

HVM CP

2006 Survey Results

The 2006 survey was initiated by a growing need to help guide the CP to more efficiently help the children of HVM. There were many ideas about what should and should not be done. To help summarize those ideas we devised a survey that would give the CP more information to help guide the group through its next phase of development. All the information (raw data) collected will be available to view in the office. Everyone interested will receive a copy of the survey results with the CP Board's recommendations.

Summary Response:

We received 92 (53.8%) responses to our survey from a possible 171 possible respondents (staff and families).

A majority of members responded to the survey but increasing total responses will be a benchmark we will strive to fulfill for future surveys. We will take what we have learned from the conception, dissemination and compilation of the present survey to increase the effectiveness and participation of future surveys.

Question 1: *Are you familiar with the FMD and the events we sponsor?*

96% responded that they are familiar with the organization and the events we run.

4% responded that they were not familiar with the organization and the events we run.

We are pleased to see that such a large number of respondents are familiar with us and with what we do. We estimate that the other 4%, that are unfamiliar, may be new parents to the school. To address this we will work on having a representative from the CP speak to all new incoming parents at their initial orientation; We will be reissuing an updated CP information booklet; and we have initiated a format change to our monthly minutes to also serve as a newsletter. We are hoping this will help the HVM community be more aware of the CP and its events.

Question 2: *Do you feel that the FMD Officers are approachable?*

70% responded that we were approachable.

1% did not think we were approachable.

29% did not know if we were approachable.

With 29% of the HVM community not knowing if we are approachable we feel the need to do a better job at publicizing our contact info. We feel those people may not have had the opportunity to speak with us at this point. Future events/projects are also going to allow us to talk to parents on a more one to one basis which should alleviate any uncertainty.

Question 3: *How many FMD meetings have you attended?*

31.6% responded that they had attended no meetings.

38% had responded to attending 1 to 3 meetings.

29.4% had responded that they had attended 4 or more meetings.

The greatest conflict with attending was a work or scheduling conflict (43%) for all categories.

43% of all respondents did not respond to this subsection.

Less than one third of members had attended more than 4 meetings over the last two years with a work or scheduling conflict being the greatest cause of missing a meeting. The current day of our meetings came from information from an email survey done last summer. We are constantly looking for ways to increase attendance to our monthly meetings and are always open to listening to new ideas about when/how we have meetings.

Our current change in the meeting format, posting of the agenda ahead of time, future implementation of parent education sessions and the change in the monthly report are all ideas the members have expressed. Increasing participation in the monthly meeting is something that we will be continuously working with, changing and evolving over time till we can get the largest percentage of members to attend regularly.

Question 4: *If you have attended FMD meetings, are you satisfied with the meeting format?*

50% responded that they were satisfied with the meeting format.

9% were not satisfied with the meeting format.

5% did not know if they were satisfied.

36% did not respond to this question.

With only 50% satisfied with the meeting format we felt the need to make adjustments to increase satisfaction and attendance. We have taken steps which were discussed before the survey, as well as suggestions from the survey, to change the meeting format and make it more interactive and productive. We will monitor the changes and adjust them as time goes on to continuously improve satisfaction with the monthly meetings.

Question 5: *Are you satisfied with FMD's role with respect to the School?*

80.4% were satisfied with the FMD's role.

6.5% were not satisfied.

6.5% did not know if they were satisfied.

6.6% did not respond.

What our role as a group entails has been discussed for some time. The questions seem to arise on how we are to fulfill those roles. The CP charter has our mission and purpose statements which are still valid. The current changes mentioned earlier, we feel, will increase satisfaction with the role of the CP. We also feel we need to revisit this issue more comprehensively after the current changes have taken place and we can gauge our effectiveness.

Question 6: *How many FMD events or projects have you participated in?*

- 16% of responded that they had participated in no events sponsored by the FMD.
- 47% responded to participate in a few events.
- 23% responded they had participated in some events.
- 13% had responded to participate in several events.
- 1% did not respond to this question.

The greatest conflict to participating was a work or scheduling conflict (22%) for all categories. 68% of all respondents did not respond to this subsection.

We are pleased that there is participation from a large percentage of members (83%) with the events we are holding, but 16% of members have not been able to attend any function. We believe with a varied amount of shows/programs/events that are ongoing throughout the upcoming year we will obtain greater participation.

We also believe the significant amount of participation is directly correlated to the volunteers we have and the ideas, time and commitment they are able to put in on their own personal time. With the advent of a volunteer coordinator the opportunities to volunteer as well as participate in CP events will increase.

Question 7: *Are you satisfied with the opportunities for parent involvement at HVM?*

- 73% are satisfied with the opportunities for parental involvement.
- 13% are not satisfied.
- 3% did not know if they were satisfied.
- 11% did not respond to this question.

Even though almost $\frac{3}{4}$ of all respondents are satisfied with their involvement with HVM we are looking to expand and improve what and how we can be involved with the school. The membership of the CP is a very energetic and creative force that is learning to use that energy and creativity to the benefit of all the children at HVM. The opportunities to be involved will also be aided by the addition of a volunteer coordinator (question 11).

Question 8: Please describe what "Parental Involvement" means to you.

Did not lead to a statistical result as it was an open ended comment question to find out what people thought parental involvement meant. There was a 90% response rate for this question with many different ideas on what they thought about parental involvement. The responses will be used in conjunction with questions 6, 7, 9 and 11 to help guide the CP in greater active parental involvement.

Question 9: *What other events or projects would you like the FMD be involved in?*

Did not lead to a statistical result as it was an open ended comment question to find out what people would specifically volunteer to be involved with. Seventy four percent of respondents gave their ideas on what they would like to do. The responses will be used in conjunction with questions 6, 7, 8 and 11 to help guide them in greater active parental involvement.

Question 10: *We are changing the FMD name (Families Making a Difference) to more inclusive of the teachers. If you have any suggestions for a new name, please list it below*

Did not lead to a statistical result as it was an open ended comment question to find a new name for our group. The staff, teachers, parents and caregivers are all working together to give the children the best education possible for the position we are in at this time. It was felt by some that the name FMD excluded (not purposely) the staff and teachers and thought a name that better reflected our blend of participant be more fitting. We took all the responses (65%), compiled the names and brought those to our monthly meeting and with debate and discussion overwhelmingly voted to adopt HVM Community Partnership as our new name.

Question 11: *Would you like to see a Parent Volunteer Coordinator be implemented?*
66% responded that they would like to see a volunteer coordinator implemented.
10% responded not to have one.
5.5% did not know.
18.5% did not respond to the question.

We feel the advent of a volunteer coordinator will help unite the school, the CP and people who would like to actively volunteer in/for the school. This position has been talked about for awhile and the plans are being laid to have the program up and running for August 2006.