

BCMS Homework Survey Results

June 2017 & December 2017

Purpose

- Concerns around homework were brought to the PSSC in 2017
- The decision was made to survey parents to see the extent of these concerns
- The first survey was made in June 2017
- A second followup survey was made in December 2017, with the inclusion of comments

June 2017 Results

Time spent on homework

Gender	Less than 30	30 to 60	60 to 90	More than 90
Female	36(29.5%)	19(15.6%)	62(50.8%)	5(4.1%)
Male	38(30.9%)	5(4.1%)	79(64.2%)	1(0.8%)
Grade	Less than 30	30 to 60	60 to 90	More than 90
6	32(30.5%)	10(9.6%)	62(59.0%)	1(1.0%)
7	30(36.1%)	12(14.5%)	38(45.8%)	3(2.9%)
8	12(21.1%)	2(3.5%)	41(71.9%)	2(3.5%)
Programming	Less than 30	30 to 60	60 to 90	More than 90
English	26(29.2%)	5(5.6%)	58(65.2%)	0(0.0%)
French Immersion	48(31.0%)	19(12.3%)	82(52.9%)	6(3.9%)

Feeling whether homework given is appropriate

Gender	Too little	Appropriate	Too much
Female	68(55.7%)	22(18.0%)	32(26.2%)
Male	65(52.8%)	37(30.1%)	21(17.1%)
Grade	Too little	Appropriate	Too much
6	60(57.1%)	21(20.0%)	24(22.9%)
7	41(49.4%)	17(20.5%)	25(30.1%)
8	32(56.1%)	21(36.8%)	4(7.0%)
Programming	Too little	Appropriate	Too much
English	41(36.1%)	32(36.0%)	16(18.0%)
French Immersion	91(58.7%)	27(17.4%)	37(23.9%)

Feeling whether the time spent is appropriate

Gender	Too little	Appropriate	Too much
Female	62(50.8%)	27(22.1%)	33(27.0%)
Male	61(49.6%)	40(32.5%)	22(17.9%)
Grade	Too little	Appropriate	Too much
6	54(51.4%)	26(24.8%)	25(23.8%)
7	39(47.0%)	19(22.9%)	25(30.1%)
8	30(52.6%)	22(38.6%)	5(8.8%)
Programming	Too little	Appropriate	Too much
English	42(47.2%)	31(34.8%)	16(18.0%)
French Immersion	80(51.6%)	36(23.2%)	39(25.2%)

Is the time for large projects appropriate

Gender	No	Yes
Female	24(19.7%)	98(80.3%)
Male	27(22.0%)	96(78.0%)
Grade	No	Yes
6	22(21.0%)	83(79.0%)
7	23(27.7%)	60(72.3%)
8	6(10.5%)	51(89.5%)
Programming	No	Yes
English	15(16.9%)	74(83.1%)
French Immersion	36(23.2%)	119(76.8%)

December 2017 Results

Time spent on homework

Gender	Less than 30	30 to 60	60 to 90	More than 90
Female	28(35.0%)	17(21.3%)	31(38.7%)	4(5.0%)
Male	28(33.3%)	9(10.7%)	46(54.8%)	1(1.2%)
Grade	Less than 30	30 to 60	60 to 90	More than 90
6	16(30.8%)	13(25.0%)	23(44.2%)	0(0.0%)
7	23(41.1%)	6(10.7%)	26(46.4%)	1(1.8%)
8	17(30.4%)	7(12.5%)	28(50.0%)	4(7.1%)
Programming	Less than 30	30 to 60	60 to 90	More than 90
English	19(32.8%)	10(17.2%)	28(48.3%)	1(1.7%)
French Immersion	37(34.9%)	16(15.1%)	49(46.2%)	4(3.8%)

Feeling whether homework given is appropriate

Gender	Too little	Appropriate	Too much
Female	42(52.5%)	15(18.8%)	23(28.7%)
Male	45(53.6%)	18(21.4%)	21(25.0%)
Grade	Too little	Appropriate	Too much
6	27(51.9%)	7(13.5%)	18(34.6%)
7	32(57.1%)	11(19.6%)	13(23.2%)
8	28(50.0%)	15(26.8%)	13(23.2%)
Programming	Too little	Appropriate	Too much
English	30(51.7%)	16(27.6%)	12(20.7%)
French Immersion	57(53.8%)	17(16.0%)	32(30.2%)

Feeling whether the time spent is appropriate

Gender	Too little	Appropriate	Too much
Female	43(53.8%)	13(16.2%)	24(30.0%)
Male	46(54.8%)	19(22.6%)	19(22.6%)
Grade	Too little	Appropriate	Too much
6	25(48.1%)	7(13.5%)	20(38.5%)
7	33(58.9%)	10(17.9%)	13(23.2%)
8	31(55.4%)	15(26.8%)	10(17.8%)
Programming	Too little	Appropriate	Too much
English	30(51.7%)	15(25.9%)	13(22.4%)
French Immersion	59(55.7%)	17(16.0%)	30(28.3%)

Is the time for large projects appropriate

Gender	No	Yes
Female	10(12.5%)	70(87.5%)
Male	15(17.9%)	69(82.1%)
Grade	No	Yes
6	11(21.2%)	41(78.8%)
7	6(10.7%)	50(89.3%)
8	8(14.3%)	48(85.7%)
Programming	No	Yes
English	8(13.8%)	50(86.2%)
French Immersion	17(16.0%)	89(84.0%)

Comments (Samples)

- There were 69 comments submitted
- "With activities outside of school it is difficult to plan activities, supper and proper bedtimes and family time "
- "There are a few instances when my child has lots of homework, but more often than not, there is no homework. He is a very strong student, though, so he often gets things done quickly in class. It would be nice if he had a bit more homework, but not enough is better than too much!!!"

Comments cont'd

"1) While project work is important to learn structuring the work with real scenarios, the projects should be completed during school hours. The child requires guidance throughout the entire project and, often, the parents are not equipped to help the child. Also, the child feels competing with other kids who's parents are more educated or simply bilingual.

2) I don't really understand why it is up to teachers to use Weebly, techwicki or personal pages to post school work. How hard is to standardize this making it accessible to parents from the main school site? Is it possible to start the year with cleaner sites and not having to go through previous years assignments and activities?

3) Thank you for caring for our children education. I wish I had such group of professional educators during my childhood."

Comments cont'd

- "I feel that the amount of homework is appropriate; however, I also feel that when a major assignment is due (STEAM for example) that the other classes should decrease the homework given for a bit of time. Also- it is very hard to keep up with the different assignments and expectations. If each grade level team could use the one method of communication (Seesaw, DoJo, Remind, weebly)- this would avoid the hassle of having to check for information in five different places. "

Comments cont'd

- "It feels like our son has quite a bit more homework than our older son had a few years ago at Bliss Carman. With his extracurricular activity and sports that he has on the go it makes it challenging to have enough time to put an acceptable effort into homework. We're trying to find that balance. We really appreciate the teachers that do let us know what their homework is for the week as he tends to 'forget' easily. It's help us plan our week better and let's the children be active and able to accomplish their school objectives."
- "I do not feel that we are setting our children up for success as we do not give them enough responsibility to complete their work at home. This is not how it works in high school or university. "

Comments cont'd

- "It is very difficult for my child to focus on homework in the evenings. Short, consistent exercises are better than lengthy worksheets"