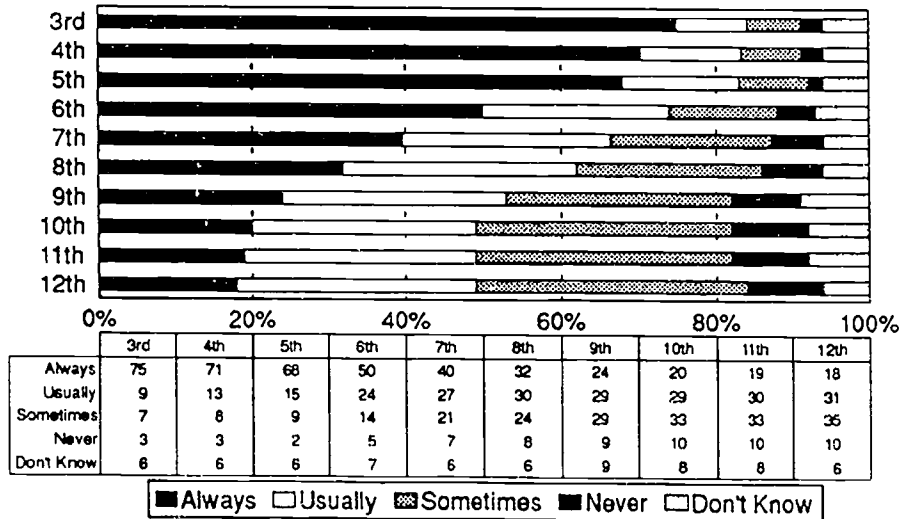
1995 Student Survey, N=124,230



Student Item #S33

### Teachers, administrators, counselors, and other adults at school are interested in my safety.

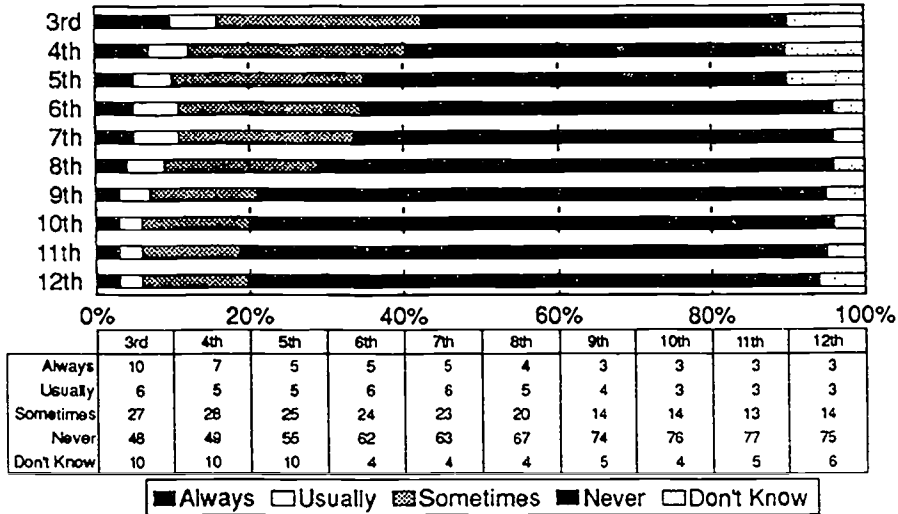
1995 Student Survey, N=124,152



Student Item #S34

### Other students want to hurt me while I'm at school.

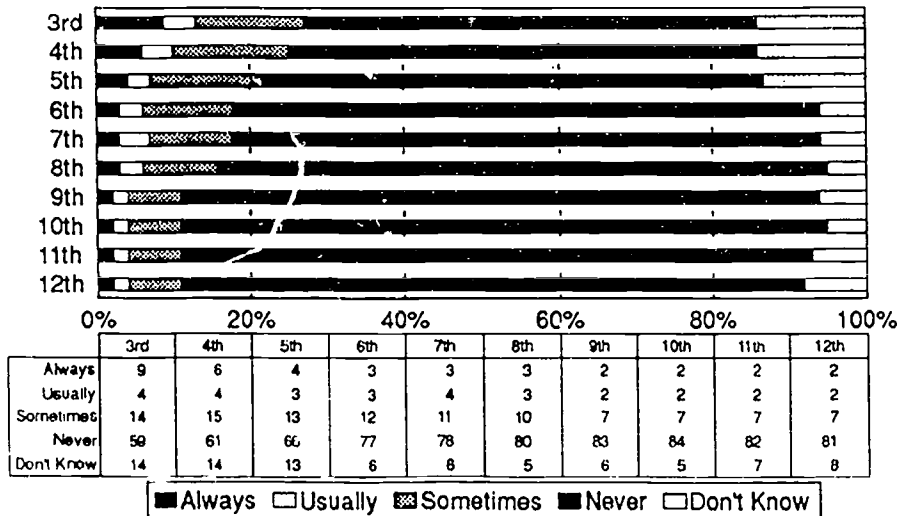
1995 Student Survey, N=124,062



Student Item #S35

### Other students want to hurt me while I'm on the way to and from school.

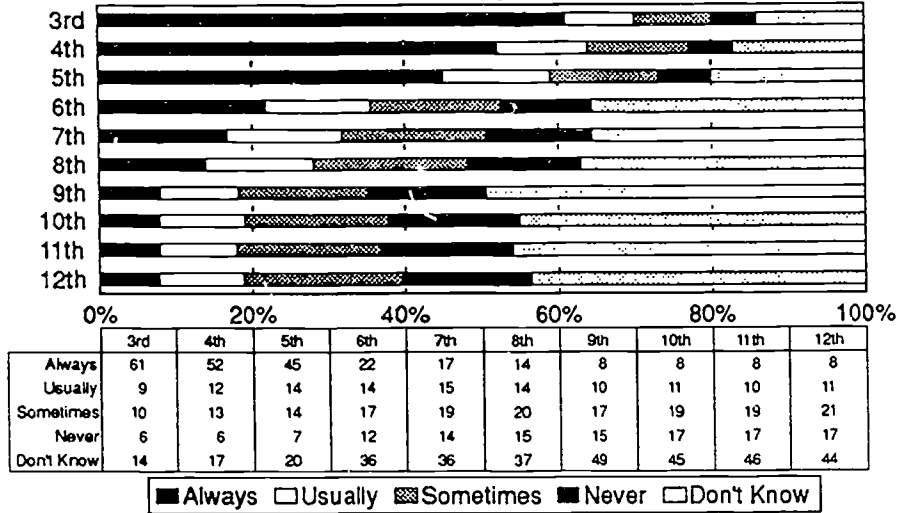
1995 Student Survey, N=124,066



Student Item #S36

### When I report something (like a crime), my school listens to me and takes care of it.

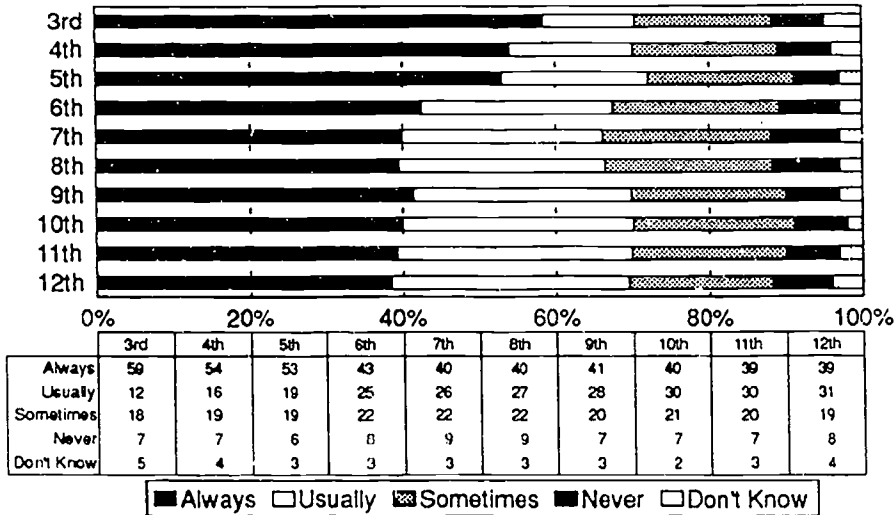
1995 Student Survey, N=123,966



Student Item #S37

### I feel safe on the way to and from school.

1995 Student Survey, N=123,959

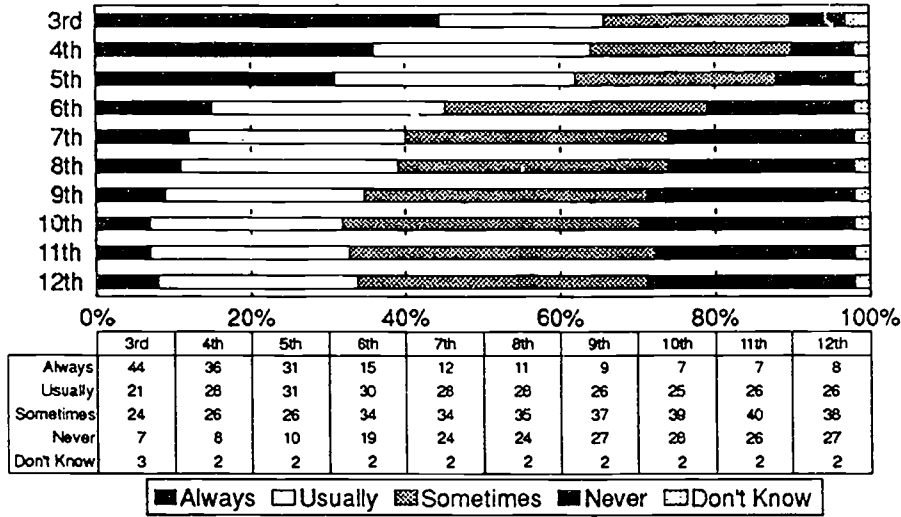


Student Item #S38



### My school is clean.

1995 Student Survey, N=122,728



Student Item #S39

Notes

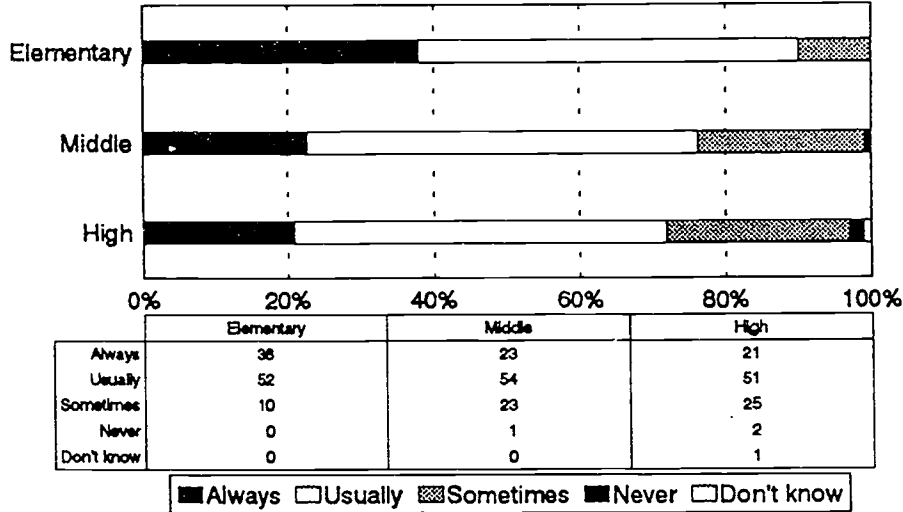
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Appendix  
Graphics of  
Parent Responses by  
School Level

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**I feel good about the things my child does at school.**

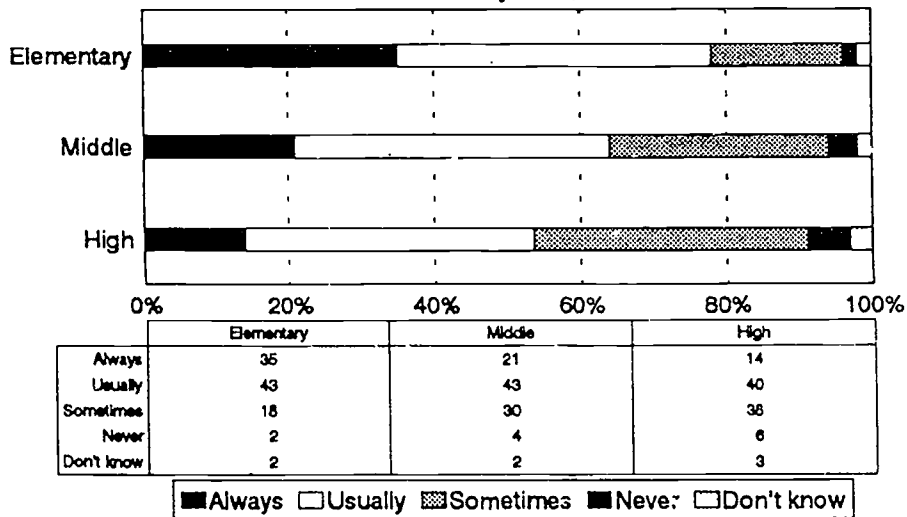
1995 Parent Survey = 20,834



Parent Item #P1

**The teachers make sure that my child is challenged by the work he/she is assigned.**

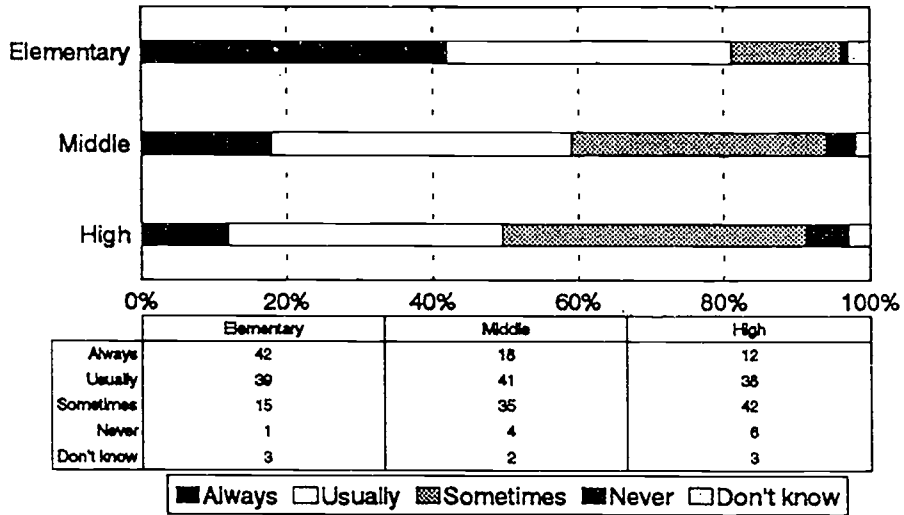
1995 Parent Survey = 20,839



Parent Item #P2

### The teachers help my child with problems or questions he/she has in class.

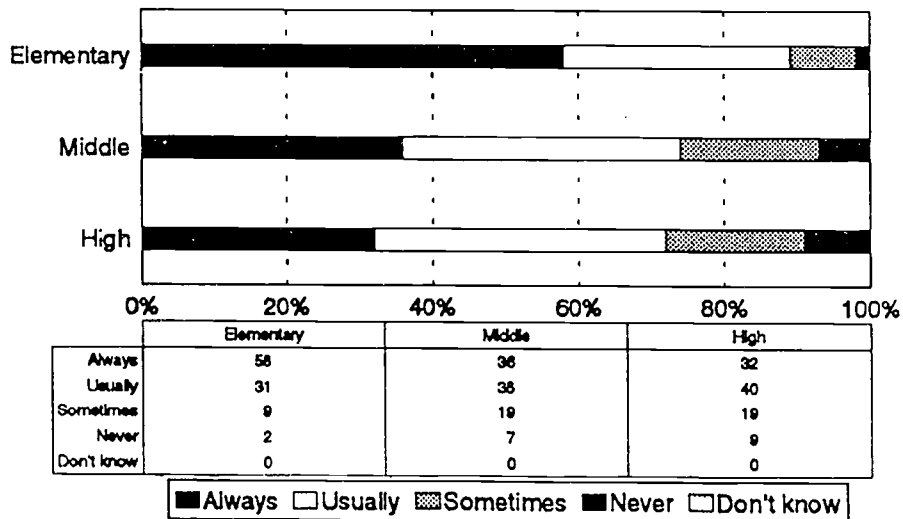
1995 Parent Survey = 20,836



Parent Item #P3

### My child likes going to this school.

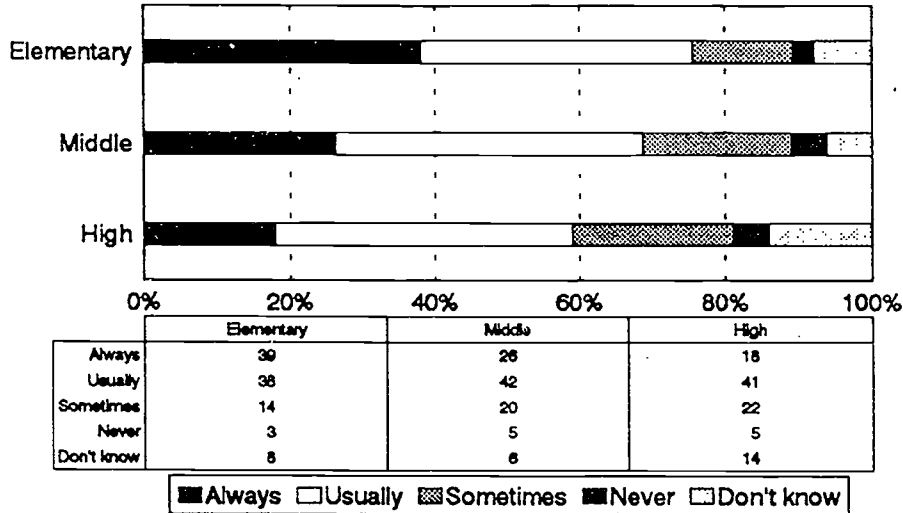
1995 Parent Survey = 20,836



Parent Item #P4

### I like the school's **READING and LANGUAGE ARTS** program.

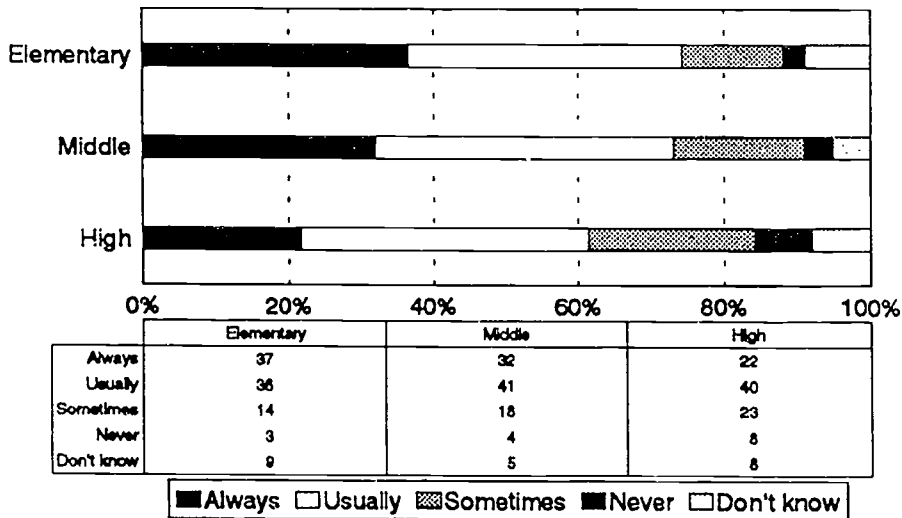
1995 Parent Survey = 20,827



Parent Item #P5

### I like the school's **MATH** program.

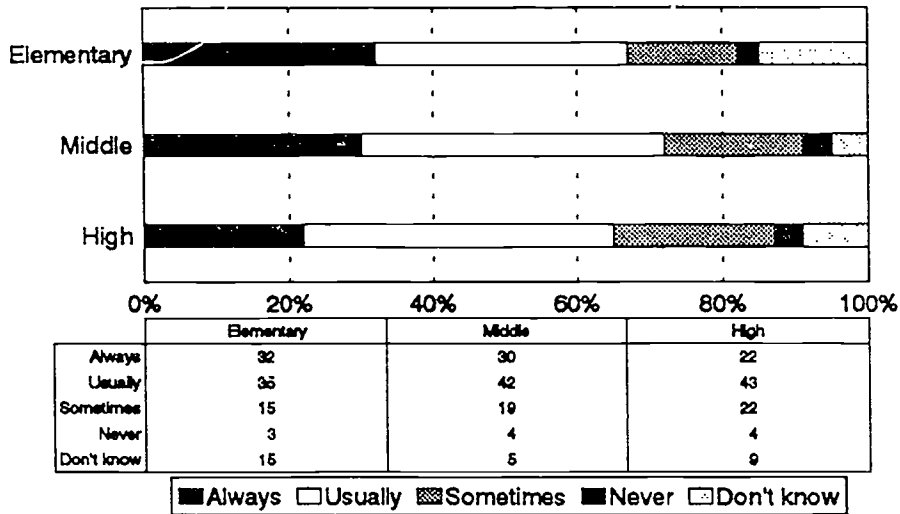
1995 Parent Survey = 20,821



Parent Item #P6

### I like the school's SCIENCE program.

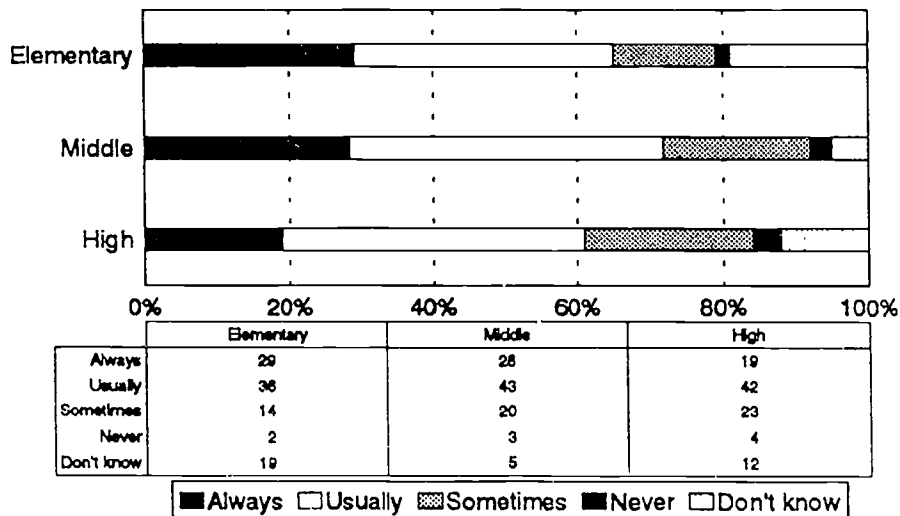
1995 Parent Survey = 20,808



Parent Item #P7

### I like the school's SOCIAL STUDIES program.

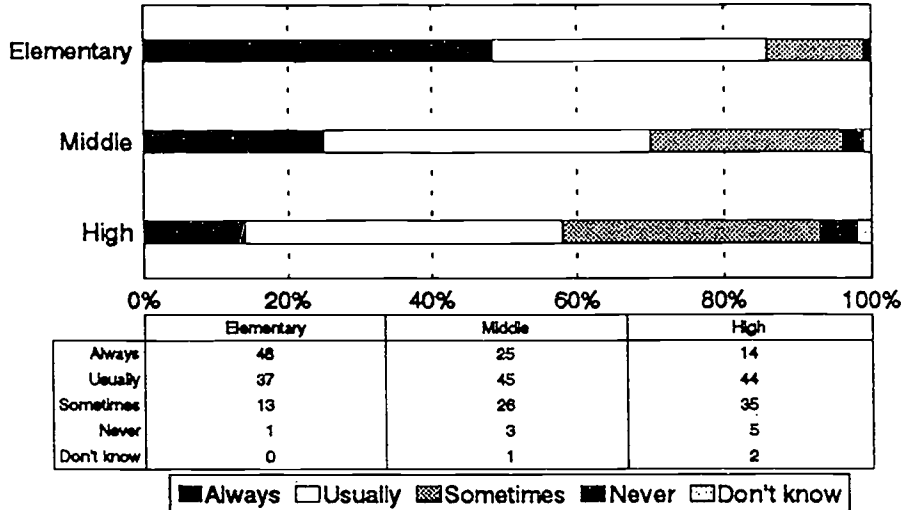
1995 Parent Survey = 20,788



Parent Item #P8

**The teachers are doing a good job teaching my child.**

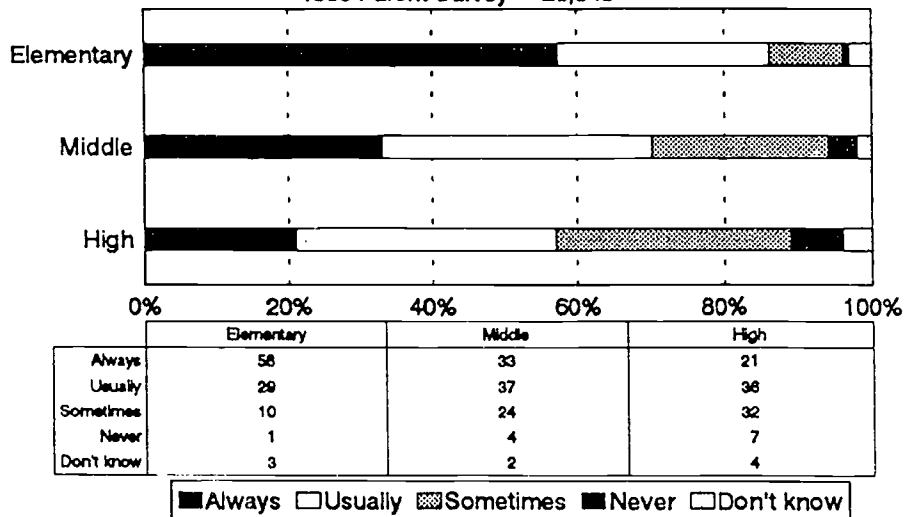
1995 Parent Survey = 20,842



Parent Item #P9

**My child's teachers make sure that the students understand that school work is important.**

1995 Parent Survey = 20,848

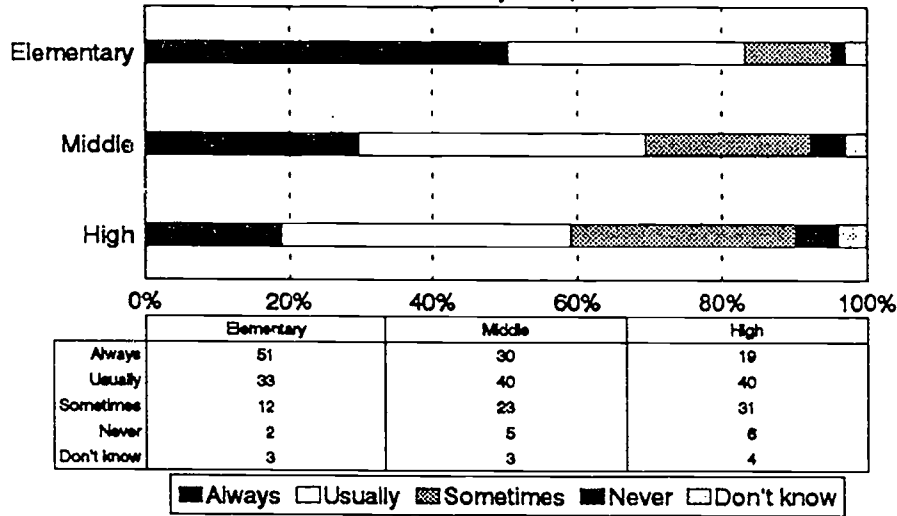


Parent Item #P10



**The teachers are preparing my child to do well in the next grade.**

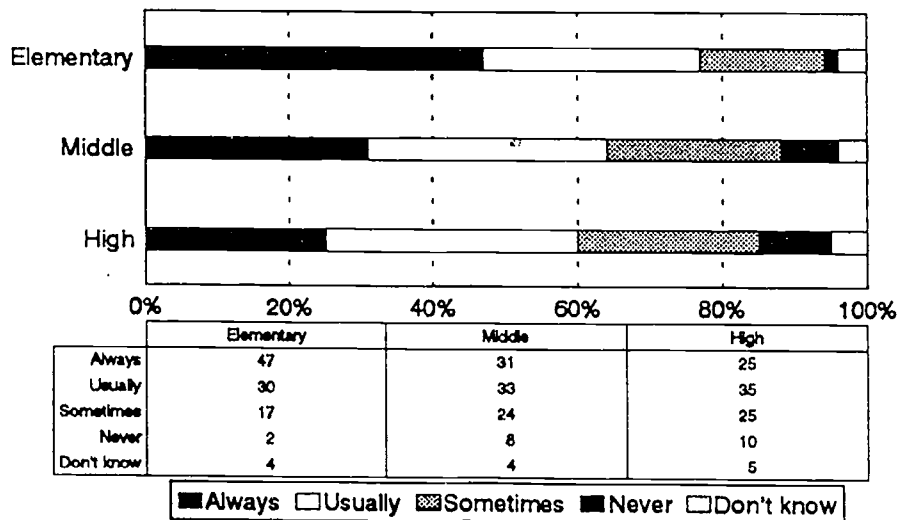
1995 Parent Survey = 20,828



Parent Item #P11

**My child uses up-to-date equipment, like computers, in school.**

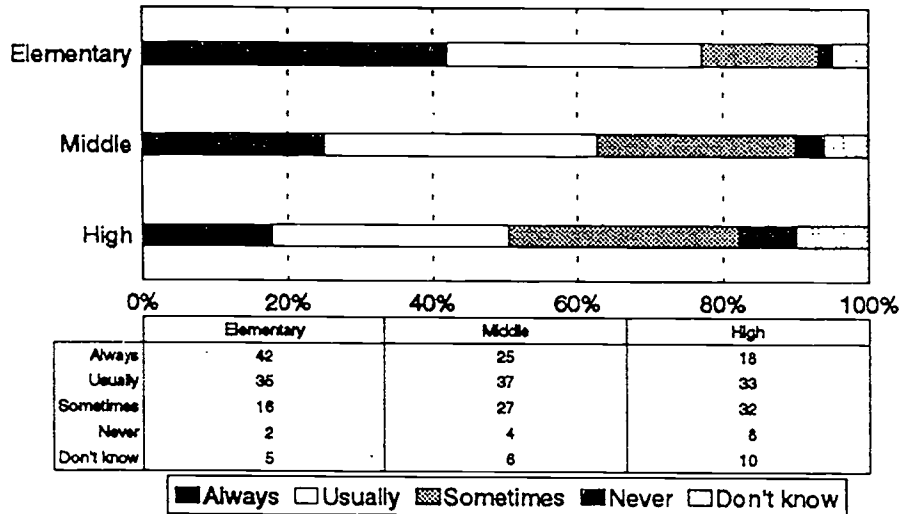
1995 Parent Survey = 20,823



Parent Item #P12

### My child learns about various races and cultures through classroom activities.

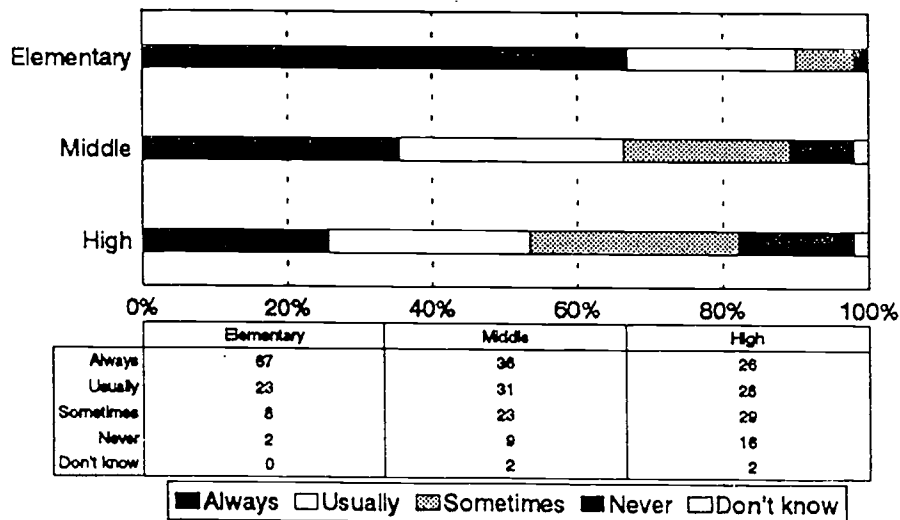
1995 Parent Survey = 20,804



Parent Item #P13

### The school staff tells me about their activities such as parent meetings, student performances, and Open House.

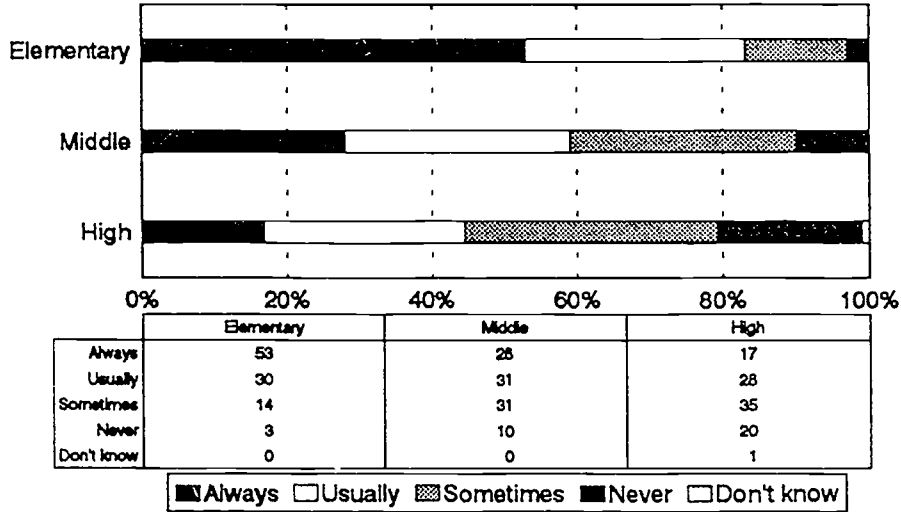
1995 Parent Survey = 20,852



Parent Item #P14

**The teachers keep me informed of how my child is doing in school.**

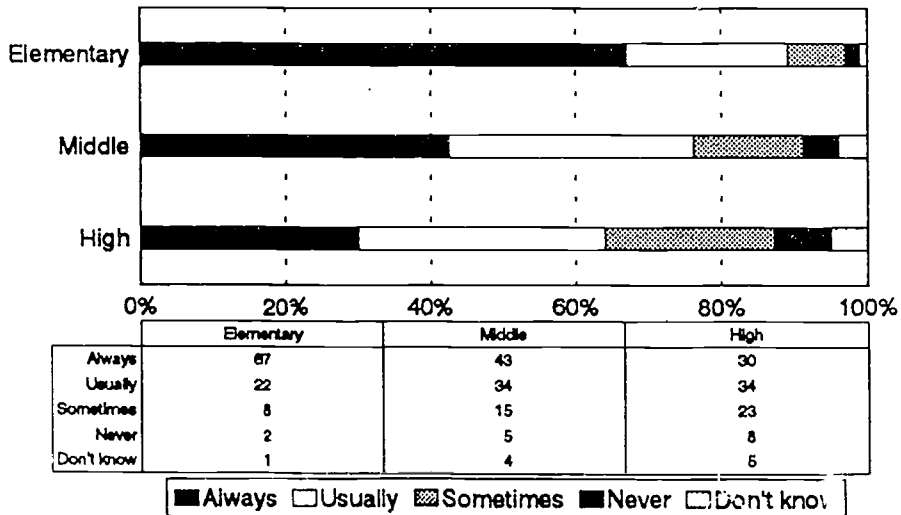
1995 Parent Survey = 20,857



Parent Item #P15

**I feel welcome when I visit my child's school.**

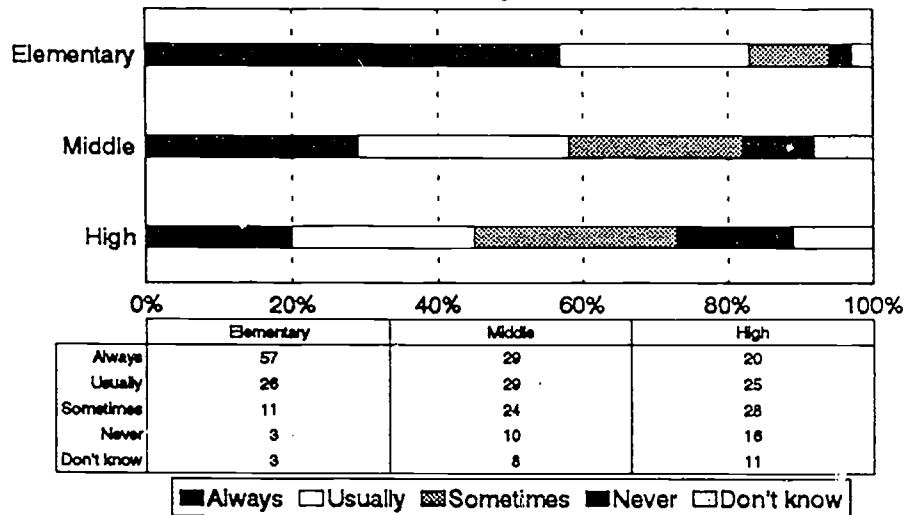
1995 Parent Survey = 20,840



Parent Item #P16

### The school's staff wants me to be involved at my child's school.

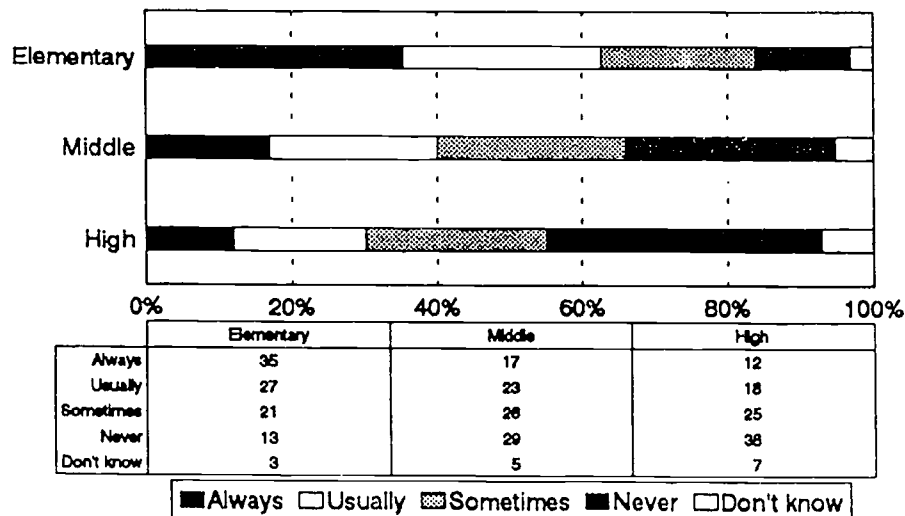
1995 Parent Survey = 20,824



Parent Item #P17

### My child's school has asked me to share my ideas and/or concerns about the school.

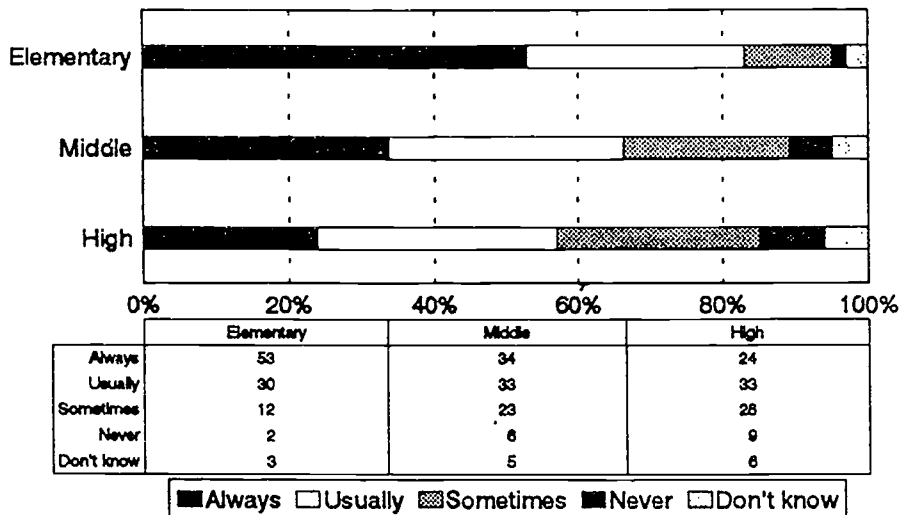
1995 Parent Survey = 20,813



Parent Item #P18

### When I have asked for information at my child's school, the staff responded promptly.

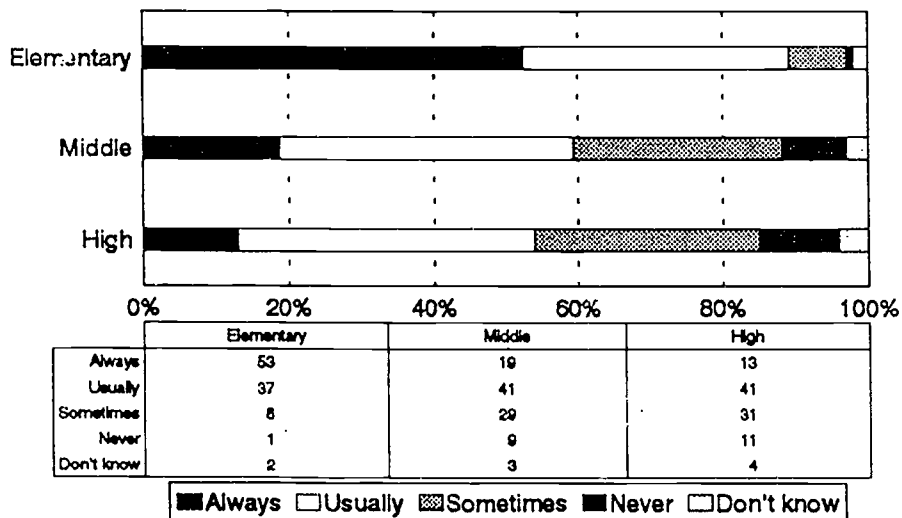
1995 Parent Survey = 20,832



Parent Item #P19

### My child is safe at his/her school.

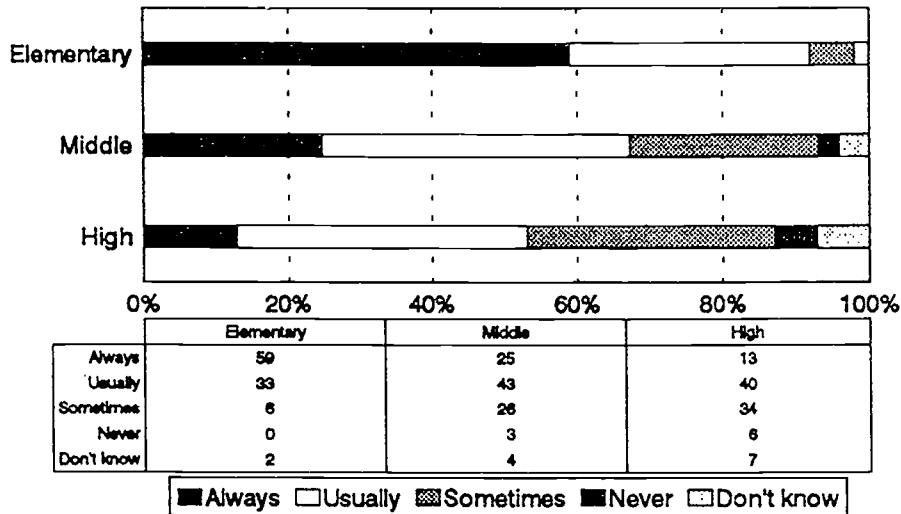
1995 Parent Survey = 20,840



Parent Item #P20

### In my child's school, the children are supervised.

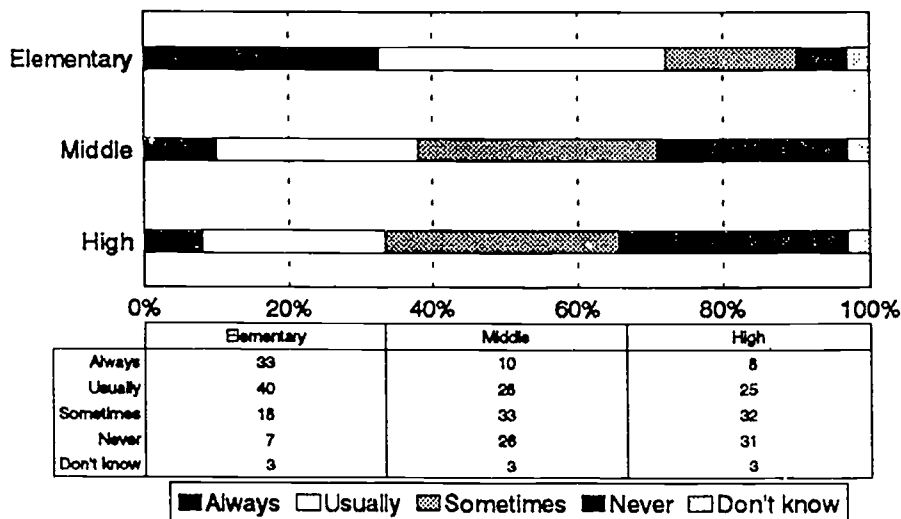
1995 Parent Survey = 20,830



Parent Item #P21

### My child can bring books, money, and other items to school without fear of theft or damage to the items.

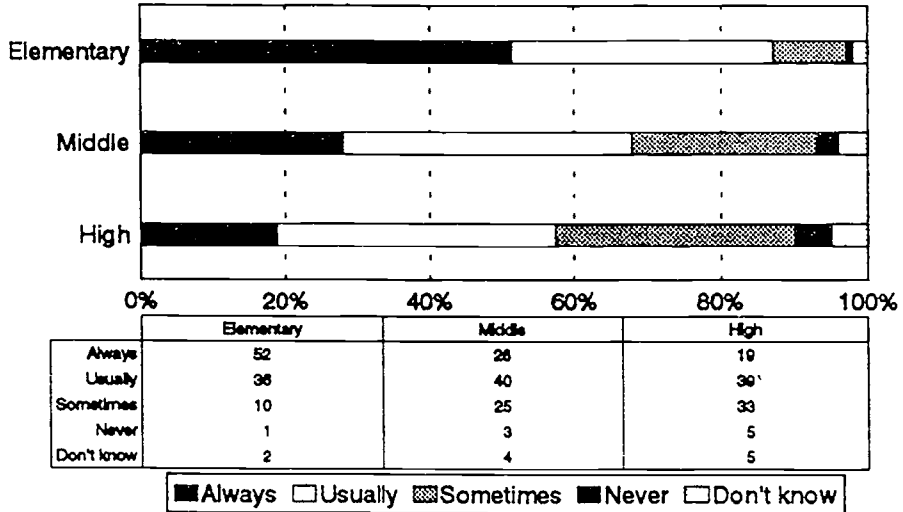
1995 Parent Survey = 20,844



Parent Item #P22

**I know that someone at the school will assist my child at school, when needed.**

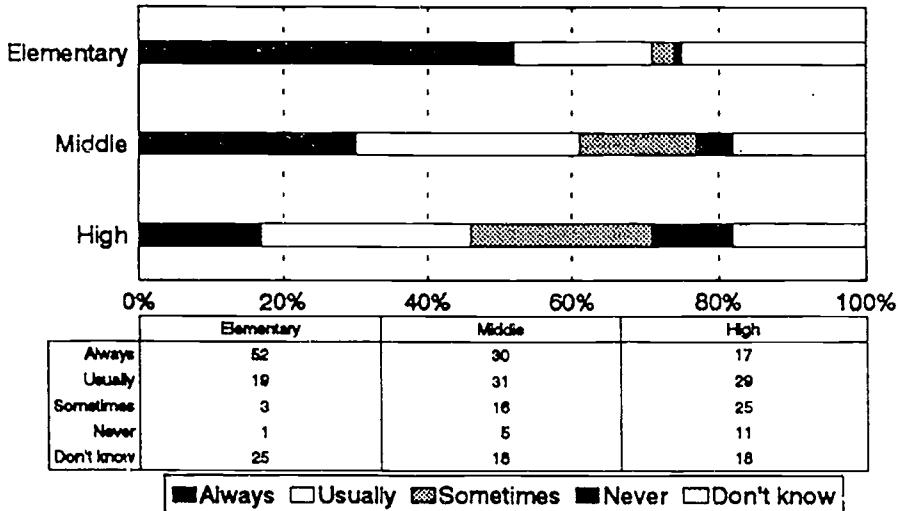
1995 Parent Survey = 20,842



Parent Item #P23

**The staff take steps to ensure that students do not bring drugs or alcohol to my child's school.**

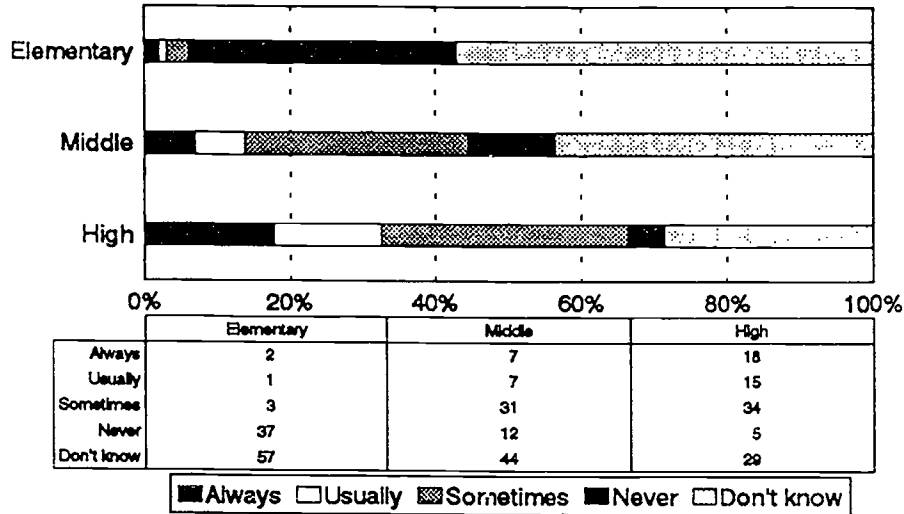
1995 Parent Survey = 20,820



Parent Item #P24

### Students bring drugs or alcohol to my child's school.

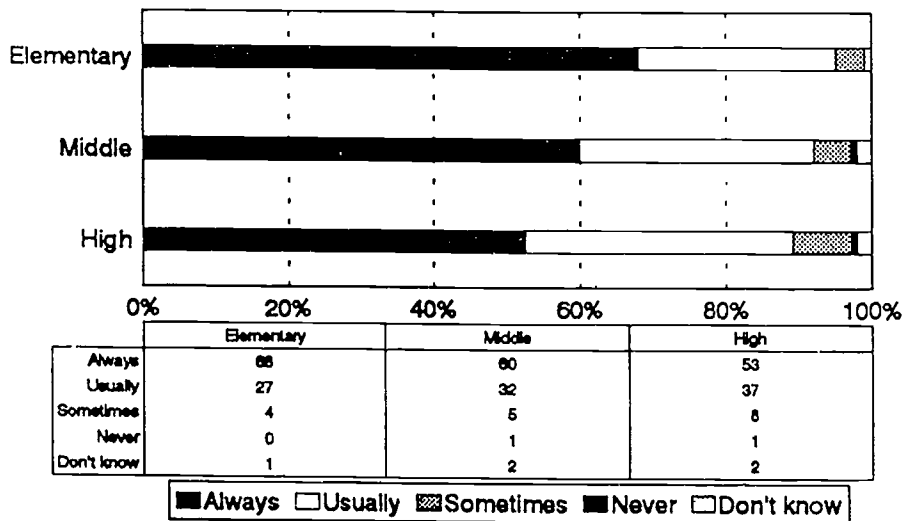
1995 Parent Survey = 20,817



Parent Item #P25

### I know the school rules and policies.

1995 Parent Survey = 20,844

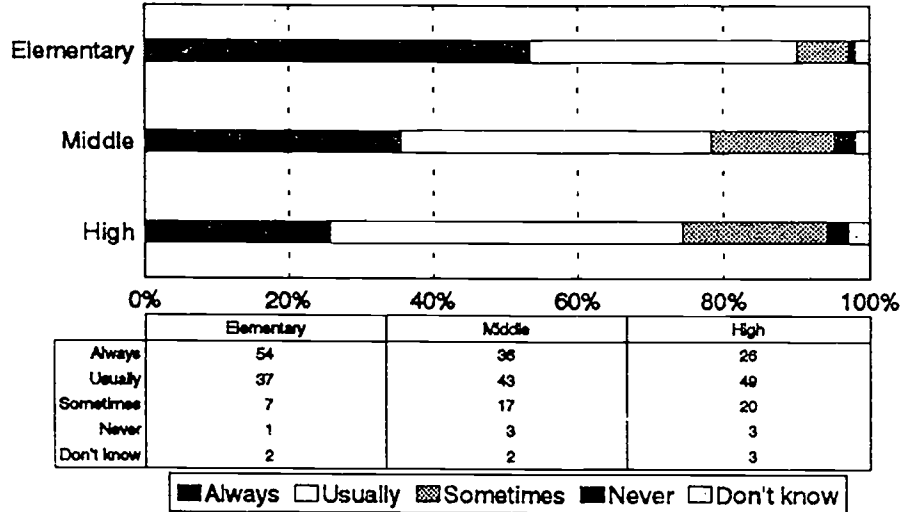


Parent Item #P26



**The school's discipline, rules, and policies are fair.**

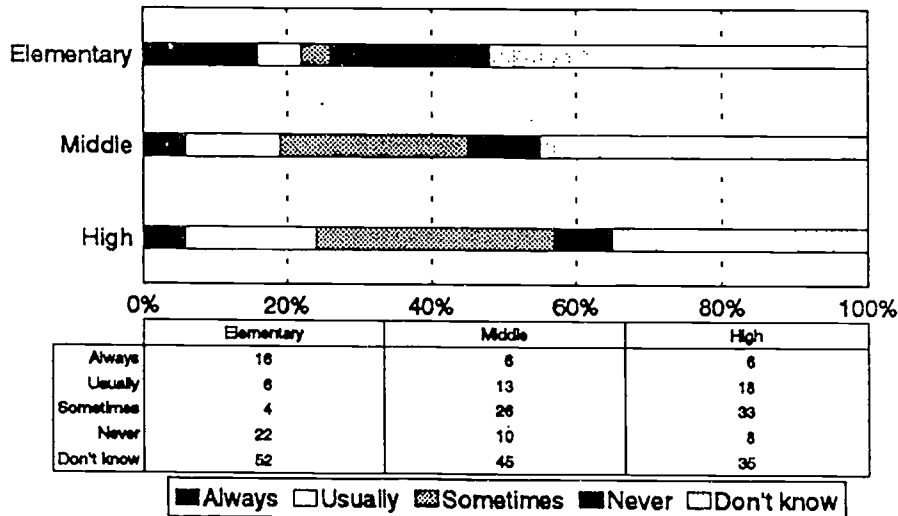
1995 Parent Survey = 20,791



Parent Item #P27

**Students do not carry weapons at my child's school.**

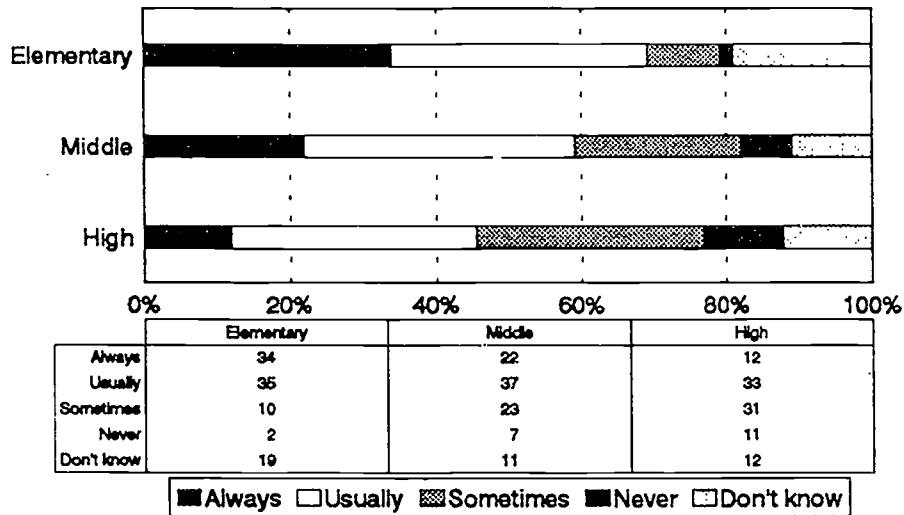
1995 Parent Survey = 20,759



Parent Item #P28

### The staff make sure that the students follow the dress code at my child's school.

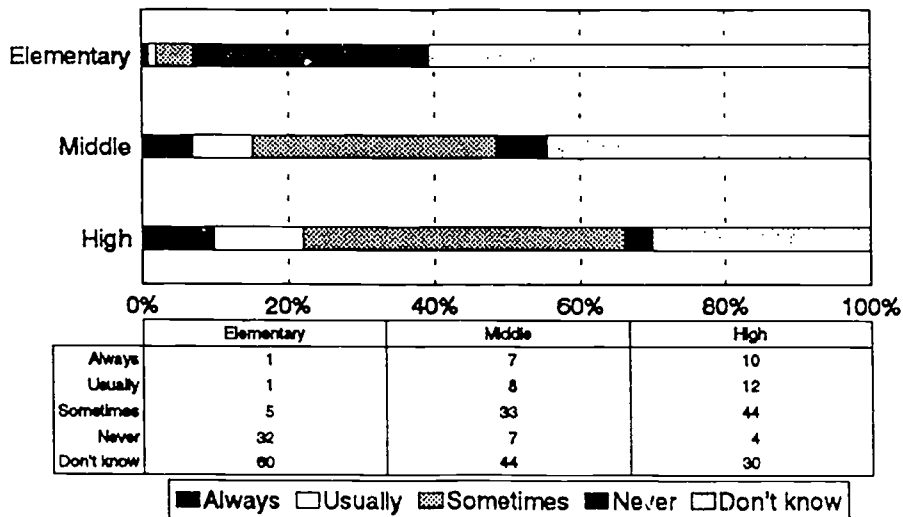
1995 Parent Survey = 20,779



Parent Item #P29

### Students at my child's school are members of youth gangs.

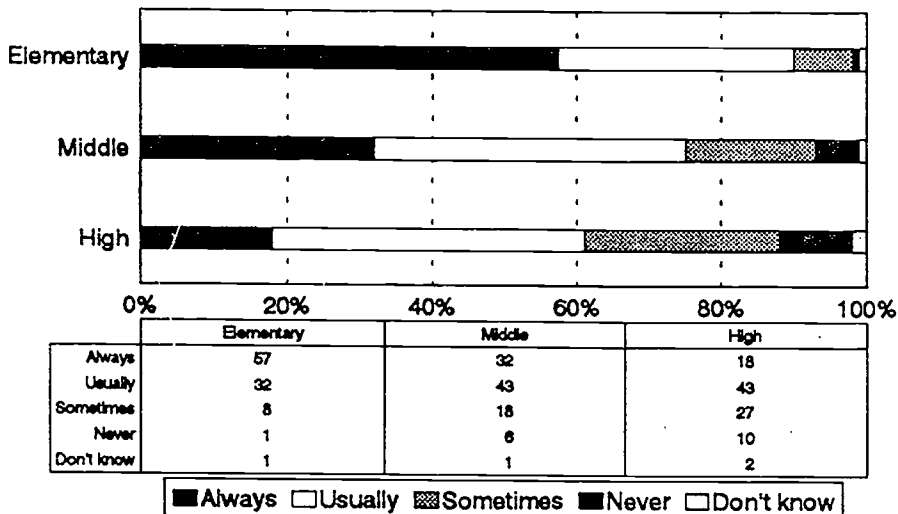
1995 Parent Survey = 20,744



Parent Item #P30

### The school is clean and well maintained.

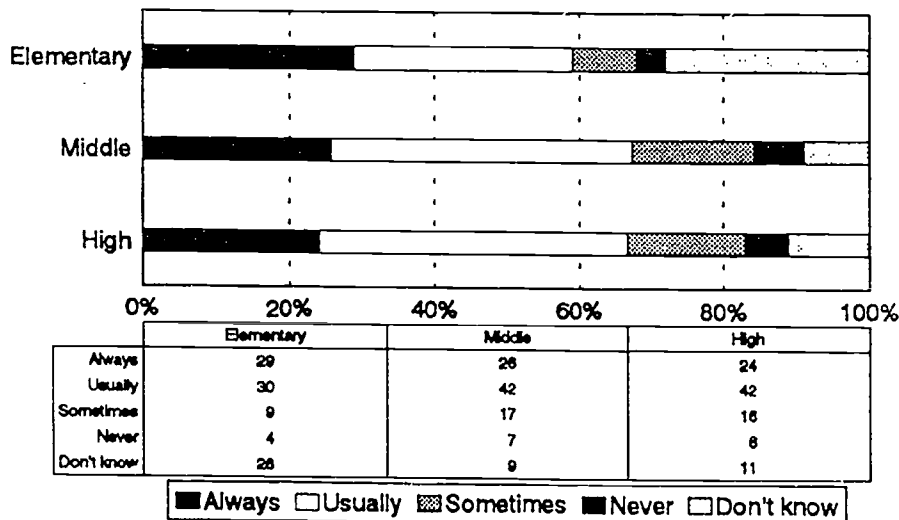
1995 Parent Survey = 20,795



Parent Item #P31

### My child is safe walking home from school or the bus stop.

1995 Parent Survey = 20,780

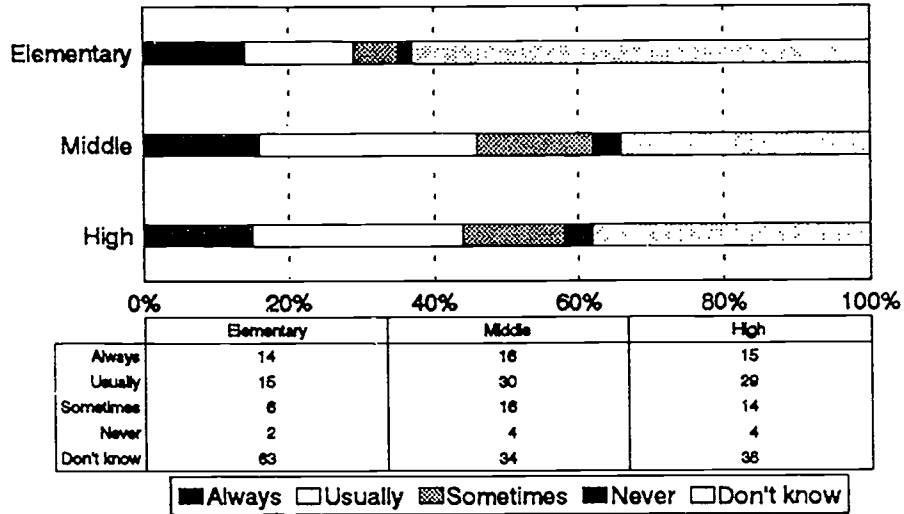


Parent Item #P32



### My child is safe when he/she rides the school bus.

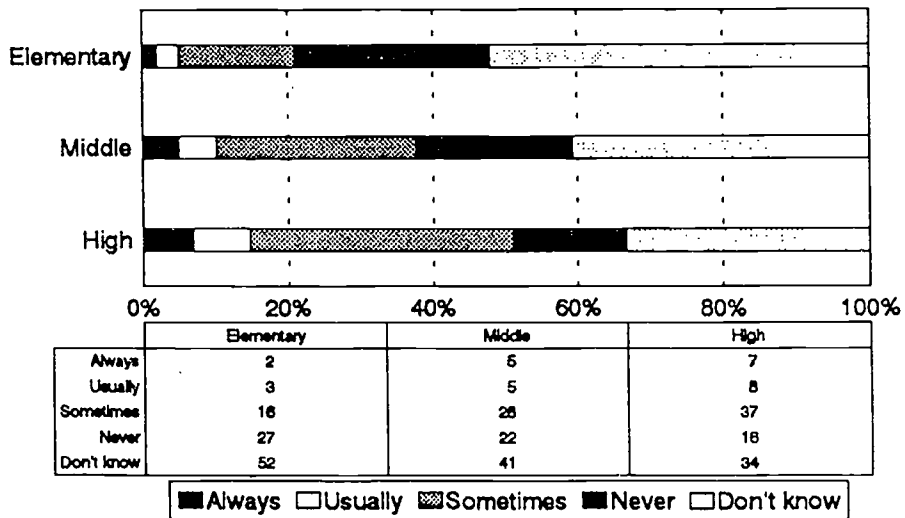
1995 Parent Survey = 20,759



Parent Item #P33

### Students have drugs or alcohol in my neighborhood.

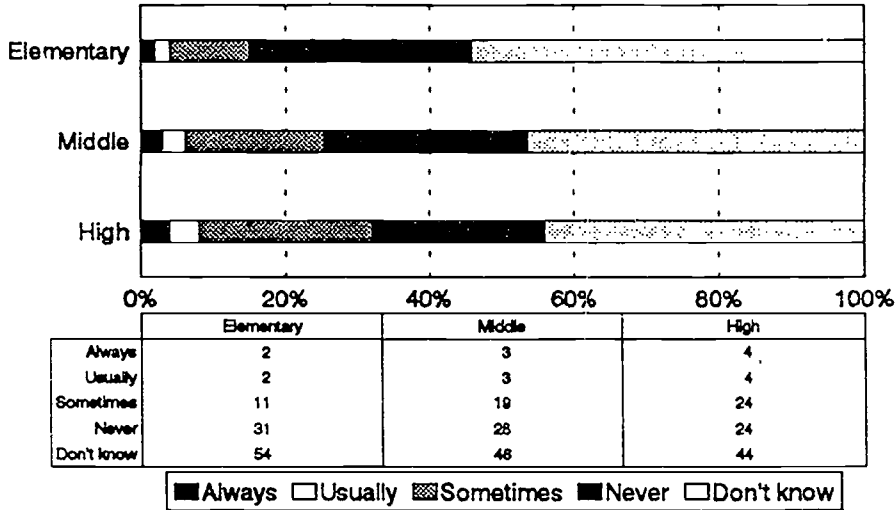
1995 Parent Survey = 20,760



Parent Item #P34

### Students carry weapons in my neighborhood.

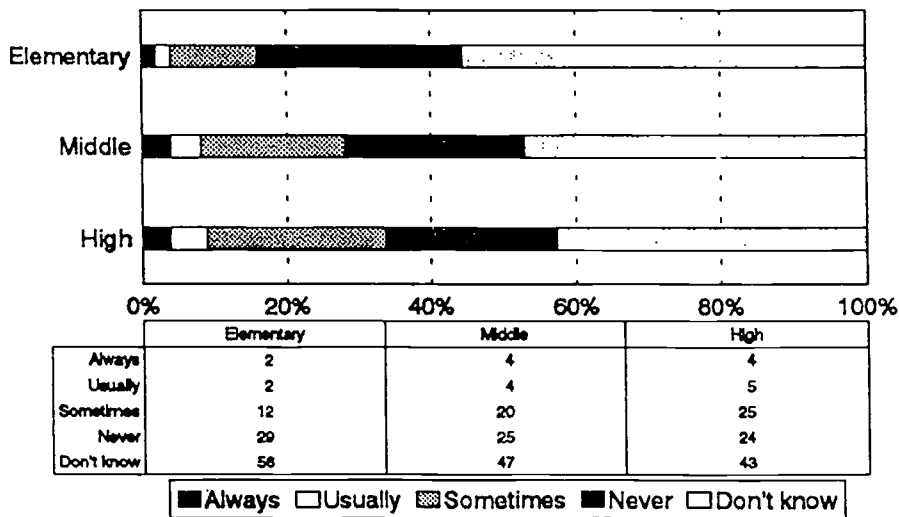
1995 Parent Survey = 20,788



Parent Item #P35

### Students in my neighborhood are members of youth gangs.

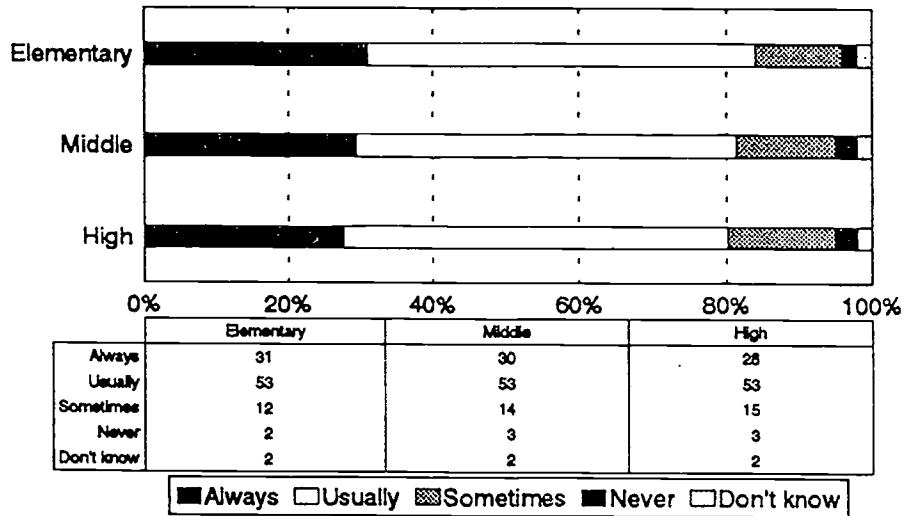
1995 Parent Survey = 20,773



Parent Item #P36

### My child is safe in my neighborhood.

1995 Parent Survey = 20,778



Parent Item #P37

Notes

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# Notes

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