



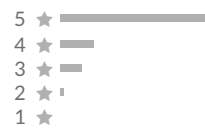
GRAMINIA SCHOOL THOUGHT EXCHANGE REPORT 2019

Parkland School Division 70
Graminia School



Q1 What are some things you appreciate and some concerns you have about our school this year?

I appreciate all of the staff at Graminia Having supportive teachers, engaged principles and friendly office staff makes for a positive environment for my child to learn.

4.3  (36 
Ranked #1 of 114




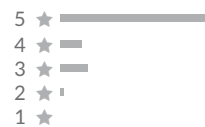
I appreciate the school staff. The admin are very receptive.

4.3  (36 
Ranked #2 of 114




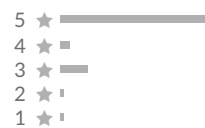
Grateful for caring staff and educators My kids benefit from attentive, motivational teachers and support

4.3  (35 
Ranked #3 of 114



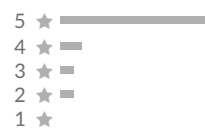
Teachers and staff are awesome! We are so lucky to have an amazing staff and teacher who really do value our kids!

4.3  (34 
Ranked #4 of 114



I appreciate that the principal and vice principal are so approachable for students and parents. It's comforting to know our students and the parents are clearly respected and valued in the school.

4.3  (26 
Ranked #5 of 114





I appreciate the staff, they work together as a whole and the kids know it. The consistency is so important for children.

4.3  (24 
Ranked #6 of 114





I appreciate the small class sizes, and availability of technology. Not every family is able or prepared to supply chromebooks or laptops for their children

4.3  (22 )
Ranked #7 of 114





When you walk into he school all staff are friendly and smiling faces

4.3  (22 )
Ranked #8 of 114



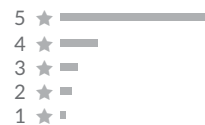
The teaching staff that my sons have are fantastic and should be commended for their hard work and genuine care for their students.

4.3  (20 )
Ranked #9 of 114



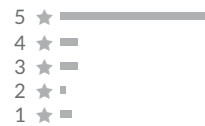
We have a fantastic group of teachers and staff who work very well with our community
This helps us be a very tight knit group who is always willing to work together.

4.2  (35 )
Ranked #10 of 114



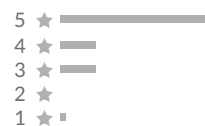
Getting kids outside! Love that we are focusing on improving our grounds and facilities outside to get kids outdoors more often.

4.2  (31 )
Ranked #11 of 114



Student Leadership Things like buddy activities, in-class helpers & the student rink team, Graminia is doing great things to encourage leadership through example!

4.2  (31 )
Ranked #12 of 114



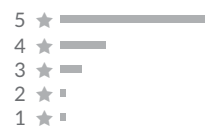
I would like to see percentages back on report cards for junior high students.

4.2  (30 )
Ranked #13 of 114





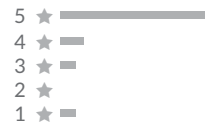
We have a great principal / vice and so many amazing teachers I truly appreciate those that go above and beyond for the students and so many of Graminia's staff do this daily

4.2  (30 )
Ranked #14 of 114



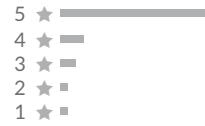
I'm pleased the school is promoting more time outdoors with their classes and hope this continues, increases and that all teachers are on board. The importance of appreciating their environment and nature and expanding on how instruction is delivered is imperative.

4.2  (25 
Ranked #15 of 114




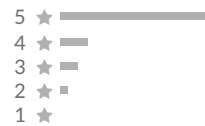
The improvements to outdoor spaces is creative and exciting Enriches the students' learning environment

4.2  (25 
Ranked #16 of 114



Wonderful Teachers I am so happy with the teachers we have this year. They go over and above to care for and teach the students. Thank you

4.2  (21 
Ranked #17 of 114



I also really appreciate the parent and community support we have at our school!! Our fundraising is one way that shows the involvement from our families and neighbors!! We have so many great people that care about our school!

4.1  (32 
Ranked #18 of 114




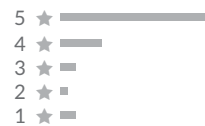
Great school and terrific community I appreciate our amazing school and the community that surrounds it, looking forward to more events like Rink Day to bring community together.

4.1  (30 
Ranked #19 of 114



the buddy system between younger grades and older ones (kinders/grade 1-2 with grade 5-7). builds relationships, helps kids get to know one another

4.1  (27 
Ranked #20 of 114





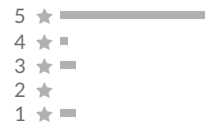
I appreciate the ability of teachers to identify learning issues, but feel follow through is under supported. Making sure students achieve success in early grades is critical to success as they get older. Otherwise, students become frustrated and lose interest

4.1  (23 
Ranked #21 of 114





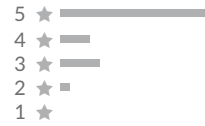
I appreciate how involved and responsive the administrators are when it comes to parent concerns. I feel heard

4.1  (22 
Ranked #22 of 114





I appreciate the staff and teachers as they always go above and beyond for the best interests of each individual student when required.

4.1  (22 
Ranked #23 of 114



I appreciate the sense of community at Graminia & the caring staff. Helps our children feel they belong & are appreciated

4.1  (11 
Ranked #24 of 114



The extra teacher helpers that provide one on one with the students. The students have a lot of information to process, getting the one on one will really help these students stay on top of their learning.

4.0  (28 
Ranked #25 of 114





Appreciate the addition of the drama after school program Glad to see afterschool programs being added

3.9  (34 
Ranked #26 of 114





I appreciate that classes are small, school is small. Teachers get to know the families. It's important because the children are younger and should feel safe. Easier to help each child with individual problems.

3.9  (32 
Ranked #27 of 114



Appreciate: Teacher communication with the parents.

3.9  (27 
Ranked #28 of 114





Transportation still remains a challenge for many reasons. The travel times of our busses leaves many kids on the bus to long and at the school to early. This is hard on their learning.

3.8  (35 
Ranked #29 of 114




It would be awesome to have a school councillor The teachers are doing the best they can! But I think having someone at the school would really help and benefit all students and teachers!

3.8  (33 
Ranked #30 of 114





Smaller phys ed classes! Such a relief! I haven't heard my kids complain about gym once this year! Thank you for listening to Graminia's parents and making these changes.

3.8  (31 
Ranked #31 of 114





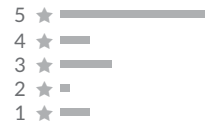
I appreciate the opportunities provided to the students for such a small school. It allows for growth and further learning.

3.8  (28 
Ranked #32 of 114



The phenomenal quality of communication from and with the Grade 8 teachers I feel totally informed, and able to support my child

3.8  (26 
Ranked #33 of 114



I appreciate play parkland. I appreciate Mrs. Sloan

3.8  (22 
Ranked #34 of 114



Third Afternoon Recesses Students would benefit from an afternoon outdoor recess as lots of them have a long bus ride home

3.8  (21 
Ranked #35 of 114





I feel that blogs should be mandatory. Teachers are busy but I feel that not all kids like to share what they're learning and so not only is it a mystery but it's difficult to help at home.

3.8  (18 
Ranked #36 of 114



Shorter Bus Rides by adding busses and making routes more efficient Bus routes needed to be planned better to ensure shortest ride. If this included adding more busses, a rider fee should be applied.

3.8  (11 
Ranked #37 of 114



Graminia staff have incorporated past parent feedback and made strides to improve opportunities for physical health and learning
Ask Felicia! Keeping our kids active for life is critical

3.8 ★★★★★ (7 👤)
Ranked #38 of 114



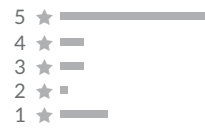
Transportations Bus Routes I really believe there are better ways to get our kids to the school more timely and safer.

3.7 ★★★★★ (34 👤)
Ranked #39 of 114



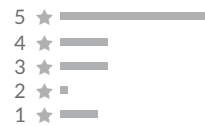
Bus pick-up times before 7am We pay for busing but only use it half the time to give our kids a better quality of life (i.e SLEEP!) PSD please add another bus to help alleviate

3.7 ★★★★★ (31 👤)
Ranked #40 of 114



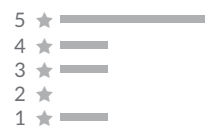
Grade 9 teaching staff Approaching different students with different strategies to maximize the caliber of their education and capabilities.

3.7 ★★★★★ (30 👤)
Ranked #41 of 114



Report Card Grading "Exp/Pro/App/Beg" Every teacher has different expectations of what these mean. One year your child is doing great, the next, terrible. Is it the student or the teacher?

3.7 ★★★★★ (30 👤)
Ranked #42 of 114



The continuous and constant issues related to busing needs to take a priority. There is a reason most parents are frustrated. As parents we rely on busing to be safe but also reliable and with consideration to the amount of time spent on the bus and how early students are on.

3.7 ★★★★★ (26 👤)
Ranked #43 of 114



Appreciate that Graminia has a Holistic approach to learning Provides a variety of ways for a child to explore and learn

3.7 ★★★★★ (24 👤)
Ranked #44 of 114



Increase recess/outdoor learning time

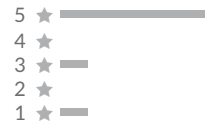
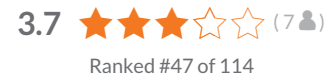
Children were not made to sit still. They learn by doing and exploring. This will reduce stress, anxiety, aggression and increase concentration.



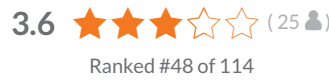
Less screen time more outside time It's just better for everyone



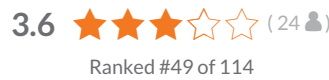
Strong community support



Busing concerns aren't being heard. Parents don't seem to have a voice. Problems continue and get worse. Transportation is not accountable.



I appreciated Parkland Play I believe that good activity is great for students.



I'd appreciate a better way for PSD Transport to communicate with us and think we should be able to communicate with our driver. PSD Transport has lost emails in the past causing undue stress for parents regarding a different drop off. More effective to talk direct with driver





Excellent learning activities I am very impressed with the learning activities done in grade 2. They are interesting and engaging.



I very much appreciate the great option programs available to the junior high students.



We need a better phys. ed program Whether you are athletically inclined or not, all children need to move. We are short one recess so gym needs to be more ACTIVE.

3.6  (18 )
Ranked #53 of 114



Concern: Bussing The bus schedule is INSANE. Our daughters pick up-grade 9-is 6:40. Her drop off is 3:45.

3.6  (13 )
Ranked #54 of 114



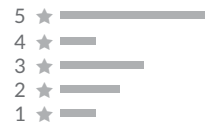
Small Classroom Sizes Creates a more conducive learning environment

3.6  (11 )
Ranked #55 of 114



Bullying in this school is way out of hand. There should be a 3 strikes rule on bullying. My child has not been involved but comes home regularly upset for witnessing others getting hit

3.5  (30 )
Ranked #56 of 114



Concern: Number of children in the class that need extra help.

3.5  (25 )
Ranked #57 of 114



Will more help be offered afterschool So many kids struggle with the basics would be nice to see a Tudor program added or some sort of learning based program

3.4  (34 )
Ranked #58 of 114



Concern, the hot lunch food has gotten gross as my kids call it , we only order take out items now Why have things changed so much, it's the same items on the menu? Have the ingredients changed, cheaper ingredients used ?

3.4  (33 )
Ranked #59 of 114





The school looks run down gates are missing paint on the outside doors no flag pole and when there was a pole the flag was ripped. I'd like to see the general repair and maintenance of the school get improved.

3.4  (32 )
Ranked #60 of 114




Bullying still exists and no one knows who or what to do about it, the bullied kids then have to leave the school or group not the bully. What are we teaching our children when justice can not be done and no one seems to care.

3.4  (29 
Ranked #61 of 114





Many classrooms too cold in the winter / unbearably hot in the summer. Poor learning environment especially in portable classrooms. Must alleviate the extreme temps in classrooms. Put some fundraised \$ towards Dyson heating / cooling fans to help with both concerns.

3.4  (29 
Ranked #62 of 114




Paul Danielson Insane commitment to basketball teams

3.4  (29 
Ranked #63 of 114



My concern is a lack of support for non-traditional learners. Kids with Dyslexia, ADHD, and other learning variances. It is important to have available trained staff who have dedicated their careers to helping these children have success in the school system.

3.4  (26 
Ranked #64 of 114




Graminia School has a wide range of clubs and leadership opportunities allowing for all students to get involved. This helps ensure that the students are getting exposed to so many activities and opportunities to step up in the school.

3.4  (25 
Ranked #65 of 114





Report cards Report cards should have real marks on them not app/pro/exmp

3.4  (24 
Ranked #66 of 114





I really like the hot lunch program With a bus only school it provides a convenient option for students

3.4  (21 
Ranked #67 of 114





Reduce screen time, specifically for grades K-4 The average child spends 8 hours/day in devices (both in and out of school). Children should learn through their senses not through a screen.

3.4  (21 
Ranked #68 of 114




I think the band teacher is doing a great job communicating with parents this year. Handbook at start of term was a great idea. Roles & responsibilities clearly defined at the outset. Important dates shared early.

3.4  (20 
Ranked #69 of 114



I feel that the school is looking run-down. The work bees have been an excellent idea but I feel like the inside could use some work. Students pride themselves in their accomplishments but there seems to be a lack in "current" artwork on the walls. We need to brighten up this space

3.4  (19 
Ranked #70 of 114





Love having the option of the hot lunch, but disappointed in the nutritional quality of the food I would like to see more balanced nutrition available and less processed food. I am willing to pay what it requires.

3.3  (34 
Ranked #71 of 114




More one on one supports are required to assist children who are not understanding learning objectives Children are more cooperative at school for teachers and volunteers than they are for parents.

3.3  (32 
Ranked #72 of 114



I have no concerns, my child in Kindergarten and so far the experience is great!

3.3  (28 
Ranked #73 of 114





I would like to see report cards changed in away that you really know how well the student is doing. I feel like the grade system is a not working. Why can it not have a percentage or overall grade and the system you have.

3.3  (23 
Ranked #74 of 114





I am frustrated that I cannot support my child's learning because the resources are "on google classroom." Parents can not access google classroom To know what is being taught and to help practice areas where improvement is needed.

3.2  (22 )
Ranked #75 of 114





I am concerned by the limited extra curricular activities Although there are new ones slowly being introduced, there are limited opportunities for children other than our athletically inclined

3.2  (21 )
Ranked #76 of 114





Overall, I believe Graminia School is one of the best schools in the district and we are very fortunate that our children can attend. It would be great if some of our fundraising monies could be used to expand the school to go to Grade 12. :)

3.2  (21 )
Ranked #77 of 114




I think we need more attentive playground supervision There are always ongoing issues of bullying

3.2  (18 )
Ranked #78 of 114



I have concerns about transportation outside the major the hub.

3.1  (32 )
Ranked #79 of 114



Playground lighting is sub par on the elementary side. There is no way that kids should be playing in the dark Slip trip and fall hazard and general safety of the children.

3.1  (32 )
Ranked #80 of 114





Phys Ed and "options" should be grade specific classes. All junior high students shouldn't be combined in a class. Classes are over crowded. There is a big difference in maturity level across grades. Girls and boys should have separate phys Ed.

3.1  (29 )
Ranked #81 of 114





no feedback process on current teachers. how can teachers improve without parent/student feedback. not everyone feels comfortable providing feedback, especially improvements, in person/email

3.1  (26 
Ranked #82 of 114



Report cards They need real marks. Why can we not follow the example of all the rest of the public schools in the city.

3.1  (24 
Ranked #83 of 114



Would like more productivity on days when PSD transport is cancelled but I send my kids to school They can review information and have an opportunity for more 1-1 with students who need extra help in subject areas.

3.1  (23 
Ranked #84 of 114



Having no idea what the learning expectations are or what is the material to be covered. Variable teacher communication to parents. Parents should be afforded the opportunity to be partners in their child's learning. We can support classroom goals.

3.1  (22 
Ranked #85 of 114





Supervision, is still a concern. Children need to be monitored closely at all times.

3.1  (22 
Ranked #86 of 114





Candy Markets I personally don't like the candy markets. I think they could be better if they offered healthy snacks rather than junk food.

3.1  (20 
Ranked #87 of 114



I appreciate the hot lunch program but we need to change up the menu and add more nutritional options The current menu does not offer a healthy variety

3.1  (20 
Ranked #88 of 114





A concern I have is the limited amount of extra help for students struggling with math. The literacy program is super & a huge help. There is a need for extra help with math.

3.1  (10 
Ranked #89 of 114





Hot Lunches should be complete to ensure that they follow food guide. More fruits and vegetables should be included in choices. The current choices are not healthy, complete meals. If the meal included healthy food as well I would buy hot lunches more instead of packing them

3.1  (10 )
Ranked #90 of 114





In class rewards shouldn't be candy Nutrition is key to a healthy learning child and having candy as a reward in class could be replaced with something healthier.

3.1  (10 )
Ranked #91 of 114





Sports teams need to be better supported. They need more gym time and team transportation. All students should have the opportunity to try out for teams and improve their skills

3.0  (29 )
Ranked #92 of 114





Communication when injury. I have had my children come home injured and have not received any information or anything. I feel this is important because it shows that the staff.

3.0  (21 )
Ranked #93 of 114



Candy markets are not a healthy option Markets could include healthier options encouraging kids to make healthy choices

3.0  (10 )
Ranked #94 of 114




Expand to include high school Would like to see my child complete school in one area. Don't like the disruptive nature of moving to a new school.

2.9  (36 )
Ranked #95 of 114



It is important to have good friends at school and I also feel that this is not encouraged enough every year. Children will learn better when they are happy and have a friend.

2.9  (30 )
Ranked #96 of 114



Dirty bathrooms My kids are afraid to use the washroom at school.

2.9 ★★☆☆☆ (24)
 Ranked #97 of 114



Concern that children aren't adequately supervised at recess. My son is coming home with injuries daily from a winter "soccer" game

2.8 ★★☆☆☆ (32)
 Ranked #98 of 114



I am concerned that keyboarding skills are not being taught in school With the huge shift to online notetaking and assignments, I do not feel the students are being set up for success by not teaching them keyboarding

2.8 ★★☆☆☆ (7)
 Ranked #99 of 114



I wish that the delivery of the French curriculum could be raised in importance by the school I want my child to be confident in learning and using a second language

2.7 ★★☆☆☆ (30)
 Ranked #100 of 114



The cancellation of the busses due to extreme cold weather concerned me. The teachers were in the school (excellent!), but were unable to teach. The message the children take is that school is optional, and that education is not valued.

2.7 ★★☆☆☆ (30)
 Ranked #101 of 114



Dirty school grounds. Earth day is not the only time the school yard needs to be cleaned. Teachers can do more and lead by example.

2.7 ★★☆☆☆ (23)
 Ranked #102 of 114




I have concerns regarding how some of the money fundraised for school is spent as it seems frivolous and unnecessary.

2.7 ★★☆☆☆ (21)
 Ranked #103 of 114





I would like to celebrate my children's success at school and would like to see a day in the year where they can show their work to family members. This is important because I feel like I really dont know what they are doing in their classes. As well as builds confidence and success for them.

2.6  (22 
Ranked #104 of 114




Many worksheets are very poorly formatted. It is harder for students to complete work when the layout and spacing works against their success.

2.6  (21 
Ranked #105 of 114





Lunch times are too short to allow for healthy eating habits as well as time to expend energy. Minds need exercise as well as food. Give them the time they need to eat and play. Extend the day by 15 - 20 min.

2.5  (36 
Ranked #106 of 114



It is apparent that my child's teacher has a poor understanding of some of the concepts she is attempting to teach. Teachers need a chance to feel comfortable with the curriculum

2.5  (18 
Ranked #107 of 114





I have been concerned that I have not seen an English assignments come home. I would like to know how my children are doing on writing assignments. English is a major part of every day use and would like to know how they are doing in the subject. Every other subject comes home but this one.

2.4  (22 
Ranked #108 of 114




I would like to see more assignments coming home. We are a rural school and I'm a working parent who is not see my children's success coming home. May More pictures taken from teachers might help.

2.4  (22 
Ranked #109 of 114



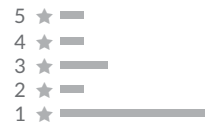
Property taxes need to be increased So teachers can get a raise.

2.4  (18 
Ranked #110 of 114





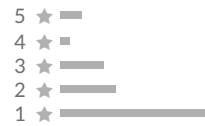
Lack of Options: the options courses are a joke Not sure why more can be offered

2.4  (11 
Ranked #111 of 114



student seemed labelled as "class disturber" at the start of the year regardless of improvement, it was still brought up as an issue neraing the end of the year

2.1  (25 
Ranked #112 of 114



I do not like the Play Parkland Program. It uses a lot of time and money for transport and takes away time from core subjects Better use of limited resources

2.1  (23 
Ranked #113 of 114




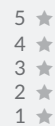
I drop off my child at the front door. Often he is forced to remove his snow boots and carry them He gets wet feet and the boots are heavy. this is not the same rules for all the students nor is it a good policy

2.0  (30 
Ranked #114 of 114



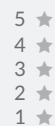
A concern I have is the lack of discipline of some students who misbehave and act out in class. This is very disruptive and distracting to those students who are well behaved and come to school to learn. Sets a bad example when not dealt with.

0.0  (0 
Not enough ratings to rank



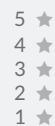
A lot of time is spent dealing with/on students who behave poorly. Perhaps the same amount of time should be dedicated to recognizing students who have excellent behaviour.

0.0  (0 
Not enough ratings to rank




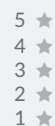
Bathrooms need to be revamped They are very old, smelly, the driers do not work well and toilets do not flush properly.

0.0  (0 
Not enough ratings to rank





I appreciate the high quality, creative and caring teachers at Graminia school Makes class enjoyable for the students and provides the learning and support that they require to succeed.

0.0  (0 
Not enough ratings to rank



Most teachers really seem to care about the students and their well being. The go the extra mile to see how things are with their students.

0.0  (0 )
Not enough ratings to rank



- 5 ★
- 4 ★
- 3 ★
- 2 ★
- 1 ★

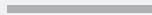

Some kids misbehave in the lockerroom washrooms and now no one is allowed to use them. It bothers me that well behaved students suffer the same consequences as the poorly behaved students.

0.0  (0 )
Not enough ratings to rank


- 5 ★
- 4 ★
- 3 ★
- 2 ★
- 1 ★

The Graminia staff and leadership from the Principal and vice principal are exceptional. They care about our kids, and ensure they will be model citiz Students are being encouraged and exposed to how to be leaders today and into their futures. Great communication

3.8  (4 )
Not enough ratings to rank

- 5 ★ 
- 4 ★ 
- 3 ★
- 2 ★
- 1 ★

Update the hot lunch program The food is often not very good, it is greasy and lots is wasted.

0.0  (0 )
Not enough ratings to rank

- 5 ★
- 4 ★
- 3 ★
- 2 ★
- 1 ★