

# 2020 WOODHAVEN THOUGHT EXCHANGE REPORT

Parkland School Division 70  
Woodhaven Middle School

## Q1 What are some things you appreciate and some concerns you have about our school this year?

I appreciate Mr. Shaw and his clear passion for both programs in the school. Mr. Shaw seeks to ensure all of his students succeed.

4.5  (16 )  
Ranked #1 of 44



Mr. Shaw is awesome! Mr. Shaw is a much better principal and seems to actually care and want to be involved with students on a daily basis.

4.5  (14 )  
Ranked #2 of 44



Mr. Shaw taking on role of principal has been awesome - he is engaged, focused on students and commands respect Great role model for staff and students - positive impact on school environment

4.4  (14 )  
Ranked #3 of 44



The monthly newsletter is very helpful and informative.

4.3  (16 )  
Ranked #4 of 44



I appreciate our new administrator. He has done amazing things for our school. Boosted moral, engaged with every single student. Staff seem happier. The school needs to be a safe place for everyone and it starts with the head of the school.

4.3  (14 )  
Ranked #5 of 44



**Appreciate Chris Shaw as our new Principal**  
Chris is dedicated to his students, the safety of his students and staff and making himself available to all students, all the time.



**I appreciate the focus on physical activity and daily physical education** Kids need to be active and healthy to optimize learning and behavior



**PE teachers are amazing, they truly seem to love what they do.** They make all students, whether athletic or not feel valued.



**Friendly office staff** Makes a pleasant experience when having to notify the office of absences or other questions/issues



**I appreciate the new principal** His sense of humor is contagious



**Great commitment of staff to coach various sports teams** Important part of school life for students and contributes to their health and academic success



**School is clean and welcoming** Helps create positive learning environment



**I appreciate the teachers who give their personal after school time to coach or run the Ski Club!**



**The teachers and staff have been great to deal with.**



**I appreciate that I received emails from teachers and the school** It is important to me so that I can update the status of my child.



**Too Limited Options Classes for Grades 7-9** I understand with construction this limits the space to provide options courses, but the low amount of options Woodhaven offers is unacceptable.



**Communication from teachers** Sharing of what topics/projects/exams my students are experiencing. Reminders are helpful



**Opportunity for my students to participate in extra curricular activities** My students are very active and love sports.



**I appreciate the devotion by the staff to the students, and accommodations they make for students with special needs.** if the teachers are not engaged in the learning process and supporting their students, how could the students be engaged?



**I love the school's focus on the arts (drama, choir etc.)** Builds confidence and friendships



**I appreciate the friendly atmosphere at the school** Makes it a happy place to learn



**I appreciate the huge efforts being put forward to be an inclusive environment. It is very important to teach all kids and parents what it means to Accept someone for who they are. Setting examples is key and not accommodate bullying or bad behaviour from anyone.**

3.6  (7 )  
Ranked #22 of 44



**I appreciated that school fees are not ridiculous. I know of other schools close by (different districts) that have ridiculous school fees. We all have a budget and this helps us keep to it.**

3.5  (14 )  
Ranked #23 of 44



**Ms. Young extremely dedicated to drama program Helps kids experience success on stage or behind stage and builds confidence - great experience**

3.5  (14 )  
Ranked #24 of 44



**Consistent communication with all staff involved in my sons day... as he has severe behaviour and moderate learning delays It helps school and home work as a team to support my child learning strategies to help him both academically and socially**

3.5  (13 )  
Ranked #25 of 44



**Having a class of 60 kids is ridiculous. Not allowing students who struggle there to move classes is even more wrong Some students need a quiet and calm learning environment and the school should be providing that**

3.5  (13 )  
Ranked #26 of 44



**The cutbacks Clearly it affects everyone**

3.5  (12 )  
Ranked #27 of 44



**I'm disappointed with communication from teacher Parents need effective, clear communication so they can be engaged with their child's learning**

3.4  (9 )  
Ranked #28 of 44



The Ea's in this school are amazing and go over and above. Very much appreciated



I am a little concerned about grade 9 Social & LA and the kids won't be prepared for high school. We feel that the kids are a little behind on Social and LA. Exams & projects aren't returned to students to view so they can learn from mistakes.



Updates on the construction process Helpful to know/see the progress



I wonder why there is not a counsellor available at the school this year My child was able to access the counsellor several times for various issues throughout the year and I think it is a HUGE LOSS to woodhaven this year



I am Happy with the construction but I would like better water filtration system for kids . Education wise would like more field trips I feel field trips help reinforce what learned in class and they need proper water to drink



I would like to see more emphasis on arts. A qualified music/band teacher would be fantastic. Currently we only provide arts to choir & drama. What is available for musical kids?



I appreciate the MCP program I think it's a really great foundation for my child.



**Bullying** I have had 2 children now dealing with this issue

3.1  (12 )  
Ranked #36 of 44



**I'm disappointed to see so many kids sitting around on their phones/devices at recess and lunch.** Students are missing out on valuable exercise and social time with friends

3.1  (9 )  
Ranked #37 of 44



**Not enough notice given to parents of upcoming tests etc.** We need enough time so parents can support their children in preparing for tests and fitting study time into busy schedules

3.1  (9 )  
Ranked #38 of 44



**school Councillors** I feel like not having this support in the school anymore is a major step back in dealing with children's mental health.

3.1  (9 )  
Ranked #39 of 44



**Concerned with Self Teaching practices** The model for Self Teaching works for the minority. Seeing teachers implementing this in the classroom is setting the majority of students up to fail.

2.9  (9 )  
Ranked #40 of 44



**I love the MCP program!** The Maranatha program has been one of the most beneficial alternative programs for myself as a parent and for my children as students.

2.8  (14 )  
Ranked #41 of 44



**The ongoing construction** I know it needs to be done but it is a disruption to the learning environment.

2.8  (12 )  
Ranked #42 of 44



**Instead, the office notify us first. Student will not inform the parent if they did some problem to their parent because they will be scared.** Dealing with the issue of the student in school is really important to discuss especially if there are some other student concerned.

2.8  (8 )  
Ranked #43 of 44



**I love how the teachers informed the parent regarding the activities and future class plan. The teaching method how my kid learned is really awesome!** But, I have some concern need to say. I wish if there are some issue that a student did in school please dont let the student inform first the Parent!

2.7 (10 )  
Ranked #44 of 44



**Fall Ball & Spring League** Well done! Allows the kids to develop in area other than academics

0.0 (0 )  
Not enough ratings to rank



**MCP, the support from Admin is very appreciated** Keeps schooling option open to the public

0.0 (0 )  
Not enough ratings to rank



**Hot lunch** Thanks for your work Ladies!

0.0 (0 )  
Not enough ratings to rank



**Love the new principal. He leads well. Thank you** It's changing the tone of the school, more respectful

0.0 (0 )  
Not enough ratings to rank



**Newsletter** Gives important information and comes out regularly

0.0 (0 )  
Not enough ratings to rank



**I appreciate the compassion shown by staff in dealing with my high needs child** Although not easy to deal with, these children need patience and understanding

3.5 (3 )  
Not enough ratings to rank



**The staff cares, and kids can tell** My son often comes home smiling with an anecdote about one of his teachers, office staff or admin.

3.5 (3 )  
Not enough ratings to rank



**I have concerns about construction disruption.** I'm concerned about what children can hear workers talking about while they're on the other side of very thin walls. Both topics and language used.

3.4  (3 )  
Not enough ratings to rank



**I appreciate the principal and assistant principal. They are approachable for both parents and children.** They are making positive changes to the overall culture of the school. They make children feel valued. They value parental input.

3.6  (3 )  
Not enough ratings to rank



**I appreciate the secretaries.** They work extremely hard, and are friendly and helpful regardless of whatever may be currently happening in the office

3.6  (3 )  
Not enough ratings to rank



**I appreciate the staff that works so hard to give our kids the best they can, despite the disruptive construction.**

3.4  (3 )  
Not enough ratings to rank



**School and field trip fees are fine compared to other school.** That is a big help for a family who are in a low income status.

3.3  (3 )  
Not enough ratings to rank



**I love the office staffs they are very friendly and helpful to the parent and guardian of your students.**

3.7  (4 )  
Not enough ratings to rank



**I appreciate the teachers ! I feel for them as the parents nowadays blame the teachers instead of their kids when there's an issue with their kids!** The kids must learn accountability for their actions!

3.2  (4 )  
Not enough ratings to rank



**Grade 9 Celebration** Grade 9's not being able to have a space/time for their grad. Currently happening with regular school. Is there no other option for them?

2.9  (3 )  
Not enough ratings to rank



**Construction** Construction is obviously disruptive. Its unfortunate that students have had to deal with it and will continue to do so.

3.3  (3   
Not enough ratings to rank



**Staff Engagement** I appreciate the teachers and admin staff's dedication to the school. Its a good environment for the kids when the teachers like their environment too

3.5  (3   
Not enough ratings to rank



**coaching and drama staff**

3.1  (3   
Not enough ratings to rank

