



ADSB Student Voice 2022 Survey

Frequently Asked Questions

Why is the Algoma District School Board (ADSB) conducting this survey?

- School boards across the province are completing a Student Census with their school communities in order to better understand the needs of student populations and school communities. The Student Census will gather demographic data (statistical information) to help us better understand the people we serve.
- Several school boards have already completed their first Student Census, while other boards, like the ADSB, are completing it this school year or next.

What is the purpose of the ADSB Student Voice Survey?

- The ADSB Student Voice Survey is a Student Census and Well-Being Survey.
- The Student Census and Well-Being Survey will help our school board better understand the needs of our students and school communities. Specifically, the survey information will be used to:
 - address any barriers to student achievement and success,
 - establish effective programs, and
 - allocate resources according to student needs.

Who will complete the ADSB Student Voice Survey?

- Kindergarten to Grade 6: Parents/guardians of Kindergarten to Grade 6 students will be asked to complete an online survey at home in discussion with their child in November. If reliable Internet access is not available, parents/guardians can also request a paper version of the survey, by contacting their school Principal prior to October 28, 2022.
- Grades 7 – 12: Students in Grades 7 – 12 will be asked to complete the online ADSB Student Voice Survey, at school during class time in November. Students in grades 7 and 8 will also have the option to complete the survey at home.

What type of questions will be on the survey?

The survey consists of a variety of questions about ethnicity, race, languages, religion, gender, sexual orientation, disability and home environment. The Well-Being part of the survey will focus on questions related to safe schools, equity and inclusivity, healthy school and mental health.

Does my child need to be present when I fill out the Kindergarten to Grade 6 Student Voice Survey?

The aim of the Student Census and Well-Being Survey is to capture the voice of all students. You are encouraged to complete the Student Census and Well-Being parts of the survey with your child to capture their thoughts and experiences.

I have multiple children in Kindergarten to Grade 6. Do I need to fill out a separate survey for each student?

Yes, you will need to fill out a separate survey for each child. Each survey has a unique, specific code linked to each student's ID.

Is it mandatory?

No. Survey completion is voluntary; however a high level of completion will allow for more complete information about school communities. Parents/guardians of Grade 7 – 12 students will receive information before the survey is administered, with the option to request that their child not participate in the process.

Is the survey anonymous?

The ADSB Student Voice Survey is confidential, but not anonymous. To ensure confidentiality, no directly identifying information (such as student name) will be on the survey. As one of the main purposes of the survey is to identify and eliminate systematic barriers to student success, all surveys will include a unique code that will be used to link the survey data with achievement data. The purpose of linking these data is to identify the groups of students being underserved so that we can develop and revise programs, strategies, policies and teaching practices, as well as allocate resources and supports to improve school environments. To protect students' identifies, survey results will only be reported in aggregate form (grouped data only) and no individual student will be identified.

Is parental/guardian consent required before students complete the survey?

Formal consent from parents or guardians is not required for the ADSB Student Voice Survey. Legislation regarding participation of students in a Board-initiated survey intended for planning and programming purposes permits the collection of survey data without formal parent/guardian consent. However, families of students in Kindergarten to Grade 6 provide consent by completing the survey. Families of students in Grades 7 – 12 can withdraw their child from participation in the survey by contacting their school Principal by October 28, 2022.

Does the collection of personal information violate the Human Rights Code or the Protection of Privacy?

No. The collection of identity-based data is supported by Canada's human rights legislative framework, including the Canadian Human Rights Act, the Ontario Human Rights Code, and section 15(2) of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. The Ontario Human Rights Code permits and encourages the collection and analysis of identity data for the purposes of: identifying and removing systematic barriers; preventing discrimination; and promoting equity and inclusivity.

When collecting personal information such as identity-based data, the ADSB follows all privacy requirements outlined in the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (MFIPPA). MFIPPA is the provincial legislation that establishes responsibilities of school boards to protect personal information about individuals including students, that is collected, used, retained, disclosed and disposed of.

How will responses be kept confidential and secure?

The ADSB Student Voice Survey is confidential. We respect the privacy of our students and families. Data will be collected in a secure manner in accordance with applicable privacy legislation and best practices. Questionnaires will have unique access codes assigned to them. Data will be stored on internal ADSB servers, and will only be accessed by a small number of staff, in order to analyze the data. Reports will never single out or identify a student or family, and will only be reported in a summarized way, to provide understanding of school communities' needs.

How will ADSB Student Voice Survey data be used?

Once responses are processed and analyzed, a series of reports will be produced to help inform board and school decision-making for programs and instruction. Summarized data may also be shared with community partners and government agencies to help them improve their services to best meet the needs of their communities. Data reports or analysis will never single out a student. By law, the ADSB cannot reveal individualized information for any student/parent who completes the ADSB Student Voice Survey.

What is CCI Research? Why is CCI Research involved?

This confidential survey is being conducted by the ADSB through CCI Research. CCI Research will collect survey results, provide an analysis of trends and patterns within the results, and produce school and Board-wide reports of the grouped responses, trends and patterns for the ADSB. All responses will be kept private and confidential. No one at your school will read or have access to individual student reports. Individual responses will be grouped for reporting purposes.

What is the legal framework for collecting this kind of data?

The information you provide is collected under the authority of section 170(1)(6) of the Education Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. E. 2 and will be used for educational and research purposes only. The information will be used, disclosed, and retained in accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (MFIPA). R.S.O. 1990, c. M. 56. Both CCI Research and the ADSB are bound by MFIPA regulations for data security and confidentiality.