System/School Culture Survey - Administration Guidance

What is the System/School Culture Survey?

Building and maintaining a positive culture should be every systems and schools' goal. Positive school cultures provide safety, support, encouragement and healthy challenges for students and staff, which in turn fosters students' academic achievement and growth. Positive school cultures increase satisfaction, morale, and effectiveness for the staff while simultaneously increasing learning, fulfillment, and well-being for the students. School culture is the way things are done in the school - the personality of the school, with underlying norms and values. Culture and climate overlap and influence each other, however, climate can change rapidly (for better or worse), while culture goes deeper and takes longer to turn.

As part of the Kansans Can School Redesign Project, all Redesign Schools were asked to administer a School Culture Survey annually. During the summer of 2020, the KSDE Redesign Team worked with our state comprehensive center partners at McRel to recreate the culture survey based on existing surveys and research regarding schools as learning organizations. The finished survey measures 5 Constructs of Culture (shown on the right). The culture survey is one tool that you can use to obtain perception feedback from internal, building and district-level certified staff. You can preview the survey items here.

Administration Directions:

The System/School Culture Survey is a Qualtrics survey that can be shared with staff via a simple URL. Note, the URL can only be opened one time per user. Meaning, if you open the link, you must be prepared to take the survey. Before administering the survey to staff, we recommend that district leaders and building leaders clearly communicate:

- The Purpose of the Survey
  - Sample Email Template
- Component Areas
  - Send Survey Items (pdf)
- Survey Completion Expectations
  - Link Instructions
  - Deadline for Completion

You might also consider establishing a ‘check’ for survey completion so that you know when you are ready to request your survey report from KSDE.

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Receiving & Using Your Data

Once you are certain that you have survey completion, you can email Sarah Perryman (sperryman@ksde.org) to receive a copy of your system’s report. Note, building-level reports can also be provided, so long as each building-level survey was completed by 10 or more staff. Please allow more time for report generation if you are requesting more than the system-level report.

Once you receive your report, you and your leadership team will want to review your perception data to look for areas where staff perception is low; areas where district and building level perception might disagree; and you can also look for internal survey validation.

Additional support for utilizing your data and comparing perception data from the survey with your quantitative data can be found on the KESA System Information Page under the ‘Data Analysis’ heading.

Survey Link:

https://ksde.sjc1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_ezlXTJs8s45QAmy

Remember, the link can only be opened one time per user. If you would like to preview the survey items, please click here.

To receive your survey results, please email Sarah Perryman (sperryman@ksde.org).

If you need the survey link reset for you or another individual on your staff, please email Sarah Perryman. Please allow 1-2 business days for link resets.

For more information, contact:

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