

In November, 2009 a survey was made available to all parishioners of St. Barnabas Parish through direct distribution at weekend Masses, through direct email to all school families and other parish distribution lists, and on the parish and school websites.

In all, 434 surveys were returned and almost 50% of the surveys contained written comments. These represented

- 236 current school families (55% of surveys) *140 contained comments*
- 126 former or future school families (29% of surveys) *57 contained comments*
- 70 families who did not have children attend St. Barnabas School (16% of surveys) *17 contained comments*

The results of the surveys are listed below. The School Commission will meet to discuss the trends represented by the survey and to make recommendations for next steps in planning enrollment, staffing, and funding.

I believe the results of the survey tie directly to our theme of Catholic Schools Week “Catholic Schools – Dividends for Life”. Overwhelmingly St. Barnabas families are aware of and support our mission and vision and believe that we are committing to achieving them. Virtually all who responded believe that a visible and active Catholic identity is important and evident at St. Barnabas School. They believe the school is a vital extension of the parish and as one person stated, “St. Barnabas School has done a good job of “talking the talk” and “walking the talk”. The school’s mission and vision have widespread awareness and support of parishioners. Adversely, I believe that if these things were not in place, it would be very evident and would have been noted. As I told the teachers, what we do every day is important, is making a difference, and is visible and noticed.

Thank you to all of the families who took the time to complete a survey and return it. I appreciate your care and concern for our school.

How many years have you been a member of St. Barnabas parish?	More than 20 years	10.1-20 years	5.1-10 years	3-5 years	Fewer than 3 years			
	45%	28%	16%	5%	6%			
Do you currently have children attending St. Barnabas School?								
Yes	54%							
No	46%							
Have you ever had children attend, or plan to attend, St. Barnabas School?								
Currently attend	54%							
Previously attended	42%							
Will attend in the future	12%							
No children ever attended or plan to attend	15%							
In what grades are your children who currently attend St. Barnabas School?	K	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 6	Grade 7/8
	15%	18%	20%	20%	20%	22%	22%	38%

How many of your children attend, attended, or plan to attend St. Barnabas School?	2-3 children	4 or more children	No children	1 child		
	53%	21%	15%	10%		
Total number of years children attended St. Barnabas	10-20 years	5-10 years	More than 20 years	up to 3 years	Never attended	3-5 years
	29%	21%	17%	13%	11%	9%
Percent of time weekend mass at St. Barnabas	0%	1-25%	26-50%	51-75%	76-100%	
	0	2%	3%	16%	78%	
Percent of time weekend mass at another Catholic church	6%	80%	11%	1%	2%	
Percent of time weekend mass at non-Catholic Church	90%	8%	1%	0%	1%	
Participation in parish ministries.	More than 12 times a year	5-12 times a year	2-4 times a year	Once a year	Never	
	53%	21%	17%	5%	4%	
I am fully aware of the school's mission	Strongly agree or agree	Neutral	Strongly disagree or disagree			
Current school family	99%		0%			
Not a current school family	86%		6%			
All respondents	93%	5%	2%			
I am fully aware of the school's vision.						
Current school family	95%		2%			
Not a current school family	75%		7%			
All respondents	86%	9%	4%			
St. Barnabas School is committed to achieving its mission and vision.						
Current school family	94%		2%			
Not a current school family	80%		2%			
All respondents	88%	10%	1%			
I support the mission and vision of St. Barnabas School.						
Current school family	98%		0%			
Not a current school family	88%		2%			
All respondents	93%	6%	0%			

	Strongly agree or agree	Neutral	Strongly disagree or disagree
Regular Mass and prayer are important in the life of the school.			
Current school family	99%		0%
Not a current school family	97%		1%
All respondents	98%	2%	0%
Catholic values are integrated throughout the school's program.			
Current school family	96%		1%
Not a current school family	94%		2%
All respondents	95%	4%	2%
Students are learning the traditions and beliefs of the Catholic Church in this school.			
Current school family	96%		1%
Not a current school family	89%		2%
All respondents	94%	5%	2%
St. Barnabas school provides students opportunities to serve others.			
Current school family	98%		0%
Not a current school family	94%		0%
All respondents	96%	3%	0%
There are visible signs this is a Catholic school.			
Current school family	99%		0%
Not a current school family	95%		1%
All respondents	97%	3%	0%
St. Barnabas gives students opportunities to be active in the parish.			
Current school family	96%		1%
Not a current school family	94%		0%
All respondents	96%	4%	0%
St. Barnabas School is a vital extension of the parish.			
Current school family	99%		0%
Not a current school family	90%		3%
All respondents	95%	4%	2%

Catholic schools are needed more now than they were 25 years ago.

Current school family	80%		4%
Not a current school family	76%		10%
All respondents	78%	16%	6%

Religious education classes could fulfill the same purpose as Catholic schools.

Current school family	10%		77%
Not a current school family	22%		61%
All respondents	16%	15%	70%

One of the main reasons I chose St. Barnabas Parish is because of its school.

Current school family	79%		11%
Not a current school family	47%		27%
All respondents	65%	16%	18%

St. Barnabas School exists to serve all children of the parish

Current school family	84%		4%
Not a current school family	76%		10%
All respondents	80%	13%	7%

St. Barnabas School families are contributing fairly to all operating expense thru tithing

Current school family	44%		24%
Not a current school family	21%		31%
All respondents	34%	39%	27%

I would not be able to afford a Catholic school education without the stewardship model.

	Strongly agree or agree	Neutral	Strongly disagree or disagree
Current school family	56%		32%
Not a current school family	50%		22%
All respondents	54%	18%	28%

I am aware of the current finances of the school.

Current school family	71%		15%
Not a current school family	66%		17%
All respondents	69%	15%	16%

I am aware of the current finances of the parish.

Current school family	78%		10%
Not a current school family	86%		4%
All respondents	82%	11%	7%

I believe the Catholic school is worth the costs to operate it.

Current school family	95%		1%
Not a current school family	79%		5%
All respondents	87%	10%	2%

I am in favor of the stewardship model, where tithing covers most of the school operating expenses.

Current school family	93%		3%
Not a current school family	71%		15%
All respondents	83%	8%	9%

Our school should actively market to grow and serve more families.

Current school family	46%		22%
Not a current school family	42%		23%
All respondents	45%	33%	22%

	Strongly agree or agree	Neutral	Strongly disagree or disagree
Our school should maintain its current size of 3 classes per grade level.			
Current school family	74%		4%
Not a current school family	54%		10%
All respondents	65%	28%	7%

Our school should actively reduce enrollment.

Current school family	1%		85%
Not a current school family	5%		73%
All respondents	3%	17%	80%

How likely are you to send your children to St. Barnabas School if tuition is around \$4000 per child?

	Very likely	Somewhat likely	Not sure	Somewhat unlikely	Very unlikely
Current school family	15%	9%	16%	10%	50%
Not a current school family	8%	5%	19%	17%	51%
All respondents	13%	8%	17%	12%	50%

How likely are you to send your children to St. Barnabas School if tuition is around \$3000 per child?

Current school family	22%	15%	14%	13%	37%
Not a current school family	9%	18%	11%	16%	47%
All respondents	19%	15%	13%	13%	39%

How likely are you to send your children to St. Barnabas School if tuition is around \$2000 per child?

Current school family	42%	24%	13%	9%	12%
Not a current school family	27%	16%	20%	13%	25%
All respondents	39%	22%	14%	10%	14%

How likely are you to send your children to St. Barnabas School if tuition is around \$1000 per child?

	Very likely	Somewhat likely	Not sure	Somewhat unlikely	Very unlikely
Current school family	68%	16%	7%	3%	6%
Not a current school family	49%	5%	12%	5%	15%
All respondents	64%	17%	8%	3%	8%

Current Age Range	65 or older	55-64	45-54	35-44	25-34	under 25
	20%	12%	30%	33%	6%	0%

Highest level of education	Post Grad	College grad	Some college	High school grad	Some high school or less
	24%	49%	18%	10%	0%

How many years of Catholic education personally attended?	over 12 years	9-12 years	6-8 years	3-5 years	Less than 3 years	None
	19%	38%	16%	6%	2%	18%

Total household income tithed to St. Barnabas Parish/Archdiocese of Indianapolis

	0%	Up to 2%	2-3%	3-4%	4-5%	5-9.9%	10% or more	Not sure
	0	6%	8%	11%	25%	38%	8%	5%

Tithed to other charities	4%	41%	14%	11%	15%	8%	2%	5%
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