

# Q1 INSTRUCTIONAL PRACTICE

Ottawa-Carleton District School Board  
Building Brighter Futures Together @OCDSB

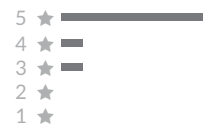
## Q1 What are some things that the OCDSB is doing well to support learning and well-being?

**Creating more opportunity for kids to learn with different focuses**

**(Arts/Sports/Enrichment)** It's important we realize a cookie-cutter approach to learning will let so many fall through the cracks.

*Secondary Parents and Guardians - 3*

4.3 ★★★★★ (17)



**Encourage different styles of teaching such as inquiry based learning to engage students and encourage them to think critically.** This will help them have ownership and direct their learning towards their interest and strengths.

*Secondary Staff*

4.2 ★★★★★ (20)



**I like the Hands-On activities that are planned in class (ie - "outdoor exploration" and "Let's Get Cooking")** It keeps the kids interested in learning and gets them motivated in learning activities (not just playing)

*Elementary Parents and Guardians - 2*

4.2 ★★★★★ (20)



**Providing opportunities, especially at the high school level, for subject specialization, and extras such as exchanges and co-op learning.** These experiences help students to put education within the context of the broader world and allows them to understand why they are learning.

*Elementary Parents and Guardians - 2*

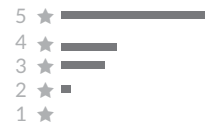
4.2 ★★★★★ (19)



**Creating challenging but interesting learning activities** Student interest and motivation is central to learning success.

*Elementary Parents and Guardians - 2*

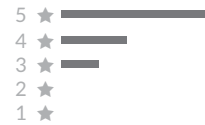
4.1 ★★★★★ (23)



**Try to expose kids to a wide variety of learning opportunities**

*Elementary Parents and Guardians - 2*

4.1 ★★★★★ (19)



**Summative class time for review of units before tests /exams.** This is so good to teach these high school students how to study.

*Secondary Parents and Guardians - 4*

4.0 ★★★★★ (21)



**Open ended tasks with multiple entry points, hands on learning opportunities and practical, real life examples and connections** Students need to link learning with real life and should also have individual learning styles and needs met

*Elementary Parents and Guardians - 4*

4.0 ★★★★★ (19)



**The flexibility which we are able to offer in how we approach our courses.**

*Secondary Staff*

4.0 ★★★★★ (18)



**I love the fun,creative,interactive,learning programs.** Some of the teachers at Broadview Public School have come up with incredible hands-on opportunities to learn the subject/topic.

*Students Grades 7 to 8*

4.0 ★★★★★ (11)



**Providing real-world applications/providing more time for larger scale/ collaborative projects/ community connections**

*Secondary Staff*

3.9 ★★★★★ (21)



**Reading is encouraged at school and at home.**

Weekly library time is full of surprise. Books are chosen by students and are kept at home. They naturally learned how to read by themselves.

*Elementary Parents and Guardians - 2*

3.9 ★★★★★ (21)



**Flexibility in accommodating students with who miss school due to circumstances such as medical issues** Keeps students who otherwise may struggle engaged

*Secondary Parents and Guardians - 2*

3.9 ★★★★★ (19)



**Providing open ended tasks and enriching learning opportunities.** Allows for individual expression and values individual learning styles recognizing that every individual approaches a task differently.

*Elementary Staff*

3.9 ★★★★★ (9)



**There is a lot of support for great instructional practices** Students deserve to have high quality learning experiences that are personally meaningful to students .

*Community Members*

3.8 ★★★★★ (28)



**Learning is made fun and taught sitting down all the time.** Little kids can't sit still that long and I don't think they should have to. Putting emphasis on movement and play really helps

*Elementary Parents and Guardians - 1*

3.8 ★★★★★ (25)



**Encouraging lots of reading at school and home** It is the basis of lifelong learning

*Community Members*

3.8 ★★★★★ (24)



**Interactions with community, education about world events** Provides context; helps perspective; encourages participation and thoughtful dialogue

*Elementary Parents and Guardians - 2*

3.8 ★★★★★ (23)



### 3) Future plans to open an outdoor classroom.

Important because every child learns differently and outdoor exploration is so important for development and mental health.

*Elementary Parents and Guardians - 2*

3.8  (21 )



**Dedicated staff going the extra mile to access creative programming** Classes are always interesting and ever evolving

*Elementary Staff*

3.8  (20 )



**Encouraging students to be creative and have spent time writing and illustrating their own small book (I have a daughter in K1 at Forest Valley E.S.).**

*Elementary Parents and Guardians - 2*

3.8  (17 )



**Kids are encouraged to push their boundaries and think outside the box** Encourages kids to apply unconventional thinking

*Elementary Parents and Guardians - 3*

3.8  (17 )



**Support some teachers who are focused on experiential learning versus just from the text book** Helps students understand what working outside of school will look like

*Secondary Parents and Guardians - 3*

3.8  (17 )



**Being a peer teacher and explaining the lessons with simple English.** Because we are able to ask questions and things we wonder more comfortably and friendly. And they understand us.

*Students Grades 9 to 12*

3.8  (16 )



**Get back to basics** Learning without technology assistance. I grew up with drafting/wood/auto/electric/electronics. Math and imagination. Where are the programs for males

*Secondary Parents and Guardians - 4*

3.8  (16 )



**Students need to know how they learn. Schools can do is a personality test to determine how this student learns best.** By having the students fill out a test they and the teachers will know how to communicate best to that student

*Students Grades 9 to 12*

3.8 ★★★★★ (16)



**Our school provides engaging and creative learning opportunities.**

*Community Members*

3.8 ★★★★★ (15)



**Allowing students to lead the direction of their own learning** Kids will engage better with things they are more interested in

*Elementary Parents and Guardians - 3*

3.7 ★★★★★ (24)



**More varied techniques and learning platforms than when I was a kid** I find my child has a lot more opportunities for interesting and unique learning than when I was in school in the late 80's early 90s.

*Elementary Parents and Guardians - 1*

3.7 ★★★★★ (24)



**Special science or arts days** Our school has organized several days where outside groups or individuals are brought in to focus on science or arts with different grades. Awesome!

*Elementary Parents and Guardians - 4*

3.7 ★★★★★ (24)



**As an employee I feel as though I am getting some support to try new things and to become more innovative and creative in my classroom.** The support will give teachers confidence to try out new things that reflect our ever changing modern world.

*Community Members*

3.7 ★★★★★ (23)



**Understanding that while learning is of the utmost importance children need to be able to move and explore.** Allows them to expand beyond sitting at desks all day. Use the information they are learning with a hands on approach.

*Elementary Parents and Guardians - 1*

3.7  (22 )



**Variety of teaching situations for students who have difficulty learning.** Equality in education.

*Secondary Staff*

3.7  (21 )



**Instructional time is consistent across the district.** I am happy to know this because if my children were to go to another school, they would receive the same instruction.

*Elementary Parents and Guardians - 4*

3.7  (18 )



**Learning French (in French immersion) through songs.** My daughter in K1 started singing French songs she learned at school.

*Elementary Parents and Guardians - 2*

3.7  (18 )



**Teachers create team projects to teach children to work together; however, they should explain collaboration and being open to others' input.** Many children do not have the skillset of sharing, due to being an only child. By explaining the essentials of sharing, collaborative work may improve

*Elementary Parents and Guardians - 4*

3.7  (17 )



**I really like the teaching method of how most of the teachers use examples to make the students understand everything better.** This really helps some students to understand the topic better, especially those who learn better with visual examples.

*Students Grades 9 to 12*

3.7  (16 )



**encouraging the move towards student driven learning** Students will learn more and take ownership of their learning, when learning is geared around their interests. All subjects can be incorporated.

*Elementary Parents and Guardians - 3*

3.7  (16 )



**Giving students opportunities to participate in learning based activities. Guest speakers, field trips etc.** It gives students the opportunity to delve deeper into their interests but also to allow them to learn about things they might not thought about.

*Students Grades 9 to 12*

3.7  (15 )



**The OCDSB lets me focus on achieving high marks, by giving me time in class to complete assignment. My teachers usually do not over flood me with info** This is important as high marks are crucial to me, and they may give a satisfactory feeling. I feel very special when I constantly get straight A's.

*Students Grades 7 to 8*

3.7  (8 )



**Supporting immersive learning opportunities, encouraging student run school clubs, creating inclusive spaces where diversity is celebrated, STEAM.** Responsive to the diversity in interests, needs, and talents of students. Recognizes modernity while not imposing it. Encourages civic agency.

*Elementary Parents and Guardians - 4*

3.6  (25 )



**Creating opportunities for student involvement and running programs they can participate in.** Engaged students buy into school a lot more and want to go.

*Elementary Parents and Guardians - 1*

3.6  (23 )



**Having activities to engage students in learning without stressing them out (including the mini enrichment) program.** Students struggle with workloads and stress. Having less stress encourages a healthier life and the desire to learn more.

*Students Grades 9 to 12*

3.6  (23 )



**The concept of collaborative problem-solving (Supported by the school board) is fantastic, though it is NOT being practiced frequently enough** Collaborative problem solving teaches empathy and de-escalates behaviours. In contrast, criticism, exclusion ,etc teach intolerance of differences

*Elementary Parents and Guardians - 1*

3.6  (23 )



**Openness to updating curricula and teaching to ensure currency of learning materials**

Keeping abreast of new discoveries and incorporating new technologies and approaches keeps learning relevant

*Secondary Parents and Guardians - 4*

3.6  (22 )



**Our teachers offer us extra help when they think we need it. Some students are afraid to ask for help on their own.**

*Students Grades 9 to 12*

3.6  (22 )



**Lots of support for great instructional strategies.**

*Secondary Staff*

3.6  (20 )



**Play based learning**

*Elementary Parents and Guardians - 3*

3.6  (18 )



**The assessment & evaluation policy has helped in high school. Most recent, most consistent allows teachers to discount earlier attempts at learning when the student did not understand and consider that the student eventually learned it. All teachers should apply it consistently!**

*Secondary Parents and Guardians - 4*

3.6  (18 )





**Innovative teaching practices** We recognize that students today need more hands-on, interactive and thought-provoking learning activities to help engage and inspire them.

*Elementary Staff*

3.6  (17 )



**Teachers who engage students through a variety of ways and make learning more interesting** Because students will get more out of things this way

*Secondary Parents and Guardians - 2*

3.6  (17 )



**I think revising the way subjects are taught is something that is done well at the OCDSB.** Let's be honest, not all teaching styles work. Revising and rethinking the ways subjects are taught creates a more diverse learning environment.

*Students Grades 9 to 12*

3.6  (16 )



**As a parent of a grade 9 student I am glad to see that many curriculum elements relate to real world events and activities** Preparing students for the "real world" with awareness and applicable knowledge and skills should be a priority

*Secondary Parents and Guardians - 3*

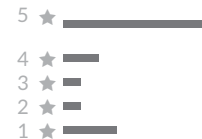
3.6  (15 )



**Grade 2 is taking a creative approach to learning** It's not just about memorizing

*Elementary Parents and Guardians - 3*

3.6  (15 )



**discussions about the world around us - making curriculum real**

*Elementary Parents and Guardians - 1*

3.6  (15 )

