

# Hammer Montessori Foundation

## 2015 Family Survey Results



### ABOUT THE SURVEY

This report presents the results of the 2015 Hammer Montessori Family Survey. The purpose of the survey was to collect family perspectives on current and future activities of the Hammer Montessori Foundation. The survey results will inform the HMF's strategic planning process for the 2015-16 school year.

The survey was open online from February 10 through April 6, 2015. The initial invitation was sent via the Thursday Envelope and BigTent; paper and Spanish language versions of the survey were available by request. Reminders were sent weekly during the survey period via BigTent, and the Thursday folder. This preliminary report presents the quantitative results of the survey.

### ABOUT THE RESPONDENTS

A total of 81 survey responses were received, representing approximately 30% of the 270 families at Hammer Montessori. This response rate is lower than 2014, when 121 responses were received (45% response rate).

The following charts show survey response rates by the number of children responding families have had attending Hammer Montessori currently or in the past, and by grade level.

The following charts show the breakdown of responding families by number of children attending Hammer Montessori currently or in the past, and by children's grade level.

Figure 1. Response Rates by Number of Children Having Attended the School

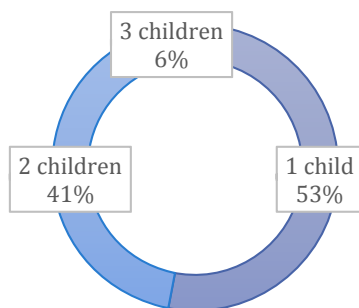
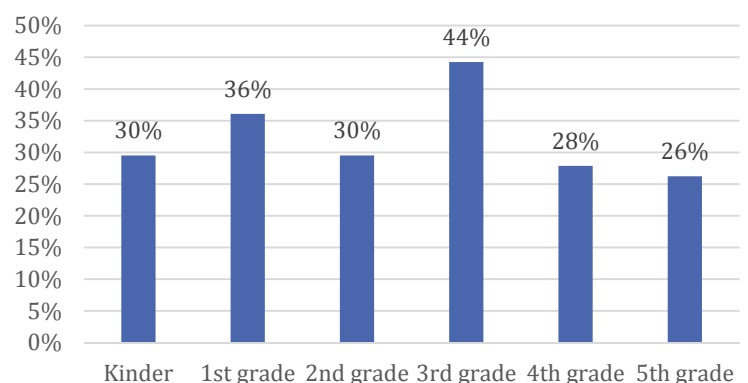
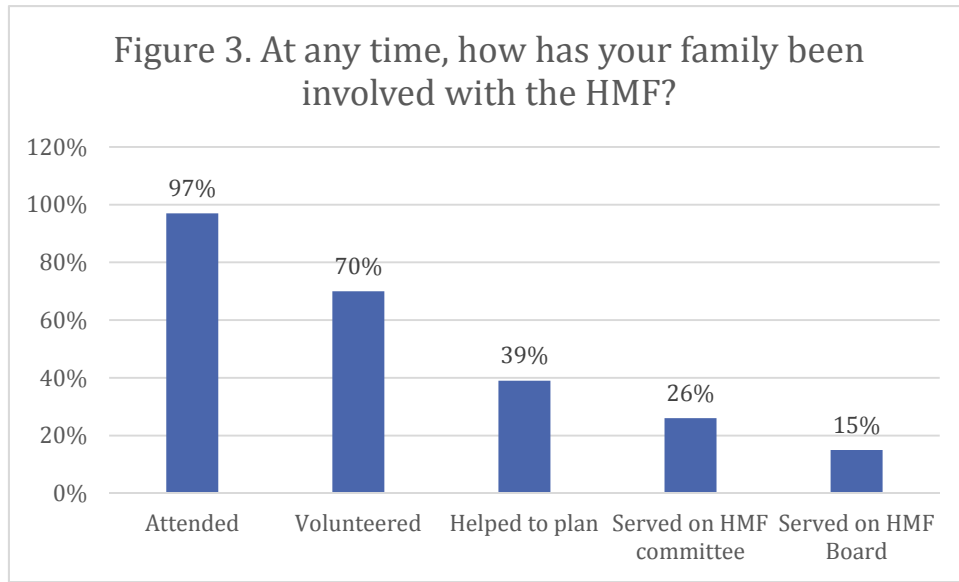


Figure 2. Respondents by Children's Grade Level (n=81)



## HMF INVOLVEMENT

The following chart shows that nearly all responding families have participated in at least some HMF programs and events. We also have a strong number of volunteers for programs and events, but could use greater participation in the areas of planning and committee service.



## FUND DEVELOPMENT

Figure 4 indicates that nearly all responding families have participated in HMF fundraising efforts. The annual appeal received the greatest participation rate (92%), followed by the Holiday Gift Drive (71%), Annual Benefit (58%), and General Donations (40%). In-kind services (17%) and matching gifts from employers (15%) were less common.

We also asked about participation and interest in several ongoing fundraising programs that HMF currently participates in, as well as potential future opportunities. Figure 5 shows that among current programs, Box Tops for Education, the IMAX movie night, Amazon Smile, and Hicklebee's programs receive the greatest participation. Fewer responding families are currently participating in the Target Red Card and eScrip, but many express interest in these programs so there may be room for growth next year.

Figure 4. Any any time, how has your family participated in the HMF's fundraising efforts?

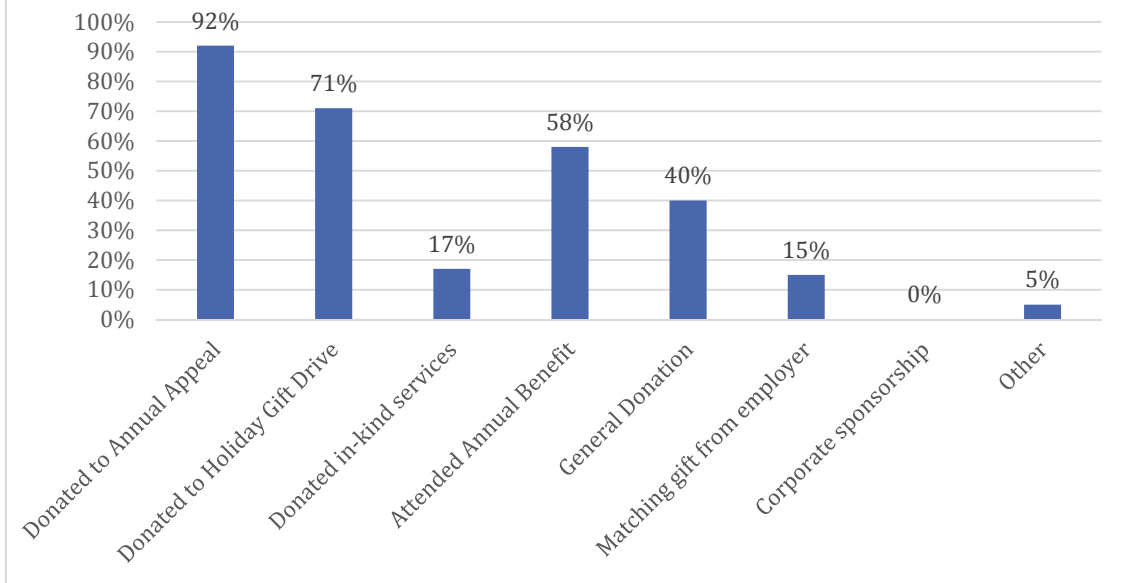


Figure 5. Please indicate whether you currently participate or are interested in participating in the following school fundraising programs.

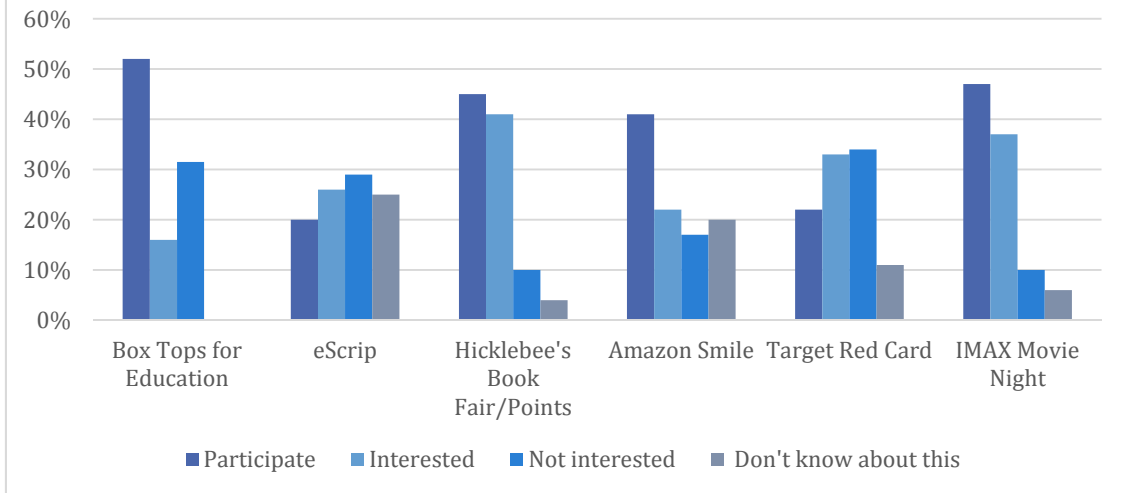
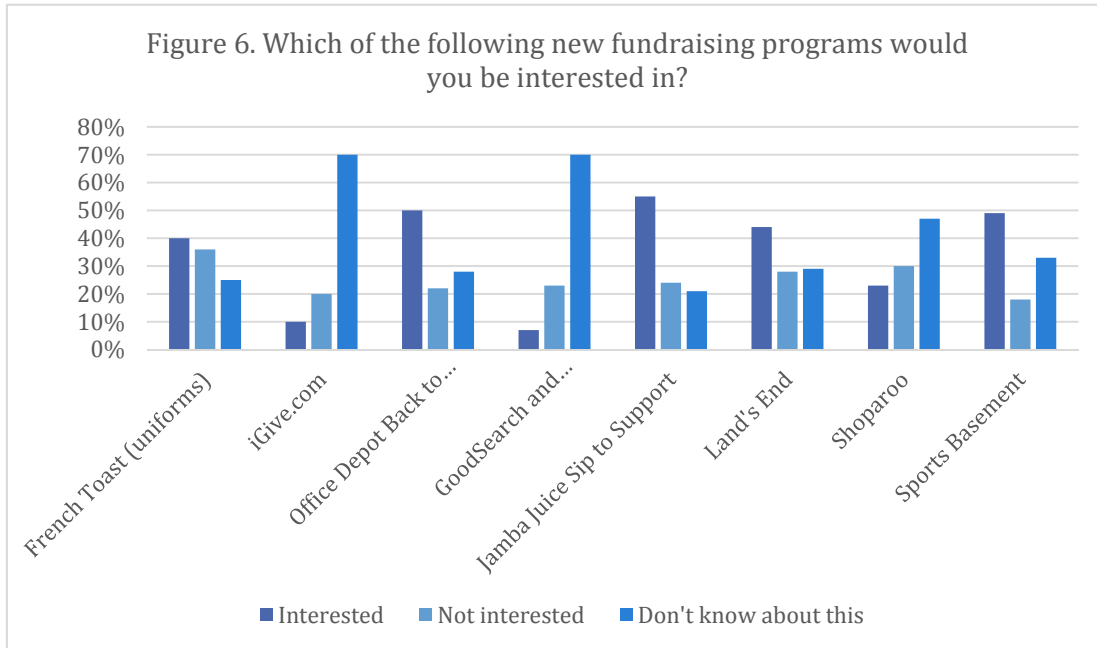
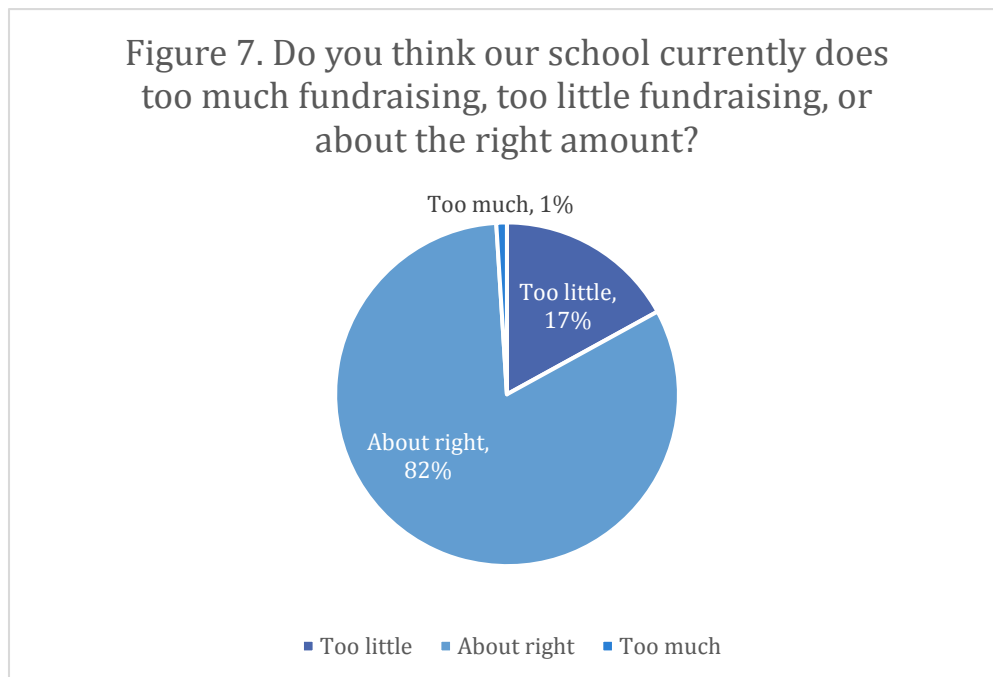


Figure 6 indicates that there is also community interest in several other school fundraising programs, which will guide our planning for expanding our participation in these areas in the future.

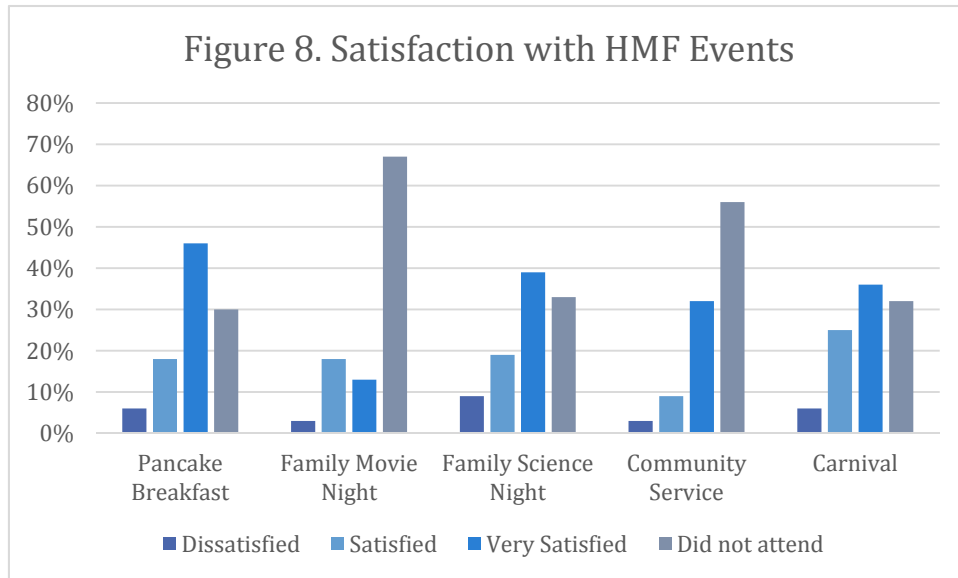


Importantly, the vast majority of our responding families (82%) indicated that the current level of HMF fundraising is just about right. Another 17% of respondents felt that the current level was too low, and only 1% felt it was too high. We will keep this feedback in mind when planning our fund development strategies for the coming year.



## SATISFACTION WITH HMF FAMILY EVENTS

As Figure 8 shows, our responding families indicated strong levels of satisfaction with HMF events over the past year, although attendance levels varied.



In thinking ahead to next year, respondents indicated the strongest interest in continuing the Family Science Night, Year-end Celebration, and Community Service events, as shown in Figure 9 by the comparison of mean ratings on a scale ranging from 1 (not interested) to 4 (extremely interested).

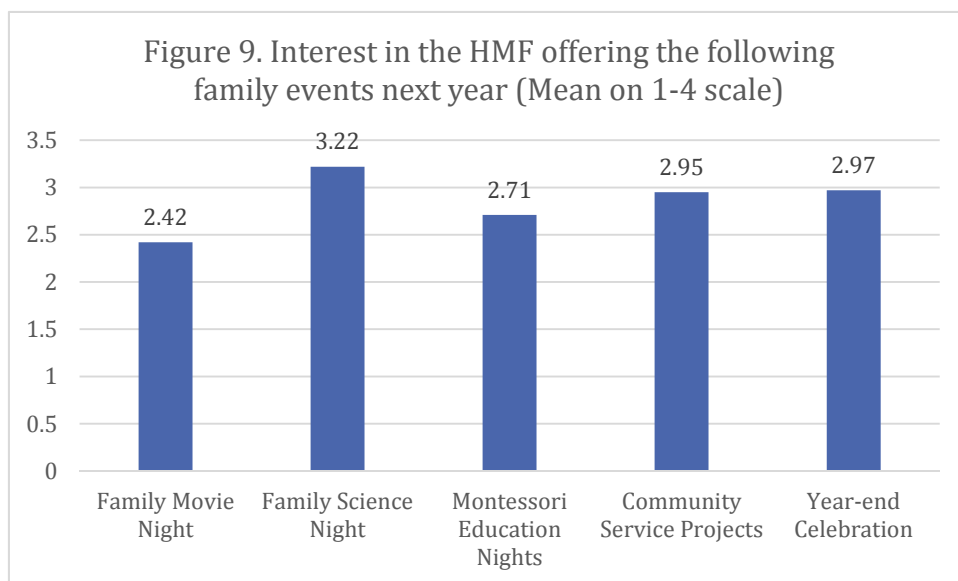
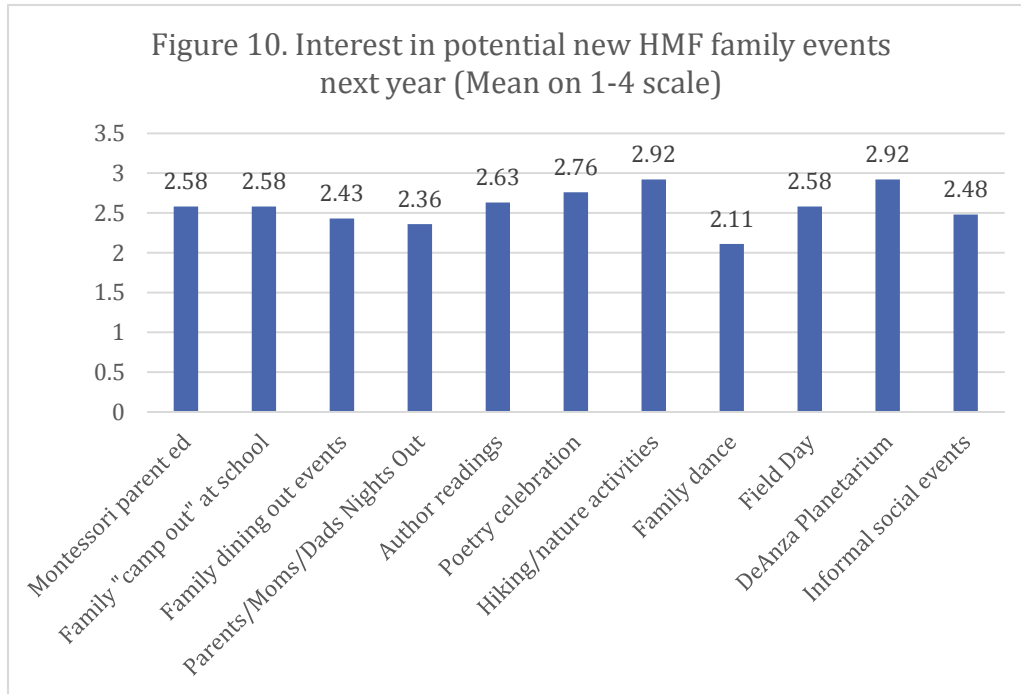
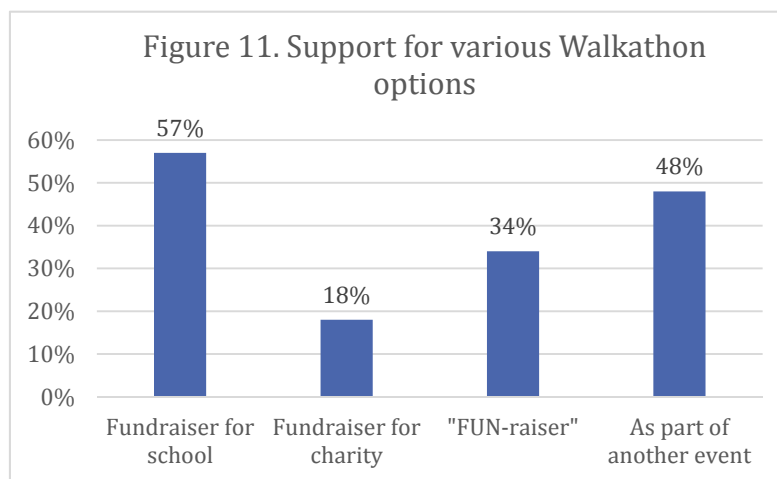


Figure 10 shows the same mean ratings on the 1 (not interested) to 4 (extremely interested) scale, for potential new family events. Respondents expressed strongest interest in hiking or other nature activities, a DeAnza Planetarium event, and a Poetry Celebration. Many of these events would be of interest to our community, however, and if a volunteer is willing to organize any of these options the HMF would be happy to support that effort!

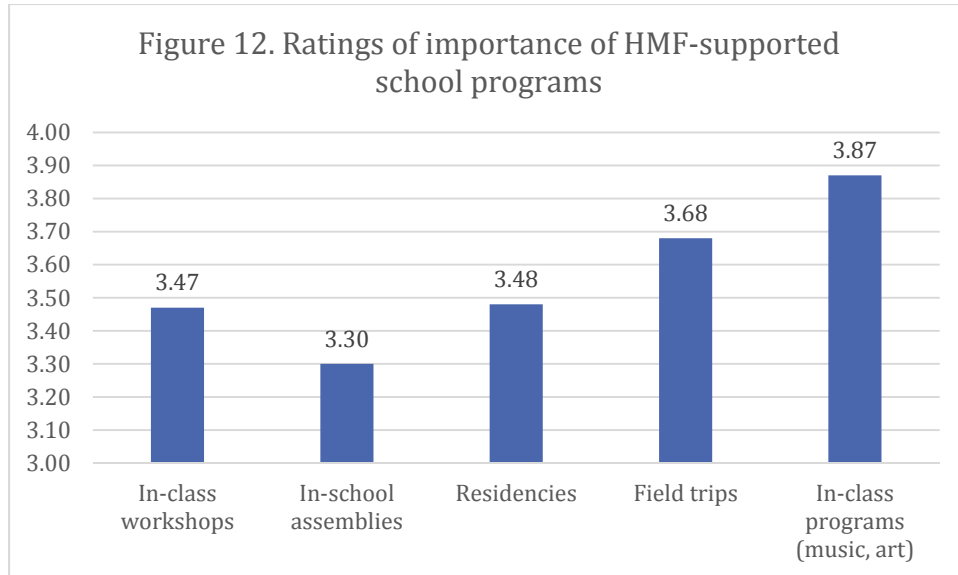


In some years we have held a Walkathon event at Hammer Montessori, but this has not been a consistent annual event. In order to gauge community interest in having a Walkathon next year, we asked about levels of support for various options for this event. As shown in Figure 11, respondents expressed greatest support for holding a Walkathon as a fundraising event for the school (57%), followed by combining a Walkathon with another event such as the Year-end Celebration (48%). We will take these preferences into account in our planning for the 2015-16 school year.



## SATISFACTION WITH HMF-SUPPORTED SCHOOL PROGRAMS

HMF-supported school programs are rated as very important, as indicated by the comparison of mean values on a 1 (not important) to 4 (essential) scale, shown in Figure 12. In-class ongoing programs such as music and art were rated as most important, followed by field trips, and residencies (such as the poetry program in 2012-13 and 2013-14, or Marine Sciences Institute program in 2014-15).



## OVERALL SATISFACTION WITH THE HMF

Finally, we asked our Hammer families to rate their satisfaction with various aspects of the HMF's work. These ratings are presented in two different formats below. Figure 13 shows the percentage of respondents rating each category as Poor/Fair, Good, or Excellent, (or Don't Know/Unable to rate). Figure 14 shows the mean ratings for each category based on the same 1 (poor) to 4 (excellent) scale (with the "don't know" responses excluded). We are pleased to report that the mean rating for overall effectiveness of the HMF was 3.58 out of 4 points.

Looking at the ratings in specific areas, both charts indicate that the HMF is rated highest in providing value for students, volunteer opportunities, variety of donation opportunities, and value for teachers. The HMF received lower satisfaction ratings with regard to value for parents, opportunities for input, and visibility in the school community. This is very useful feedback to help us focus on increasing our efforts in these areas in the coming year!

Figure 13. How do you think the HMF is doing in the following areas?

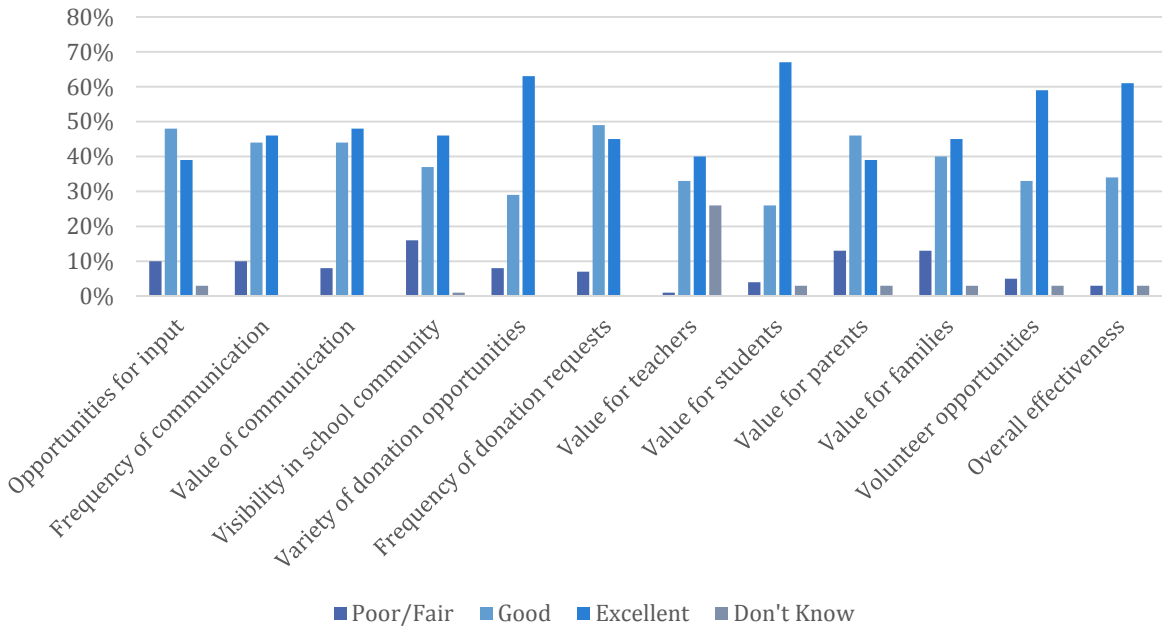
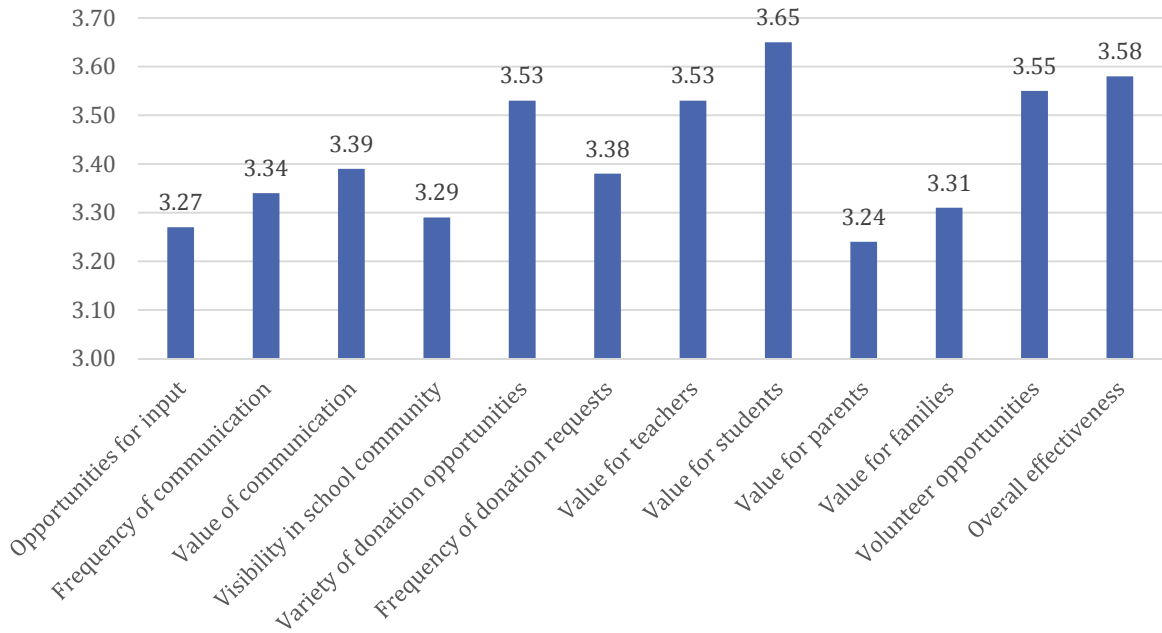


Figure 14. Satisfaction with HMF functions (Mean on 1-4 scale)  
(Based on same data as Figure 13, excluding "Don't Know")





## THANK YOU

Thank you again to all who participated in this family survey. Your opinions and comments are essential in making sure that the HMF is effectively representing our collective priorities for our kids and our school.

Additional ideas, suggestions, and comments can also be communicated to the HMF throughout the year by emailing the President or Community Engagement Director.

Current contact info available at: <http://www.sjUSD.org/hammer/hammer-montessori-foundation>

