



**EDGEWOOD CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**COMMUNITY SURVEY**

**DECEMBER 10–11, 2003**

# INTRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGY

The Edgewood City School District conducted a systematic random sample telephone survey of its residents on December 10-11, 2003. School volunteers made the telephone calls using a list of randomly selected registered voters. The registered voter list was used because it was the most comprehensive list available within specific boundaries of the school district.

A total of 288 registered voters responded to the survey. Because of the large number of respondents, the survey has a confidence level of 90% with a margin of error of + or - 5%. This means if the survey were given to 100 different groups, the results would be the same 90 times. Also, the true percentage that is reported for each item in the survey could be anywhere from "5 more" to "5 less" than the listed percentage.

Data from the survey results provide insight into voters' opinions

and perceptions of their school district. The data reflect opinions about the school district's curriculum, staff, technology, community relations, extra-curricular activities, length of the school year, and other issues.

The results of the survey are contained in this report. They are presented by percentages. All percentages are rounded to the nearest whole number. Total percentages that are more or less than 100 are influenced by multiple-response questions and rounding.

Survey questions were selected by the district staff.

Don Miller & Associates, Glenford, Ohio, served as survey consultant.

# CONCLUSIONS

1. More than one-half (55%) of all respondents are “adults who have no school-age children.”
2. More than two-thirds (67%) of all respondents chose “school district publications” as a way they would like to receive information about Edgewood City Schools.
3. More than six of 10 (64%) respondents said they are “well-informed” or “informed” about what happens in Edgewood City Schools.
4. Nearly eight of 10 (77%) respondents said “Edgewood elementary schools are providing a quality education for students.”
5. Nearly nine of 10 (87%) respondents gave Edgewood City School District a letter grade of “A” or “B” for its overall operation.
6. Two-thirds (66%) of all respondents selected “student achievement” as the most important issue facing Edgewood City Schools.
7. More than six of 10 (64%) respondents said they would trust a “teacher” to get them the real facts about Edgewood City Schools.
8. Nearly nine of 10 (89%) respondents said Edgewood City Schools employees “care very much” or “care some” about the students.
9. More than one-half (51%) of all respondents said student achievement in the Edgewood City Schools has “improved” in the last five years.
10. More than six of 10 (65%) respondents selected “produce students who work to the best of their abilities” as the number one goal of Edgewood City Schools.
11. Seven of 10 (70%) respondents said Edgewood City Schools provides “the right amount of extra-curricular activities for students.”
12. More than nine of 10 (92%) respondents said offering classes at Edgewood High School that could lead to college credit for those students who qualify is “very important” or “important.”
13. Nearly six of 10 (56%) respondents said “Edgewood instructional pre-kindergarten classes help students be more successful in school.”
14. More than nine of 10 (94%) respondents said it is “very important” or “important” for today’s Edgewood City Schools’ students to be able to use computers and other technology.
15. Nearly eight of 10 (76%) respondents said they “have” a computer from which they can access the internet.
16. More than one-half (55%) of all respondents said Edgewood City Schools “should not” provide appropriate learning technology, such as a lap top computer, for each student.
17. Nearly one-half (49%) of all respondents “oppose” the school district’s going to a year-round school calendar.
18. More than one-half (52%) of all respondents “favor” starting the Edgewood High School day one hour later than it starts now.
19. Seven of 10 (70%) respondents said if Edgewood City Schools gets additional money, regardless of the source, the funds should be used “to hire more teachers resulting in fewer students in each class.”
20. Nearly one-half (49%) of all respondents said they “disagree” with the statement: *Today’s economic times make it impossible for me to vote for any tax increases.*

## Edgewood City Schools 2003 Community Survey

QUESTION	TOTAL N=288	ADULT NC N=159	PARENT N=117	PS PARENT N=22
1. Would you describe yourself as (You may choose more than one.)				
a. an adult who has no school-age children?	55%	100%	0%	0%
b. a parent of a school-age child?	41%	0%	100%	0%
c. a parent of a preschool-age child?	8%	0%	0%	100%
d. No opinion/response.	1%	0%	0%	0%
TOTAL	105%	100%	100%	100%
2. Which of the following are ways you would like to receive information about Edgewood City Schools?				
a. Newspaper	59%	60%	56%	68%
b. Television.	32%	28%	38%	41%
c. School district publications.	67%	63%	72%	68%
d. School meetings.	27%	19%	36%	45%
e. Friends and neighbors.	28%	33%	21%	32%
f. School employees.	33%	25%	45%	36%
g. School e-mail.	40%	21%	66%	64%
h. Letter from the superintendent.	58%	51%	68%	68%
i. Edgewood City Schools web site.	42%	31%	56%	73%
j. Sign boards.	39%	34%	46%	41%
k. Ohio Department of Education Report Card.	36%	30%	47%	36%
l. Other.	3%	2%	5%	0%
m. No opinion/response.	3%	4%	1%	0%
TOTAL	467%	401%	557%	572%
3. How informed are you about what happens in Edgewood City Schools? Would you say you are				
a. well informed?	24%	16%	35%	36%
b. Informed?	40%	33%	50%	45%
c. not very well informed?	28%	40%	13%	14%
d. not informed at all?	6%	8%	2%	5%
e. No opinion/response.	2%	3%	1%	0%
TOTAL	100%	100%	101%	100%
4. Which of the following statements represent your opinion? You may choose more than one.				
a. Edgewood elementary schools are providing a quality education for students.	77%	75%	79%	91%
b. Edgewood Middle School is providing a quality education for students.	67%	71%	62%	36%
c. Edgewood High School is providing a quality education for students.	58%	65%	50%	36%
d. No opinion/response.	14%	19%	8%	9%

## Edgewood City Schools 2003 Community Survey

	TOTAL	216%	230%	199%	172%
	TOTAL	ADULT NC	PARENT	PS PARENT	
QUESTION	N=288	N=159	N=117	N=22	
5. If Edgewood City School District were graded for its overall operation, would you give it a letter grade of					
A	27%	29%	25%	29%	
B	60%	56%	63%	57%	
C	11%	13%	10%	10%	
D	1%	1%	2%	5%	
F	1%	1%	1%	0%	
TOTAL	100%	100%	101%	101%	
6. Which of the following are the most important issues facing Edgewood City Schools?					
a. Student achievement.	66%	62%	71%	73%	
b. Enrollment growth.	54%	51%	60%	45%	
c. Finances.	61%	65%	59%	59%	
d. School safety.	53%	55%	54%	59%	
e. Student discipline.	50%	52%	48%	41%	
f. Athletic facilities.	27%	30%	26%	9%	
g. Hiring quality employees.	63%	64%	63%	68%	
h. Other.	4%	1%	8%	9%	
i. No opinion/response.	7%	8%	4%	5%	
TOTAL	385%	388%	393%	368%	
7. If you wanted information about Edgewood City Schools, whom would you trust to get you the real facts?					
a. Board of education.	51%	53%	50%	36%	
b. Administrators.	53%	47%	63%	50%	
c. Teacher.	64%	60%	68%	77%	
d. School Counselor.	40%	36%	46%	50%	
e. Non-teaching school employee.	30%	35%	22%	41%	
f. Friends.	33%	35%	29%	36%	
g. Students.	29%	30%	27%	27%	
h. Community leaders.	34%	35%	31%	41%	
i. Parents of students.	40%	38%	41%	41%	
j. Other	3%	3%	4%	0%	
k. No opinion/response.	6%	7%	3%	5%	
TOTAL	383%	379%	384%	404%	



## Edgewood City Schools 2003 Community Survey

	TOTAL	ADULT NC	PARENT	PS PARENT
QUESTION	N=288	N=159	N=117	N=22
12. How important is it for Edgewood High School to offer classes that could lead to college credit for those students who qualify?				
a. Very important.	74%	75%	74%	73%
b. Important.	18%	14%	21%	18%
c. Not very important.	1%	1%	1%	0%
d. Not important at all.	2%	2%	3%	5%
d. No opinion/response.	6%	8%	2%	5%
TOTAL	101%	100%	101%	101%
13. Which of the following statements best represents your opinion?				
Instructional pre-kindergarten classes help students be more successful in school.	56%	58%	54%	73%
Instructional pre-kindergarten classes are a baby-sitting service for parents.	11%	13%	9%	5%
c. No opinion/response.	33%	30%	38%	23%
TOTAL	100%	101%	101%	101%
14. How important is it for today's Edgewood City Schools' students to be able to use computers and other technology?				
a. Very important.	84%	81%	87%	86%
b. Important.	10%	14%	7%	5%
c. Not very important.	1%	1%	3%	5%
d. Not important at all.	0%	1%	0%	0%
d. No opinion/response.	4%	4%	3%	5%
TOTAL	99%	101%	100%	101%
15. Do you have a computer from which you can access the internet?				
a. Yes.	76%	67%	88%	91%
b. No.	20%	29%	9%	5%
c. No opinion/response.	4%	4%	3%	5%
TOTAL	100%	100%	100%	101%
16. Should Edgewood City Schools provide appropriate learning technology, such as a lap top computer, for each student?				
a. Yes.	35%	32%	38%	50%



## Edgewood City Schools 2003 Community Survey

	TOTAL	101%	101%	100%	101%
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## Question 21. What one thing should Edgewood City Schools improve?

Ability to improve service to students who are academically challenged.

Ability to manage the money they have--always asking for money.

Academics for students who haven't passed test.

Academics.

Academics.

Access to technology and computers.

Another building or bigger building.

Anything to help students learn more.

AP program 15-20 years behind neighboring schools.

Be able to handle the growth in class size.

Be more informed.

Better buildings.

Better education.

Better job at teaching the kids.

Better relationship with the community; help them understand issues.

Better screening of teachers before they are hired.

Better understanding of individual kids.

Better use of money.

Better use of spending money.

Bloomfield very old.

Building plan. It seems we outgrow buildings quite fast.

Busing routes.

Busing system.

Cafeteria food is too fatty.

Choice of food in schools.

Class offerings for highest and lowest students.

Class size.

Class size.

Class sizes are too large.

Classroom student participation.

College credit courses offered in the school.

College prepared courses.

Communicating with the people.

Communication between parents and teachers.

Communication between parents and teachers.

Communication between parents and teachers.

Communication overall.

Communication with parents at elementary school.

Communication with parents.  
Communication with parents.  
Communication with parents.  
Communication with parents.  
Communication with the public.  
Communication.  
Communication.  
Communications.  
Computer technology big time.  
Computer technology.  
Consistency between elementary schools.  
Consistency in discipline.  
Continue computer and academic improvement.  
Continue to focus on academics.  
Curriculum.  
Cut administrative staff.  
Decrease size of classes.  
Decrease sports activities.  
Develop a plan with City of Trenton to handle growth and expansion.  
Discipline.  
Discipline/uniforms.  
Do simple arithmetic.  
Dress code for teachers.  
Education of the students.  
Emphasis on sports other than football.  
Enrollment growth.  
Every student should have their own textbooks.  
Everyone in district should get equal amount in raises.  
Extra reading activities.  
Extra-curriculars should involve more kids, not sit on bench.  
Favoritism toward hiring employees.  
Financing school.  
Form an academic team.  
Get back to academics instead of football.  
Give more one-on-one even though not possible.  
Give the student the ability and tools to survive in the real world.  
Having the best program for all students.  
Help students with individual needs.  
High school curriculum needs to prepare students better for college.  
Higher education for kids going to college.  
Higher education for student.

Hire best teachers.  
Hire from within the community for upper-level supervisors.  
Hire more special education teachers.  
Hire more teachers so ratio of students per teacher is less.  
Hire more teachers.  
Honesty in finances--in all finances.  
How they spend money.  
How they spend money.  
Improve communication with people who don't have students there.  
Improve science labs and academics.  
Improve secretarial support at school.  
Inform the community more about programs they offer.  
Keep information current.  
Keep pee-wee sponsored sports separate school.  
Lack activities (treatment) for girls. Girls are treated differently.  
Lenient on dress code.  
Less paper work for the teacher.  
Lower pre-kindergarten tuition or make it free so every child can go.  
Make online report card available for the middle and elementary.  
Make stadium larger for football fans.  
Management of money.  
Management.  
Math teaching--show work, not use calculators.  
Middle school and high school riding buses together.  
Money distribution.  
Money management.  
More attention to "at-risk" students.  
More careful to watch kids for being bullied.  
More classes for high achievers (AP).  
More course offerings.  
More focus on academics instead of football.  
More functions with the community (adult classes, senior discounts, etc.).  
More higher end classes for excelling students.  
More honors or AP classes offered.  
More information technology classes.  
More mentoring.  
More open with accounting and how money is spent.  
More public relations with teachers and administrators.  
More qualified staff members in schools.  
More recognition for the band.  
More space in school.

More special education teachers.  
More specific report cards.  
More teacher efficiency.  
More teachers, fewer students in class.  
More teachers.  
More teachers.  
More technology.  
More therapists to serve students with special needs.  
More time with slow learners.  
More updates and feedback on what's happening in school.  
Music program needs more emphasis.  
Need additional buildings.  
Nepotism in hiring practices.  
Offer classes that teach students how to function in every day life.  
Offer more academic classes.  
Operating within budget.  
Parent-teacher communication.  
Prepare more for Ohio proficiency.  
Preparing the kids for functioning after graduation.  
Proficiency test scores.  
Programs if need extra help seems to stop at elementary.  
Promote band and music programs.  
Provide well-balanced lunches.  
Providing for the growth in the community.  
Public being more informed.  
Put God back in school.  
Put more money in quality administrative in the schools not the top.  
Put silent prayer back in school.  
Quality of teachers in all buildings.  
Quit the waste from too much mailing.  
Reduce class size.  
Reduce class size.  
Safety policies for all buildings.  
School board members.  
Screen teachers (some of them) better than they do.  
Should have uniforms.  
Smaller class sizes in all elementary schools.  
Smaller class sizes in elementary schools.  
Smaller class sizes.  
Smaller class sizes.  
Smaller classes.

Smaller classes.  
Some busing routes are too long.  
Special education for behavior handicapped students.  
Special needs program diversity to include special needs.  
Sports is nice but let academics soar.  
Sports--only care about football.  
Standards are too high, but it's the governments fault.  
Starting time for school to be later.  
Stricter on students missing school.  
Student to teacher ratio.  
Take cars away and make them ride the buses.  
Teacher to student ratio.  
Teacher to student ratio.  
Teacher-parent relationships, seems parents are always blamed.  
Teacher-student ratio.  
Teachers being able to discipline the children.  
Teachers should be able to teach kids in ways they understand.  
Teachers should have better bedside manners.  
Teaching children how to make a living; how to spend money, how to live.  
Test scores.  
Three R's.  
Tighten our belts.  
Tighten their belts--more efficient with money.  
Too many buses with too few students on them.  
Totalitarian rule from the superintendent on down.  
Traffic area in front of high school.  
Traffic by high school.  
Traffic from around the high school and middle school.  
Training of educators for early recognition of learning disabilities.  
Transportation going in and out of school.  
Trenton is growing too fast for the schools to keep up.  
Using state aid for improving students with impairments properly.  
What is offered to the gift program.  
Work with city council on residential zoning--too many houses.

## Question 22. What one thing do you like about Edgewood City Schools?

Academics are the best around the county.  
Activities they offer the kids to keep them involved.  
Administrators are very good.  
Always been run well.  
Always good school system.  
Always had a good experience.  
Appearance of the schools.  
Appreciate current system.  
Athletics.  
Attention they give my kids.  
Availability of extra-curricular activities and class offerings.  
Buildings.  
Cameras for safety.  
Care about students.  
Care about the students.  
Care and concern of everybody.  
Care for the kids.  
Caring staff.  
Caring teachers.  
Central location of schools.  
Children are safe at Edgewood.  
Christian extra-curricular activity after school.  
Classes kept under control.  
Close to our house.  
Closeness of the community through the schools.  
Community and school district get along.  
Community as a whole is a great community.  
Community atmosphere.  
Community feel for our school district.  
Community involvement.  
Community involvement.  
Community is close knit.  
Community togetherness.  
Community togetherness.  
Community's closeness. I want it to stop growing.  
Community.  
Community.  
Computers in classroom.

Convenient and caring community.  
Country school.  
Daughter was very well prepared for college.  
Decent education for my children.  
Dedication the teachers, administrators and community demonstrate with school.  
Different choices.  
Different things offered.  
Done quite a lot since built.  
Down to earth, mid-size school.  
Dress code effective.  
Education--good curriculum.  
Elementaries and middle school.  
Elementary schools did great keeping kids interested and gave the best education.  
Elementary schools.  
Encouragement to students.  
Everyone in community is involved.  
Everyone knows everyone.  
Everyone really cares about students and student success.  
Everything the way it is.  
Everything.  
Everything.  
Everything.  
Excellent school.  
Expanding building.  
Faculty and staff are so involved with their students.  
Faculty cares about students.  
Family school, smaller community; let's keep it that way.  
Fine group of caring teachers.  
Food in the cafeteria.  
Football team.  
Football.  
Football.  
Friendliness and community involvement.  
General appearance.  
Gets a retirement check from them each month.  
Go out of their way for the students.  
Goes well for my grandson.  
Good athletics.  
Good atmosphere, nice people.  
Good class of people who are attending.  
Good education and sports teams.

Good education for this area.  
Good education.  
Good education.  
Good job by teachers.  
Good program.  
Good programs.  
Good reputation.  
Good reputation.  
Good school district.  
Good school ratings.  
Good school system.  
Good school.  
Good teachers, and employees and office people.  
Good teachers, good communication through them.  
Good teachers.  
Good, quality education for students.  
Great community school.  
Great school, great teachers all around.  
Great school.  
High quality of education and educators.  
High report card in state of Ohio.  
High standards.  
Home atmosphere.  
In the country.  
Involved--teachers, principals care.  
Involvement with the community.  
Just happen to be where we live.  
Just the right size.  
kids are doing well in school.  
Kids are safe.  
Level of education.  
Like school, teachers and what they're trying to do.  
Like the area.  
Like the way they conduct themselves.  
Located close.  
Lot of courses offered.  
Lot of stuff for the students--extra-curricular.  
Lots of kids end up going to college.  
Love almost all--great all around school.  
Love Edgewood. It is a caring school district.  
Love teachers.

Love the school.  
Love the staff.  
Make effort to communicate with community.  
Mix of kids from different areas.  
Most everyone cares about our students.  
Most people work together.  
Mr. Bucheim, he's wonderful.  
My kids graduated with high honors.  
New auditorium.  
New buildings.  
New report card online at the high school.  
Nice clean buildings.  
Nice school.  
Nice school.  
Nice teachers in the schools.  
No bad kids or drug problems.  
Not an inner city school district.  
Not too big, yet.  
Not too large.  
One of the better school districts.  
Openness of superintendent and principals.  
Overall quality.  
Pace at which they educate children.  
Parent involvement.  
Parents and student body are pleasant and well-mannered.  
People in it--parents, teachers.  
Personal attention by staff to students.  
Personnel.  
Popular, pretty good education.  
Prayer groups and Bible studies.  
Prepares students very well for college.  
Pretty good education.  
Programs.  
Protects and cares about their children.  
Proud of athletes.  
Proud that my children went to Edgewood because of their academic achievement.  
Provides a good quality education to students.  
Quality education.  
Quality education.  
Quality education.  
Quality education.

Quality education.  
Quality of education children received.  
Quality of education.  
Quality of education.  
Quality of kids they produce their senior year.  
Quality of staff.  
Quality of teachers.  
Quality of teachers.  
Quality teachers.  
Rate.  
Remained small.  
Safer for students.  
Safety, students are safe.  
Safety.  
School community supports its students and athletes.  
School spirit.  
School-community spirit.  
Schools seem to reach people across their system.  
Sense of community.  
Site of community and schools.  
Size and friendliness of schools.  
Size of community.  
Size, although growing.  
Size--small.  
Small and personable.  
Small and personal.  
Small area.  
Small community.  
Small community; close knit.  
Small district.  
Small district.  
Small school atmosphere.  
Small school settings.  
Small school.  
Small school.  
Small school.  
Small school.  
Small town atmosphere.  
Small town community comes together--parents and teachers.  
Small town community feeling that exists here.  
Small town feel of the schools.

Small town feel.  
Small town feeling.  
Small town.  
Small, community atmosphere.  
Small, community involvement.  
Smaller but offers a lot of help to students.  
Smaller school quality.  
Smaller size.  
Special programs.  
Sports program.  
Staff always open to helping with any problems.  
Staff.  
Standards of academics for higher education.  
Still fairly small.  
Still small enough, even with growth.  
Students get a lot of support from the public/community.  
Students seem to get a well-rounded education.  
Surrounded by corn field.  
Talk to the people you want to very easily.  
Teacher.  
Teachers and board.  
Teachers are more to help the kids.  
Teachers are very cooperative with the parents.  
Teachers at Seven Mile.  
Teachers care very much.  
Teachers care.  
Teachers love their kids.  
Teachers really care about students.  
Teachers, especially primary schools, are very caring and follow-up with students.  
Teachers.  
Teachers.  
Teachers.  
Teachers.  
They all seem to pull together.  
They are part of community.  
They do a good job.  
They do care.  
Top school around.  
Values of community.  
Variety they give students.  
Very clean schools.

Very good.

Warm atmosphere--a very positive place.

Way the teachers teach.

Well-kept schools.

Well-rounded school district.

Well-taught students.

Wonderful staff of teachers and principals.

You feel you can have contact with the teachers.