CONNECTIONS FOR LEARNING 2020 THOUGHTEXCHANGE

Parkland School Division 70 Connections for Learning

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



I appreciate the small class sizes and the community feel. There are some amazing opportunities available that aren't in the traditional schools. This creates a better learning environment. Opens them up to a wider variety of experiences.	4.2	★ ★ ★ ★ (7 ▲) Ranked #6 of 37	5 ★ 4 ★ 3 ★ 2 ★ 1 ★
Blended classrooms are an excellent learning tool. Its really nice to have a range of similar ages together. This allows the older kids to help the younger kids and set an example at the same time		★★★★☆ (12 ▲) Ranked #7 of 37	5 ★ 4 ★ 3 ★ 2 ★ 1 ★
I appreciate that the school is open and wants to partner with parents Because it creates a community, and engages families to be responsible to help support classroom teachers in a very positive way.	4.1	★★★★☆ (11 ▲) Ranked #8 of 37	5 ★ 4 ★ 3 ★ 2 ★ 1 ★
I appreciate the flexibility the school offers This is important because it allows the kids to learn to self regulate their actions and learning	4.1	★★★★☆ (11 ▲) Ranked #9 of 37	5 ★ 4 ★ 3 ★ 2 ★ 1 ★
I appreciate the staff They are all creative, innovative, dedicated, available, problem solving and genuinely invested in every kid. The staff drive the learning environment	4.1	★★★★☆ (11 ▲) Ranked #10 of 37	5 ★ 4 ★ 3 ★ 2 ★ 1 ★
Thank you for your hard work to all of the staff at Connections for Learning. The future of our children is impacted greatly by your daily efforts. Working with students every day is a rewarding but often challenging task. I greatly appreciate the positive spirit I see at this school.	4.1	Anked #11 of 37	5 ★ 4 ★ 3 ★ 2 ★ 1 ★
The teachers at Connections for Learning that I have had interactions with are excellent. They engage the students through meaningful activities. Teachers are the at the forefront of education. Their interaction with our children has far reaching effects now and into their future.	4.1	* * * * * * (11 *) Ranked #12 of 37	5 ★ 4 ★ ■ 3 ★ 2 ★ ■ 1 ★

I appreciate that my child has been able to learn in a way that's best for them, not just the "norm" Every child learns differently, and learning styles need to be encouraged	4.1	★ ★ ★ ☆ (8 ♣) Ranked #13 of 37	5 ★ 4 ★ 3 ★ 2 ★ 1 ★
I appreciate the innovative thinking and opportunities to learn. The opportunity to learn in different ways, and to meet the student where they are learning is incredible.	4.0	* * * * * (11 *) Ranked #14 of 37	$5 \bigstar$ $4 \bigstar$ $3 \bigstar$ $2 \bigstar$ $1 \bigstar$
Staff do an amazing job at engaging the children and teach them in fresh non traditional ways I chose to homeschool part time and when they are at school they are doing and ideal job, an even better job, than possible in a home environment.	4.0	Ranked #15 of 37	5 ★ 4 ★ 3 ★ 2 ★ 1 ★
I love that the parents and teachers work as a team to deliver the curriculum to the students! School, home and community should all be connected rather than separate entities - it takes a village is how I describe this school!	4.0	★★★★ (9▲) Ranked #16 of 37	$5 \star \\ 4 \star \\ 3 \star \\ 2 \star \\ 1 \star $
I appreciate that the school encourages parent involvement. Highe parent involvement means more engaged learners and student accountability	4.0	★ ★ ★ ☆ (6 ♣) Ranked #17 of 37	5 ★ 4 ★ 3 ★ 2 ★ 1 ★
I appreciate the support the teachers give us to help with our teaching and learning at home As a new home schooler, it has been a great asset to help us all transition.	3.9	★ ★ ☆ ☆ ☆ (11 ♣) Ranked #18 of 37	5 ★ 4 ★ 3 ★ 2 ★ 1 ★
Appreciate the staff!! All the staff are so inviting, open and we always feel like we belong at CFL. School shouldn't be an institution, it should be like a home away from home and I love that my child feels accepted and that he belongs to a group	3.9	★ ★ ☆ ☆ (9 ▲) Ranked #19 of 37	5 ★ 4 ★ 3 ★ 2 ★ 1 ★

I am a little concerned with the population of the building. With all the expansion, I wonder if the building can truly accommodate so many students The facilities are already small and space seems to be an issue.	3.9 ★★★☆☆ (9▲) Ranked #20 of 37	5 ★ 4 ★ 3 ★ 1 ★
I love the cross grade/age groupings for classrooms and projects each child learns at their own rate, letting them collaborate with multiple ages and abilities creates a learning environment that is safe and secure	3.9 ★★☆☆ (9▲) Ranked #21 of 37	5 ★ 4 ★ 3 ★ 2 ★ 1 ★
Thank you to CFL & Stony Creek!! You have brought joy back to our learning environment. Very supportive in & out of the classroom. Feels like a community. "It takes a village" love it!!	3.9 ★★★☆☆ (7 ▲) Ranked #22 of 37	5 * 4 * 3 * 2 * 1 *
I love that the school puts the child before the curriculum We shouldn't adapt the child to the curriculum, we should adapt the curriculum to suit the child - much easier said than done yet our teachers try to	3.8 ★★★☆☆☆ (9 &) Ranked #23 of 37	5 ★ 4 ★ 3 ★ 2 ★ 1 ★
Concerns No gym Less school sport involvement. School teams.	3.6 ★★★☆☆☆ (7 ▲) Ranked #24 of 37	5 ★ 4 ★ 3 ★ 2 ★ 1 ★
Appreciate the Parent Teachers that come into help! Changes it up a bit. Refreshing. Could maybe use a bit more direction on how to teach. I felt out of my element & didn't want to fail the students.	3.6 ★★★☆☆ (6 &) Ranked #25 of 37	5 * 4 * 3 * 2 * 1 *
Appreciate that it is a self paced program with a twist. Less pressure and stress. Also allows the student to learn different skillsie. time management, priorities, responsibility.	3.5 ★★★☆☆ (6 ▲) Ranked #26 of 37	5 ★ 4 ★ 3 ★ 2 ★ 1 ★

I'm concerned with the use of devices in class. 5 Particularly for non-educational use. Kids are √ (6 ▲) 3.4 *** 4 🛨 3 ★ 🚃 exposed to enough screens throughout their Ranked #27 of 37 2 ★ day and cell phones should not be allowed in 1 🛨 1 class. Literacy is declining and tech is one cause. The physical environment is not conducive to 5 + a highly motivating learning space. Noise 3.3 ★★★☆☆(6▲) 4 🛨 3 ★ disruptions, limited washroom facilities, small Ranked #28 of 37 2 🛨 🗉 gym... Students should feel comfortable in 1 🛨 their learning environment and have opportunities to move. It's hard to focus when classrooms are so open. There has been a change in methods of 5 + teaching students to involve technology and 3.1 ★★★☆☆(12▲) 4 🛨 🗖 3 🛨 = many activities. I see the benefits of keeping Ranked #29 of 37 2 ★ students engaged. However, I do question 1 🔶 whether something important is being lost by reducing significantly the time spent quietly learning and writing. I am concerned about content the children are accessing, at times my children have been 3.1 ★★★☆☆(10▲) exposed to music and topics that have not Ranked #30 of 37 2 🛨 🗉 been age appropriate I do want my children to learn to navigate real life, but scary or adult themes in music and entertainment concern me at this time. ConcernsADLC not having up-to-date 5 👈 textbooks and paper materials available. 3.1 ★★☆☆(6▲) 4 🛨 🔳 3 ★ = Some work better with paper than with Ranked #31 of 37 2 + = online materials. Unable to complete certain assignments due to material not being available to the student. Communication is poor when your child enrolls in CFL...in the outreach program. It 3.0 ★★★☆☆(9▲) 4 🛨 🖿 3 🛨 🗉 took weeks before our online teachers reached Ranked #32 of 37 2 🛨 out to us. We did not get much direction on the process and what the expectations were.



Small class sizes Children get more one on one attention	3.8 ★★★☆☆ (3 ♣) Not enough ratings to rank	5 ★ 4 ★ 3 ★ 2 ★ 1 ★
I appreciate the required parent involvement at the school. Improved communication to parents of what needs they can help the school with is necessary.	3.8 ★★★☆☆☆(3♣) Not enough ratings to rank	5 ★ 4 ★ 3 ★ 2 ★ 1 ★
I appreciate the alternative models to traditional education. We need choice. Not all children thrive in mainstream education models.	3.9 ★★★☆☆☆ (4 &) Not enough ratings to rank	5 ★ 4 ★ 3 ★ 2 ★ 1 ★
School rankings CFL isn't listed but none of the divisions elementary schools rank highly so I assume it is similar. Whats the plan to improve these scores?	3.0 ★★★☆☆ (3≗) Not enough ratings to rank	5 ★ 4 ★ 3 ★ 2 ★ 1 ★
Variety of Experiences Kids can Cook is very fun, the field trips to the Leg and the Museum are great and the Tri-Me_Triathlon is wonderful	3.9 ★★★☆☆☆ (4 ≜) Not enough ratings to rank	5 ★ 4 ★ 3 ★ 2 ★ 1 ★
Extracurricular funding sources The jumpstart funding for the tri leisure access for our kids is a wonderful program	3.7 ★★★☆☆(4≗) Not enough ratings to rank	5 ★ 4 ★ 3 ★ 2 ★ 1 ★
The idea being perpetuated that this division needs elite level sports academies This was tried and didn't work, why try it now unless there is a personal agenda in the admin? Developing well rounded kids should be your goal	2.4 ★★☆☆☆☆(3≛) Not enough ratings to rank	5 ★ 4 ★ 3 ★ 2 ★ 1 ★
Bussing was a complete disaster but has gotten way better for sure. There is too much faith put in the the bussing contractor to take care of the children and protect them.	3.0 ★★★☆☆ (3≛) Not enough ratings to rank	5 ★ 4 ★ 3 ★ 2 ★ 1 ★

I appreciate the division reworking the
assessments to be more meaningful to the
parents We rely heavily on the system to
ensure our children are on pace and not falling
behind and this is the primary mechanism to
track that3.



5 ★ 💳

4 ★ ■ 3 ★ ■

2 ★

1 ★

5 👈

2 ★

1 ★

4 ★ ■ 3 ★

3.8 ★★★☆☆(4≛)

Not enough ratings to rank

I appreciate the division supporting the mypath program and giving alternative models a chance There are a variety of learning styles and each one works with different kids. Developing well rounded kids should be the divisions goal

