



# OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

10/09 - 10/13



## INFORMATION AND MORE

We are still missing over 400 lunch application forms!!!! PLEASE complete if you have not done so already. Please click on this link: [23-24 Lunch Application](#)

We began our Leader In Me journey last year with our teachers. This year we are including our younger Wildcats! :) If you would like to know ALL about Leader In Me please click on the link [Leader In Me Link](#). Not only will this give you a DETAILED overview, but you can see what your child will be learning and how you can embark on this journey with us.

Please continue to scroll down to see the BOY Parent Survey Results.



## THIS MONTH

- For Breast Cancer Awareness Month we are encouraging all Wildcats to wear pink on Wednesdays.
- Tuesday the 10th we will be working with Judson PD to conduct our first Lockdown Drill. We are not made aware of the time the drill will be conducted, only the day. Communication will be shared once our drill has been completed.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- 09-13: FIRE SAFETY WEEK
- 09: STUDENT HOLIDAY
- 10: LOCKDOWN DRILL
- 13: WONTOBERFEST (FALL CARNIVAL)
- 13: END OF 1ST GRADING PERIOD
- 21: PREK AND K PUMPKIN PATCH
- 23-27: RED RIBBON WEEK
- 23-25: SCIENCE CAMP
- 25: EARLY RELEASE (at 12:55)
- 26: EARLY RELEASE (at 12:55)
- 26: 50TH DAY OF SCHOOL (50'S THEME DRESS)
- 27: PK/K CHARACTER PARADE

### NOVEMBER

- 04: WOBBLE N' GOBBLE
- 07: STUDENT HOLIDAY
- 10: NO SCHOOL



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GET INVOLVED  
[PTO INFORMATION PAGE](#)

[WORTHAM OAKS FACEBOOK PAGE](#)

[SPIRIT  
STORE](#)

# Wortham Oaks Día de Los Muertos Community Altar



## What is *Día De los Muertos* (Day of the Dead)?

- ★ Día de los Muertos, also known as 'Day of the Dead', is a Mexican holiday that has origins in Aztec traditions and is celebrated throughout Latin America.
- ★ Día de los Muertos, is celebrated on two days- November 1st (*All Saints Day*) and November 2nd (*All Souls Day*). It is believed that the spirits of our ancestors visit us on these two days.
- ★ During Día de los Muertos we celebrate and remember our loved ones that have passed away- it is a time to share memories and honor our loved ones.
- ★ We celebrate our loved ones by creating an *ofrenda*, or altar. An *ofrenda* is a special display that is carefully decorated and covered with items that evoke the memory of our loved ones.
- ★ Some of the items placed on the altar are: candles, *calaveras* (sugar skulls), flowers, *papel picado* (paper banners), bread and other food items. Of course the most important item we place on the altar is the photos of our ancestors.

## Wortham Oaks Community *Ofrenda* (Altar)

Wortham Oaks will be putting together a Community Altar for all Wortham Oaks staff, students and families. The Altar will be on display from October 10-November 3rd in the main lobby for all students and families to see.

If you would like to contribute to our altar by adding a picture of your loved ones please submit a copy of the photo by **Tuesday, October 10th**! Make sure your photo is labeled on the back with your **child's name and grade level** so that we can return it back to you. If possible, please place your photo in a frame- this will make it easier for us to display, but if you do not have a frame we will still find a way to display it on the altar.

We thank you in advance for your participation in our Community Day of the Dead Altar. We hope that learning about other cultures and traditions encourages and builds community among the students.

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact us.



# Did You Know?

## Dyslexia Myths & Facts



Myth:

Dyslexia is very uncommon

Fact:

The International Dyslexia Association states that between 15% and 20% of the population have a language-based learning disability, dyslexia being the most common of these. The United States Department of Health and Human Services estimates that 15% of the U.S. population has dyslexia.

Myth:

Dyslexia is a “catch-all” term

Fact:

Research has shown that dyslexia is a specific neurological learning disability that is characterized by difficulties with accurate and/or fluent word recognition, poor spelling, and decoding abilities. Other secondary problems in vocabulary, reading comprehension, and writing may also arise.







# 2023-2024 Annual Storybook Character Pumpkin and Potato Patch



Throughout the year, we enjoy reading many books featuring characters with interesting traits! As we celebrate the fall season, the library will host a **Storybook Character Pumpkin and Potato Patch** and each pumpkin and potato will be on display in the library during the month of October and during our WOWtoberfest for all to see and enjoy!

Tips for decorating your pumpkin or potato:

- Use a real or faux pumpkin or potato.
- **Do not poke holes in it or cut it or scratch designs on it**, because it will begin to rot.
- Decorate your pumpkin or potato as a book character.
- Use any media to decorate your pumpkin or potato (paint, paper, string, fabric, etc.)
- Acrylic paints or permanent markers work best on pumpkin or potato skin.
- Do not use valuables to decorate your pumpkin or potato.
- ***Please return the bottom portion of this form with your Character pumpkin or potato when you bring it to the library.***

If you choose to participate, please bring in your pumpkin or potato character as early as Monday, October 2nd until Friday, October 13<sup>th</sup>. This is voluntary and not a school requirement. The purpose is to provide a fun activity that the entire school can participate in and experience a collective way to celebrate reading books. Thank you for making this a positive event!

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Schweizerhof  
Library Media Specialist  
Wortham Oaks Elementary [aschweizerhof@judsonisd.org](mailto:aschweizerhof@judsonisd.org)



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***Book Title or Character's Name***

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***Created by (student's name)***

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***Grade***

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***Homeroom Teacher***



# JUDSON EARLY RELEASE DAYS

October 25 AND 26



- School will dismiss at 12:55 pm.
- Adventure Club will still run regular schedule.
- Buses will run their routes beginning at 12:55 pm.

## PK 3 ONLY



- When the district has early release days, we will NOT hold afternoon PK3.
- When JISD has a late start, we will NOT hold morning PK3

October 26, 2023

Let's have a

**Rockin'  
50th  
Day**



Dress in your BEST  
50s attire!



**HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH**



**FRIDAY OCTOBER 6TH**

**HISPANIC MUSIC DAY**

**DRESS AS YOUR FAVORITE**

**HISPANIC SINGER.**



**FRIDAY OCTOBER 13TH**

**DAY OF THE DEAD**

**PAINT YOUR FACE AS A  
SUGAR SKULL OR ANY DISNEY  
COCO INSPIRED CLOTHES.**



JUDSON ISD EDUCATION FOUNDATION

# WOBBLE N' GOBBLE



5K Fun Run & Free Thanksgiving Feast  
Fun Run Benefits the Judson Education Foundation

**NOVEMBER 4, 2023**  
**WAGNER HIGH SCHOOL**  
**3000 N. FOSTER RD, SAN ANTONIO TX**

Race Check-In at 8 am  
Race Begins at 9 am  
Free Feast from 11 am - 1:30 pm

## REGISTER FOR THE RUN!

Register by October 26 to secure a T-shirt.

## FEAST WITH US!

Free for all families! Join us at the Wagner Cafeteria to enjoy a turkey dinner & Performances by JISD students!





WORTHAM OAKS  
PRESENTS

# WOWTOBER FEST

FRIDAY  
OCTOBER 13,  
2023

5710  
CARRIAGE  
CAPE

05:30-08:00PM

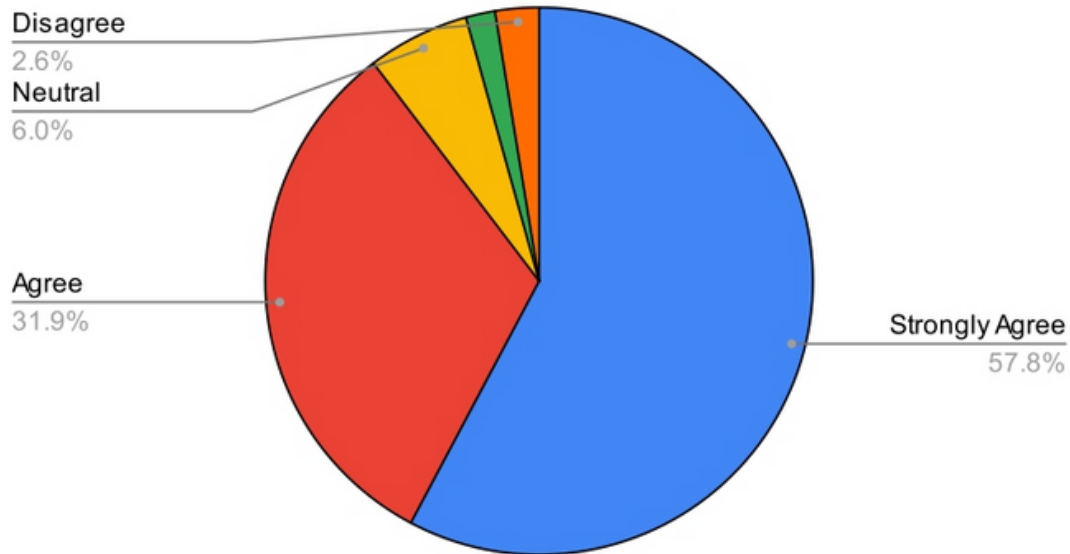
FOOD TRUCKS | SPOOKY HOUSE | VENDORS | GAMES | HAY RIDE

[WWW.JUDSONISD.ORG/WORTHAMOAKS](http://WWW.JUDSONISD.ORG/WORTHAMOAKS)  
(210)945-5750

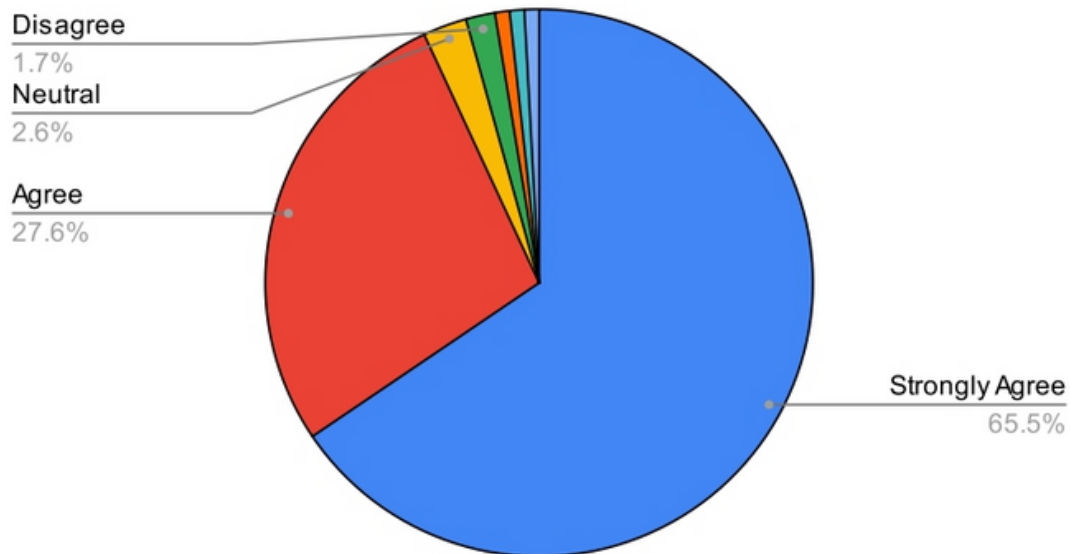
JOIN US FOR A  
SPOOKY GOOD TIME!

# B.O.Y. Parent Survey Results

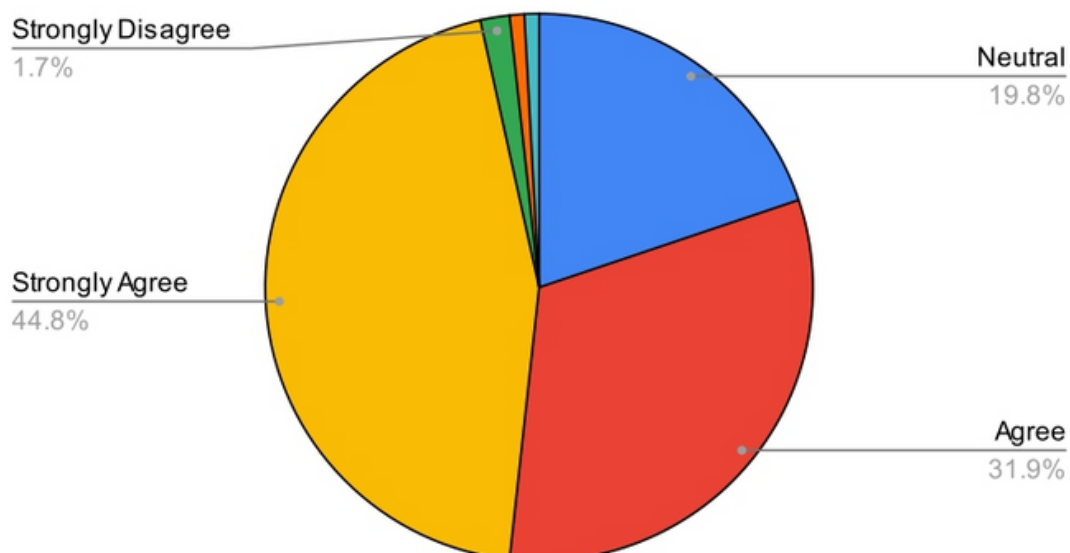
Overall, my child is receiving a quality education.



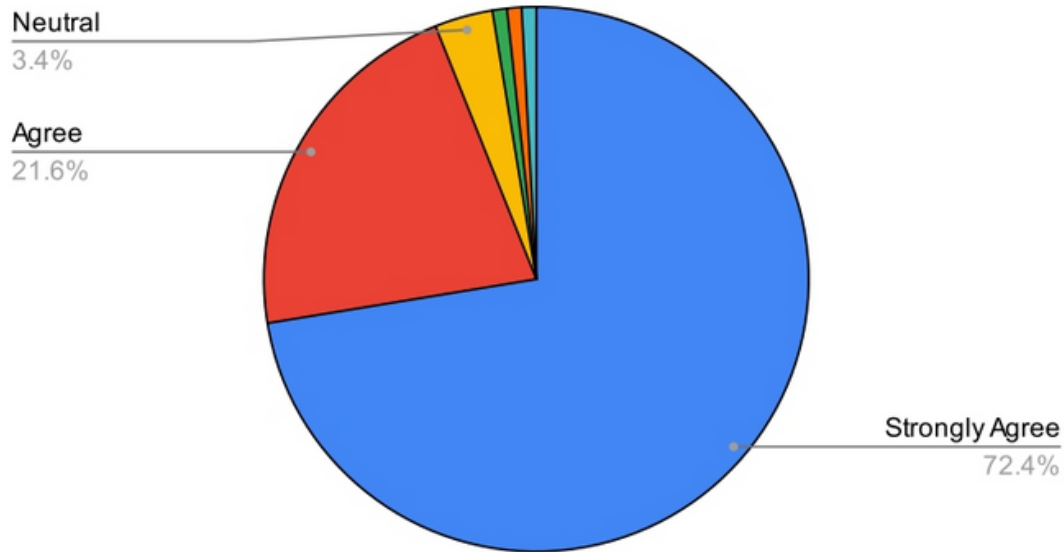
My child's teacher is positive and encouraging?



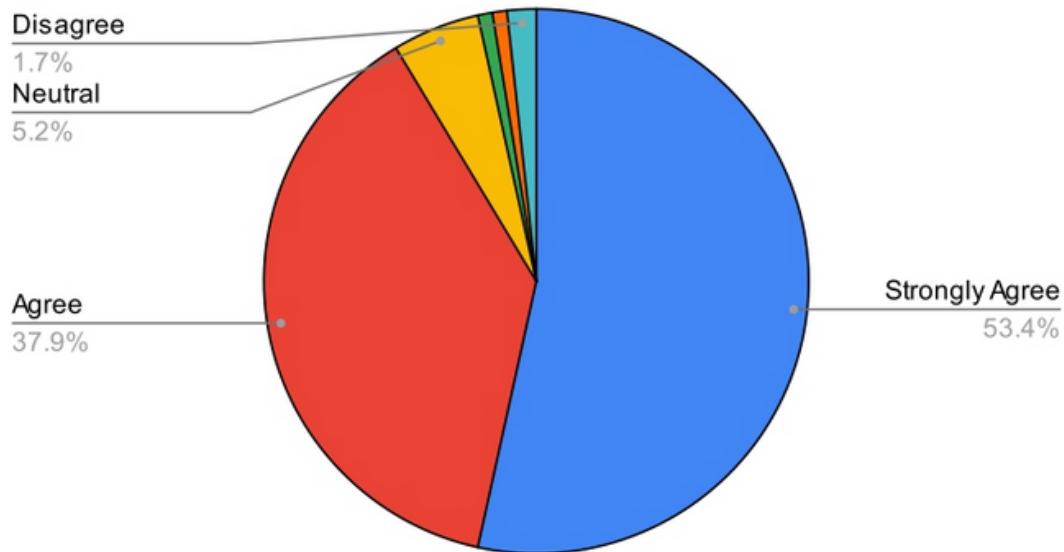
The school Facebook website is informative.



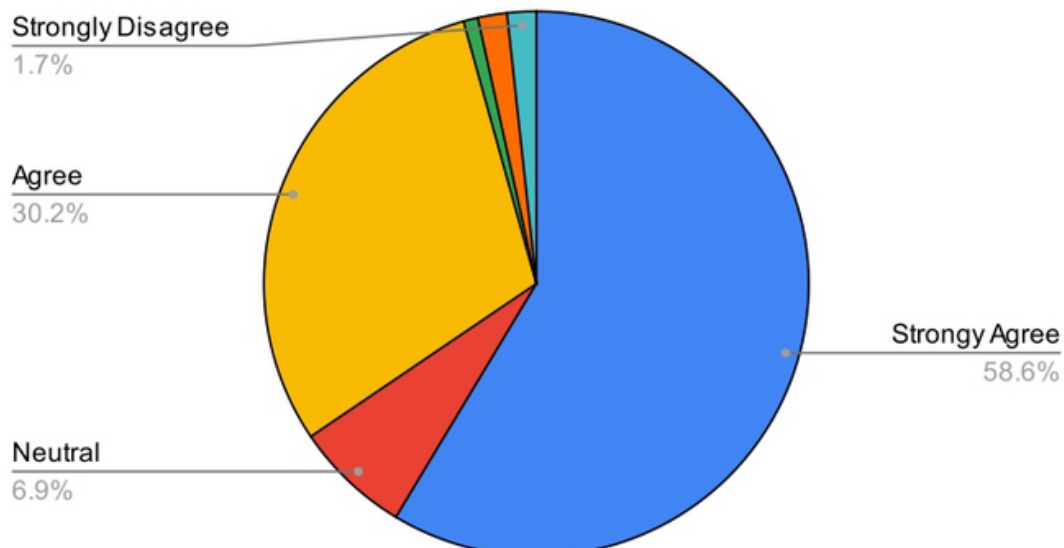
The school office staff is welcoming and inviting.



Overall, the school performs well academically.

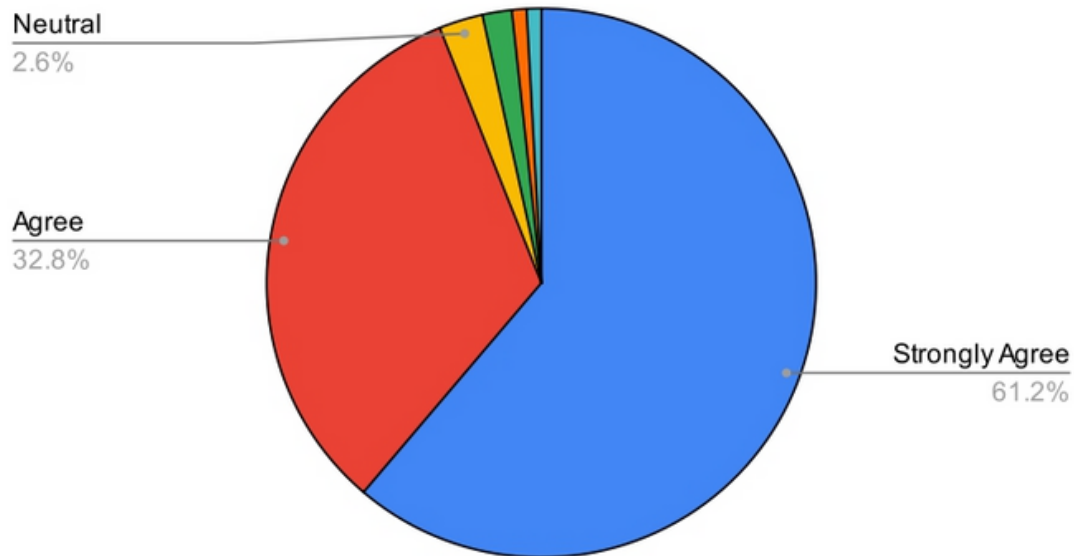


I am encouraged to participate in my child's education

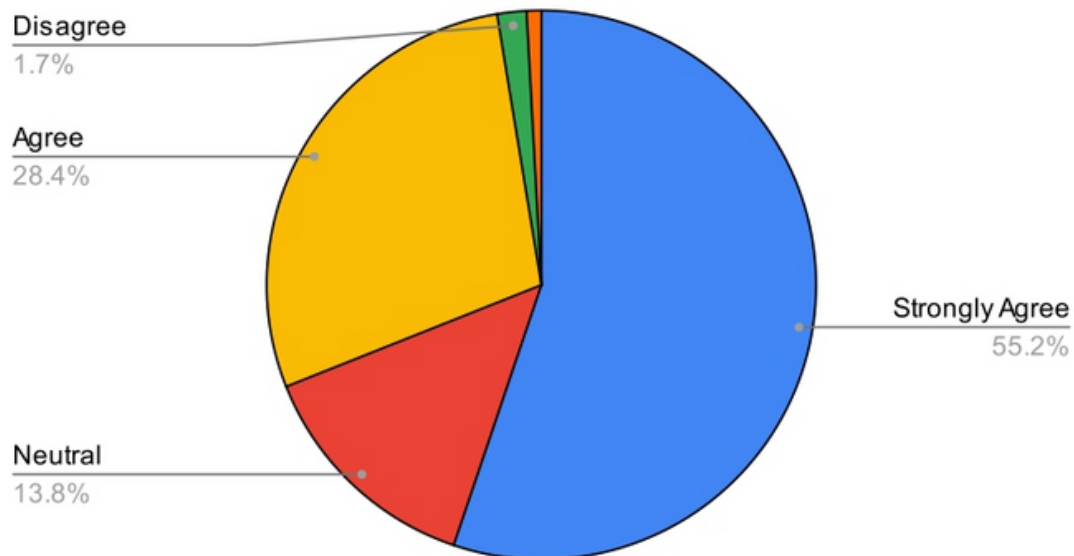




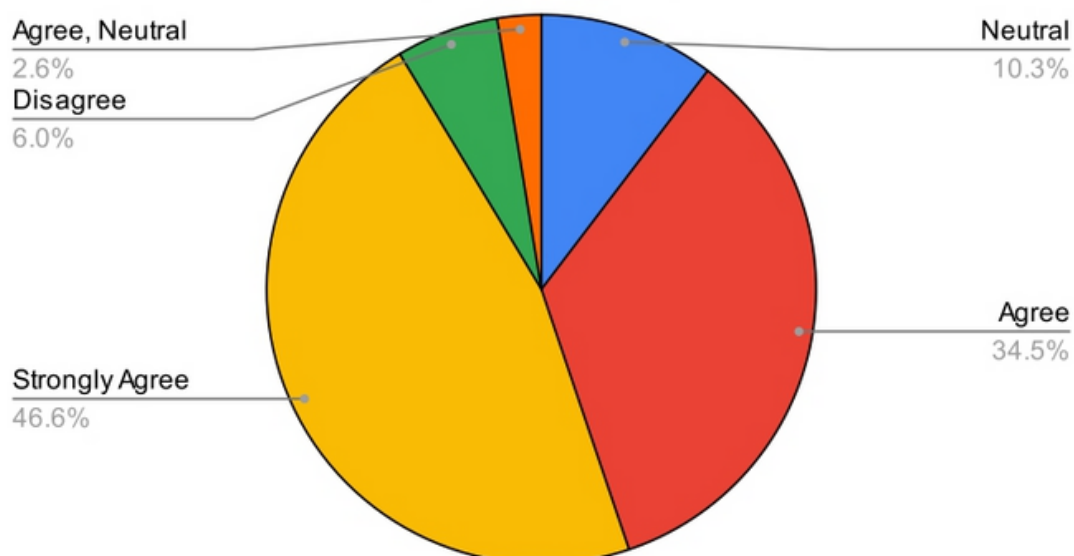
The school has an excellent learning environment.



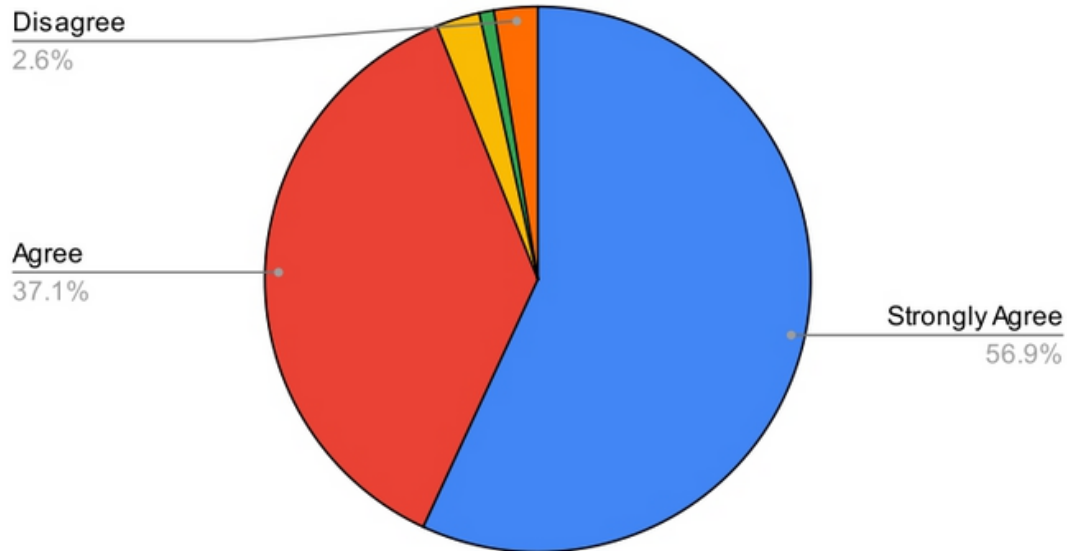
The principal is accessible.



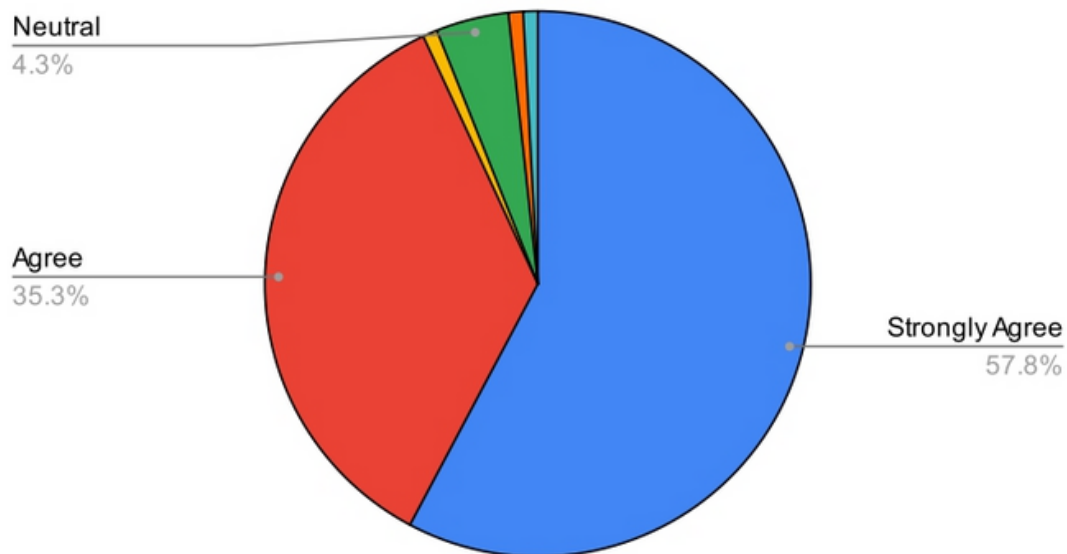
I know how well my child is progressing in school.



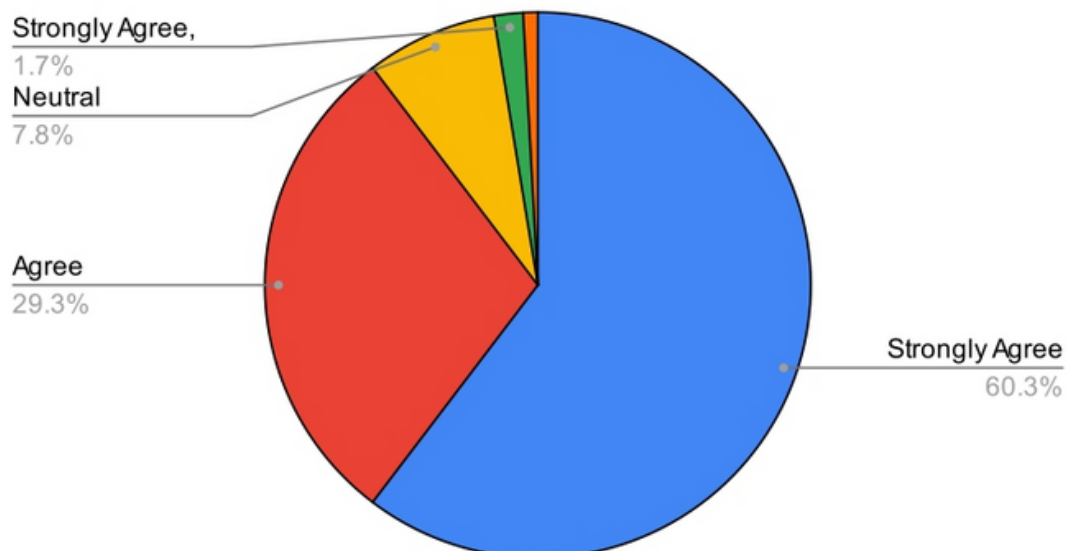
My child feels safe at school.



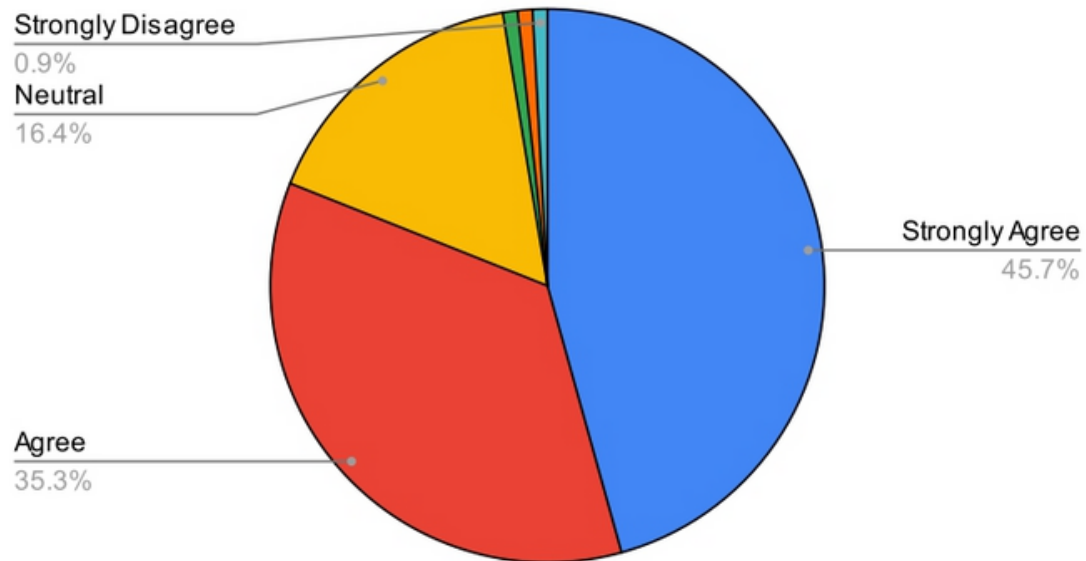
Students are motivated to do their best work.



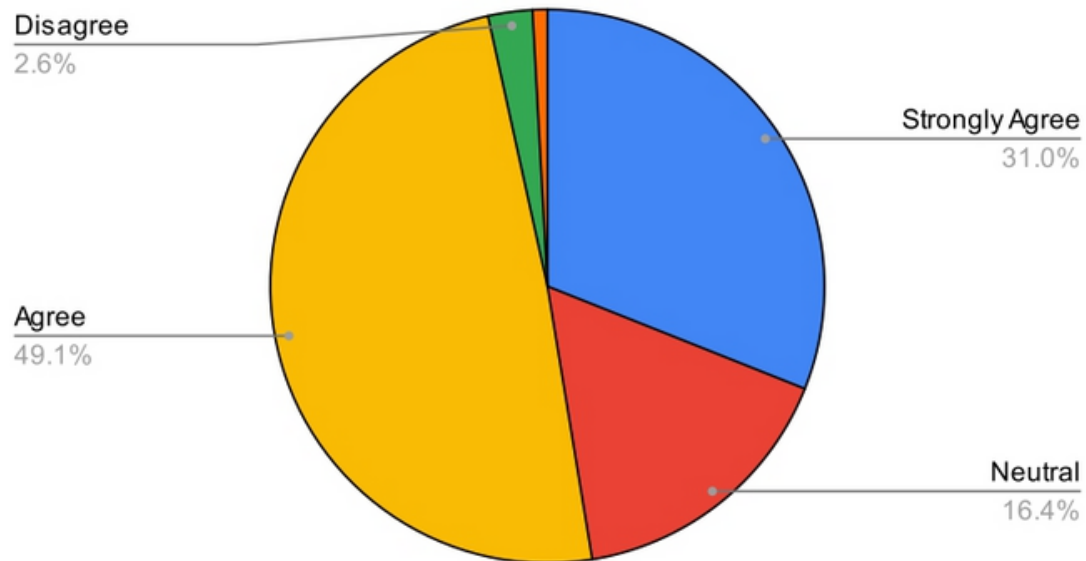
Our school promotes parent/teacher communication.



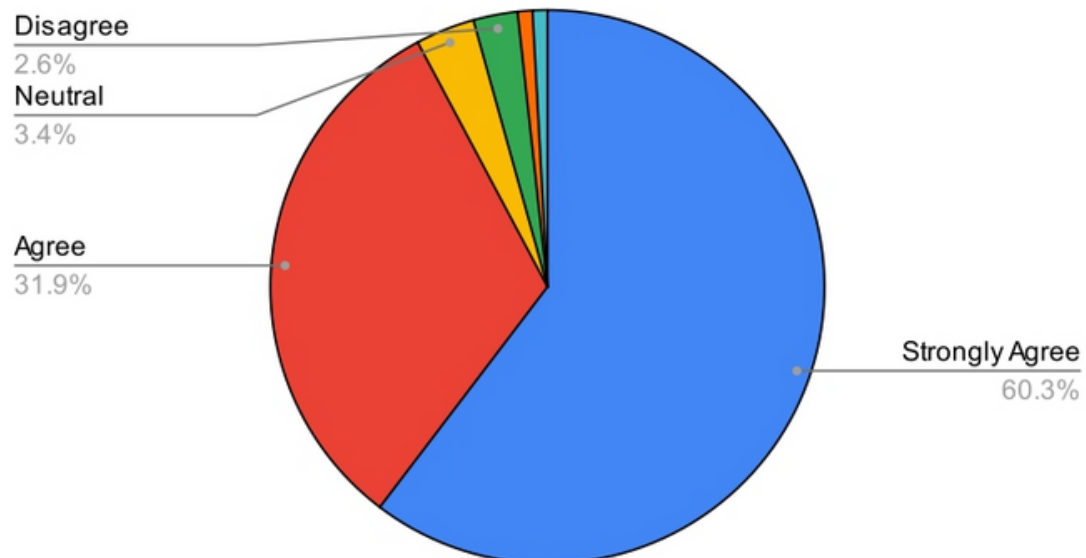
Discipline policies are fair at our school.



Students show respect for each other.



For the most part, I am satisfied with our school.





<b>What are Wortham Oaks strengths?</b>
Academics
Academics, community involvement
Accessibility to teacher-parents.
Being responsive to children getting bullied and treating children with kindness.
commitment to culture
Communication
Communication
Communication
Communication
Communication about education
Communication and a positive classroom environment.
Communication and keeping us updated of activities.
Communication for events
Communication, safety, and welcoming environment
Communication,safety, structure, security
Community engagement and communication
Constant positivity and many teachers go above and beyond eith the way they teach..like 5th grades black light lab days
Education. The teachers have been amazing
exemplary
Extra curricular activities
Friendliness
Friendly staff. You can tell they communicate with each other well.
Friendly, encouraging, helpful, kind,
Great communication
High quality teachers, communication, extended learning opportunities (Spanish Immersion, art, enrichment)
I have really enjoyed how welcoming & kind the staff are. They are not only that, they're incredible at drop off & pick up! This my first time taking a child to school, so it's been really helpful to encounter such awesome, nice, and efficient staff!
I love how they accommodate students with special needs. Drop off and pick up is easy and convenient for them as some children need additional time to get in the car or help getting out. I really appreciate that especially for my 4 year old son. Makes the transition so smooth for him.
Involvement
It seems to be growing
Location
Location
Location, friendly staff, newness
Meeting students needs academically.
Na
Open door and no hiding any information. They let everything be known and if there are any issues they let us know asap
Outstanding education programs
Parent teacher communication is wonderful
Pick and drop off are a breeze thats often overlooked

# Wortham Oaks strengths continued

Positive teachers and positive environment.
Positive, upbeat staff! The morning carline wait has certainly improved quickly, which is nice!
Professional
Quality education, amount of involvement from parents, teachers/staff know my children so it gives us a community feel, amount of clubs
Safe
Safety for students (locked doors, key access, ID requirements), communication for assignments and events
Seems to be a conservative place
Someone is always available. The school is truly one large family.
Spirit, Accessibility, amazing staff, student wellbeing top of list
Staff
Staff is very kind
Strong leadership and academics. Also really great PTA
Strong sense of community
Supervision
Supportive teachers, good staff, great curriculum
Teacher/Parent communication has been great and easily accessible
Teachers. Everyone we have interacted with has been great.
The leadership team, the staff, and of course the teachers are amazing.
The number of experienced teachers.
The principal is very involved with student and communicating with parents.
The staff
The staff is wonderful
The staff- they really care!
The teachers are amazing, informative and friendly.
Their staff
There is alot of communication between teachers/parents. Everyone is friendly and a family.
They are organized. My daughter enjoys going. Had some issues with other students being unkind to her but she still calls them her friends and still wants to go to school. Drop off and pick up is amazing!
This school has a family atmosphere like no other!
My 5th grade student comes home every day telling me about the amazing things they are doing in their classes. Shout out to the team for making learning fun and memorable!
Togetherness
Unsure , kids just started
Very caring staff
Welcoming a new student to the school. Communication
Welcoming environment
Wonderful specials teachers Great club opportunities
wonderful teachers; great assortment of clubs/activities/events

<b>What needs to be strengthened at Wortham Oaks?</b>
A little more information to parents when they have enrolled a new student to the school. i.e. how to put money on their school lunch account, communication when their school lunch account is not working. What line to be in for pick up, depending what grade they are in.
Administration relationship building with families. The school seems more like a business at times rather than a school community. Getting to know students and families on an administrative level would be helpful to the school community. My child has been there for a couple years but has never mentioned the administration. At other schools, admin is known and knows the children and families. I know it's a big school, but it can be done. It would be nice to have a balance of academics AND school community. I would like my child to have a whole child approach and I think that it is missed because school is too focused on academic achievement rather than the child themselves. It starts at the top and is noticed once you step on the campus that the administration doesn't have strong relationships with the families. My child is not aware and loves school, I applaud that my child feels safe and loves attending Wortham. I love the teachers as I know they have always communicated, built strong relationships with my child, challenge when needed and nurtured when needed. Again, I'd like to see that relationship continue with administration and as a whole campus community.
Adventure Club is a hot mess - very chaotic and unorganized. Some areas provide opportunities for bullies to thrive (PE, playgrounds).
Can't think of anything
College going culture and
Communication about events at school and whether parents are allowed to attend or not.
Communication for pre-k3
Communication to parents, this may depend on the grade, and we don't use Facebook.
Communication, in processing of new child, written policies vs verbal policies
DEFINITELY need a patrol or some kind of traffic control before/after school. Every single day late parents arrive and cut in line or turn the wrong way and hold up traffic. There should at least be cones to deter people from turning the opposite direction.
Diversity amongst staff.
Don't care for class dojo
Drop off staff screams at parents and grandparents in the morning. It's getting ridiculous.
Encourage parents to be more involved and actually let them be involved. Many times I've heard how little time the teachers have to get things done, yet there hasn't been much done to let parents actually help. Decorating hallways, setting up for class parties, helping out with things teachers may need like cutting things up or whatever. The PTO really is only involved in the big things. Not the classrooms.
Everything is great, nothing at this time.
First I'll say, I know teachers are beyond busy. As a parent of a pre-k 4 child, it would be really nice to receive more daily information about their day (especially photos-really helps calm a parent's and grandparent's mind). Did they cry, nap, eat lunch/snack today? Why/why not do you think? (My child has been coming home with their snack almost daily and unfinished lunch. At pickup he's so hungry so it would be great to help reiterate what is being said at school to help him remember to eat/drink. Knowing if they napped during rest time, helps us know how much time we have after school to spend together before he needs to go to sleep for the night, as well.
Having the "student captains" and having them act in a teacher/coach's capacity (where they make the calls or decisions on what, and which, students can do what) has been a problem the last few years. I would reconsider having this format and maybe have them encourage and pump others up rather than making disciplinary decisions of other students.
I haven't had great response time on Remind
I would love to see more focus on critical thinking skills and less on ineffective homework or worksheets
I'm content with the school. This is my sons first year in school. He started kinder and we absolutely love it.
Initially, it was difficult to know what was going on with Pre-K3 child's daily routines and schedule, but it appears that we are getting that information now (in September vs. August).
Involving parents more in their child's school/class by making it easier to physically be there (walk child to class, eat lunch with child's class.. etc)
Its a good curriculum until Nov then the educational focus is just the Staar test
Managing/watching children at recess



# What needs to be strengthened at Wortham Oaks continued..

Maybe motivate more our students
more healthy snacks
N/A
N/a
N/A
N/A
No complaints or concerns
No weekly Communication from Teachers
Communicating/sharing students' work/grades really lacking (not really done with work/assessments done online)
none
Not a fan of only one option to pick up child when driving. PreK
Not having iwatches in the classroom, especially in kindergarten. Highly distracting for children that want to follow the rules and learn.
Nothing
Nothing comes to mind
nothing I can think of
Outside security before/ after school for traffic safety
Parent/ teacher relationships, class ratios, curriculum, positive student/teacher relationships, better picture day contracting
Pick ups and drop offs
Pretty much everything from the top down... discipline is lacking and expectations are substandard. Wish we were in NEISD across Evans
Reducing problem behavior in the classroom so other student feel safe. Increase tutoring opportunity during the year.
Respect between students.
Security
Security. Have a police officer on duty all the time
Shouldn't punish the students for being late when it's not the students who have control over their tardiness. Need more programs for students with disabilities like ADHD
So far so good
Some children could act more appropriate.
Some teachers are not direct enough with kids
Special education
Teacher expectations and a positive environment for children
Text communication can come across as sterile and abrupt.
The teacher doesn't seem qualified or well suited for teaching the class
We did miss open house due to illness where we probably would have learned more, but I don't know what is being worked on/ learned in the class right now, which is why I put neutral on the first question. Since my child is in PK-3 he can't always tell me what he is learning.

## What would make Wortham Oaks Elementary better?

A middle lane driving into Wortham Oaks for older student pickup.

Additional GT opportunities

Administration could be more approachable and relate more to parents and families.

An account we can donate to that would help pay for lunches for the children who need the assistance.

An office to control traffic and rules

Answer above.

Anything that would support a parent knowing more about their child's day. Anything that would promote safety and security. Appropriate number of staff at recess to ensure kids are being watched properly.

As a parent i feel lost during the year constantly asking whats going on in class. In college you get a syllabus for the year. Can parents get a syllabus? It would help greatly for those of us that also do extra at home to know what topics are being covered in class and especially whats next

Bigger campus and playground to accommodate the number of students.

Can't think of anything

Challenging students more

Completely satisfied

Diversity amongst staff.

Everything is great. The whole staff is welcoming. The education my child is receiving is amazing. I wouldn't change anything.

Hire more staff and volunteers- train and develop educators- include parent feedback more often, hire a better photography studio for picture day

I have had no problems

I like that security measures have been strengthened. But I still feel that every school needs a police officer on duty.

I personally disagree with detention for Elementary school kids. It's not their fault if they arrive a few minutes late. Especially 1st and 2nd graders. My daughter has been sick since the start of school and I'd rather her arrive a few minutes late than absent, no?

I think overall the school is better than others in the district. Like I mentioned above. Letting parents be involved outside of just PTO. People are willing to help if you let them.

It's already great

It's fine for now

Its the best!

less days off from school. After missing so much during Covid, the students could benefit from more days in school.

less overcrowding so more parents/family members can attend award ceremonies/school events (so they are not limited to 2 adults per child)

Look at previous questions

Maybe a few family social events.

More after school supervision, better supervision in PE and playgrounds

More diversity within the educators and staff

More extra curricular

more healthy snacks

N/A

N/a

n/a

N/A

# What would make Wortham Oaks Elementary better continued...

N/A
N/A
Na
Na
Nothing comes to mind
Nothing to mention at this time.
Nothing. The school is AMAZING !
Pick up procedures
Pleasant welcoming mornings instead of chaos.
Please see above
Police office or someone directing traffic
Programs
See above answer. In addition, providing explanations as to why it's so discouraged to have parents physically in the school. Without them, it makes it look like ill intentions are being hidden behind the school walls.
Smaller class sizes
Where to start... how about a better curriculum for the district, and better management, and better teachers
You are in the right path
You're doing an amazing job!