

Typically, school leaders will share the EVS results with their administration & faculty, and often with parents, and sometimes with students. In that process, a few recommendations:

From us, to us

Remember that the EVS results are the “voice of the people,” this is not an external evaluation or your own opinion. Phrases such as, “People who took the survey are reporting...” or, “Based on the community’s input, the score is...”

Data not judgment

When sharing EVS results, be curious and reflective. Scores are not “bad” or “good,” and groups are not “right” or “wrong.” The data is data, and presents an opportunity to learn together. “

What can be shared?

When you share the actual report, or comments, or even show a graph, be sure to consider and mention confidentiality. Inform the individual/group of your expectations and plans for sharing, for example, “Please keep the actual numbers to this group for now, and I’ll be sharing a memo with the whole community with trends we see and actions we’re planning.” This is particularly important when handing out printed copies; often administrators will collect the copies after a meeting.

Close the loop

If you want people to answer this, or any other, survey in the future, it will help to give them feedback. While it may be inappropriate to send the report out to the whole community, perhaps there are certain graphs or key points you can share? At least, tell them what you have learned from the process and ensure they feel their input was heard, understood, and appreciated.

Shared action

Sometimes individuals expect that “the leader” will be in charge of changing the climate. While it is a leadership responsibility, it’s also shared. Keep asking everyone involved for their specific action steps.

Refer back to the data

In the months after the survey, when you take action to improve the climate, it’s powerful to keep linking back to EVS. “On last month’s EVS survey, many people expressed a desire to X, and so this week we are taking the following actions...”

