



Reading, Mathematics, and Writing School Questionnaire

**2017
Grade 8**

2017 Operational School Characteristics and Policies Grade 8 School Questionnaire

This section should be completed by the principal or the head of the school.

1. What grades are taught in your school? Select **all** squares that apply.

- ☐ Ⓐ Pre-kindergarten
- ☐ Ⓑ Kindergarten
- ☐ Ⓒ 1st grade
- ☐ Ⓓ 2nd grade
- ☐ Ⓔ 3rd grade
- ☐ Ⓕ 4th grade
- ☐ Ⓖ 5th grade
- ☐ Ⓗ 6th grade
- ☐ ⓘ 7th grade
- ☐ Ⓙ 8th grade
- ☐ Ⓚ 9th grade
- ☐ Ⓛ 10th grade
- ☐ Ⓜ 11th grade
- ☐ Ⓝ 12th grade

2. Can your school be described by any of the following? Select **all** squares that apply.

- ☐ A Elementary school
- ☐ B Middle or junior high school
- ☐ C Secondary school
- ☐ D Regular school with a magnet program
- ☐ E A magnet school or a school with a special program emphasis, e.g., science/mathematics school, performing arts school, talented/gifted school, foreign language immersion school
- ☐ F Special education school: primarily serves students with disabilities
- ☐ G Alternative school: offers a curriculum designed to provide alternative or nontraditional education, not clearly categorized as regular, special, or vocational education
- ☐ H Private independent school
- ☐ I Private religiously affiliated school
- ☐ J Independent charter school
- ☐ K Charter school administered by local school district
- ☐ L Other (Please specify):

3. Please identify the organization(s) listed below to which your school is most closely affiliated. Select **all** squares that apply.

- ☐ A American Association of Christian Schools
- ☐ B Association of Christian Schools International
- ☐ C Christian Schools International
- ☐ D National Association of Episcopal Schools
- ☐ E National Association of Independent Schools
- ☐ F National Catholic Educational Association
- ☐ G National Society of Hebrew Day Schools
- ☐ H The Association of Boarding Schools
- ☐ I Other (Please specify): _____
- ☐ J None of the above

VH253912

4. What is the current enrollment in your school?

VH253943

5. Approximately what percentage of eighth-graders in your school is new this year?

 %

VH240214

6. About what percentage of this year's eighth-graders was held back and is repeating eighth grade?

- Ⓐ 0%
- Ⓑ 1–2%
- Ⓒ 3–5%
- Ⓓ 6–10%
- Ⓔ More than 10%

VH240208

7. Of the students currently enrolled in your school, what percentage has been identified as limited-English proficient?

- Ⓐ 0%
- Ⓑ 1–5%
- Ⓒ 6–10%
- Ⓓ 11–25%
- Ⓔ 26–50%
- Ⓕ 51–75%
- Ⓖ 76–90%
- Ⓗ Over 90%

VH240209

8. Last school year, approximately what percentage of students at your school enrolled after the first day of school?

- ☐ A 0%
- ☐ B 1–3%
- ☐ C 4–6%
- ☐ D 7–10%
- ☐ E 11–20%
- ☐ F Over 20%

VH240210

9. Last school year, approximately what percentage of students at your school left before the end of the school year?

- ☐ A 0%
- ☐ B 1–3%
- ☐ C 4–6%
- ☐ D 7–10%
- ☐ E 11–20%
- ☐ F Over 20%

VH240211

10. About what percentage of your students is absent on an average day? (Include excused and unexcused absences in calculating this rate.)

- ☐ A 0–2%
- ☐ B 3–5%
- ☐ C 6–10%
- ☐ D More than 10%

VH240212

11. About what percentage of your teachers is absent on an average day? (Include all absences in calculating this rate.)

- Ⓐ 0–2%
- Ⓑ 3–5%
- Ⓒ 6–10%
- Ⓓ More than 10%

VH240215

12. Does your school participate in the National School Lunch Program?

- Ⓐ Yes
- Ⓑ No *Questions 13–15 are not applicable and will be skipped.*

VH240216

13. How does the school operate the program?

- Ⓐ Student eligibility is determined individually, and eligible students receive free or reduced-price lunch. *Question 14 is not applicable and will be skipped.*
- Ⓑ All students in school receive free lunch under special provisions (e.g., Provision 2 or 3).

VH240217

14. If your school distributes free lunch to all students under Provision 2 or 3, what was the **base year** during which individual student eligibility was collected?

- Ⓐ This school does not distribute free lunch to all students under Provision 2 or 3—eligibility is determined annually.
- Ⓑ 2016
- Ⓒ 2015
- Ⓓ 2014
- Ⓔ 2013
- Ⓕ 2012
- Ⓖ 2011 or earlier

15. During this school year, about what percentage of students in your school was eligible to receive a free or reduced-price lunch through the National School Lunch Program?

- ☐ Ⓐ 0%
- ☐ Ⓑ 1–5%
- ☐ Ⓒ 6–10%
- ☐ Ⓓ 11–25%
- ☐ Ⓔ 26–34%
- ☐ Ⓕ 35–50%
- ☐ Ⓖ 51–75%
- ☐ Ⓗ 76–99%
- ☐ Ⓘ 100%

16. Does your school receive Title I funding? (Title I is a federally funded program that provides educational services, such as remedial reading or remedial math, to children who live in areas with high concentrations of low-income families.)

- ☐ Ⓐ No
- ☐ Ⓑ Yes, our school receives funds, which are targeted to eligible students.
- ☐ Ⓒ Yes, our school receives funds, which are used for schoolwide purposes.

VH241920

17. Approximately what percentage of students in your school receives the following services? Select **one** circle in each row. Students who receive more than one service should be counted for each service they receive. Please report the percentage of students who receive each of the following services as of the day you respond to this questionnaire.

	None	1–5%	6–10%	11–25%	26–50%	51–75%	76–90%	Over 90%	
a. Targeted Title I services	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	<input type="radio"/> F	<input type="radio"/> G	<input type="radio"/> H	VH241931
b. Gifted and talented program	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	<input type="radio"/> F	<input type="radio"/> G	<input type="radio"/> H	VH241922
c. Instruction provided in student's home language (non-English)	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	<input type="radio"/> F	<input type="radio"/> G	<input type="radio"/> H	VH241923
d. English-as-a-second-language (not in a bilingual education program)	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	<input type="radio"/> F	<input type="radio"/> G	<input type="radio"/> H	VH241924
e. Special education	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	<input type="radio"/> F	<input type="radio"/> G	<input type="radio"/> H	VH241925

VH240220

18. During a typical week of school, what is the total number of regularly scheduled volunteers, including parents, working in the school?

- ☐ A 0
☐ B 1–5
☐ C 6–10
☐ D 11–15
☐ E 16–25
☐ F More than 25

19. Approximately what percentage of students in your school have parents or guardians who do each of the following activities? Select **one** circle in each row.

	Not applicable	0–10%	11–25%	26–50%	Over 50%	
a. Volunteer regularly to help in the classroom or another part of the school	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH241940
b. Attend teacher–parent conferences	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	VH241939

For all teacher counts entered in item 20:

INCLUDE these types of teachers:

- Regular
- Special area or resource teachers (e.g., special education, Title I, art, music, physical education)
- Long-term substitute teachers

INCLUDE these types of teachers:

- Itinerant teachers who teach part-time at this school
- Employees reported in other items of this section if they also have a part-time teaching assignment at this school

DO NOT INCLUDE:

- Student teachers
- Short-term substitute teachers
- Teachers who teach ONLY pre-kindergarten or adult education

20. Around the first of October, how many TEACHERS held full-time or part-time positions or assignments in this school? If none, mark (0) in the boxes.

a. Full-time

_____ Full-time teachers

b. Part-time

_____ Part-time teachers

VH240221

21. Does your school or district offer tenure to teachers?

- Ⓐ Yes
Ⓑ No

VH241941

22. Of the following categories of teachers who were full-time teachers at your school at the end of the last school year, what percentage stayed on as full-time teachers for this school year? Select **one** circle in each row.

	0–10%	11–25%	26–50%	51–75%	76–90%	Over 90%	
a. Non-tenured teachers who had taught for at least one year	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	Ⓕ	VH241943
b. Tenured teachers	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	Ⓕ	VH241942

VH254012

23. In the last school year, how many full-time teachers were new to your school?

If you answered 0, Question 24 is not applicable and will be skipped.

VH240222

24. Of the full-time teachers who were new to your school last year, what percentage stayed on as full-time teachers for this school year?

- Ⓐ 0–10%
Ⓑ 11–25%
Ⓒ 26–50%
Ⓓ 51–75%
Ⓔ 76–90%
Ⓕ Over 90%

VH591899

25. In this school year, which of the following types of computers or other digital devices are available in your school for student use? Select **all** squares that apply.

- ☐ A Desktop computers
- ☐ B Laptop computers (including Chromebooks)
- ☐ C Tablets (for example, Surface Pro, iPad, Kindle Fire)
- ☐ D Other digital devices (Please specify): _____

VH587116

26. What is the average age of the **desktop computers** in your school?

- ☐ A Up to 2 years old
- ☐ B More than 2 years but less than 4 years old
- ☐ C More than 4 years but less than 6 years old
- ☐ D 6 years old or more
- ☐ E I don't know.

VH342882

27. In your school, where are **desktop computers** available for students to work? Select **all** squares that apply.

- ☐ A In some classrooms
- ☐ B In all classrooms
- ☐ C In a media center
- ☐ D In a computer lab
- ☐ E In the school library
- ☐ F Other (Please specify): _____

VH587118

28. What is the total number of **laptop computers** (including Chromebooks) available for students in your school? Enter the number of laptop computers.

VH587129

29. What is the average age of the **laptop computers** (including Chromebooks) in your school?

- Ⓐ Up to 2 years old
- Ⓑ More than 2 years but less than 4 years old
- Ⓒ More than 4 years but less than 6 years old
- Ⓓ 6 years old or more
- Ⓔ I don't know.

VH587122

30. In your school, where are **laptop computers** (including Chromebooks) available for students to work? Select **all** squares that apply.

- Ⓐ In some classrooms
- Ⓑ In all classrooms
- Ⓒ In a media center
- Ⓓ In a computer lab
- Ⓔ In the school library
- Ⓕ On mobile carts
- Ⓖ Other (Please specify): _____

VH311502

31. What is the total number of **tablets** (for example, Surface Pro, iPad, Kindle Fire) available for students in your school? Enter the number of tablets.

VH587138

32. What is the average age of the **tablets** (for example, Surface Pro, iPad, Kindle Fire) in your school?

- ☐ Ⓐ Up to 2 years old
- ☐ Ⓑ More than 2 years but less than 4 years old
- ☐ Ⓒ More than 4 years but less than 6 years old
- ☐ Ⓓ 6 years old or more
- ☐ Ⓔ I don't know.

VH587131

33. In your school, where are **tablets** (for example, Surface Pro, iPad, Kindle Fire) available for students to work? Select **all** squares that apply.

- ☐ Ⓐ In some classrooms
- ☐ Ⓑ In all classrooms
- ☐ Ⓒ In a media center
- ☐ Ⓓ In a computer lab
- ☐ Ⓔ In the school library
- ☐ Ⓕ On mobile carts
- ☐ Ⓖ Other (Please specify): _____

VH617371

34. In your school, is there a wireless Internet connection that students can use for schoolwork?

- ☐ Ⓐ Yes, everywhere or almost everywhere in the school.
- ☐ Ⓑ Yes, in some areas of the school.
- ☐ Ⓒ No

35. This school year, did your school offer technical support to teachers for **computers** and **tablets** used in this school?

- Ⓐ Yes, we are partnering with a provider outside the school.
 Ⓑ Yes, we have technical support staff in the school.
 Ⓒ No

36. How often do teachers do the following in this school? Select **one** circle in each row.

	Never	About once or twice a year	About once or twice a month	About once or twice a week	Every day or almost every day	Several times a day	
a. Teach jointly as a team in the same class	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	Ⓕ	VH311410
b. Observe other teachers' classes and provide feedback	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	Ⓕ	VH311411
c. Engage in discussions about the learning development of specific students	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	Ⓕ	VH311414
d. Work with other teachers during common planning times to ensure common standards in evaluations for assessing student progress	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	Ⓕ	VH311415

1. During the last two years, to what extent have professional development activities offered to teachers in your school focused on the following? Select **one** circle in each row.

	Not at all	Small extent	Moderate extent	Large extent	
a. Use of English/language arts across the curriculum	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VH259997
b. Interpreting and analyzing literature	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VH240555
c. Interpreting and analyzing informational texts	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VH240559
d. Understanding the cognitive process of an individual when they are reading or writing	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VH260000
e. Use of scoring guides to evaluate student work	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VH260001
f. Instructional strategies for teaching English/language arts	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VH260002

Questions 2–5 ask about reading specialists and literacy coaches.

Reading specialists provide additional instructional support to students and have special expertise in assessing and diagnosing students’ reading strengths and needs.

Literacy coaches work with teachers to help them implement and use strategies to improve their students’ ability to read and write in their classes.

In some schools, a single person may serve in both roles regardless of the title they have. Please answer questions 2–5 based on the roles as defined in this paragraph.

2. Is there a reading specialist available (full- or part-time) to eighth-grade students at your school?
- ☐ A Yes, available full-time to eighth-grade students
 - ☐ B Yes, available part-time to eighth-grade students
 - ☐ C No *Question 3 is not applicable and will be skipped.*

VH240599

3. To what extent are each of the following a responsibility of the reading specialist(s) available to eighth-grade students at your school? Select **one** circle in each row.

	Not at all	Small extent	Moderate extent	Large extent	
a. Provide one-on-one help to students on various reading topics	<input type="radio"/> Ⓐ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓑ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓒ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓓ	VH259962
b. Provide one-on-one help to students at various achievement levels	<input type="radio"/> Ⓐ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓑ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓒ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓓ	VH259963

VH240023

4. Is there a literacy coach available (full- or part-time) to eighth-grade teachers at your school?

- Ⓐ Yes, available full-time to eighth-grade teachers
 Ⓑ Yes, available part-time to eighth-grade teachers
 Ⓒ No *Question 5 is not applicable and will be skipped.*

VH240602

5. To what extent are each of the following a responsibility of the literacy coach(es) available to eighth-grade teachers at your school? Select **one** circle in each row.

	Not at all	Small extent	Moderate extent	Large extent	
a. Provide assistance/support to individual teachers about English/language arts content or the teaching of English/language arts	<input type="radio"/> Ⓐ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓑ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓒ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓓ	VH240604
b. Conduct professional development for groups of teachers about English/language arts content or the teaching of English/language arts	<input type="radio"/> Ⓐ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓑ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓒ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓓ	VH240603

6. To what extent is your school's English/language arts program structured according to the following resources? Select **one** circle in each row.

	Not at all	Small extent	Moderate extent	Large extent	
a. District curriculum standards or curriculum guides	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VH240607
b. State curriculum standards or frameworks	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VH240606
c. In-school curriculum frameworks and standards for learning	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VH240609
d. Results from district assessments	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VH586890
e. Results from state assessments	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VH240608
f. Recommendations from school English/language arts department	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VH240611
g. Discretion of individual teachers	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VH240612
h. Results from school assessments (e.g., quizzes or tests created by teachers)	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VH240614
i. Resources found on the Internet	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VH240610

VH240615

7. To what extent does your school's eighth-grade English/language arts curriculum focus on preparation for the following types of assessments? Select **one** circle in each row.

	Not at all	Small extent	Moderate extent	Large extent	
a. District assessments	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VH240618
b. State assessments	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VH240619
c. School assessments (e.g., quizzes or tests created by teachers)	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VH240617

VH592388

8. To what extent does your school provide up-to-date technology resources for English/language arts teaching and learning?

- ☐ A Not at all
- ☐ B Small extent
- ☐ C Moderate extent
- ☐ D Large extent

9. In addition to English/language arts teachers, does your school have the following personnel to assist with English/language arts class instruction for eighth-grade students with disabilities (SD)? Select **one** circle in each row.

	Yes	No	
a. Special Education teachers (and related service providers)	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH240621
b. Reading specialists or literacy coaches	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH240622
c. Speech pathologists	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH240623
d. Paraprofessionals or teacher aides who are trained to work with students with disabilities	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH240624
e. Paraprofessionals or teacher aides who are not trained to work with students with disabilities	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH240627
f. Parent volunteers	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH240626

VH240704

10. In addition to English/language arts teachers, does your school have the following personnel to assist with English/language arts class instruction for eighth-grade English language learners (ELL)? Select **one** circle in each row.

	Yes	No	
a. Certified ELL/bilingual education teachers	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH240708
b. Reading specialists or literacy coaches	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH240705
c. Speech pathologists	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH240706
d. Paraprofessionals or teacher aides who are trained to work with students who are ELL	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH240710
e. Paraprofessionals or teacher aides who are not trained to work with students who are ELL	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH240707
f. Parent volunteers	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH240709

VH260137

11. How much is your school's ability to provide instruction affected by a lack of the following resources? Select **one** circle in each row.

	Not at all	A little	Some	A lot	
a. Teachers with a specialization in English/language arts	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VH260138
b. Computer software for English/language arts instruction	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VH260140
c. Library books	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VH260142
d. Audio-visual resources for English/language arts instruction	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VH260143

VH591775

1. In your school, approximately what percentage of eighth-grade students enroll in more than one mathematics class in a year (including summer school or two-block classes) **for remediation or to catch up a grade level**? Do not include students who receive additional mathematics instruction as part of special education or because of IEP provisions.

Ⓐ 0–10%
Ⓑ 11–20%
Ⓒ 21–30%
Ⓓ 31–40%
Ⓔ 41–50%
Ⓕ More than 50%

VH270533

2. This year, how many teachers are teaching mathematics in your school? Enter the number of teachers.

VH617239

3. In this school year, what percentage of students have gone to other schools (neighboring middle school, high school, or college) to receive mathematics instruction?

Ⓐ 0–10%
Ⓑ 11–20%
Ⓒ 21–30%
Ⓓ 31–40%
Ⓔ 41–50%
Ⓕ More than 50%

4. To what extent does your school provide up-to-date technology resources for mathematics teaching and learning?
- Ⓐ Not at all
 - Ⓑ Small extent
 - Ⓒ Moderate extent
 - Ⓓ Large extent

Questions 5 and 6 ask about mathematics coaches.

Mathematics resource teachers provide additional instructional support to students and have special expertise in assessing and diagnosing students' mathematics strengths and needs to assist with learning and understanding.

Mathematics coaches work with teachers to help them implement and use strategies to improve their students' ability to use mathematics in their classes.

In some schools, a single person may serve in both roles regardless of the title they have. Please answer questions 5 and 6 based on the roles as defined in this paragraph.

5. Is there a mathematics coach available (full- or part-time) to eighth-grade teachers at your school?
- Ⓐ Yes, available full-time to eighth-grade teachers
 - Ⓑ Yes, available part-time to eighth-grade teachers
 - Ⓒ No *Question 6 is not applicable and will be skipped.*

VH240963

6. To what extent are each of the following a responsibility of the mathematics coach(es) available to eighth-grade teachers at your school? Select **one** circle in each row.

	Not at all	Small extent	Moderate extent	Large extent	
a. Provide support or assistance about mathematics content	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VH240964
b. Provide support or assistance about the teaching of mathematics to individual teachers	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VH240966
c. Conduct professional development about mathematics or the teaching of mathematics for groups of teachers	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VH240965

VH270634

7. In this school year, did your school offer any of the following activities? Select **one** circle in each row.

	Yes	No	
a. Opportunities for students to discuss mathematics work, including homework, with their teachers	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH270635
b. Peer tutoring in mathematics	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH270636
c. Mathematics competitions	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH270637
d. Chess clubs	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH270638
e. Programming classes	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH270640
f. Mathematics clubs	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH270641
g. Teacher-led tutoring sessions in mathematics for groups of students	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH270643
h. Teacher-led extra-help sessions in mathematics	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH270644
i. Family mathematics night	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH270645

8. To what extent is your school's mathematics program structured according to the following resources? Select **one** circle in each row.

	Not at all	Small extent	Moderate extent	Large extent	
a. District curriculum standards or curriculum guides	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VH240921
b. State curriculum standards or frameworks	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VH240920
c. In-school curriculum frameworks and standards for learning	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VH240923
d. Results from district assessments	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VH240922
e. Results from state assessments	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VH587964
f. Recommendations from school mathematics department	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VH240930
g. Discretion of individual teachers	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VH240926
h. Results from school assessments (e.g., quizzes or tests created by teachers)	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VH240924
i. Commercially designed programs	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VH240927
j. Resources found on the Internet	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VH240925

VH240967

9. To what extent does your school's eighth-grade mathematics curriculum focus on preparation for the following types of assessments? Select **one** circle in each row.

	Not at all	Small extent	Moderate extent	Large extent	
a. District assessments	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VH240970
b. State assessments	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VH240971
c. School assessments (e.g., quizzes or tests created by teachers)	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	VH240969

VH270659

10. Below are some sentences about students who may have to go to other schools for mathematics instruction. Please indicate which statements apply to your students. Select **one** circle in each row.

	Yes	No	
a. There are students in my school who take high school mathematics classes.	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH270660
b. My school provides credit for students who take high school or college mathematics classes.	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH270661
c. Students at my school who take high school mathematics classes also take the same tests as high school students taking the same course.	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH270663
d. There are algebra classes offered in my school that are equivalent to algebra classes offered at the high schools in my district.	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH270664

1. This year, have professional development programs (i.e., training sessions and workshops, including online classes) aimed at developing and improving practices for writing instruction been offered in your school **for English/language arts teachers**? Select **one or more** answer choices.
- Ⓐ Yes, provided by school or district personnel
 - Ⓑ Yes, provided by professionals outside of my school or district
 - Ⓒ No

2. This year, have professional development programs (i.e., training sessions and workshops, including online classes) aimed at developing and improving practices for writing instruction been offered in your school **for teachers not teaching English/language arts**? Select **one or more** answer choices.
- Ⓐ Yes, provided by school or district personnel
 - Ⓑ Yes, provided by professionals outside of my school or district
 - Ⓒ No

Questions 3 and 4 ask about literacy coaches.

Reading specialists provide additional instructional support to students and have special expertise in assessing and diagnosing students' reading strengths and needs.

Literacy coaches work with teachers to help them implement and use strategies to improve their students' ability to read and write in their classes.

In some schools, a single person may serve in both roles regardless of the title they have. Please answer questions 3 and 4 based on the roles as defined in this paragraph.

VH240023

3. Is there a literacy coach available (full- or part-time) to eighth-grade teachers at your school?

- Ⓐ Yes, available full-time to eighth-grade teachers
- Ⓑ Yes, available part-time to eighth-grade teachers
- Ⓒ No *Question 4 is not applicable and will be skipped.*

VH240602

4. To what extent are each of the following a responsibility of the literacy coach(es) available to eighth-grade teachers at your school? Select **one** circle in each row.

	Not at all	Small extent	Moderate extent	Large extent	
a. Provide assistance/support to individual teachers about English/language arts content or the teaching of English/language arts	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	VH240604
b. Conduct professional development for groups of teachers about English/language arts content or the teaching of English/language arts	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	VH240603

VH336823

5. Approximately what percentage of their instructional time are teachers in your school expected to devote to **teaching writing** to eighth-grade students in the following subjects? Fill in integer numbers **between 1 and 100** on each row. If there is **no** specific expectation for a particular subject, **enter 0** for that row.

English/language arts class _____ %

Social studies class such as history, civics, government, or geography _____ %

Science class _____ %

Mathematics class _____ %

6. How often are teachers in your school expected to give students **writing assignments** (e.g., short written answers, essays, research papers) in the following classes? Select **one** circle in each row.

	There is no specific expectation around this in my school.	Never	About once or twice a year	About once or twice a month	About once or twice a week	Every day or almost every day	
a. English/language arts class	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	<input type="radio"/> F	VH312580
b. Social studies class such as history, civics, government, or geography	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	<input type="radio"/> F	VH312581
c. Science class	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	<input type="radio"/> F	VH312582
d. Mathematics class	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	<input type="radio"/> F	VH312583

7. Approximately what percentage of their instructional time are **English/language arts teachers** in your school expected to devote to each of the following when **teaching writing** to eighth-grade students? Fill in integer numbers **between 1 and 100** on each corresponding row so that the total sums up to 100. If there is **no** specific expectation for a particular topic, **enter 0** for that row.

Development of ideas _____ %

Organization of ideas _____ %

Effectiveness of expression (e.g., sentence variety, word choice, tone) _____ %

Mechanics and conventions (e.g., spelling, grammar, punctuation) _____ %

Word processing skills _____ %

Other (Please specify): _____ %

8. To what extent does your school provide up-to-date technology resources for English/language arts teaching and learning?

- Ⓐ Not at all
- Ⓑ Small extent
- Ⓒ Moderate extent
- Ⓓ Large extent

9. Does your school offer students the opportunity to submit their writing to or participate in any of the following? Select **one** circle in each row.

	Yes	No	
a. School newspaper	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	VH312624
b. School website	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	VH312625
c. Discussion blog	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	VH312627

VH312634

- 10.** Does your school offer any of the following school-sponsored activities to eighth-grade students? Select **one** circle in each row.

	Yes	No	
a. Writing club(s) (e.g., a creative writing or poetry group)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	VH312636
b. Writing competition(s)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	VH312637
c. Special courses or workshops to improve keyboarding skills	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	VH312639
d. Special courses or workshops to learn how to use word processing software	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	VH312640
e. Drama club where students write their own plays	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	VH312643

VH312595

- 11.** Does your school or district offer summer programs in **writing** remediation or enrichment to students? Select **one** circle in each row.

	Yes	No	
a. Remediation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	VH312596
b. Enrichment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	VH312597

2017 Operational Grade 8 Charter School Questionnaire

This section should be completed by the principal or the head of the school.

VH240223

1. Is your school a public **charter** school?

(A charter school is a public school that, in accordance with an enabling state statute, has been granted a charter exempting it from selected state or local rules and regulations. A charter school may be a newly created school, or it may previously have been a public or private school.)

- Ⓐ Yes
- Ⓑ No *Questions 2–8 are not applicable and will be skipped.*

VH254022

2. In which year did your school start providing instruction as a charter school?

VH594583

3. Who granted your school's current charter?

- Ⓐ School district
- Ⓑ State board of education (includes state board of regents and District of Columbia State Board of Education)
- Ⓒ Postsecondary institution
- Ⓓ State charter-granting agency
- Ⓔ City or state public charter school board
- Ⓕ Other (Please specify): _____

VH240225

4. What is the legal status of your school?

- Ⓐ Officially part of the school district or local education agency (LEA)
- Ⓑ Independent from the school district or local education agency (LEA)
- Ⓒ A separate local education agency (LEA) as stipulated by state law

VH240226

5. Is this school operated by a company or organization that also operates other charter schools?

- Ⓐ Yes
- Ⓑ No

VH240227

6. Which one of the following best describes your charter school's **primary** focus in terms of program content?

- Ⓐ We have a comprehensive curriculum with no specialized area of focus.
- Ⓑ We have a special curricular focus, for example, the arts, math/science, foreign language immersion.
- Ⓒ Our curriculum is based on a particular educational theory, for example, Montessori, open school, Core Knowledge.
- Ⓓ Our curriculum is based on a particular moral philosophy or set of values, for example, African-centered education, character-based education, Eastern philosophy.

VH240228

7. Does your school provide a written contract for parents?

- Ⓐ Yes, and parents are required to abide by it.
- Ⓑ Yes, but signing it is voluntary.
- Ⓒ No *Question 8 is not applicable and will be skipped.*

2017 Operational Grade 8 Charter School Questionnaire

VH241944

8. Are the following elements addressed in your charter-parent contract? Select **one** circle in each row.

	Yes	No	
a. Dress code	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH241947
b. Home learning environment	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH241951
c. Homework	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH241946
d. Parent-teacher communication	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH241953
e. Parent volunteering	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH241952
f. School discipline policy	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH241948
g. Student attendance	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH241945
h. Student promotion policy	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH241950
i. Other (Please specify): _____	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VH587571