



Maryland School Survey

2026 Student Survey Item Bank

This document includes a list of survey items that may appear on the Maryland School Survey administered to students in elementary, middle, or high school for school year 2025–2026. Students taking the Maryland School Survey are asked at least 50 questions. While students may not receive every single question from this list, all questions that students could be asked are included in this list.

HOW STRONGLY DO YOU AGREE OR DISAGREE WITH THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS ABOUT THIS SCHOOL? MARK ONE RESPONSE

Throughout the survey, "this school" means activities happening in school buildings, on school grounds, on school buses, and at places that hold school-sponsored events or activities. Unless otherwise specified, this refers to normal school hours or to times when school activities/events were in session.

These survey questions are provided for transparency. To ensure the validity of the results, please do not use these questions to prepare students or staff for the survey or for any other unintended purpose.

1. Adults working at this school like the students.
 - ☐ Strongly Agree
 - ☐ Agree
 - ☐ Disagree
 - ☐ Strongly Disagree
2. All students are treated the same, regardless of whether their parents are rich or poor.
 - ☐ Strongly Agree
 - ☐ Agree
 - ☐ Disagree
 - ☐ Strongly Disagree
3. At this school, students have the chance to attend school sponsored events, such as school sporting events, student performances, or other school activities.
 - ☐ Strongly Agree
 - ☐ Agree
 - ☐ Disagree
 - ☐ Strongly Disagree
4. Boys and girls are treated equally well.
 - ☐ Strongly Agree
 - ☐ Agree
 - ☐ Disagree
 - ☐ Strongly Disagree
5. Students are friendly with each other.
 - ☐ Strongly Agree
 - ☐ Agree
 - ☐ Disagree
 - ☐ Strongly Disagree

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6. This school provides instructional materials (e.g., textbooks, handouts) that reflect my cultural background, ethnicity, and identity.
- ☐ Strongly Agree
 - ☐ Agree
 - ☐ Disagree
 - ☐ Strongly Disagree
7. Teachers care about their students.
- ☐ Strongly Agree
 - ☐ Agree
 - ☐ Disagree
 - ☐ Strongly Disagree
8. Adults working at this school treat all students respectfully.
- ☐ Strongly Agree
 - ☐ Agree
 - ☐ Disagree
 - ☐ Strongly Disagree
9. Students care about each other.
- ☐ Strongly Agree
 - ☐ Agree
 - ☐ Disagree
 - ☐ Strongly Disagree
10. Adults working at this school listen to students when they have problems.
- ☐ Strongly Agree
 - ☐ Agree
 - ☐ Disagree
 - ☐ Strongly Disagree
11. People of different cultural backgrounds, races, or ethnicities get along well at this school.
- ☐ Strongly Agree
 - ☐ Agree
 - ☐ Disagree
 - ☐ Strongly Disagree

12. Students respect others who are different.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

13. Teachers understand my problems.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

14. Adults working at this school care about the students.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

15. Students treat each other with respect.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

16. Teachers are available when I need to talk with them.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

17. It is easy to talk with teachers at this school.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

18. My teachers care about me.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

19. Adults working at this school treat students of all races with respect.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

20. Students get along with each other.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

21. [High School Student Only] At this school, there is a teacher or some other adult who students can go to if they need help because of sexual assault or dating violence.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

22. My teachers make me feel good about myself.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

23. Adults working at this school give me individual attention when I need it.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

24. Students respect one another.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

25. Students like one another.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

26. There are lots of chances for students at this school to participate in extra-curricular activities, such as school clubs, musical groups, sport teams, student government, or any other extra-curricular activities.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

27. Students at this school are teased or picked on about their race or ethnicity.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

28. If I am absent, there is a teacher or some other adult at school that will notice my absence.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

29. At this school, students have lots of chances to help decide class activities.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

30. At this school, students have lots of chances to help decide rules.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

31. I regularly attend school-sponsored events, such as school dances, sporting events, student performances, or other school activities.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

32. I regularly participate in extra-curricular activities offered through this school, such as, school clubs or organizations, musical groups, sports teams, student government, or any other extra-curricular activities.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

33. At this school, students have lots of chances to help decide things like class activities and rules.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

34. There are lots of chances for students at this school to get involved in sports, clubs, and other school activities outside of class.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

35. I have lots of chances to be part of class discussions or activities.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

36. I feel like I belong.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

37. Students at this school get along well with each other.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

38. At this school, students talk about the importance of understanding their own feelings and the feelings of others.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

39. At this school, students work on listening to others to understand what they are trying to say.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

40. Students at this school think it is okay to try drugs.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

41. I am happy to be at this school.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

42. It is easy for students to use/try alcohol or drugs at school or school-sponsored events without getting caught.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

43. I feel like I am part of this school.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

44. I feel socially accepted.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

45. I feel safe at this school.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

46. I feel safe going to and from this school.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

47. I sometimes stay home because I don't feel safe at this school.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

48. Students at this school carry guns or knives to school.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

49. Students at this school threaten to hurt other students.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

50. Students at this school steal money, electronics, or other valuable things while at school.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

51. Students at this school damage or destroy other students' property.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

52. I feel like I belong at my school.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

53. Students at this school fight a lot.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

54. Students at this school are teased or picked on about their race or ethnicity.
- ☐ Strongly Agree
 - ☐ Agree
 - ☐ Disagree
 - ☐ Strongly Disagree
55. Students at this school are teased or picked on about their cultural background or religion.
- ☐ Strongly Agree
 - ☐ Agree
 - ☐ Disagree
 - ☐ Strongly Disagree
56. Students at this school are teased or picked on about their physical or mental disability.
- ☐ Strongly Agree
 - ☐ Agree
 - ☐ Disagree
 - ☐ Strongly Disagree
57. [High School Student Only] Students at this school are teased or picked on about their real or perceived sexual orientation.
- ☐ Strongly Agree
 - ☐ Agree
 - ☐ Disagree
 - ☐ Strongly Disagree

This question is about bullying. Bullying happens when one or more students tease, threaten, spread rumors about, hit, shove or hurt another student. It is not bullying when students of about the same strength or power argue or fight or tease each other in a friendly way. Bullies are usually stronger, or have more friends or more money, or some other power over the student being bullied. Usually, bullying happens over and over, or the student being bullied thinks it might happen over and over.

58. Students at this school are often bullied.
- ☐ Strongly Agree
 - ☐ Agree
 - ☐ Disagree
 - ☐ Strongly Disagree

59. Students at this school try to stop bullying.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

This question is about cyberbullying. Cyberbullying is bullying that takes place using electronic technology. Examples of cyberbullying include mean text messages or emails, rumors sent by email or posted on social networking sites, and embarrassing pictures, videos, websites, or fake profiles.

60. Students often spread mean rumors or lies about others at this school on the internet (i.e., Facebook™, email, and instant message).

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

Drugs means any substance, including those used to get “high” or increase performance in school or sports, other than alcohol or tobacco. Examples include marijuana, illegal drugs, inhalants, synthetic drugs used to get high (K-2, bath salts, white lightning), or over-the-counter medicine. This does not include medications prescribed by doctor or nurse for the person, but includes prescription drugs that are NOT prescribed to the person by his/her doctor.

“Alcohol” means a full or part of a drink of alcohol. Examples include beer, wine, mixed drink, shot of liquor, or any combination of these alcoholic drinks. This does not include alcohol that you may drink for religious purposes.

61. Students use/try alcohol or drugs while at school or school-sponsored events.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

62. It is easy for students to use/try alcohol or drugs at school or school-sponsored events without getting caught.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

63. Students at this school think it is okay to use tobacco at least once a day. Tobacco use could include: cigarettes, electronic vapor products (vapes, vape pens, e-cigarettes, e- cigars, e-hookahs, and/or mods, such Juul, Vuse, Mark Ten, Blu etc.), smokeless tobacco (chewing tobacco, snuff, dip, snus, etc.), cigars, cigarillos, or any other products that include tobacco.
- ☐ Strongly Agree
 - ☐ Agree
 - ☐ Disagree
 - ☐ Strongly Disagree
64. Students at this school think it is okay to smoke one or more packs of cigarettes a day.
- ☐ Strongly Agree
 - ☐ Agree
 - ☐ Disagree
 - ☐ Strongly Disagree
65. Students at this school think it is okay to get drunk.
- ☐ Strongly Agree
 - ☐ Agree
 - ☐ Disagree
 - ☐ Strongly Disagree
66. Students at this school think it is okay to try drugs.
- ☐ Strongly Agree
 - ☐ Agree
 - ☐ Disagree
 - ☐ Strongly Disagree
67. Students at this school damage or destroy other students' property.
- ☐ Strongly Agree
 - ☐ Agree
 - ☐ Disagree
 - ☐ Strongly Disagree
68. Students know what to do if there is an emergency, natural disaster (tornado, flood) or a dangerous situation (e.g. violent person on campus) during the school day.
- ☐ Strongly Agree
 - ☐ Agree
 - ☐ Disagree
 - ☐ Strongly Disagree

69. If students hear about a threat to school or student safety, they would report it to someone in authority.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

70. Adults working at this school expect me to do my best all the time.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

71. The bathrooms in this school are clean.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

72. The temperature in this school is comfortable all year round.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

73. The school grounds are kept clean.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

74. I think that students are proud of how this school looks on the outside.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

75. Broken things at this school get fixed quickly.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

76. My teachers praise me when I work hard in school.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

77. My teachers give me individual attention when I need it.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

78. My teachers often connect what I am learning to life outside the classroom.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

79. Adults working at this school praise me when I work hard in school.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

80. The things I'm learning in school are important to me.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

81. Adults working at this school make it clear to me when I have misbehaved in class.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

82. My teachers expect me to do my best all the time.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

83. My teachers really care about me.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

84. I can talk to my teachers about problems I am having in class.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

85. I can talk to a teacher or other adult at this school about something that is bothering me.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

86. Students at this school stop and think before doing anything when they get angry.

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

87. Students at this school try to work out their disagreements with other students by talking to them.
- ☐ Strongly Agree
 - ☐ Agree
 - ☐ Disagree
 - ☐ Strongly Disagree
88. My teachers make it clear to me when I have misbehaved in class.
- ☐ Strongly Agree
 - ☐ Agree
 - ☐ Disagree
 - ☐ Strongly Disagree
89. Adults working at this school reward students for positive behavior.
- ☐ Strongly Agree
 - ☐ Agree
 - ☐ Disagree
 - ☐ Strongly Disagree
90. Adults working at this school often connect what I am learning to life outside the classroom.
- ☐ Strongly Agree
 - ☐ Agree
 - ☐ Disagree
 - ☐ Strongly Disagree
91. Adults working at this school help students develop strategies to understand and control their feelings and actions.
- ☐ Strongly Agree
 - ☐ Agree
 - ☐ Disagree
 - ☐ Strongly Disagree
92. School rules are applied equally to all students.
- ☐ Strongly Agree
 - ☐ Agree
 - ☐ Disagree
 - ☐ Strongly Disagree

93. Adults working at this school help students develop strategies to understand and control their feelings and actions.
- ☐ Strongly Agree
 - ☐ Agree
 - ☐ Disagree
 - ☐ Strongly Disagree
94. Discipline is fair.
- ☐ Strongly Agree
 - ☐ Agree
 - ☐ Disagree
 - ☐ Strongly Disagree