



# School Background Questionnaire

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**2003**  
**Grade 4**

## School Characteristics and Policies Questionnaire

This questionnaire should be completed by the principal or the head of the school.

Some of the questions that follow ask you to fill in specific numbers. For those questions, please print the appropriate numbers in the boxes provided. Please PRINT LEGIBLY. Using one number per box, fill in every box. Keep all printing within the boxes. Do not make any stray marks. Use only a No. 2 pencil.

Example:

150 would be written as

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Examples of numerals are:

1. What grades are taught at your school? Fill in **all** ovals that apply.

- Ⓐ Pre-kindergarten
- Ⓑ Kindergarten
- Ⓒ 1st grade
- Ⓓ 2nd grade
- Ⓔ 3rd grade
- Ⓕ 4th grade
- Ⓖ 5th grade
- Ⓗ 6th grade
- Ⓘ 7th grade
- Ⓙ 8th grade
- Ⓚ 9th grade
- Ⓛ 10th grade
- Ⓜ 11th grade
- Ⓝ 12th grade





2. As of February 1, 2003, how many days of instruction will students in your school have had this school year? (If your school has multiple tracks with different schedules, please answer separately for each track.)

VB378132

days of instruction in first (or only) track

VB378133

days of instruction in second track

VB378134

days of instruction in third track

VB378135

3. What is the current enrollment in your school?

VB337250

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4. Of the students currently enrolled in your school, what percentage has been identified as limited-English proficient?

VB337256

- A 0%
- B 1-5%
- C 6-10%
- D 11-25%
- E 26-50%
- F 51-75%
- G 76-90%
- H Over 90%

5. What type of school is this? Fill in ovals for **all** that apply.

- Ⓐ Regular elementary school
- Ⓑ A regular school with a magnet program
- Ⓒ A magnet school or a school with a special program emphasis, e.g., science/math school, performing arts school, talented/gifted school, foreign language immersion school, etc.
- Ⓓ Special education: a school that primarily serves students with disabilities
- Ⓔ Alternative: a school that offers a curriculum designed to provide alternative or nontraditional education, not clearly categorized as regular or special education
- Ⓕ Private (independent)
- Ⓖ Private (religiously affiliated)
- Ⓗ Charter school
- Ⓘ Privately run public school
- Ⓣ Other \_\_\_\_\_

6. Which of the following best describes how the fourth grades in your school are organized for instruction? Fill in **one** oval.

- Ⓐ Self-contained. Students stay with the same teacher for all academic subjects.
- Ⓑ Departmentalized. Students have different teachers in most or all academic subjects.
- Ⓒ Regrouped. Students remain with one teacher for most subjects but may have a different teacher for one or two subjects.

HE000840

7. Are fourth graders typically assigned to classes by ability and/or achievement levels (so that some classes are higher in average ability and/or achievement levels than others)?

- A Yes, by mathematics ability
- B Yes, by reading ability
- C Yes, by general ability
- D No

QK070444

8. During each week, how much time does the typical student in grade 4 in your school receive instruction in each of these subjects? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Less than 1 hour	At least 1 hour but less than 2 hours	At least 2 hours but less than 3 hours	3 hours or more	
a. Mathematics	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	QK070445
b. Reading	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	QK070676

QK070733

9. Do fourth graders in your school participate in school-sponsored extracurricular activities such as clubs, competitions, fairs, or exhibits in any of the following areas? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Yes	No	
a. Mathematics	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	QK070734
b. Reading	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	QK070736

HE000874

10. Does your school do any of the following to involve parents? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Yes, routinely	Yes, occasionally	No	
a. Use parents as aides in classrooms	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	HE000875
b. Have parents review or sign students' homework	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	LC000482
c. Assign homework for students to do with parents	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	LC000484
d. Have a parent volunteer program	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	LC000486
e. Offer special classes or workshops for parents	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	QK070737
f. Have parents as guest teachers	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	QK070738

HE002107

11. In your school, approximately what percentage of the parents do each of the following? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	0-25%	26-50%	51-75%	76-100%	
a. Participate in a parent-teacher organization	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	HE002142
b. Participate in open houses or back-to-school nights	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	HE002108
c. Participate in parent-teacher conferences	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	HE002109
d. Are involved in making school curriculum decisions	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	HE002110
e. Participate in volunteer programs	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	HE002111



12. To what degree is each of the following a problem in your school? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	<b>Not a Problem</b>	<b>Minor</b>	<b>Moderate</b>	<b>Serious</b>	
a. Student absenteeism	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	HE000888
b. Student tardiness	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	HE000887
c. Physical conflicts among students	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	HE000890
d. Teacher absenteeism	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	HE000892
e. Racial or cultural conflicts	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	HE000893
f. Student health problems	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	HE000894
g. Lack of parent involvement	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	HE002121
h. Gang activities	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	HE002125
i. Student misbehavior in class	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	HE002126
j. Cheating	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	HE002127
k. Physical conflicts between students and teachers	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	ID100078
l. Vandalism	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	ID100080





13. How would you characterize each of the following within your school? Fill in **one** oval on each line. HE000895

	Very Negative	Somewhat Negative	Somewhat Positive	Very Positive	
a. Morale of teachers	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	HE000897
b. Students' attitudes toward academic achievement	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	HE000898
c. Parental support for student achievement	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	HE000900
d. Teachers' expectations for student achievement	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	ID100081
e. Regard for school property	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	HE000901

14. About what percentage of your students is absent on an average day? (Include excused and unexcused absences in calculating this rate.) HE000917

- Ⓐ 0-2%
- Ⓑ 3-5%
- Ⓒ 6-10%
- Ⓓ More than 10%

15. About what percentage of your teachers is absent on an average day? (Include all absences in calculating this rate.) LC000488

- Ⓐ 0-2%
- Ⓑ 3-5%
- Ⓒ 6-10%
- Ⓓ More than 10%

HE000918

16. About what percentage of students who are enrolled at the beginning of the school year is still enrolled at the end of the school year? (Exclude students who transfer into the school during the school year in figuring this rate.)

- Ⓐ 98-100%
- Ⓑ 95-97%
- Ⓒ 90-94%
- Ⓓ 80-89%
- Ⓔ 70-79%
- Ⓕ 60-69%
- Ⓖ 50-59%
- Ⓗ Less than 50%

HE002112

17. About what percentage of this year's fourth graders was held back and is repeating fourth grade?

- Ⓐ 0%
- Ⓑ 1-2%
- Ⓒ 3-5%
- Ⓓ 6-10%
- Ⓔ More than 10%

HE000920

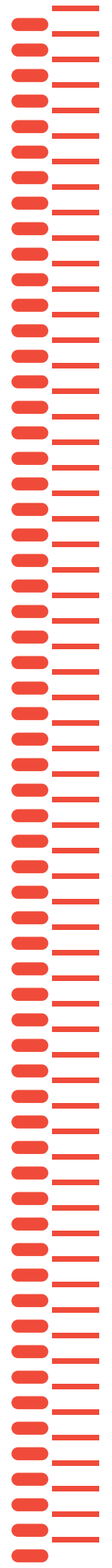
18. Of the full-time teachers who started in your school last year, what percentage left before the end of the school year?

- (A) 0%
- (B) 1-2%
- (C) 3-5%
- (D) 6-10%
- (E) 11-15%
- (F) 16-20%
- (G) More than 20%

HE002094

19. Does your school participate in the National School Lunch Program?

- (A) Yes
- (B) No



ID100392

20. During this school year, about what percentage of students in your school was eligible to receive a free or reduced-price lunch through the National School Lunch Program?

- Ⓐ 0%
- Ⓑ 1-5%
- Ⓒ 6-10%
- Ⓓ 11-25%
- Ⓔ 26-50%
- Ⓕ 51-75%
- Ⓖ 76-99%
- Ⓗ 100%

ID100393

21. Does your school receive Title I funding? (Title I is a federally funded program which provides educational services, such as remedial reading or remedial math, to children who live in areas with high concentrations of low-income families.)

- Ⓐ Yes
- Ⓑ No

VB485284

22. Approximately what percentage of students in your school receives the following services? Fill in **one** oval on each line. Students who receive more than one service should be counted for each service they receive. Please report the percentage of students who receive each of the following services as of the day you respond to this questionnaire.

	None	1-5%	6-10%	11-25%	26-50%	51-75%	76-90%	Over 90%	
a. Title I funding	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)	(H)	VB485285
b. Gifted and talented program	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)	(H)	VB485286
c. Instruction provided in student's home language (non-English)	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)	(H)	VB485287
d. English-as-a-second language instruction (not in a bilingual education program)	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)	(H)	VB485288
e. Special education	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)	(H)	VB485289

