

East Lyme Middle School Student Survey Findings

June 2012

9/5/12

Q3. Close your eyes. Now think back to an excitable or enjoyable time when you were in your elementary SCHOOL BUILDING. Open your eyes. Please write about what you like best about your school.

Long play period
Big and open field areas
Climbing equipment
Nature's classroom
Shiny marble gray floors
Air conditioning
Jungle gym
Whiddle equipment in gym
Basketball court indoors and outdoors
Movie theater seats in auditorium
Huge playground
Wooden playground (not plastic)
Sectioned off by grade levels
Big classrooms
Lockers
Large windows
Long hallways
Large library
Art/projects hanging in hallways
One floor
Quiet library
Computer room
Carpets
Windows in gym
Round lunch tables
Large cafeteria
Longer lunch period
Clean
Nature walks
Courtyard in middle of school w/trees, flowers, birds
Walk to the beach
Classrooms opened up to each other for expansion
Wide hallways

Q4 & 5. What did you like best/least about the GYMNASIUM in your elementary school?

MOST

Gigantic!
Slippery floors
Soft, rubber gym floor
Wooden floor

LEAST

Small
It was downstairs
Old, dirty, and depressing
Rusty pipes in ceiling

Built under the ground
Lots of space
Stage in gym rather than cafeteria
Basketball hoops (many)
Widdle equipment
Big windows
High windows
Paintings
Climbing equipment
Could be separated into 2 gyms
Closet to hold equipment

Discolored walls
No bleachers
Under the ground
Bathroom in an awkward area
Lights turned off when you didn't move
No windows
No locker rooms
Kids scratched bad words into the squishy floor
Slippery floor
Mats on the walls came off
Couldn't practice plays during gym classes
No water fountain
No track outside
No air conditioning
Balls got stuck in the ceiling

Q6 & Q7. What did you like best/least about the CAFETERIA in your elementary school?

BEST

Good food
Round tables
Good social environment
Stage
Large
Long clean lunch counter
Air conditioned
Bright
Wall of windows, see outside
Buffet set up
Open layout
Free cookies on your birthday!
High ceiling

LEAST

Small and crowded
Too far from playground
Small tables (5 or less)
White, boring walls
Small and uncomfortable seats
Small stage
No air conditioning
Long lines for lunch
Café located at entry to school – Food smell
No place to eat outside
Bouncy hotdogs!
Small serving area

Q8 & Q9. What did you like best/least about the library/media center in your elementary school?

BEST

High windows
Section where librarian would read us stories
Plenty of room for books
Well organized
Lots of computers for research and projects
Big and spacious
Books easy to find
Positioned in middle of school
Tables and chairs
Area for quiet place to read, Nook areas
Books were easy to reach
Smart board

LEAST

High shelves
Long, long shelves
Morning Show set, wires every where
Too much space taken up by computers
Small
Tables in front of entrance door
Too cold
Dusty, allergies
Dark
Didn't get story time because we were "too old"

Artwork
Higher level reading books separated
Carpet
Large tables
Signage
Book drop off by front door
High ceiling

Q10 & 11. What did you like best about the ART ROOM in your elementary school?

BEST

Peaceful
Spacious
Plenty of work areas
Plenty of storage areas
Kiln in separate room
Bright, sunny, colorful
Big windows
Stools
Access to outside to draw
Artwork on walls
Neat
Area for claymaking
Tables cleaned easily
Plenty of room to move about
Lots of shelves and supplies
Areas to hang our art around the room
Tables set up to work with friends
Organized and neat

LEAST

Small, not enough work space, shape of room
Clutter of materials
Small tables
Only 2 sinks
Only 1 garbage can, always overflowing
Paintings on wall
Low ceiling
Carpet
Not air conditioned

Q12 & 13. What did you like best about the MUSIC ROOM in your elementary school?

BEST

Great place to relax
Chalkboard
Plenty of room
Sitting area
Risers
Spaces to store instruments
Open space in middle of room to sit or sing w/class
Acoustics
Soft carpet to sit on
High ceiling
Piano
Décor, music charts, etc
Watched movies
Comfortable chairs

LEAST

Cold
Small, cramped
Huge window
No storage for instruments
Chalkboard made room seem dark
No windows
Acoustics, couldn't hear teacher
No air conditioning
Above gym and could hear music from gym
Only one music room
Risers too high
Another music room next door, acoustics bad

Q14 & 15. What did you like best about the SCIENCE ROOM in your elementary school?

BEST

Didn't have one
Big

LEAST

No science room

Q16 & 17. What did you like best/least about the COMPUTER LAB in your elementary school?

BEST

Lots of computers
All rows faced forward
Good size
Comfortable temperature
Smart board
Plenty of work space
Open with room in front of the Smartboard to sit
Easy to see teacher
Carpeted
Comfy chairs
High quality computers
Games

LEAST

Tiny space
Old computers
Located next to playground, loud noises
Not much sunlight
Lots of wire everywhere
Crowded
Couldn't see the front of the room
Cold/Hot
No work space
Assigned to a single computer
Carpet
Strange odor

Q18 & 19. What did you like best/least about the PLAYGROUND in your elementary school?

BEST

4th grade was separate from grades 1,2,3
Wood chips
Enormous
Lots of playscapes
Rope climbing walls
Huge open field
Two huge swing sets
Wooden truck to pretend you were driving
Yellow, spinning things
4th grade playground made up of rope and triangle thing
Black top if you wanted to play kick ball, four square
Huge swirly slide, a tire swing, 3 sets of monkey bars
It was outside!
Equipment was spread apart
Sandbox
Basketball Court
Space net
Soccer field
Many things to do and spread out
Two kickball fields
See saw

LEAST

Bees
Not enough places for four square
Plastic playground equipment
Splinters
No slide
Wood chips – more did not like
Rusty metal
Sandbox/sand pit was gross
Unsafe
No place to play tag
Cracked swing seats
Plastic got really hot
Couldn't play on the grade separate equipment

Q20. Thing of any of the OTHER SPACES, outdoor spaces, rooms, offices, etc. at your elementary school. What did you like about those spaces? What didn't you like about any of those spaces?

BEST

Groomed garden, courtyard
Separate reading room
Big classrooms
Private extra help room
Walk to Town Green and beach
Lockers
Sun lit rooms
Fields in front of school, soccer field behind school
Open space between classes to play w/other class
Big hallways
No chairs in language room
Picnic tables on playground
Small offices
School store

LEAST

Office desks were tall and intimidating
Halls were confusing
Classrooms should have tables, not desks, & comfy chairs
Nurses's office way too small, no windows, low ceilings
No air conditioning
Instrumental room was small
Narrow hallways and low ceilings
Bathrooms too small

Q21. What OTHER IDEAS do you think should be considered in the future elementary schools of East Lyme?

Swimming pool
Air conditioning
Lofts
All kids in one school, separate wings by grades
Separate science room
3 floors of individual classrooms, not Kivas
Don't paint rooms yellow
Use kiddish colors, but not dar colors
Outdoor lunch tables
Better signage
Auditorium
Bigger music and band rooms
No wasted space
Adequate parking
K-5
Soundproof music rooms
Bigger Life Arts rooms
Home base, but change classes

