

BC Parents of Special Needs Kids - Action for Equitable Access to Education

Survey Results

For

Vancouver School District

Important Details:

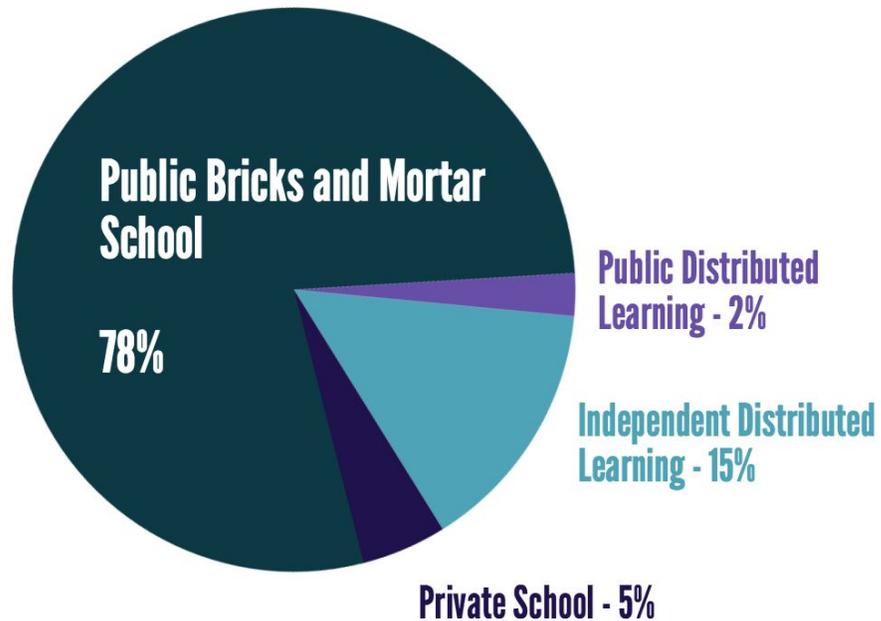
This survey is not scientific, and should only be used as a reference point to further discussion regarding current opinions of parents who have children who have extra learning support needs in public bricks and mortar education in their community. Parents/caregivers who have children who are accessing a public bricks and mortar school (or had accessed in the past) were invited to participate via the survey being posted on a number of Facebook groups for parents who have children with disabilities. The survey was also posted on twitter and shared via email.

The survey was open for two weeks, and generated a total of 318 responses from across the province of British Columbia. Parents/caregivers were asked to identify their school district on the survey, and Vancouver was one of the higher numbers of responses.

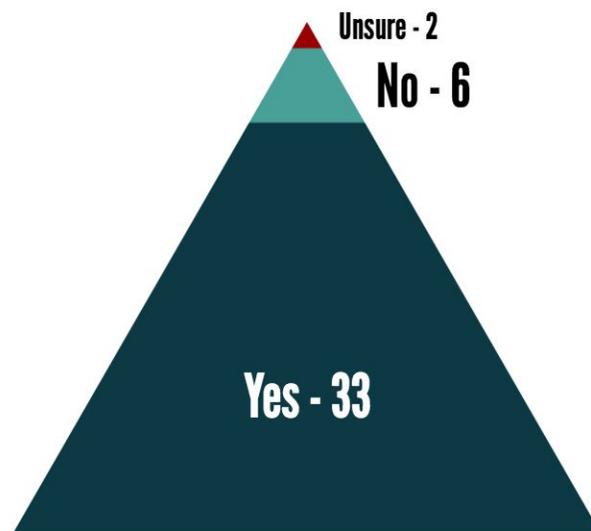
A Total of 42 responses were received from parents/caregivers identifying themselves as being from the Vancouver School District.

To learn more about BC Parents of Special Needs Kids - Action for Equitable Access to Education, please visit equitableaccesstoeducation.wordpress.com

Parents/caregivers were asked to identify what type of schooling their child was currently accessing.

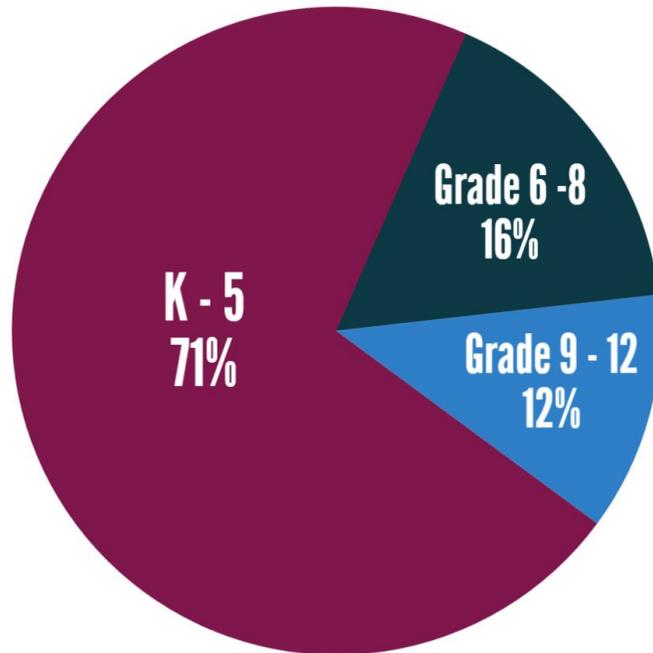


Parents/caregivers indicated whether or not their child currently has a designation/category.

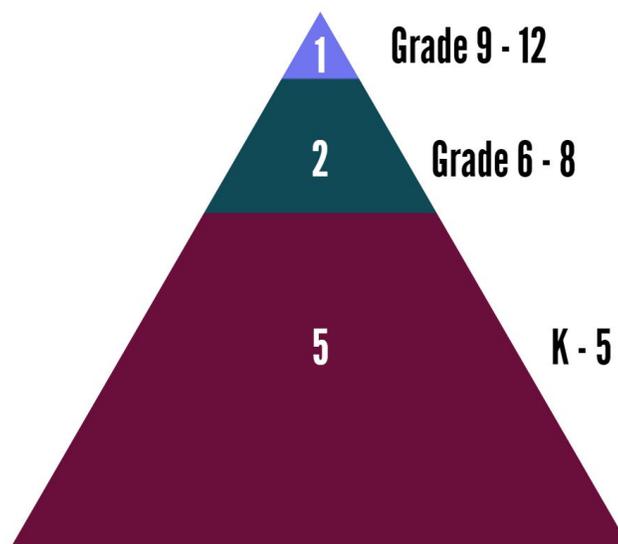


To learn more about BC Parents of Special Needs Kids - Action for Equitable Access to Education, please visit equitableaccesstoeducation.wordpress.com

Parents/Caregivers were asked to indicate the current grade level of their child.

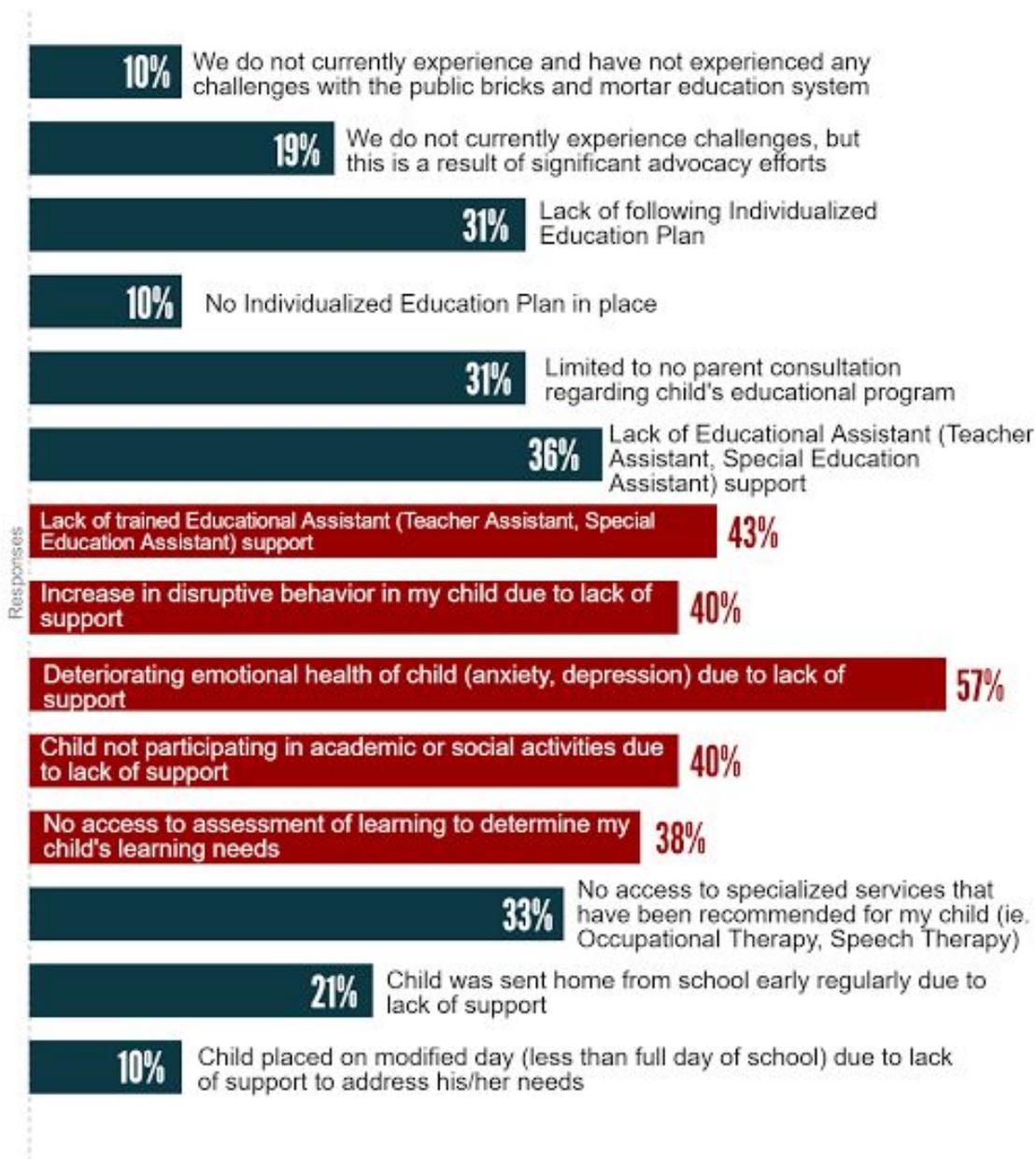


8 parents/caregivers indicated they had removed their child from public bricks and mortar school in Vancouver, this is the breakdown of the last grade level their child attended.



To learn more about BC Parents of Special Needs Kids - Action for Equitable Access to Education, please visit equitableaccesstoeducation.wordpress.com

Parents/caregivers were asked to identify the challenges they experience(d) in public bricks and mortar schools. Participants were allowed to indicate multiple checkboxes.



8 parents/caregivers indicated "Other" providing the following comments:

"Limited remedial support"

To learn more about BC Parents of Special Needs Kids - Action for Equitable Access to Education, please visit equitableaccesstoeducation.wordpress.com

“He did receive support from teachers and EAs. The main problem was when the administrators changed, they treated my ASD child as a behaviour problem. They did not respond to him as a child with special needs. They punished him.”

“We are experiencing the challenges caused by underfunding. Over-crowded school, decrepit building, portables, not enough books, reduced library time, PAC fundraising.”

“Delays in access to services, long wait lists”

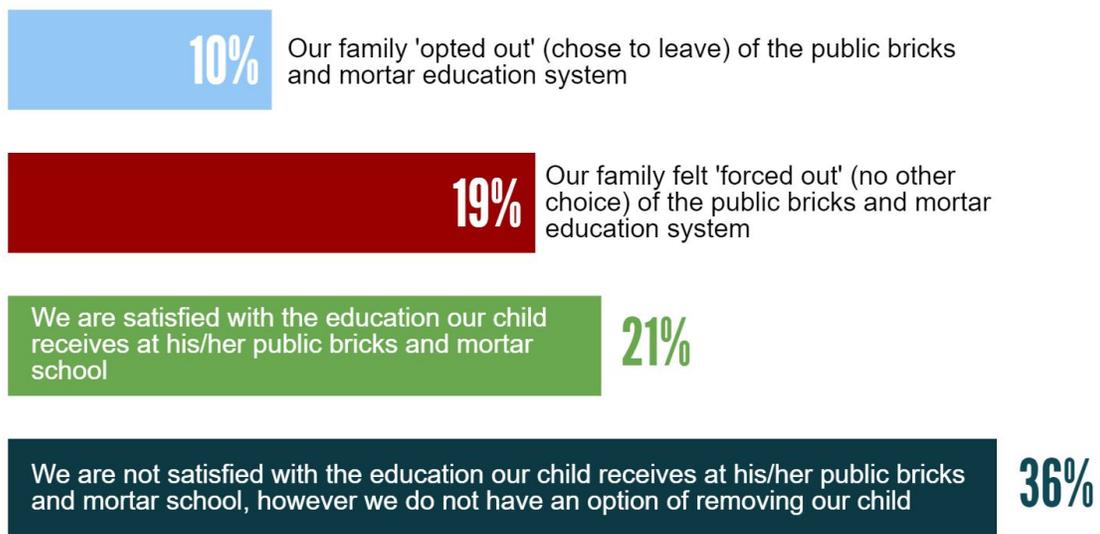
“Complete lack of empathy from teacher. Blame based and belittling, punishing my child”

“no sufficient support for advance learners/ gifted”

“We were threatened that he would be medically excluded and forced into a no educational behaviour program. They refused to believe our private psycho-educational assessment that identified him as a gifted learner.”

“Lack of trained teacher and resource teacher (harmful, actually)”

Parents/caregivers were asked to share which statement was most accurate regarding their experience with public bricks and mortar education for their child.



To learn more about BC Parents of Special Needs Kids - Action for Equitable Access to Education, please visit equitableaccesstoeducation.wordpress.com

Parents and Caregivers were invited to share any other comments regarding public bricks and mortar education in the Vancouver School District.

Comments from Vancouver Respondents

1. We no longer have a public school system, when one has to pay \$500 in advance for your child to get music (a 'complementary' program in 2016-17), can pay for private assessments to speed along a designation, or attends a school with deep pockets (a PAC that can fundraise \$40,000) to pay for additional programs that poorer schools cannot, etc.
2. Our current distributed learning situation is fantastic.
3. Public schools are inadequately funded to meet the needs of children
4. My child doesn't have a designation, but she was tested for giftedness in the fall and I'm hoping she'll be able to participate in challenge programs at some point. Unfortunately, it looks like Vancouver will be cutting most of the programs due to their budget shortfall. The province needs to fully fund public education!
5. We are appalled at the complete lack of awareness around gifted 2e students. My son was forced out. His emotional well being was in complete disarray and the teacher did nothing but tell us his behaviour "problems". There needs to be more awareness around gifted learners NOT less funding and support. If the system gets its act together and learns how to support the exceptional and vulnerable nature of gifted learners we'd look into having our child back in his catchment school at the vsb.
6. My child has just been psych assessed (at our expense) however as a q he will get little more than he has currently (which is NOT working).
7. Took us 4 years to finally get our son psycho ed assessment. Was given an H designation recently. Waiting to see if program available. Horrifying as a parent to watch your child struggle for so long. And it hurts him as he has a younger brother that gets help because of Autism designation. And I can not explain why he doesn't get help. Frustrating Now 12 month wait to be seen at Sunny Hill. *sigh*

To learn more about BC Parents of Special Needs Kids - Action for Equitable Access to Education, please visit equitableaccesstoeducation.wordpress.com