



Duluth Head Start  
2013-14 Mid-Year Parent Survey

January 2014

We value your comments and suggestions about your experiences with Duluth Head Start. Information gathered from this survey will help us learn how we can better serve your child and family. Thank you for taking the time to help us.

1. Do you feel the staff in your child's classroom are friendly and welcoming?

YES 140 NO 2

If so, how?

- They always have a positive attitude and I love how much patience they have.
- Personal attention and genuine concern.
- Very caring.
- They always greet my son by name.
- Genuinely interested in the events and needs of our lives.
- Warm and inviting.
- Greeted with smiles and asking how I am doing.
- My child is always excited to go to the classroom.
- Always a warm welcome. And my son always wants to go back to school.
- If not, what could improve?

2. Has the teacher helped you understand your child's progress toward academic and social-emotional school readiness goals?

YES 133 NO 3

If so, how?

- Conferences are a big help.
- Fully. Always lets me know what is going on.
- The teacher has let me know my daughter's strengths and where she can improve.
- Day to day and conferences.
- Weekly conversations with my child's teacher.
- We went over academic and social emotional goals at last conference.
- They helped me understand my child's progress with test scores.
- If not, what could improve?

3. Have you noticed an increase in your child's pre-reading and writing skills due to help from the classroom's Minnesota Reading Corp member?

YES 130 NO 5

If so, how?

- My son is excited to write his name.
- My child's scribbling turned into letters!
- My child has started to read.
- He enjoys reading and tells me it is his turn to read to me.

- He is really proud of writing his name.
- She can read some words.
- Definitely. She is sounding out the first letter of many words, working on identifying that letter and practices writing every day.
- They are not reading or writing but I noticed they draw better.
- He has impressed me in how he can spell and write his name.

If not, what could improve? (no comments)

4. Has the family advocate been able to help you meet your family's needs or goals as identified earlier in the school year?

YES 119 NO 12 (Most said they have no needs now or are new to the program)

If so, how?

- She helps with transportation vouchers.
- We were able to go to Kid's Closet.
- Always willing to help.
- Helps with resources.
- We talked about starting school in the fall so I can have a better, more financially stable career for my children.

If not, what could improve? (no comments)

5. In what ways have you been able to participate in Head Start?

74 Home Visit 103 Conference 105 Pick Up and Drop Off 2 Fundraiser  
14 Classroom Volunteer 44 Family Night 15 Policy Council 20 Other

What were your experiences like for you? Anything you would change or improve?

- Very impressed with how everything went with the meeting.
- They were all great!
- Great! Very friendly and informative.

6. Are there factors that have prevented you from being more involved in Head Start?

32 Transportation 59 Work Schedule 5 Location 18 Childcare  
1 Lack of Information/Communication 10 Not interested 12 Other  
 • Other included health, school and work schedules

Do you need assistance with any of these areas?

- Transportation when it is cold outside.
- Busing would be a great help.

7. What would you tell other families about Duluth Head Start? Would you recommend it?

YES 135 NO 0

- That they are the best at handling children.
- That the kids meet other kids their age and learn things they may need for kindergarten. I would recommend it.
- Wonderful learning environment

- Great experience!
- Excited to show me what he did in school.
- Loves passing the food around the table
- I would tell them it is a good program and I would recommend it.

8. Is there anything else you would like to share with us about your experience with Duluth Head Start or any changes you feel would improve our program?

- Need transportation
- The staff has gone out of their way to be helpful to me and give me additional parenting tools and I greatly appreciate them!
- Longer days
- Just continue doing a good job.
- Have coffee for parents in the morning with the advocate.
- Make sure parents can find info on Head Start and other prek programs.
- Your staff is wonderful. I have seen much improvement in him.
- Great teachers
- We will be sad to move on from Head Start.
- This is a great program. I am so happy with the program and the way my children respond to it.
- He talks highly of SMARTBOARDS and gym and music.
- We like all the staff but if there was ever a change it would be nice to have some diversity.
- Like the free books and museum passes.
- You are doing a great job. Thank you very much.

**Thank you again for your time and interest!**

*I would like a personal follow-up call from the Duluth Head Start Director, Pam Rees:*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

(The Director can be reached at Barnes Early Childhood Center, 218.336.8815, x. 2985)