

Horace Greeley High School

Update: 2011-12

1. Survey of Greeley Graduates
2. New Structure of Faculty Discussion Groups
3. Ongoing work towards Department Goals

Greeley Graduate Survey

- Survey developed in Spring 2011 with Greeley dept. chairs and full faculty input
- Concept: Broad survey of student preparedness, balancing short answer and narrative responses
- Sent to 1800 email addresses (stored in the Naviance system) from six previous graduating classes
- Roughly 200 email addresses no longer in use
- 242 Surveys Completed

Response Summary

Class of.....	Percentage of completed surveys....
2010	32.4
2009	21.6
2008	16.6
2007	19.1
TOTAL	89.7% of all responses

Greeley's ability to ...

	“Very Satisfied” or “Satisfied”
Provide “meaningful learning experiences”	> 90%
Create “a welcoming, nurturing environment”	> 85%
Demonstrate “concern for our students as individuals”	> 85%
Foster “positive interactions between students and staff”	> 85%
Provide “opportunities to develop interpersonal skills”	> 85%

More than 75% say college
preparation was “good” or
“outstanding” in the following areas...

Reading

Writing

Critical Thinking

Creative Thinking

Problem Solving

Teamwork

Leadership Skills

Level of academic
challenge at Greeley
was just right?

> 70%

Put forth maximum
effort at least some of
the time...

> 90%

Areas for future study. Our graduates suggest....

Research Projects be assigned more frequently....	> 50%
More use of class discussion....	> 50%
More student presentations....	≈ 50%
More writing...	> 30%

Based on multiple choice responses

Stress at Greeley

	Severe	Moderate or Occasional
9 th Grade	13%	≈ 75%
10 th Grade	12.1%	≈ 80%
11 th Grade	47.3%	≈ 50%
12 th Grade	16.5%	≈ 71.8%

Narrative Comments

- Supported the data, to a lesser degree
- 242 surveys, four questions on each allowed space for narrative
- 4 topics received attention more than 10 times:

Research
Presentations
Discussion
Writing

Narrative Responses:

Research – 37 total mentions	10 suggest preparation was good, 27 suggest room for improvement
Presentations – 25 total mentions	25 suggest room for improvement
Class Discussion – 15 total mentions	15 suggest room for improvement
Writing – 71 total mentions	40 suggest preparation was good, 31 suggest room for improvement

End of Graduate Survey

Greeley Faculty Discussions

2011-12

- ✓ 18 Groups, 4 to 8 members each
- ✓ Topics designed by Faculty in response to perceived needs
- ✓ Groups self selected across departments

Sample Group Questions:

- How can we develop more engaged readers?
- How can we increase the level of student initiative, empowerment, and accountability through extra-curricular activities?
- What does meaningful student collaboration look like inside and outside the classroom?
- What is the impact of Web 2.0 tools on classroom work?
- What does meaningful homework look like in 2011?
- How can we strengthen student self-reflection?

Ongoing work of Departmental Goals

A Sampling:

- Social Studies: Continued focus on spoken rhetoric in class. Increasing speaking opportunities, designing rubrics for feedback, visiting one another's classes, sharing best practices.
- Science: Continuing the work on increasing the number and frequency of inquiry based labs, and looking to strengthen the connection between the inquiry process learned through labs and daily science instruction.
- Foreign Language: Continuing the work on increasing student awareness of time spent in target language, and on actual time spent in target language (appropriate to level of instruction).
- English: Continuing the use of classroom libraries, increasing student choice of text, and literature circles. But also looking to add a new goal, in the area of writing or student presentations.
- Math: Continuing work on the teaching of problem solving skills. Looking to integrate the teaching of those skills into daily math instruction and to study/measure the impact on student learning/behavior.

The End