

# MCS D 11

## 5Essentials Survey

Start Date: February 6th, 2023 - March 11, 2023

Who takes 5Essentials? Parents, teachers, staff, students

We will offer 5Essentials Night at the school for parents and guardians to come in and use the school's computers if needed. TBA

Why do we do 5Essentials: It is to inform the school on how the community, staff, teachers and students view the school so changes can be made if needed and to see what we are doing well and improve on those as well.

You have the opportunity to opt your child out of taking the 5Essentials Survey by filling out the form provided on the website by clicking on the 5Essentials Survey tab. [www.mcsd11.net](http://www.mcsd11.net) The form must be turned in by February 3rd to the office.

Thank you for your participation in the 5Essentials Survey. This will help our school become better and be able to address the needs of the community. If you have any questions please contact the office at 217-584-1744 or email at [twalker@mcsd11.net](mailto:twalker@mcsd11.net). I will be glad to answer any questions you may have about the survey.

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## 1 Press Release

Thad Walker

Title: Superintendent

Meredosia-Chambersburg CUSD 1

1 Phone Number: 217-584-1744

twalker@mcsdl1.net

### School Environment Matters: Meredosia-Chambersburg CUSD 11 Administers Eleventh Illinois 5Essentials Survey to Improve Student Learning Students, teachers and parents weigh in on school climate and learning conditions

January 24 — Meredosia-Chambersburg CUSD 1 will join the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) in the eleventh statewide survey of school climate and learning conditions. The survey provides a unique opportunity for students, teachers and parents to have a voice in improving their schools. From January 11 through March 11, students and teachers will be asked to take a 25 -minute research-based survey to help identify strengths and weaknesses in their school's learning environment. The parent survey supplement will also be administered during the same survey window. These surveys will serve as an opportunity for schools to reflect on progress since the last statewide implementation.

"We encourage all our teachers, students, and parents to make their voices heard to impact change....)

The Illinois 5Essentials Survey provides a comprehensive picture of a school's organizational culture in an individualized report measuring five "essentials" critical for school success:

- Effective Leaders
- Collaborative Teachers
- Involved Families
- Supportive Environment
- Ambitious Instruction

Twenty years of research at the University of Chicago in more than 400 schools has shown that schools that were strong on at least three of the 5Essentials were 10 times more likely to make substantial gains in improving student reading and math than schools that were weak on three or more of the Essentials. Those differences remained true even after controlling for student and school characteristics, including poverty, race, gender, and neighborhood characteristics. Strength on components within the Essentials also correlated

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with increased teacher retention, student attendance, college enrollment, and high school graduation.

Generated from a rigorous analysis of student and teacher survey responses, 5Essentials Reports demonstrate that what students and teachers say about their schools can serve as

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important indicators for school success. In the inaugural 2012-2013 statewide Illinois 5Essentials Survey, 87 percent of all schools in the state met the 50-percent participation threshold to receive a 5Essentials Report, with participation from more than 70 percent of all teachers and eligible 6<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> graders across Illinois. Starting in 2018-19, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students were also included in the 5Essentials survey administration.

All district schools, including alternative schools that fall under the district's domain, are required to participate in a school learning conditions survey every year. Starting in school year 2018-19, the survey will be required annually. The survey was deemed an important component to balanced accountability under the state's Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) plan by stakeholders, which resulted in state legislative changes requiring the survey annually.

Recent legislation (105 ILCS 5/2-3.153) allows school districts the option to select an alternative to the 5Essentials from a pre-approved pool for the 2020-21 administration. Selection of an alternative required school board and local union approval and was at the district's own expense. Details on survey alternatives can be found on the State Board's [website](#):

[<https://www.isbe.net/Pages/5Essentials-Survey.aspx>]

Meredosia-Chambersburg CUSD 1 1 has consistently participated in the statewide 5Essentials Survey and is opting to administer the survey to teachers and students again this year to continue tracking and informing progress.

Principals and superintendents will receive their 5Essentials Reports in May 2023. Survey results will also be reported publicly on the 5Essentials reporting site in Spring 2023 and on the [State School Report Card website](#) in Fall 2023. An optional parent survey supplement is again available to all schools as a supplement to the 5Essentials Survey for teachers and students— results from the parent survey supplement will be included only in the individual school 5Essential Reports. Since 2013-14, the Illinois 5Essentials Survey has been normed using the 2012-13 statewide results so that all schools can demonstrate progress over time.

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On behalf of the Illinois State Board of Education, UChicago Impact is providing Illinois 5Essentials to schools statewide. Teachers, students, and parents may complete the Illinois 5Essentials Survey online. For more information visit: [www.5-essentials.org/illinois](http://www.5-essentials.org/illinois).

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### Survey Announcement Letter

Dear Parent,

Beginning January 24, students and teachers across Illinois will have an opportunity to participate in the eleventh annual statewide Illinois 5Essentials Survey. This survey is designed to generate a detailed picture of the inner workings of your child's school. As a parent, this opportunity will allow you to share your thoughts on the important elements of school effectiveness in a survey about your child's school.

On behalf of the Illinois State Board of Education, the Illinois 5Essentials Survey will be administered online by UChicago Impact at the University of Chicago. The survey gathers data related to five indicators that can predict important student outcomes, including improved attendance and larger test score gains. These five indicators that affect and predict school success are:

- Effective Leaders
- Collaborative Teachers
- Involved Families
- Supportive Environments
- Ambitious Instruction

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Prior research in more than 400 schools has shown that schools that were strong on at least three of these "5Essential" indicators were 10 times more likely to improve student learning gains in math and reading than those that were weak on three or more Essentials.

All teachers and 4<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade students will be responding to this survey. 5Essentials Reports will be generated for schools if their teachers and/or students meet the response rate threshold of 50 percent. These reports will be sent to schools and districts in May 2023 and will also be included in the State School Report Card.

Additionally, your district has chosen to provide the optional Parent survey supplement. If at least 20 percent of Meredosia-Chambersburg CUSD 1 1 parents complete this survey, a parent supplement report will also be generated. The parent data will not be reported on the State Report Card.

Your participation in the parent portion of the survey will help us understand the conditions at your child's school and guide improvement. Your identity and survey responses will be kept completely confidential and will never be connected to you or your child.

The Illinois 5Essentials Survey for students and teachers will be conducted January 24, 2023 through March 31, 2023. The Parent Survey Supplement will be conducted during that same timeframe. To take the survey please visit <https://survey.5-essentials.org/Illinois/> and select the appropriate survey to begin.

For more information about the Illinois 5Essentials Survey, or to view previous years' Reports, please visit <https://www.5-essentials.org/illinois>. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact UChicago Impact Client Services at 1-866-440-1874 or [impact-surveys@uchicago.edu](mailto:impact-surveys@uchicago.edu).

Sincerely,  
Thad Walker

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## Survey Reminder Letter

Dear Parent,

This is a reminder to participate in the parent survey supplement, part of the Illinois 5Essentials Survey administration. We guarantee that survey responses will never be connected to the identity of you or your child. School reports will only present aggregated information of how parents and students responded as a whole.

A parent survey report will be generated if at least 20 percent of parents respond to the survey.

While the parent data will not be made public, the parent report will be made available to Kirk Graham and Thad Walker and will enable them to make considerations based on the responses given by Meredosia-Chambersburg CUSD 1 1 parents. Your participation in the parent survey will help us understand the conditions at your child's school and guide improvement. Again, your identity and individual survey responses will be kept completely confidential and will never be connected to you or your child.

Teachers and 4<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> graders throughout Illinois are taking the teacher and student 5Essentials Survey. School-level 5Essentials Reports will be generated if teachers and/or students meet their 50 percent response-rate thresholds. These research-based reports will be sent to schools and districts in March and will also be included in the State School Report Card, released statewide in the fall.

Please visit <https://survey.5-essentials.org/Illinois/> to take the parent survey.

If you have any questions about the survey, please contact UChicago Impact Customer Support at 1-866-440-1874 or [impact-surveys@uchicago.edu](mailto:impact-surveys@uchicago.edu).

Sincerely,  
Thad Walker

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Notification of Student Survey Letter

January 20, 2023

Dear Parent or Guardian,

We are writing to inform you about a student survey that will be administered at your child's school called the Illinois 5Essentials Survey. This is the eleventh year the Illinois State Board of Education will implement this survey across the state. This survey is based on 20 years of research at the University of Chicago. It asks students about their experiences in school, giving school leaders critical student input to help develop school improvement plans.

Student participants will be required to log-in using their state student ID and birth date in order to complete the survey. Students' identities will be completely confidential. Teachers or administrators will never see individual responses to survey questions and will only receive aggregated information, such as the total percentage of students who agree homework assignments help them learn the course material.

Please be aware that under the Protection of Pupil Rights Act, 20 U.S.C. Section 1232(c) (1) (A), you have the right to review a copy of the questions asked of your student(s). Survey questions can be found on the UChicago Impact Support Center (<https://impactsurveyshelp.force.com/s/article/illinois-5essentials-survey-questions>).

If you do not want your son or daughter to participate, fill out the information below and ask your child to return this sheet to his or her teacher.

Thank you for your cooperation,

Thad Walker

School Name:Room #

\_\_\_\_\_ (Please Print)

I DO NOT want my \_\_\_\_\_ child,, to take part in the 2022-23 Illinois CHILD'S NAME (PLEASE PRINT) 5Essentials Survey.

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SIGNATURE OF PARENT OR GUARDIAN

DATE

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