



NCTE 1.3

Gathering Parent/Guardian Perspectives and Recruiting Support

You can use the following questions to survey parents/guardians, gather their perspectives, and recruit support for the writing initiative. The questions can be transferred into an online survey tool such as SurveyMonkey or Zoomerang, or you can print the following pages and distribute paper copies.

Please scroll down to view the survey questions for *NCTE 1.3: Gathering Parent/Guardian Perspectives and Recruiting Support*, which begin on page 2 of this document.



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1. How important do you think strong writing skills are to students' success in school?
 Very important
 Somewhat important
 Not very important
 Not at all important

2. How important do you think strong writing skills will be in students' futures?
 Very important
 Somewhat important
 Not very important
 Not at all important

3. What kinds of writing do you think students should do in school? (Check all that apply)
 Essay writing
 Creative nonfiction writing
 Short answers
 Creative writing
 Journalism
 Journaling/reflective writing
 Writing for the web (e.g. blogging, creating websites, etc.)
 Professional writing (e.g. memos, business letters, etc.)
 College application materials (e.g. college application essays, scholarship applications, etc.)
 Job application materials (e.g. resumes, cover letters, etc.)
 Other (please specify) _____

4. What kinds of writing do you think students should do outside of school? (Check all that apply)
 Essay writing
 Creative nonfiction writing
 Creative writing
 Journalism
 Journaling/reflective writing
 Writing for the web (e.g. blogging, creating websites, etc.)
 Professional writing (e.g. memos, business letters, etc.)
 College application materials (e.g. college application essays, scholarship applications, etc.)
 Job application materials (e.g. resumes, cover letters, etc.)
 Other (please specify) _____



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5. In what ways could writing instruction be improved in our school? (Check all that apply)
- More writing assignments
 - Longer writing assignments
 - More challenging writing assignments
 - More variety in the kinds of writing assignments (e.g. more web-based writing, creative writing, etc.)
 - More informal writing assignments (e.g. journals)
 - More instructional time devoted to writing
 - Writing instruction in a wider range of school subjects
 - More professional/occupational writing
 - More community-based writing projects
 - More group/collaborative writing projects
 - Clearer expectations about what good writing is
 - More feedback for students on their writing
 - More one-on-one attention to students' writing
 - More advanced placement options involving writing
 - More writing-related extracurricular activities
 - Other (please specify) _____
6. How do you think parents/guardians can support students in their writing development? (Check all that apply)
- Help students understand writing assignments
 - Help students brainstorm or come up with ideas for their writing assignments
 - Provide students with feedback on their writing drafts
 - Encourage students to take courses with challenging writing components
 - Encourage students to read for their own interest or pleasure
 - Help students understand the importance of writing for their success in college and/or the work world
 - Support school-based writing improvement initiatives
 - Other (please specify) _____
 - Parents/guardians do not need to support students' writing development

Open Response

7. What school resources do you know about that are available to help students with their writing?