



# 2019 HIGH PARK THOUGHT EXCHANGE REPORT

Parkland School Division 70  
High Park School

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

**I appreciate the warm welcome I always receive when I walk in the front office, Mrs. P Dolhagaray and Mrs. A Pollock are always so kind. They always have great advice, are endlessly patient with the kids and are a great team. We are lucky to have them!**

4.5  (30 )  
Ranked #1 of 89



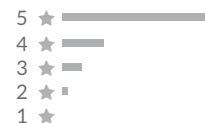
**Clean** The school appears well looked after.

4.4  (30 )  
Ranked #2 of 89



**Being able to talk to the principal and v. principal when needed.** Need open lines of communications to ensure parents and kids and school can work together on individual issues.

4.3  (30 )  
Ranked #3 of 89



**As a parent with children that enjoy after school sports we appreciate the time commitment of coaches and teachers.** These programs help motivate our children to succeed in school.

4.3  (24 )  
Ranked #4 of 89





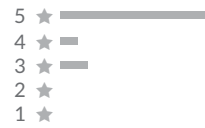
**Office staff is always polite and willing to help and school is always clean !!! Thank you**

4.3  (24 )  
Ranked #5 of 89





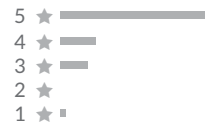
**I love the Daily physical Activity Implemented at this school** This is so important to the development of our children's healthy habits as they grow.

4.3  (20 )  
Ranked #6 of 89





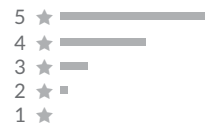
**I find the ladies in the front office or friendly and very helpful especially for somebody like me that does not get a room around well on computers** I find the ladies in the front office or friendly and very helpful especially for somebody like me that does not Navigate very well on computers

4.2  (30 )  
Ranked #7 of 89





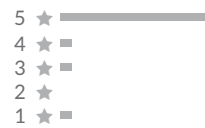
**I know faculty tries it's best** I believe more funding is needed for aides and class sizes especially for special needs

4.2  (28 )  
Ranked #8 of 89





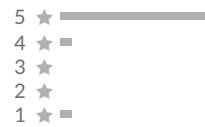
**I really like our Sunday email. Helps me to get my week in order.**

4.2  (15 )  
Ranked #9 of 89





**The front desk is very friendly and always helpful. The teachers are the same**

4.2  (13 )  
Ranked #10 of 89





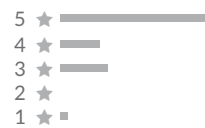
**I appreciate the open honest communication from teachers about my child's progress** Its important to set appropriate goals to further their success

4.1  (30 )  
Ranked #11 of 89





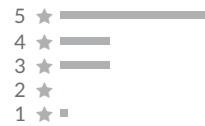
**I appreciate the positive attitude I have seen from the staff at the school.** It seems as though all of the staff I have encountered at the school enjoy being there, which helps the students to enjoy being there.

4.1  (30 )  
Ranked #12 of 89





**It would be nice to have a way to communicate about my child's progress other than report card times to track student progress and goals** Allows parents to stay on top of any issues as they occur, rather than having them progress in a negative behavior for months, without knowing.

4.1  (30 )  
Ranked #13 of 89





**I am truly grateful for my children's school this year. Previously our family had been in a different school district.** We appreciate the amount of support our kids are getting from the school. We recognize all of the resources, time and patience our school provides.

4.1  (29 )  
Ranked #14 of 89





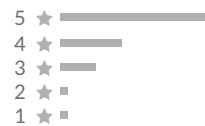
**I appreciate his teacher caring so much for her students**

4.1  (29 )  
Ranked #15 of 89





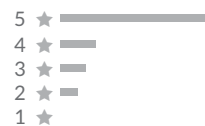
**I appreciate the many different activities my child get to be involved through the school** This is important to allow students to grow and explore different experiences to help them discover likes and dislikes.

4.1  (29 )  
Ranked #16 of 89





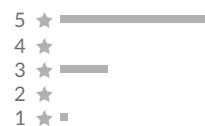
**My kids really like the Daily Physical Activity Program.** Hopefully it's mandatory and stays! Like yoga, it's a welcomed break from all the sitting.

4.1  (25 )  
Ranked #17 of 89





**Grade 3 Shop on Friday** I like the Grade 3 shop, encourages children to get parents to read agendas, money and excites kids to save or spend. A great idea from the 3 teachers

4.1  (21 )  
Ranked #18 of 89





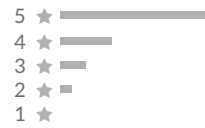
**The principal and staff seem to encourage a positive environment for the children, as well as the volunteer staff like the Hot Lunch.** This is important to create a safe and trusting place for the kids, as well as give parents confidence that their children are looked after.

4.1  (19 )  
Ranked #19 of 89





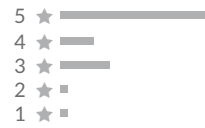
**I appreciate the amazing teachers and staff of High Park** They are so helpful and friendly

4.1  (18 )  
Ranked #20 of 89





**There are not enough EAs in the classes, EAs have to split their time between multiple classes, leaving the teacher to fend for themselves**

4.0  (29 )  
Ranked #21 of 89





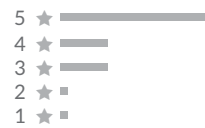
**I appreciate your mentor ship programs you have placed perhaps you'd consider a Crossing guard program for the parking lot crosswalks** Entering and exiting the parking lot is becoming a major reoccurring issue both for pedestrians and drivers, this may be beneficial for everyone

4.0  (28 )  
Ranked #22 of 89





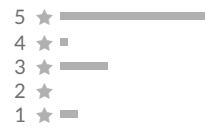
**Teachers are friendly** Kids trust them

4.0  (27 )  
Ranked #23 of 89





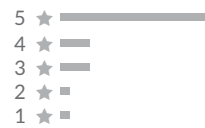
**Traffic safety concerns - the roads around the school in am/pm are crowded. accident waiting to happen** safety

4.0  (23 )  
Ranked #24 of 89





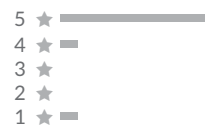
**I dont see any benefits in allowing students have cell phones in class.** Cell phones are a privilege not a necessity. I can only see the cell phones being a major distraction to both the teachers and students.

4.0  (22 )  
Ranked #25 of 89





**I appreciate the support the staff at the school give to me and my girls** We have gone through a rough year and the staff have done everything possible to help my girls feel safe at school

4.0  (10 )  
Ranked #26 of 89





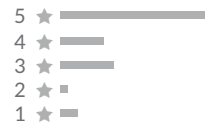
**School community is very accepting and accommodating.** I have always felt like my kids are supported by staff and administration at the school.

4.0  (9   
Ranked #27 of 89





**Another thing I appreciate is the after school activities.** I appreciate this because it allows students to see each other outside of school hours and strengthen their friendships.

3.9  (30   
Ranked #28 of 89





**Class are too big , with inclusion being a priority for parkland school division, kids who are not coded but struggling are not able to get help** they would really benefit from, some of the younger classes have 29 kids in it, including multiple coded children!

3.9  (30   
Ranked #29 of 89





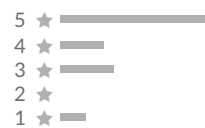
**I appreciate the wide range of topics and learnings that my child is exposed to.** I appreciate this because my child's knowledge base will be so much more extensive which will allow future learning to be more easily understood.

3.9  (30   
Ranked #30 of 89




**There needs to be more discussions about bullying and respecting others. It's not going to get any easier in the higher up grades. Needs to stop** My daughter refuses to wear, eat or do her hair a certain way while going in fear of what others say/whisper to her. She's in grade 2,

3.9  (30   
Ranked #31 of 89



**There should always be someone in each class at lunch time.** Lots happen without supervision.

3.9  (30   
Ranked #32 of 89





**My daughters class is very academic she controls the class very well.** She's at school to learn not play

3.9  (29   
Ranked #33 of 89





**Warm and welcoming** My kids love their school and always feel safe and cared for.

3.9  (29   
Ranked #34 of 89





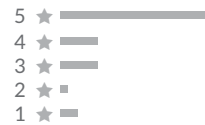
**Wish there was more PE** Daily physical activity should be offered and pushed, sometimes free play and other times set up games

3.9  (29   
Ranked #35 of 89





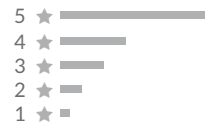
**My kids love the in school yoga program!** Kids can't sit in desks all day and expected to sit still! They need to get rid of some energy! I think it's helpful for families who cant afford it.

3.9  (26   
Ranked #36 of 89





**Report cards/ parent teacher interviews** I do not like there is only one parent teacher sit down interview per year to discuss privately with your child's teacher their progress report.

3.9  (26   
Ranked #37 of 89





**High park is a school which doesn't criticize individuality.** My daughter can be herself and fit in where she is comfortable.

3.8  (30   
Ranked #38 of 89





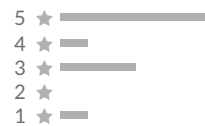
**I appreciate the open communication there is between the teacher and parents and the school administration and parents.** This is important to me because I want to know what is happening at HPS and how it effects my child.

3.8  (29   
Ranked #39 of 89





**My concern is that there is still bullying happening at HPS, particularly amongst young girls.** It is important to me because I want my daughter to grow in an environment free of bullying and not one where bullying isn't addressed.

3.8  (29   
Ranked #40 of 89





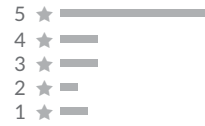
**What I appreciate is the genuine caring the teachers have towards the success of their students.** It is important because a teacher who cares is more sympathetic towards children and some of the difficulties they may be experiencing,

3.8  (29   
Ranked #41 of 89





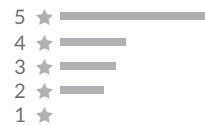
**Big concern with traffic safety. Daughter walks daily and has a near miss weekly. Drivers often speed in school zone and rarely observe crossings**

3.8  (28   
Ranked #42 of 89





**Child's teacher really focused on relationship building in class and supporting wider society** teaching about global responsibility and connecting with kids

3.8  (28   
Ranked #43 of 89



**Bullying is a major issue and not always dealt with correctly.** More staff in classes will help, as it's when kids go unsupervised that a lot of bullying occurs. When it does get caught it's not dealt w/properly.

3.8  (26   
Ranked #44 of 89




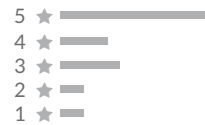
**Nice seeing more male teachers.** They are equally important as female teachers but it's important to have both as role models.

3.7  (28   
Ranked #45 of 89





**There is not enough support staff.** Not enough EA's! Especially considering the class sizes! More funding is obviously needed!

3.7  (25   
Ranked #46 of 89



**Traffic safety is a big concern.** This should be discussed regularly & not just w/the younger ones. Some older kids (gr 5-9) kids seem to think they can do whatever with no consequence

3.7  (24   
Ranked #47 of 89

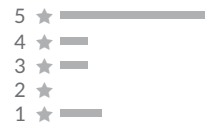
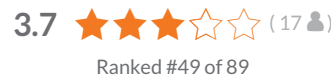


**It appears that the feedback provided last year was listened to and incorporated into plans for this year. Very impressed!** shows leadership and commitment to listening

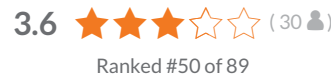
3.7  (23   
Ranked #48 of 89



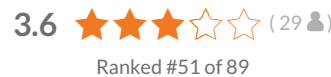
**Appreciate the welcoming staff and students. Communication between administration and parents is frequent and clear.** My children are new to the school. They have had a fairly smooth transition. The communication is key to feeling connected and involved with the school



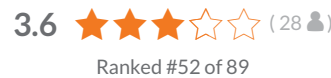
**Electronics being permitted to be brought to school, where children of 6yr olds are playing on phones in DPA, is this not physical activity?** Children at school are supposed to be educated, not bringing electronic devices, the principal should be stopping it, not supporting it.



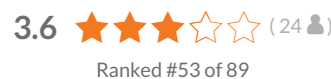
**Overall I am happy with the school, but saying that I feel there should be more expectations on student and teacher involvement.** Why I feel that as I feel that there is less and less respect going on in the hallways , starting from the younger on up.



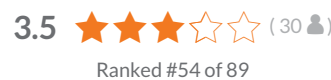
**Have higher expectations** It seems as though the teachers have low expectations for behaviour and respect in junior high. The students will only reach to the bar offered.



**Literacy intervention - available at other schools but not our school.** Struggling students need help to progress and the teachers have so many kids to help at all different levels that they can't get to all the kids.





**I'm concerned about how the school division handles bullying especially when it occurs during transportation.** This is important to me as my child has experienced this and there doesn't seem to be a good way to deal with cross-school bullying







**bullying at school I feel is not dealt with appropriately** bullying has to stop, it is hurting our kids

3.5  (30   
Ranked #55 of 89





**teachers seem to brush off issues when kids tell them they are being hurt by other kids** kids need to feel safe at school

3.5  (29   
Ranked #56 of 89





**My child's teacher seems overwhelmed with needs in her class and has little EA support. My child and others can be disadvantaged** My child is far less challenging, but has needs too that aren't being addressed and is not enjoying school anymore which is sad

3.5  (27   
Ranked #57 of 89



**I think the older students should be more involved with the younger kids** Maybe that would help with the balance and kids getting to know each other and the younger kids have someone to go too when bullying occurs

3.5  (24   
Ranked #58 of 89



**I wish our school had a better sports program** We need actual gym teachers for the classes and extra curricular sports teams!

3.5  (23   
Ranked #59 of 89



**Communication could be improved between Teachers and parents using apps.** It is important that parents know what is going on with there kids, especially those whos kids are forgetful or do not pay enough attention.

3.5  (20   
Ranked #60 of 89





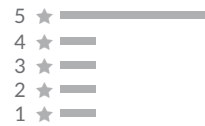
**Physical violence should be addressed immediately and consequences should be implemented** Violence shouldn't be accepted at any age. My daughter has shared that she has been pushed on multiple occasions and slapped one one occasion.

3.5  (10   
Ranked #61 of 89





**Great alternative programs to help students get through.** Yoga; Zen Den; etc... They bring in and make time for programming to help students learn how to cope with stress/anxiety.

3.5  (8   
Ranked #62 of 89





**Allowing a younger, almost school aged sibling to be involved in a couple of activities.** it is an excelent introduction for my yourngest and it get's her excited to go to school instead of being nervous or not knowing what to expect.

3.4  (30   
Ranked #63 of 89





**I really find they stepped it up big time in the support for learning “disabilities”** Teachers/staff are so good, willing to work with you and your child. They do their best to accommodate for students and help them as much as possible

3.4  (28   
Ranked #64 of 89



**I appreciate the excellent communication through emails, phone calls and in person.** Although our children are growing older and more independent we still feel connected through this communication.

3.4  (27   
Ranked #65 of 89





**I would appreciate more communication between parent and teacher.** I find it is so difficult to understand how my child's day to day education is progressing in class and would like more feed back from their teacher.

3.4  (24   
Ranked #66 of 89





**There is a high level of inclusion.**

3.4  (15   
Ranked #67 of 89

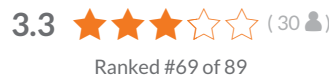


**I have no concerns and I think your doing a great job**

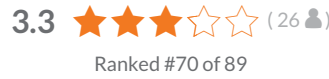
3.3  (30   
Ranked #68 of 89



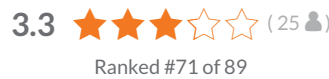
**Little lunch supervision** Some days child says lunch is crazy as no supervision



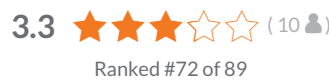
**Parking is always an issue.** Staff parking should be extended on the east side of the school. There will be construction going on anyway with a garage. Remove trees if needed.



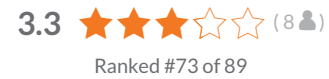
**Home Reading Program Books (grade 1 for sure) need to updated and/or replaced!** The books are falling apart and half of them are stapled loose leaf paper. The same system for leveling books should be applied throughout all grades.



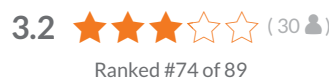
**Group punishments should not be allowed** My daughter on multiple occasions has told me the whole class has missed their recess and or gym due to ONE student misbehaving



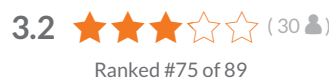
**More access to sports teams at the younger middle level would be appreciated.** I know this involves teachers giving up their time, which can be difficult. It would be nice if even just one more sports was open to grade 5 and 6.





**Child never has homework and minimal effort put in to what I do see** He's not being pushed and not reaching his potential- not challenged



**Teacher seems focused on the higher needs students** Is my child's needs being met?





**there has to be more staff on the buses. my child has learned so many horrible things on the bus, comes home and tells me and I am mortified.** Older kids need to learn respect for younger children riding the bus and watch what they say or do around them

3.2  (29   
Ranked #76 of 89





**Treat each student as an individual** I'd like to see teachers treat the jr high students as individuals and not assume everyone is misbehaving.

3.2  (28   
Ranked #77 of 89





**There could be more communication home from teachers.** The remind app has replaced agenda, I'm not sure enough is being put on there to really keep parents informed about classroom specifics.

3.2  (7   
Ranked #78 of 89





**Little communication from teacher** Nice to know how my child is doing

3.1  (30   
Ranked #79 of 89





**No concerns! Great school**

3.1  (30   
Ranked #80 of 89





**No extracurricular for upper elementary** Opportunities for kids to be active or engaged in other ways and prep for JH

3.1  (30   
Ranked #81 of 89





**The lack of supervision for the elementary kids, how young children trusted at High Park School are left unsupervised is appalling.** Only a few grades are looked after, it's Neglect and health and safety for the children.

3.1  (30   
Ranked #82 of 89





**Junior High self esteem** It saddens me that many grade 8 students identify themselves as "the bad grade." Positive leadership is required to guide these students to aim higher

3.1  (27   
Ranked #83 of 89





**Kids sitting in hallways** I don't see how sending kids to the hallways is helping them learn. Maybe there could be another option if they are disrupting the class.

3.1  (26   
Ranked #84 of 89





**Library - should be welcoming to students** Kids should not have to worry about asking for help finding books. Any public library /chapters will help you find or guide you in the right direction

3.1  (25   
Ranked #85 of 89





**I appreciate the homework given for my daughter. I don't appreciate that when she has concerns at recess the outside supervisors never address anythin**

3.1  (11   
Ranked #86 of 89





**Concerns regarding bus safety** So that my children are safe

2.7  (18   
Ranked #87 of 89





**Teachers abusing there privileges, using there position to embarrass and alienate children** There job is to support and build confidence, not humiliate and abuse there teacher status to do as they please.

2.6  (29   
Ranked #88 of 89





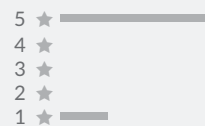
**Not all teachers seem to have the necessary training in working with children with disabilities.**

2.4  (16   
Ranked #89 of 89




**Appreciate Audrey and Pam** Very helpful, friendly, and competent

3.4  (4   
Not enough ratings to rank





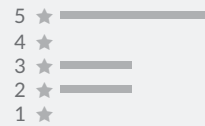
**Approachable staff.** The principle and vice principle are fantastic leaders. It is evident that they trully want the best experiences for all students.

0.0  (0   
Not enough ratings to rank





**Concern about drugs in the school** Parents were not informed. Need better transparency and communication

3.3  (4   
Not enough ratings to rank




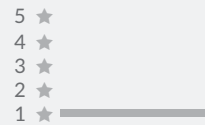
**Dedicated physical activity time for students.** Physical activity and health are so important for students overall well being.

0.0  (0   
Not enough ratings to rank





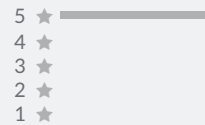
**I am concerned about the sports programs at High Park.**

2.7  (1   
Not enough ratings to rank





**I appreciate the amount of communication coming home from the administration this year.** Keeps parents in the loop who can't be at the school as often as they would like. Once a month newsletter is great, but not always enough.

3.6  (2   
Not enough ratings to rank





**I love the music and band program at the school,** Music has shown to be a very positive influence on childrens development.

0.0  (0   
Not enough ratings to rank




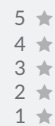
**My daughters say they are bored.** I believe inclusive classrooms have decreased the quality of education my daughters have received this year.

3.0  (4   
Not enough ratings to rank





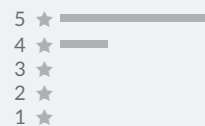
**Sidewalk by parking lot needs attention** It's rarely kept up with snow removal or putting something on the ice so it's not so deadly to walk on with kids.

0.0  (0   
Not enough ratings to rank



**Teachers invested in our children's development.** Both our children enjoy school because their teachers are engaged and determined to help them achieve higher learning.

3.8  (4   
Not enough ratings to rank



**The library could be greatly improved.** Our children love to read and the library seems cold and unwelcoming. Very bland.

2.6  (4 )  
Not enough ratings to rank



**Would like to see more updated options available to students.** The options are a little outdated in today's society, would prefer more elective options that focus on computer science and technology.

3.2  (4 )  
Not enough ratings to rank

