

St. Matthew's Survey Results

Thank you to everyone who responded to our survey. There were TONS of great ideas and suggestions. Here's what you said and what we are thinking:

Top 6 things you love about St. Matthew's:

1. Staff
2. Feeling of community
3. Curriculum
4. School's philosophy
5. Enrichment and additional programs / monthly special events
6. Small class sizes

Top 6 things you DON'T love about St. Matthew's:

1. Class hours are short, would like a longer day
We wish we could accommodate this, however all our classes but 1 have AM and PM classes so we really can't extend the timing of current classes. If our current format ever needed adjusting, this would be something to consider.
2. Hallway is very crowded
Beginning in September all classrooms are going to have their doors open 7 minutes before drop off and pick up times. This should allow for more staggering by parents and hopefully less congestion.
3. Not enough morning classes available
This is another one we are having trouble with, however we are looking at our classroom usage and will adjust whenever possible.
4. When it snows the morning is canceled 3 times before going to a modified schedule
This policy will be changed and we will go to a modified schedule beginning with the first snow.
5. Allergy children are not able to attend Lunch Bunch
We are struggling with this, but are continuing to have open dialogue to find ways to keep even our allergy students safe. More to come in the Fall.
6. Would like a way to get Mom's with infants help to bring older siblings into school
We are exploring an area of the parking lot for "Mom's with Infants" where parents can meet and take turns watching babies in the cars. More on this in the Fall.

Some interesting and helpful comments:

1. Would like to see some type of message board on the website
We are going to create a closed Facebook message board for parents to communicate with each other.
2. Too much paper going home
Initially we decided all teachers are going to all send home a weekly electronic update instead of paper in the backpack. In addition, we will try to send things like Chapel Notes and updates electronically.
3. Would like more in-class parent volunteer opportunities to be made available
Teachers are all aware of this and are going to look at their volunteer opportunities more closely in the Fall.

4. Other enrichment opportunities above what is already offered

We are talking about this too! If you have any suggestions please let us know! We do love to offer educational and fun activities to our students.

5. Tweak curriculum to keep up with Public school changes and demands

We did this beginning in January and finished our overhaul of the Language Arts portion of our curriculum in April. We are going to incorporate part of "Foundations for Pre-K" by Wilson next year! This wonderful multi-sensory approach will be a great addition to "Handwriting Without Tears"

6. We pay the same amount in December and January but have fewer school days than other months

This is a communication issue on the school's part. We divide the annual tuition (based on the number of TOTAL school days) by 9 months for easy budgeting for both the school and parents.

THERE WAS SO MUCH MORE... If you had a comment that's not listed and want to get an update on your idea see Sandy. There were so many ideas but we only wrote up the most popular ideas.