How Well is Your School Bridging Racial, Class and Cultural Differences?

Promoting Understanding of Different Cultures	Check one for each question			
1. The school's racial and cultural diversity is recognized and openly discussed in a constructive way at parent group and faculty meetings, school council meetings, and discussion groups that include staff and families.	❑ Already Doing this	❑ Could do this easily	❑ This will take time	❑ This will be hard
2 The school's curriculum reflects cultures of families, and there are books and materials about families' cultures in classrooms and the library/media centers.	❑ Already Doing this	❑ Could do this easily	❑ This will take time	❑ This will be hard
3 Families' cultural traditions, values, and practices are discussed in class.	❑ Already Doing this	❑ Could do this easily	❑ This will take time	❑ This will be hard
4 Activities and events honor all the cultures in the school.	❑ Already Doing this	❑ Could do this easily	❑ This will take time	❑ This will be hard
Recognizing & Addressing Class and Language Differences	*Check one for each question*			
5 The PTA/PTO is not dominated by any one group of parents, and its officers reflect the school's diversity.	❑ Already Doing this	❑ Could do this easily	❑ This will take time	❑ This will be hard
6 Extra efforts are made to recruit and welcome all families, and families of all backgrounds are involved at the school.	❑ Already Doing this	❑ Could do this easily	❑ This will take time	❑ This will be hard
7 School activities and events are planned with parents and respond to their interests.	❑ Already Doing this	❑ Could do this easily	❑ This will take time	❑ This will be hard
8 Interpreters are available for all meetings and events, and report cards, newsletters, signs, and other communications are translated into the school's major languages.	❑ Already Doing this	❑ Could do this easily	❑ This will take time	❑ This will be hard
9 English-speaking staff and families make an effort to mix with families who speak other languages.	❑ Already Doing this	❑ Could do this easily	❑ This will take time	❑ This will be hard
Addressing Issues of Race and Racism	*Check one for each question*			
10 School staff and families use books and stories about different groups' experiences, including African Americans, to stimulate discussions about their own backgrounds and values.	❑ Already Doing this	❑ Could do this easily	❑ This will take time	❑ This will be hard
11 Teachers and other staff use "teachable moments" and stories from local media to comment on and discuss racially motivated incidents.	❑ Already Doing this	❑ Could do this easily	❑ This will take time	❑ This will be hard
12 Professional development for staff explores negative attitudes, practices and expectations for students of color, and aims to create high standards, rigorous practice, and increased expectations for all students.	❑ Already Doing this	❑ Could do this easily	❑ This will take time	❑ This will be hard
Welcoming and Respecting All Families	*Check one for each question*			
13 Parents and teachers are surveyed about school climate, and school staff and parent group leaders follow up on the results.	❑ Already Doing this	❑ Could do this easily	❑ This will take time	❑ This will be hard
14 The school has a system for helping staff and students learn how to pronounce all students' first and last names correctly.	❑ Already Doing this	❑ Could do this easily	❑ This will take time	❑ This will be hard
15 Front office staff is warm and welcoming to all families and visitors and compliment family members on their contributions.	❑ Already Doing this	❑ Could do this easily	❑ This will take time	❑ This will be hard

Use the following questions to reflect on the answers from your checklist.

In which areas are you doing well?

Which areas need more work?

How are parents and the parent organization involved in addressing differences?

What are your concerns?

What steps could you take to address differences of culture, race, and class?

Right now?

Over the long term?