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[Image: FIMC logo]

**Braille Challenge Parent Survey**

May 2020

Findings include data from the 69 surveys received from parents during

4 Braille Challenge events in Florida during February and March 2020.

[SECTION DOTTED DIVIDER LINE]

Most children who participated in the Braille Challenge events attend the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind (FSDB) or another public school.

[Pie Chart: Type of school child attends, percentage of students]

* Public school, 77%
* FSBD, 17%
* Home school, 3%
* Private, 2%
* Other, 1%

43% of parents who responded to this question on the survey reported that their child always receives braille materials on time.

[Bar chart: Frequency, percentage of parents]

* Always, 43%
* Often, 29%
* Sometimes, 21%
* Seldom, 3%
* Never, 3%

[SECTION DOTTED DIVIDER LINE]

**Time spent on the IEP for Vision Services/Braille Instruction**

Does the amount of time on Vision Services/Braille Instruction seem right?

[Bar Chart: response, percentage of parents]

* Yes, 66%
* Should be more, 26%
* Unsure, 8%

[ICON: Clock]

**Does the amount of time per week on the IEP your child has for O&M Services seem right?**

[Bar Chart: response, percentage of parents]

* Yes, 56%
* Should be more, 36%
* Unsure, 8%

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[Image: FIMC logo]

**Braille Challenge Parent Survey**

May 2020

[SECTION DOTTED DIVIDER LINE]

**How Braille Benefits Students**

49 parents responded and shared 152 things that they/their child like about using braille

in school. The different things that parents reported liking about braille are listed in the chart

below. Each percentage represents the proportion of parents that liked a given factor.

[Bar chart: Likes about braille in school, percentage of parents]

* Enables independence in and out of school, 59%
* Helps children keep up with peers, 59%
* Enables literacy, 51%
* Supports learning, 37%
* Braille is fun, 14%
* Enables communication, 12%
* Braille makes child feel unique, 10%
* Comes with support from TVIs, 10%
* Prepares children for the future, 10%
* Provides access to knowledge and information, 10%
* Easy to use, 8%
* Provides an alternate way to learn for low-vision children, 6%

[CALLOUT BUBBLE] Parents shared a number of things that they/their child like about using braille in school. The biggest words in the word cloud below are some of the words that parents used most frequently.

Word Cloud: The words below are listed from biggest to smallest:

1. reading (biggest)

2. learning

3. able

4. peers

5. independence

6. helps

7. access/ease/gives

8. understanding/allows/communication

9. future/fun (smallest)

**Parent quotes about the most common benefits of braille:**

**Supports learning** [ICON: teacher pointing to board]

* “It is imperative for my daughters to have Braille materials so they can do well in school.”

**­Enables independence in and out of school** [ICON: star]

* “He can read independently.”
* “She likes being able to find her classrooms on her own and knowing where the escalators are at malls (lol).”

**Helps children keep up with peers** [ICON: 3 people holding hands]

* “Can learn just as much as his sighted peers.”
* “Keeps my child in the loop with what others are doing.”

**Enables literacy** [ICON: 2 stacked books]

* “She learned punctuation/spelling. Formatting documents.”
* “Braille makes my child want to read.”

[SECTION DOTTED DIVIDER LINE]

**Parent Recommendations for Improving Braille**

37 parents shared 40 ways that braille in school could be improved to make it easier

for their child to learn. The most common improvements are listed in the chart below.

Each percentage represents the proportion of parents that recommended a given improvement.

[Bar chart: Ways braille in school can be improved, percentage of respondents]

* Increase assess/availability, 32%
* More TVIs/TVI support, 19%
* More assistive technology, 19%
* Receive materials at same time as peers, 5%
* Interline books with print so parent can help with lessons, 3%
* Make charts easier to interpret, 3%
* Teach reading/typing at the same time, 3%
* Page numbers in braille match textbooks that sighted peers use, 3%
* Pass laws that more effectively address student needs, 3%
* Increase knowledge about braille among educators, 3%
* Instruction for parents on how child can continue work at home, 3%
* Early exposure to the full code, 3%

**Parent quotes about the most common recommendations for improving braille:**

**Increase access/availability** [ICON: laptop]

* “Make materials more accessible. Not all lessons are done in braille.”
* “More materials so she can do more at home.”

**More Assistive Technology** [ICON: person in circle]

* “Find funds so the family can purchase the technology for the kids to have at home.”

**More TVIs/TVI support** [ICON: teacher pointing to board]

* “The most important thing is for them to have a full-time teacher.”
* “More TVIs and braille to help more children.”
* “Increase access to TVIs for homeschooled children.”

**More support from school** [ICON: star]

* “The school should get more involved with braille.”
* “Increase knowledge about braille among educators.”

**Increased knowledge about braille among peers** [ICON: 3 people holding hands]

* “Have the classmates learn some braille along with my child. Maybe a lesson or two.”

[FOOTER]

**NIMAC logo, EEC (Evergreen Evaluation & Consulting) logo**

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