

**POST KINDERGARTEN ROUND-UP (KRU) PARENT SURVEY
SEPTEMBER 2006**

SURVEY RESULTS

Methodology:

The First 5 Plumas County Children and Families Commission in coordination with the Local Child Care Planning Council (LPC) and Plumas Unified School District conducted a school district-wide parent survey to: 1) gain a more accurate assessment of how KRU met the needs of families and their young children entering kindergarten, and 2) address the concern of the LPC that invasive medical tests performed during KRU on the school sites such as the “finger stick” may cause children to associate pain with school and/or may cause the child to feel negatively or afraid of going to school.

Ellen Vieira, executive director of First 5 Plumas developed the survey questions with input from Shelley Morrison, director of Feather River Child Development Center. Ellen Vieira distributed/analyzed the surveys and produced this report. The surveys were distributed to the elementary schools with an introductory letter to the principals and kindergarten teachers. Kest Porter, PUSD director of curriculum approved the distribution through the schools. As an incentive for assisting with the survey, every kindergarten teacher will receive a \$25.00 gift certificate (funded by First 5 Plumas) for classroom supplies.

Response Rate:

Two hundred eighteen (218) surveys were distributed to the following schools: 1) C. Roy Carmichael (60) Quincy/Pioneer (70), Chester El. (40), and Greenville El. (40). Sixty-five (65) surveys were returned for a 30% overall response rate. Three (3) surveys were disqualified because the family did not actually attend KRU. Sixty-two (62) surveys were analyzed for this report. One hundred thirty-six (136) children attended 2006 Kindergarten Round-up. Forty-five percent (45%) of those families returned surveys.

Returned From	C. Roy Carmichael	Chester Elementary	Greenville Elementary	Pioneer/Quincy Elementary	Total
Number	15	22	14	14	65

Findings:

1. Did your child receive his/her pre-kindergarten school physical at KRU?
Yes: 45 (73 %) No: 17 (27 %)
2. Why did you choose to attend KRU? Check all that applies.
Lack of medical insurance: 9 (15%). Lack of a family doctor: 22 (35%)
Introduce my child to the school: 39 (63%) Meet the teachers: 21(34%)
Others: Register for school: 1 Easy and convenient: 2
3. Did your child worry or seem apprehensive prior to arriving at KRU?
Yes 4 (6%) No 58 (94%)
4. Did your child become upset during or after any of the medical procedures?
Yes 15 (24%) No 47 (76%): 3 out of the 15 identified the finger prick and 12 didn't mention a reason.
5. Do you feel that this experience caused your child to feel negatively or afraid of going to school? Yes: 0 No: 62
6. What part of KRU did your child enjoy?
School Readiness table and the "give aways": 24 (39%); Meeting the teachers: 7 (11%); Being with other kids: 13 (21%); All of the stations and activities: 8 (13%); No response: 7 (11%); Other (see below): 3 (5%)
 - a. Getting a bike helmet
 - b. Snacks
 - c. "My child didn't enjoy anything after the finger prick"
7. Do you have any suggestions for future activities to prepare children for kindergarten?
No Response: 31 (50%) No suggestions at this time: 20 (32%) Other suggestions (see below) 11 (18%):
 - a. Check kids for lice before putting anything on their heads
 - b. Serve healthy snacks, not cookies
 - c. Less sugar
 - d. More clarity on rotation
 - e. Preschool prior to kindergarten
 - f. Expand the program from 1 to 2 days. I think all the people made my child nervous
 - g. Continue the pre-k camp (Indian Valley)
 - h. Provide more to prepare kids socially/emotionally
 - i. Send parent kindergarten skills list 6 months in advance
 - j. More interaction with other kids
 - k. One additional station that explains some things that kindergarteners will be learning in school

Key Findings

- ◆ While the majority of children (73%) receive their pre-kindergarten physical at KRU, the majority of parents (63%) attend KRU to introduce their child to school (K-Transition).
- ◆ Parents reported that their children (94%) are not apprehensive prior to KRU.
- ◆ While 24% of children become upset during the medical tests, none of the parents reported that it caused their child to feel negatively towards or afraid of going to school.
- ◆ The majority of parents (82%) was pleased with KRU and felt the event needed little or no improvements.
- ◆ While only 11% of parents included suggestions on how to improve KRU, #7 a-k may be noteworthy for planning purposes.

Next Steps

The Planning Council will discuss both the pre and post KRU parent survey results and make possible recommendations to the KRU Planning Committee, which consists of representatives from PUSD, First 5 Plumas, LPC, and the Health Department.

Submitted by: Ellen Vieira, Executive Director
First 5 Plumas County Children and Families Commission

Submitted to: First 5 Plumas
Plumas County Child Care Planning and Development Council
Plumas Unified School District