

WALDEN PUBLIC SCHOOL – RESULTS

The school council, principal and staff of Walden Public School conducted a survey to prioritize items to create a vision for the future of the school. In total, 355 families of enrolled students were encouraged to fill out a questionnaire provided to them. Of those families, 108 participated in this survey and were included in this study.

The questionnaire was divided into four (4) major categories, including school climate, facilities, programs, and parental/community involvement. Each major category was again separated into several more specific characteristics and the participants were asked to rank each item by priority (1=high priority, 2=priority, 3=low priority).

After entering the data into a spread sheet, means were created for each item. Those items with the lowest means would indicate the highest priority.

Table 1

Priority Ranking of Items

Variable	Mean
Atmosphere	1.09
Academics	1.11
Safety	1.13
Character Development	1.32
Communication	1.33
Computer	1.36
Playground	1.37
Maintenance	1.44
Library	1.49
Peer Helping Programs	1.54
Gymnasium	1.61
Sports	1.62
Arts	1.64
Pay it Forward	1.79
Parent Involvement	1.85
School Code	1.87
Field Trips	1.89
Fundraising	2.12

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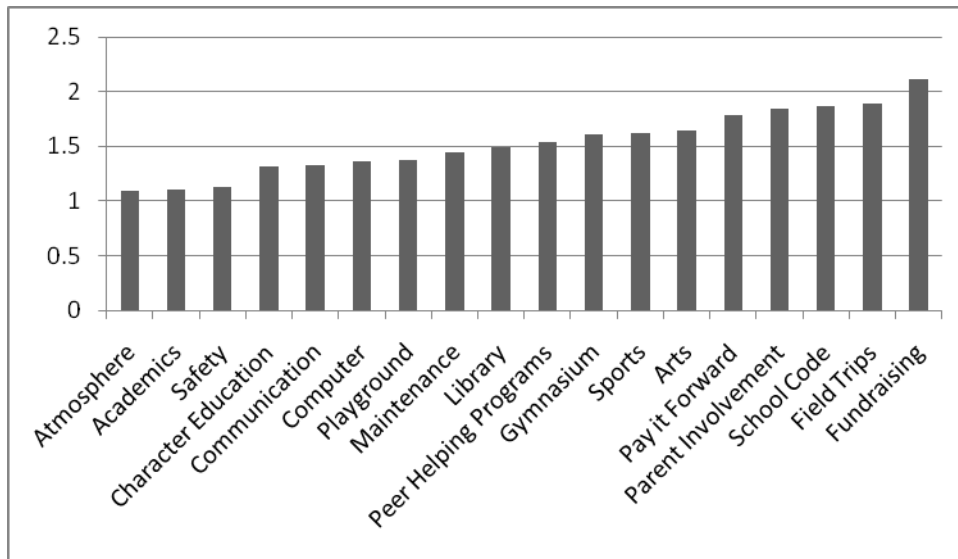


Figure 1: Mean of Items by Priority

Table 1 and Figure 1 show the items in rank-order from highest to lowest priority with the indication of the mean values. As can be seen, atmosphere, academics, and safety are the three highest priorities. Furthermore, when grouping the items together into their categories (see Table 2 and Figure 2) school climate was shown to be of most priority to parents.

Table 2

Categories by Priority

	Mean
School Climate	1.35
Facilities	1.48
Programs	1.53
Parental/Community Involvement	1.92

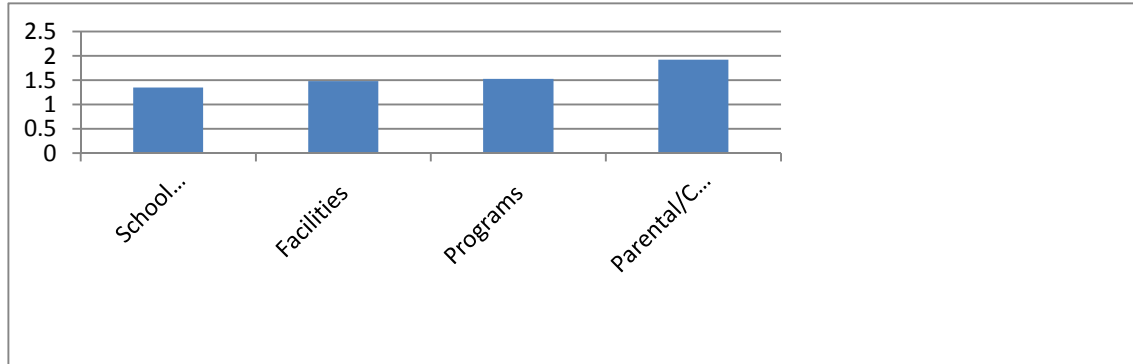


Figure 2: Priority of Categories