PARENTS ARE READY for the Next Generation of Education Data

The Data Quality Campaign’s latest poll finds that steady support for education data is also driving parents’ appetite for this information to be used in new ways to support their children.

Parent demand for data is no longer in question. It’s time to give parents what they want. The next generation of data use is possible right now.

- **90%** of parents say they need data, such as grades and test scores, to understand their child’s progress and help them do their best.
- **93%** of parents support teachers using data, such as grades, attendance, and test scores, to ensure that students are getting the support and enrichment they need.

Disaggregating data is about more than checking boxes. Parents want to know how schools serve students like theirs.

- **81%** of parents are interested in having access to information about how their child’s school educates kids like theirs (e.g., same gender, race, or special education status).
- **92%** of Black parents are interested in having access to this information.
- **78%** of Hispanic parents are interested in having access to this information.

Student learning happens all day. Parents want the adults who support children outside of the classroom to have access to data on their child’s performance.

- **69%** of parents agree that schools should be able to securely share information about a child’s performance in school with organizations outside of school (e.g., Boys and Girls Clubs, tutoring).
- **72%** of parents of younger children (students in grades K–5) agree with securely sharing this information.

Student journeys don’t end with K–12; they continue into the workforce. Parents see the value of sharing information with agencies supporting their children within and outside of K–12.

- **71%** of parents agree that different public agencies (e.g., education, health, housing, and child welfare) should securely share information with each other about children and their families to improve services and the allocation of resources.
- **78%** of families from low-income households (less than $35,000) agree, affirming the importance of securely sharing information among these public agencies.

Parents’ demands are bold—and doable. Policymakers must take action now.

Explore DQC’s Four Policy Priorities to Make Data Work for Students to learn how states can meet parents’ vision for data use in service of students.

SOURCE: Online survey conducted within the United States by The Harris Poll on behalf of the Data Quality Campaign: May 1–6, 2019, among 1,013 parents with at least one child age 5–17 who attends school.