

# Texas Survey of Parents of Students Receiving Special Education Services Results Spring 2009

1

# State Performance Plan Indicator 8

2

- **Percent of parents with a child receiving special education services who report that schools facilitated parent involvement as a means of improving services and results for children with disabilities.**
- **The state of Texas surveys a sampling of parents of students receiving special education services to answer Indicator 8.**

# Sampling

3

- **One sixth of Texas school districts was included in the spring 2009 sampling.**
  - 18,463 students (6000 increased)
  - 238 districts
  - 1,454 campuses
- **The sampling was increased to ensure there was adequate data to generate district reports.**

# Sampling

4

- **Districts larger than 50,000 students receive surveys every year. Each year different campuses will be selected to participate.**
  - ✦ **Arlington ISD**
  - ✦ **Aldine ISD**
  - ✦ **Austin ISD**
  - ✦ **Cypress-Fairbank ISD**
  - ✦ **Dallas ISD**
  - ✦ **El Paso ISD**
  - ✦ **Fort Bend ISD**
  - ✦ **Fort Worth ISD**
  - ✦ **Garland ISD**
  - ✦ **Houston ISD**
  - Katy ISD**
  - North East ISD**
  - Northside ISD**
  - Plano ISD**
  - San Antonio ISD**
  - Pasadena ISD**

# Surveys

5

- **The 2008-2009 surveys was revised.**
  - The questions are more targeted to Indicator 8.
  - The surveys are one-sided scannable with 24 questions.
  - Parental actions questions were removed.
- **The surveys' categories are :**
  - General School Issues
  - Communication Issues
  - Information and Understanding
  - Teacher Issues
  - ARD/IEP Participation

# Surveys

6

- **New questions for 2009**
  - School personnel encourage me to be involved in my child's education.
  - School personnel provide information on parent organizations, community agencies, or trainings related to the needs of my child.
  - I participate in my child's Admission, Review, and Dismissal (ARD) meeting.
  - My child is making progress because of the services he/she is receiving.

# Surveys

7

- The surveys were available in both English and Spanish.
- If the parents identify Spanish as their home language on the Home Language survey they received both Spanish and English surveys.
- A principal survey was mailed to campuses of students receiving the parent surveys. Principal's participation is optional.

# Survey Distribution

8

- In March letters notifying selected districts were sent to the superintendents and special education directors.
- Due to data issues the surveys were sent to districts in April and parents had until June 5<sup>th</sup> to return the surveys.
  - During this time some schools were closed due to the H1N1 Flu.

# Survey Distribution

9

- Parents received an envelope with the child's name, a letter of instructions, survey, list of contacts for assistance, and a return postage-paid envelope.
- Survey contacts:
  - Julie Paasche, NuStats (survey contractor)
  - Pam Humphrey, Region 9 ESC
  - Michelle Rosales, Texas Education Agency

# Survey Coding

10

- Each survey was assigned to a student.
- The number on the survey represents the following information:
  - Student's disability
  - District
  - Ethnicity
  - Grade level
  - Gender
  - Region

# Open-Ended Questions

11

- **There were two open-ended questions which were optional .**
  - As a parent, what do you need to help assist your child in his/her education?
  - Is there anything else you would like to tell us about the special education services your child receives?

# Reports

12

- The surveys responses will be reported by the following:
  - Districts
  - Regions
  - State
- Districts' reports will be generated for districts with 30 or more responses.
- District with fewer than 30 responses will be clustered and will be reported within super regions...East Texas, South Texas, Panhandle, etc.

# Reports

13

- Charter schools responses will be clustered together for this year.
- Each report will have the participating districts names included.
- The clustering districts responses by super-regions allow for more statistically reliable reports.
- Many small districts did not receive 30 Or more surveys with the increase sampling.

# Survey Return Rates

14

	<b>2009</b>	<b>2008</b>
<b>Overall rate</b>	<b>26% (4,781)</b>	<b>23% (2,726)</b>
<b>English</b>	<b>85%</b>	<b>83%</b>
<b>Spanish</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>13%</b>
<b>Principal</b>	<b>33% (1,453)</b>	<b>33% (1,007)</b>
<b>Open-Ended Questions Responses</b>	<b>44%</b>	<b>53%</b>

# Districts Return Rates

15

- Districts participation rate was 94.3%
- The survey return rates ranged from 0% - 87.5 % .
- 14 districts did not have any survey returned.
- Possible reasons:
  - Students are no longer in the districts or charter schools.
  - Parents did not wish to complete the surveys.
  - Surveys were not disseminated.
  - Follow –up calls did not occur due to the late distribution of the surveys .

# Responses by Student Demographics

16

Categories	2009	2008
African American	19.8%	12.3%
Hispanic	40.4%	43.7%
White	37.5%	42.2%
Other	1.7%	2.3%
Learning Disability	25.6%	37.3%
Speech	26.1%	27.2%
OHI	13.8%	11.6%
Other	34.4%	23.9%
Elementary	48.4%	37.3%
Middle (5-8)	26.7%	31.6%
High (9-12)	24.9%	31.1%

# General School Issues –Response Ratings

17

Positive	Neutral	Negative
69.1%	20 %	11.9%

- **General School Issues Questions:**

- School is a positive and welcoming place
- School personnel encourage me to be involved
- The school provides my child with all the services on IEP
- I am considered an equal partner
- The school provide information on agencies
- My child is making progress
- Special Education services have helped my family get the services
- The school provides transition services

# Communications –Response Ratings

18

Positive	Neutral	Negative
69.8%	26.9%	3.4%

- **Communication Questions:**
  - The school communicates regularly with me
  - I communicate with my child's teacher regularly

# Information and Understanding- Ratings

19

Positive	Neutral	Negative
80%	8.9%	11.1%

- **Information and Understanding Questions:**

- School personnel provide information on trainings related to my child's needs
- The school provides information about my child's disability
- Information is provided in my native language
- Procedural safeguards are explained
- My child's evaluation report is understandable

# Teacher Issues –Response Ratings

20

Positive	Neutral	Negative
71.3%	26.1%	2.6%

- **Teacher Issues Questions**
  - Teachers understand my child's needs
  - Teachers show a willingness to discuss my child's needs

# IEP & ARD Issues –Response Ratings

21

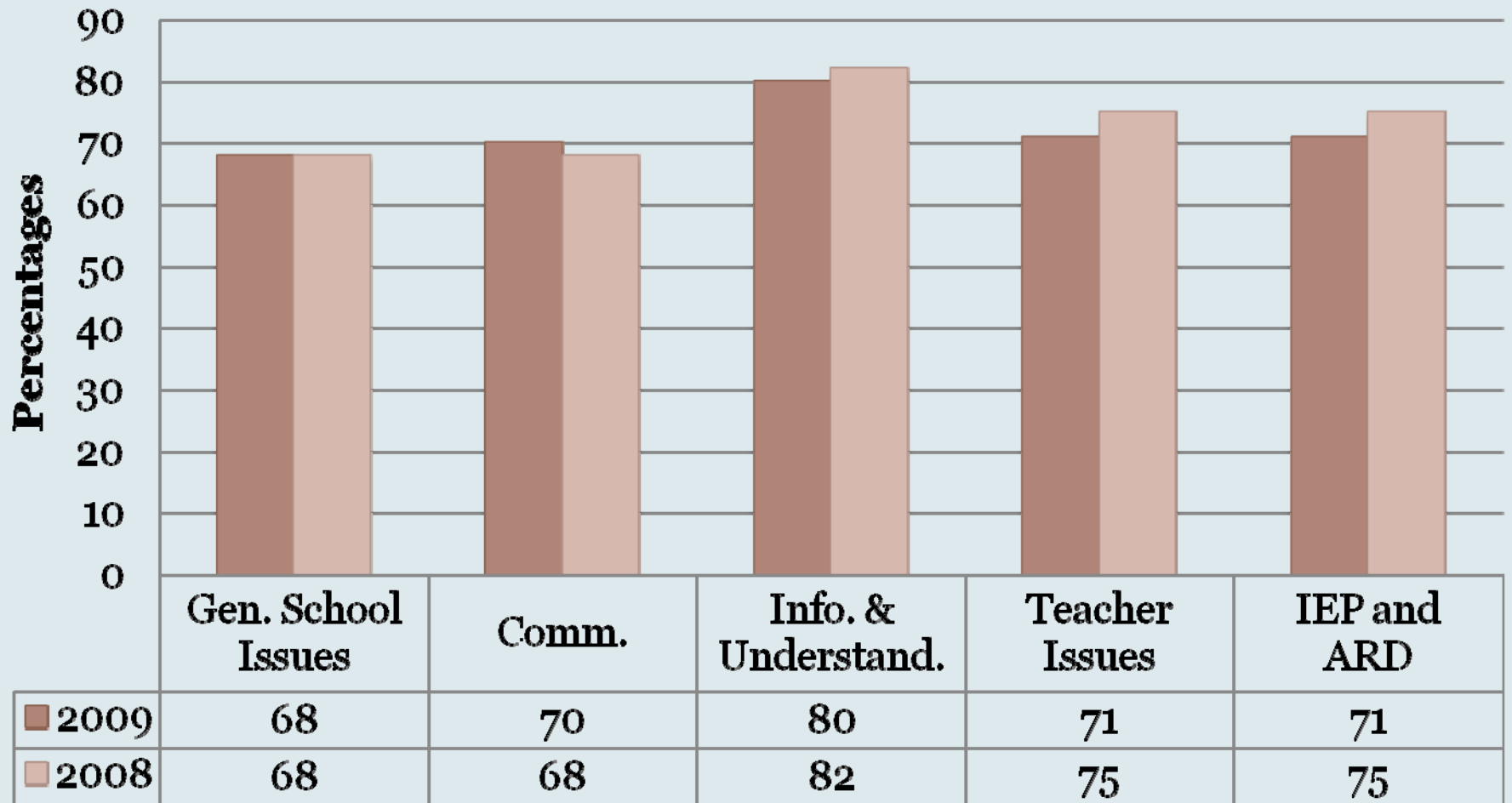
Positive	Neutral	Negative
81.9%	14.0%	4.1%

- **IEP and ARD Questions:**

- I participate in my child's ARD meeting
- My Concerns and recommendations are considered by the ARD committee
- My recommendations are included in my child's IEP
- State assessments participation is discussed
- At the ARD meeting, accommodations are selected

# Results Comparisons

22



# Annual Performance Report

23

- **The following questions are used to determine the districts and state results for the APR**
  - I am considered an equal partner
  - School communicates regularly regarding IEP
  - Teachers understand my child's needs
  - My concerns and recommendations are considered
- **The state measurable target for 2008-2009 is 74.5%**
- **The state target was met with a score of 74.7%.**

# APR Comparison Data

24

<b>Questions</b>	<b>Spring 2009</b>	<b>Spring 2008</b>	<b>Spring 2007</b>
<b>I am consider an equal partner</b>	<b>74%</b>	<b>70.5%</b>	<b>69.6%</b>
<b>School communicates regularly regarding IEP</b>	<b>76%</b>	<b>72.9%</b>	<b>68.8%</b>
<b>Teachers understand my child's needs</b>	<b>66%</b>	<b>63.9%</b>	<b>58.5%</b>
<b>Concerns and recommendation are considered</b>	<b>83%</b>	<b>82.3%</b>	<b>79.2%</b>
<b>Average</b>	<b>74.7%</b>	<b>73%</b>	<b>69%</b>

# Open-ended Questions Results

25

- Parent reported an overall satisfaction with the special education services provided by schools
- **Improve Communication:**
  - Parents want to be kept informed on their child's progress.
  - Strategies to assist their child with his/her school work
  - More bilingual support and materials in order to assist their child
- More relevant information and training from schools specific to their child's disability.

# Principal Survey Results

26

- **Fifty-four percent of principals reported their school provided training workshops to encourage parent involvement.**
- **Fifty percent of principals reported their school held annual meeting to inform parents about special education programs and services.**
- **Principals reported a lower percentage of parents of students receiving special education services PTA/PTO participation**