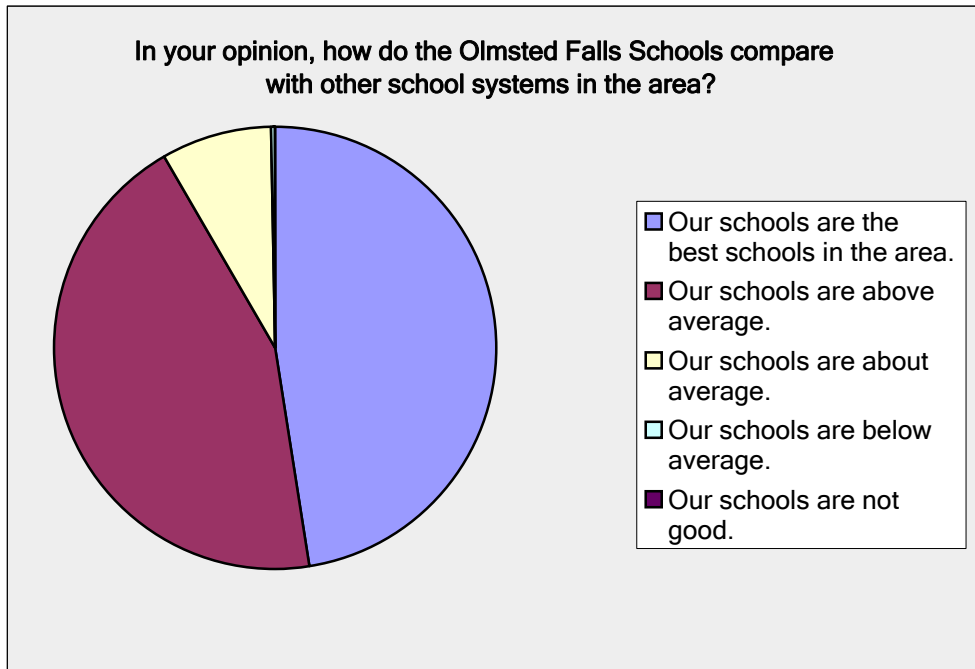


2010 Parent Survey

In your opinion, how do the Olmsted Falls Schools compare with other school systems in the area?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Our schools are the best	47.6%	290
Our schools are above	44.2%	269
Our schools are about	8.0%	49
Our schools are below	0.2%	1
Our schools are not good.	0.0%	0



Answered Question: 609

Skipped Question: 123

Number	Comments (Optional)
1	Emphasis on grades and not knowledge, is empty.
2	In one section it wouldn't allow me to mark correctly (Sec. 7 I believe)
3	I know of several schools with better music programs, more opportunities for all students (second language early on) and more emphasis on preventing bullying.
4	As an employee of another district, I see many aspects of the Olmsted Falls district that I wish were a part of the district in which I work.
5	We moved here 9 years ago for the school system. Have not been disappointed!

6	It is a wonderful school system, and I really have no way to compare to others since I don't have kids in other systems. I always think there can be room for improvement. They are certainly not "the best", but it is a great school system.
7	Let's keep it this way
8	I think we are still above average, but dropping. I do not wish to point fingers at the staff. I believe that the state of the economy has a lot to do with it and the lack of education being a priority to our politicians. Fixing this without a bond issue to improve the high school will be difficult. It will take some creative fund raising, but I have faith in the district to figure this out.
9	The schools in Olmsted Falls is the reason my family lives in Olmsted Falls.
10	I feel fortunate to be in this system. I sometimes look at my taxes as our tuition for "private" school. I know we are large, but I still feel like there is a community and hands on feel.
11	Our overall scores are comparable to North Olmsted district and Berea. we are good in some areas and fall short in others. I do appreciate teachers keep close contact with parents. I appreciate more when I know teachers teach my children with their hearts.
12	We moved here for the school system. Happy with schools until we reached high school. Discipline issues and catering to certain group(s) continues in many out of classroom activities.
13	Given that we rely on homeowner taxpayers to foot most of the funding for education and a LOT less on business taxpayers, I feel that Olmsted Schools excel in education.
14	If we are talking about North Olmsted, Berea and North Ridgeville we are clearly above average. If you are talking about Avon Lake and Westlake, we are about average.
15	I moved here 2 years ago and to be honest I do not feel that they offer enough after school activities for the kids. What does the PTA do? The other school that I came from, they offered activities for the kids. EX-bingo night, dances, and game night. None of that is offered through the PTA.
16	We just "joined" the Olmsted Falls School System at the High School level (parochial schools for K-8). I feel our children were at the same level academically as their OF-educated peers.
17	We moved from North Olmsted to Olmsted Falls several years ago and consider it the best decision we ever made for our children based on the our school system and all the advantages it offers.
18	I think the quality of teaching is higher in the lower grades. There are some very poor teachers at the High School.
19	I keep my children in Olmsted for the education, however I am considering moving due to the other issues I have with Olmsted Schools staff.
20	I would like to take the opportunity to formally commend Diane Metzger at ECC. She is a huge asset to OFS and has done much more than I ever expected to help my daughter adjust to the school setting. I had high expectations for OFS services yet Diane continues to exceed them with every interaction I have with her. □ □
21	If we were to compare ourselves to Bay Village and Westlake, we would find ourselves in the above average range.

22	I have never attended any other school district. I think our schools are doing a great job as far as learning. I would like to see some better financial planning go on.
23	I do some work with private schools, who have more resources, and are able to provide more tools for students. Olmsted Falls makes up for lack of resources (money) with outstanding teachers. They do great work year after year!
24	Thanks for all of your time and dedication to keeping our schools great. Your hard work does not go unnoticed.
25	Keep up the good work. Although, there are always areas for improvement, our school system is great! With a few changes and some more community support monetarily, we could be the best school system anywhere.
26	I think olmsted falls has been known as a above average or the best school district in the area, which is one the main reasons my family moved here. I think that over the last few years the school system has not held up to the rating mainly because of cuts due to financial reasons.
27	I love our school system. We're only two years in w/ our child but the experience has been very positive. I would not consider any surrounding school district or community to be in for my child.
28	a parent with a child coming from privates schools from k-6 then 6 months in the cleveland public school system. I am so grateful for this school system and the staffing they are wonderful it was the best move I could have ever made! thank you
29	Academics above average... Music above average... sports below average with exception of baseball and volleyball
30	We have many friends in the Strongsville district and hear of issues related to entitlement by school employees, cutting field trips
31	Though other school systems do not appear to meet the excellent standards as Olmsted Falls, they appear to offer much more variety of study than we do. I have family in the Berea School systems and in Norht Olmsted and they talk of classes that I am certain are not offered by Olmsted Falls.
32	I believe that our schools are great. When I was looking to buy my first home, I chose Olmsted Falls because of the school district because I wanted my daughter in a wonderful district.
33	They are very good. I do not have criteria to compare, except the ratings that are released each year, which put OF in the top tier.
34	I believe that our schools are equal with other area schools that are the best in the area (ex. Westlake).
35	In as what is expected via the State regulations, Olmsted is by far the best in the area.
36	I think people believe our schools are a lot better but I do not believe that to be true. I have many friends with children in the Berea, Strongsville, North Olmsted and North Ridgeville schools. We all have the same problems and it seems like all the schools are offering the same quality of education.
37	Thanks for conducting this survey! Let's continue to grow and learn so we can continue to be the best in this ever-changing world.

38	<p>Alot of emphasis is placed on our rating compared to other schools in Ohio, but this rating obviously has nothing to do with what classes that are offered to students. I believe it is based on how we do in the basic core classes. I think our school has let alot of other things slide to stay competitive in the core classes. I wish we were offering more to the kids than just the basics. That does not, in my opinion, make us an excellent school system. I paid for my son to take summer gym so he could experience all the electives we used to offer. Now what is he taking, Advanced Gym. Too Sad!</p>
39	<p>In my mind, OF Schools is one of the top 10 School systems in the 5 county area, which is why we moved here.</p>
40	<p>We are one of the best districts in the area. That is why we moved here!</p>
41	<p>Without a doubt in my mind we are the best community with the best schools in the area.</p>
42	<p>Keep up the good work.</p>
43	<p>test scores are not everything- moral character is also important and that is lacking in many of the students and some staff in this district</p>
44	<p>There are other schools in the area that have an Excellent rating too. So to stay "even" with other schools OF must maintain or improve its level of education for its students.</p>
45	<p>I believe school should teach children to love to learn. School needs to be a fun, happy place that they love to go to and can't wait to discover new things. Let's not make little employees that follow the rules and can pass the test...let's make people who will love to learn about everything they can for the rest of their lives.</p>
46	<p>I tutor at a Cleveland inner-city school. Being able to attend Olmsted Falls Schools is certainly a privilege. Perhaps some sort of an exchange program could be initiated to show students the discrepancies between the two school systems.</p>
47	<p>My son was here for Kindergarten and we moved back for fifth grade. We came from a Blue Ribbon district and I am blown away by how much BETTER Olmsted Falls is! Outstanding. I am so glad we are in this district. All of the teachers, all of the administrators, all of the employees are so wonderful. This school system is delightful. Thank you so much for all that you do for the students. My son is so happy and he loves going to school every morning!</p>
48	<p>The Olmsted Falls School District continues to be in a precarious position in my opinion. The anger and uncertainty are merely pushed to the back of people's minds by the business of our everyday lives. I think we all realize that when the time comes to ask for more money we will find the same "cast of characters" we saw during the levy campaigns of 2009 & 2010. There will be parents, teachers, & community volunteers who will give their time, money, and dedication to passing the levy. There will be those parents & community activists who will give just as much, or more, in their opposition. The solution seems so impossible because the problem is so prevalent everywhere in the school systems in this state. The problem is the problem. "It" has been around so long that it is really all anyone knows.</p>

49	Olmsted Falls may get public recognition but it fails to see the bigger picture - there are a lot of issues that get swept under the rug so to speak. Leadership, from the superintendent to the board and the principles of the high school and middle school needs to change - I've never seen more complacency anywhere - and the lack of organization is ridiculous - i.e. - when a dance at the middle school is held and the principle can't even get involved enough to put up simple signs so parents know where to pick their children up but instead other parents are yelling at parents for going the wrong way - all he ever does is just be there - that is not leadership, and it is the same for all others who are mentioned. And there has been nothing mentioned about a new high school. You've expanded the middle school and you've built the new intermediate school - but now EVERYONE has to funnel to a small high school - it is totally inadequate - the music rooms are ridiculous. And the fact that we have to use other facilities OUTSIDE of our district for various practices is nuts - the school needs a pool. You may think you've done well, but in fa
50	surveys are awesome!!!!
51	I don't know much about other schools in the area but I do feel we are above average and would like the district to at least stay that way.
52	my kids came from a small catholic school in lakewood the size was a little overwhelming at first but i now have one graduate from the high school and two more in high school. for the special ed student i would say average for her do to her abilities and the focus on testing for her its not the best way to serve har abilities she does like all other aspects
53	could be the BEST should the school fee's and school pic's price come WAY DOWN! I FEAR FOR WHEN MY KIDS GET INTO HIGHER GRADES WITH THE FEE'S!
54	In my opinion, our school district is probably above average in comparison to other area schools. My opinion is based on what I've read, and heard in the past. I hope we have made the right educational choice by relocating to this community.
55	I honestly believe that our school system is superior. When I tell someone that I live here, I will usually get a response of, "Oh, they have a great school system." My neighbor teaches eighth grade math in another community - my seventh grader's advanced math is higher than what her students are learning. It also comes down to parent/community involvement. When you have parents that are involved and committed, they lead by example.
56	Dr. Hoadley and his staff need a round of applause, they all work over and above to give our children the best educational experience. On behalf of my family...Thank you! and keep up the hard work.
57	On the westside of Cleveland/Cuyahoga county, short of maybe Westlake and Bay Village, there would not be another public education I would choose for my children. Olmsted Falls has the best school district with a small town feel.
58	Until hitting the middle school I was always proud of my town and happy to tell everyone about Olmsted Falls Schools. Falls Lenox and OFIS are the most wonderful places to send any child to school. I never would have imagined that I now am considering pulling my children and finding a school where the period of their lives with the most drastic physical and emotional changes can occur in a positive and healthy atmosphere. It is very sad that our children are taken care of so well until 6th grade then they suddenly turn into the "enemy" of all the adults that they thought were there to help them. Children learn what they live and the middle school is giving some pretty mean lessons.
59	Olmsted Falls Schools are above average but could use some improvements in technology and facilities at the high school (improved auditorium and classrooms).
60	with the schools in our area and within our conference.
61	We moved here because of the schools. When talking with parents from other school districts, it is clear that ours is more open in communication and feels that the parents are a big part of the education process.

62	My child has never been in another school system so this is hard to answer. I know some other systems offer things we do not. I know there are things offered elsewhere I would like at our school. I know there is not always funding to do so. I think we are an awesome West side choice for parents to strongly consider. I think we get a LOT of BANG for our buck and the administration is working hard to continue to be able to say that.
63	OF is academically competitive with other schools, such as Strogsville. St. Ed's, St. Ignatius, however, I believe our students at OF benefit from as good of an education or better than just of the few named schools. Once again, it is not only the schools responsibility for our kids to achieve academically...parents need to step up and take ultimate responsibility for their children's educational journey!!
64	We moved here 10 years ago specifically for the school system. That was our number one concern and we have never regretted our decision. Our teachers are excellent & they bring out excellence in our students.
65	These surveys are fine and all, but the schools systems aren't what needs to improve so much is the family culture in this country. The schools in low ranking systems need to put more focus on changing the culture of how the children are being raised and less focus on test scores. They need programs to teach long-term affects of their decisions and teach them how to develop a strong WILL and a strong work ethic rather than follow in the footsteps of their parents or lack-there-of. The schools in those areas need to teach their student that what they see in their environment can and will change if they make an effort to strive for success rather than just go with the flow.
66	OFCS are great, however the cost is NOT commensurate with the communities economy. I understand the requirement for Master's degrees has driven up salaries. This was and is unnecessary and is top of the list in education overhaul, something out of the OFCS control. The need for a focus on Math, Science, and Technology IS under our schools control, and should be the first topic at every BOE meeting. I clearly feel and hope the next Bill Gates comes from OFCS NOT the next NSYNC!
67	I'm worried about the school fee and if busing will discontinue. \$25 was a struggle to come up with last year, now \$145 for the first semester. I'm sure I'm not the only parent wondering how to pay this semester's fee. You should give parents until income tax returns to pay the fee. I'm glad I moved to this school district. My daughter has been in the 8th, 9th & 10th grades in OFSD.
68	Having come from outside the district, I have had the opportunity to compare some of the programs, and overall mind set of Olmsted Falls schools toward the students and families. I have been blessed to be a part of this system, and I want to remain a part of this system, Thank you for all your efforts on behalf of my children, and my family as a whole, I volunteer to show my support and gratitude and encourage my children to step up whenever they can as well, and to take pride in our schools.
69	One of my major concerns over the years has been that I have experienced and seen poor performing teachers, some unprofessional, who are still continuing in their same position. No changes have been made. Some Administrators are just turning the other way.
70	These past few weeks my child has come home telling me there were fights in school...involving the same student...stating this student makes rude and racial comments to other students and when they get made and retaliate they get in trouble... shouldn't the student that is repeatedly getting hit be held accountable for the remarks he makes to other students? This is happening in the middle school and the other children
71	We moved from North Olmsted to Olmsted Falls before my daughter started school because of the reputation of the district. I was raised with a wonderful public school education and wanted the same for my kids. We have not been disappointed!
72	I moved into Olmsted Falls because of the reputation of their school system.
73	we love our schools!!!
74	I found the previous questions (#7 & #8) to be rather slighted. Who is literally going to answer "no" to some of these standards. There is a difference between "want" and what is actually "affordable." Therefore, these results better not be for a new levy campaign. This would be dishonest.

75	additional comment - it is football playoff time which could drag on for several weeks with most schools not participating, get the other schools in the conference and another conference to opt out, then have 1st place in conference A plays 1st place in conference B, 2nd plays 2nd, etc have the additional game for all schools and be done
76	We are so proud of our School system. To have people so dedicated to my childrens future not only in their schools...but on the school boards and governing bodies. Well let's just say there are no words to express our thanks. The school system is the only reason we moved here in 2004. We were hesitant at first being that we are in interracial family. I was concerned about the diversity in the city. But the boys are definatly receiving an awesome education. And to me, the greatest proof of that is how excited they are every morning to go to school.
77	all of the schools in our area rate about the same. They are all usually listed in the top area schools
78	We are very proud to say that we live here and the schools are the primary reason.
79	We have had a joyous few months with our preschooler at the ECC. We look forward to experiencing more wonderful educational opportunities in the years to come!
80	I THINK WE HAVE GREAT SCHOOL SYSTEM COMPARE TO LOTS OF PUBLIC SCHOOL
81	But not the best as peer districts (not including North Olmsted or Berea) have better facilities and other opportunities available - and more industry.
82	I think that this school system far exceeds the competition in the area. Whether or not they actually do statistically, this school system is cleaner, safer, offers a better chance of academic success, the buildings/properties are in better condition, and overall the educational experience is better than anywhere else I can think of! Of course the private sector has a lot to offer, there are many pros and cons there, but pound for pound....this school is right where I wanna be! To everyone who is involved with teaching our next generation here at Olmsted Falls....to all the teachers, administrators, employees, & PTA....keep up the great work!!!
83	As a teacher in a neighboring school district, I am so HAPPY to say my children attend Olmsted Falls Schools, which in my opinion far outshine my district.
84	thank you for caring enough to ask parents what we feel. Now, I'll be anxious to see the results!
85	My understanding is Olmsted Falls Schools are above average (at the top) within the State of Ohio.
86	The only other school system that I think compares with ours is Westlake, but I prefer the smaller community of Olmsted Falls where my children don't get lost in the crowd.
87	our school reports speaks for itself
88	keep up the good work and do not give trying to improve the schools.
89	We as a family could not be happier with Olmsted falls schools. The staff and board are tremendous, and we look forward to our kids entire eduction (pre college) in Olmsted Falls schools.
90	We could use a swimming pool at one of the schools. That is an important thing for children to be able to swim.
91	We might have great test scores but the city is totally missing the boat on very important issues.
92	Thanks to our teachers and volunteers
93	Thank you for the opportunity. The challenge is to get each student what he/she needs to grow.
94	I am very pleased with what I've seen so far. I don't know enough about the programs and mindset yet to answer all of the questions. I feel that my girls are getting an excellent education at Olmsted Falls City Schools.
95	feel very proud my child is going to olmsted falls schools. i did as well and think the schools are wonderful. i hope it stays this way.
96	In believe our schools are right there with the other top schools in NE Ohio

97	I know my child will miss Olmsted Falls when we move. He had such great experiences over the last few years.
98	I am proud of our schools and glad my children are in the district. It influenced our decision to stay in Olmsted Falls and I hope the status of our educational system stays as good as it is.
99	It's not just the education of the students that I am basing my opinion, it is the behavior of the school and how they monitor there teachers,coaches,bus drivers and facilities. if it were just the education and efforts put forth for our childrens needs it would be above average.
100	the school fees are quite a lot higher then our last district wasn't prepared for that!
101	I love the level of technology. I think it is great you can check your students progress and homework on line and that you can talk with your child's teacher via e-mail.
102	We interact with educators and parents from a variety of local school districts. Our schools are consistently commended by those in the know.
103	There is always room for improvment
104	Yes, our test scores indicate we are "one of the best," but to truly excel requires more than numbers. It's a feeling of community and spirit within the school where a committed and caring staff assists the students on their way to adulthood where they will be caring and productive members of society.
105	Probably one of the best public schools. May be surpassed by some private schools.
106	I cannot compare Olmsted Falls to other systems since I don't live in another district nor have a child enrolled. I would like to see the District professionals spend less time comparing and competing with other districts since all communities have unique needs and challenges.
107	can not answer this don't know much about the other schools in the area.
108	We moved here because of the Olmsted Falls Schools. We believe the were the best when we were looking and that belief is still true today
109	Olmsted Falls School are superior to so many other school districts. That was a factor in my decision to move to the area.
110	High School needs to have a stricter dress code. Need to focus more on the kids that excel in academics and less on the kids that have behavioral issues.
111	I honestly feel that comparsion of schools should be important but not like a competition. Let the public know what we are like and have to offer but please try not to put down other districts in the process. We are all striving for one thing-educating our children to the best of our abilities
112	A lot of bullying going on in school & on buses. This should be addressed. There are too many children that don't have very good manners & are insensitive to others.
113	Our schools consistently rate among the top in test scores in Cuyahoga County but we do not have enough advanced/AP/IB coursework at the high school to have us rate as among the top. If we want to be a top-tier district we have to step up a notch in our high school curriculum for college-bound students.
114	Even though Olmsted Falls continues to score high enough each year to continue its achievement of academic excellence it has fallen behind some others that used to be below it.
115	WHILE THEY ARE ABOVE AVERAGE, OTHER SCHOOLS ARE CATCHING UP. I BELIEVE NORTH OLMSTED IS IMPROVING AND HAS RECEIVED PRETTY HIGH STATE GRADES
116	We moved to OF 12 years ago partially based on the reputation of the schools, and we have not been disappointed. We have recruited other families with our positive comments about the state of the schools and the supportive special services approach.

117	While I think the school is great, and don't want to leave, I see that some of the surrounding schools are achieving high marks and the taxes are way lower.
118	Our schools are above average because their are a lot of parents who value education in our community.
119	Its because of the schools that I decided to move to Olmsted Falls especially ECC
120	Definitely above average - however TOO COSTLY in fees and taxes.
121	I appreciate the outstanding academic services the school district provides, I feel there is a disconnect between the school and community. I would like to see the district focus on building and improving relationships between the school district and the community.
122	I'm very happy with the our school system.
123	We are lucky to have such dedicated staff and administrators who provide a quality educational experience. We need to keep that level and this inturn helps us produce the quality students and young people of tomorrow.
124	Some school systems in this area with a lesser performance rating have better communication methods between the parents, teachers, and students. This needs to be improved. We ask our kids to perform their best. So how can we accept less from ourselves in any performance category. The kids will follow the example they are shown. When we show them an attitude of perserverance, creative solution finding, and cooperation then they will learn the same thing. And this will carry them on to success in every category they apply themselves.
125	Your need to look at your administration.
126	I don't know if I could say Olmsted Falls is the best but it is certainly up there in ranking.
127	Thank you everyone for all your hard work you all do everyday for our students!
128	Our school is becoming average, it appears that our above average rate may be at risk.
129	Each parent is going to answer this survey according to their own personal experience. Our "typical" student had a wonderful experience at OF high school (1-8 at Catholic school) and is now in college. Out "special needs" student continues to struggle at the high school level as there is a tremendous disconnect when it comes to continuing to provide reading, writing and math with typical students at the high school and a rush to send these students off to CWE or work programs. Perhaps these students would be better served to remain at the Middle School for extended years to allow access to the remedial classes available there which are lacking at the high school. We ask if any of the current board members have personal experience advocating at OF schools for their own child with significant disability and if not we propose that the board and community would be better served if the answer was "yes".