Appendix F
Survey Responses to #9 and additional comments
on other questions from survey as indicated

1.
2. I'm amazed at the number of out of control fits that are occurring. More & more students have to be restrained and/or forcibly removed from the classroom.
3.
4.
5.
6.
7.
8.
9. I feel some of the behaviors I've witnessed – deal with extremes of home life. I'm not sure helping me to deal with it – actually helps the child. We need a full time counselor- (which is one of our goals for next year) would help a great deal. Children need to be taught how to handle their anger etc... It's hard to do they still live in it at home. Any help would be so appreciated.
10.
11.
12. I would spend more than 20% of my time with behavior, but I have support of administration and they take problems.
13.
14.
15.
16. This survey lacked page 2. This is what accounts for all the “blanks” on this particular file.
17. I have only experienced a mild amount of aggression- nothing too concerning. The things I have seen are only typical of this age.
18. I usually have pretty good kids. There are very few, who after the first weeks of school, can't control their own behaviors.
19.
20.
21. Unless a child has been diagnosed in early childhood with a behavior problem we have very few options for dealing with these behaviors. Suspensions are in effective but lack of personnel of ten make this the best and perhaps only option.
22.

Appendix F
Survey Responses to #9 and additional comments
on other questions from survey as indicated

23. There are so many factors that play a part in our students (children's) lives! We only have them for a small moment in their educational career. Several thoughts come to mind that I'd like to share with you regarding the increase in aggressive behaviors in our children. Drugs- prenatal drug and alcohol abuse! Premature infants who survive with intervention of technology and medications- there are side effects for some of these children. Parenting skills! (or lack of) Technology such as television programming and video games that are violent in nature. *Additional comments for # 10:* I have 8 years experience teaching in Early Childhood in the public school system. *Additional comments for # 5:* A great benefit of working within a large school district is that we receive numerous invitations to participate in behavior intervention workshops. We also have several staff members with advanced training in behavioral/ psychological issues that our children are entering school with. I feel that we receive ample training in dealing with these behaviors, however we cannot change the environments from which these children come from.
24. I feel that parents, teachers, and administration need training on how to deal with the aggression and anger I have seen in students in the last few years. *Additional comments on #4:* Daily ongoing aggression most of the time.
25.
26.
27.
28. Kinders are coming in with more emotional and social needs! We have to deal with these basics in order to reach our academic goals.
29.
30. Inappropriate sexual comments <u>much</u> increased.
31.
32. As the academic expectations of our program increase, along with the aggressive behaviors teachers are becoming more frustrated and the teacher turnover rate in kindergarten has increased.
33. In my 10+ years teaching K, I have seen a marked increase in aggressive behavior and K students generally not ready for a structured environment. On the other hand I have witnessed curriculum markedly <u>increasing!</u> This adds to student frustration and brings out aggressive behaviors.

Appendix F
Survey Responses to #9 and additional comments
on other questions from survey as indicated

34. I have aught K for over 14 years and it is like night and day. The children seem to be angry and their parents are very disrespectful and talk rudely to their children and teachers.
35. Children are full of anger and they only respond to personal directives. A direction given to the class is often ignored-students feel it doesn't apply to them. No teacher program prepares you for this...I am faced daily with a total disrespect by the students and teachers. They speak to me in an unprofessional manner-we're disregarded as an important part of their educational process. One thing I'll give them- they speak to their parents in the same manner as they do to me, and visa versa. Many are mean and rude and make no apologies. Our curriculum constraints don't allow time to work on these kinds of social behaviors so these kids respond the only way they know how when angry or frustrated. I would have left teaching had the last two years been my first two. A strong Pre-K program would be so helpful as would class sizes of 15-18. *Additional comments on #10:* 13+ years in Pre-K, 1st, and 2nd.
36.
37.
38. Aggressive behavior is something that can spread within the class. Many children are on the fence and will easily pick up on aggression if they experience it.
39. Because these behaviors are escalating, I think it is critical to keep K classes at 20 or less.
40. It is my observation that children who attend large daycares generally display more aggressive behavior than children who do not attend large daycare environments.
41.
42. It seems evident more children are daycare or baby-sitter products – the “family” & quality time is less, children are left on their own too much.
43. Kindergartners seem to have less structure & routine in their lives. There are more children from broken families & many have no father figure as a role model. Many children in daycares exhibit loud & aggressive behaviors.
44.
45.
46. Depends on year, teacher, class structure, etc...
47. Aggression varies from year to year, depending on class and certain students.
48. Parents often say they “know they act that way” but they don't know what to do. It only takes one aggressive child & it changes the whole climate of the room

Appendix F
Survey Responses to #9 and additional comments
on other questions from survey as indicated

49. I would love to receive help on how to deal with aggression when this is “normal” because of home life.
50.
51.
52. I truly believe there needs to be more ways to inform parents on how to deal with their children appropriately. A lot of my students act this way because of their home life.
53. I see an increase in aggressive behavior and contempt of authority. Children in charge of parents instead of the adults being in charge! Out of control children.
54. K students seem to have no respect for authority and are not used to consequences. They do not realize that there are consequences for their behavior.
55. Much of Kindergarten is spent teaching students the social skills to deal with anger. Smaller class sizes would reduce some aggressive behaviors.
56. I've taught kindergarten for 22 years. Children no longer have respect for authority. They're very angry because no one sends any time with them.
57. Readiness for school is achieved in many different ways. The best people to provide those experiences are a child's parent(s). Parents today are not at home or trying to be only friends with their child and are not willing to set boundaries or are having their children out of wed lock. I am very much in favor or requiring high school children complete a course on family living with a substantial part of it being child psychology. Thank you so much for looking into this problem! Additional comments on #10: 30+ years
58. As previously mentioned, many of our youngest students seem to have little connection with adults or peers. They often seem to have no conscience & sense of right & wrong.
59.
60. I feel the stresses encountered by the family are affecting the K children (financial, jobs, time, etc..)
61.
62.
63. I am finding that much of my instructional time is taken up by these two or three children. *Additional comments on* #5: I feel offering parenting classes would be very beneficial.

Appendix F
Survey Responses to #9 and additional comments
on other questions from survey as indicated

64. The amount of time spent dealing with an aggressive child greatly disrupts the instructional time I have to spend with the rest of the class. I feel, not only is the student loosing valuable learning, but so are the other students.
65. Time spent dealing with aggressive children disrupts the flow of learning in the classroom. Therefore, all the children suffer.
66.
67.
68. I work with about 30 students a day, but in a small group setting so it is different and I don't experience as many problems.
69.
70. The aggression level has risen for all grade levels- not just K. It is a reflection of society.
71.
72. When I contact parents regarding aggressive acts, I receive little or no support. I have been told on numerous occasions that they (the parents) teach their children to “defend” themselves; it is ok to hit.
73. When I call parents to report these aggressive behaviors, there isn't the support there should be. They blame the school or bus – it's never them. Some even say they tell their children to fight back. I tell them we are a “no hands on” school and they still want to argue.
74.
75. I am concerned about lack of programs or training for parenting skills for young families.
76.
77.
78. Many students come from n unstable environment. This makes transition into a structured environment, with rules and routines, more difficult.
79. *Additional comments on #8:* Hitting/ pushing/ kicking are rare.
80.
81. I have had fewer behavior problems this year than previous years. I have dealt with more problems in the past two- three years than this year.
82.
83.

Appendix F
Survey Responses to #9 and additional comments
on other questions from survey as indicated

84. I have observed the most aggressive children come from environments that are very unstable and homes in which there is very little positive adult interaction with the children. Most do not have any prior school experience such as preschool or parents as teachers, etc.
85. Survey is based on students in classroom this year. It does vary from year to year.
86.
87. With a high number of Meth labs & high number of DFS cases, I would like to see more support for teachers who deal with this everyday. There are no alternative BD classes for children with severe problems. There are very few agencies in town to help with severe family issues. The most severe child I had was from Illinois. He witnessed his dad commit suicide and he verbalized and demonstrated this several times.
88.
89.
90.
91.
92. My responses were based on my previous years at a Title 1 school. This is my first year at a non Title school and there is a significant difference in the behavior of the K students. Here there are 0 – 1 students I would consider extremely aggressive. At my previous school, on average, there were 2 – 3 very aggressive students per year in K. A*dditional comments on* # 3: 2003-2004 - 5% A*dditional comments on* # 4: 2003-2004 – 25%
93. Most of my children are non-aggressive. I am dealing with children labeled oppositional defiant, ADHD without meds., and a drug baby. *Additional comments on # 7:* yes - when off meds.
94. This school serves an affluent community.
95.
96.
97. Parents do not want to hear about students' behaviors and, therefore, do not help.
98. We have had to place about 20% of our kindergarten students on behavior plans this year due to aggressive behaviors. Most plans are reduced and then discontinued within 4-6 weeks. We have 4 students that have been on plans all year.
99. It seems as if the children have not had the opportunities to learn appropriate social skills and anger management prior to K.
100.

Appendix F
Survey Responses to #9 and additional comments
on other questions from survey as indicated

101.
102.
103.
104. *Comment on "p"*: We have a counselor only one and a half days a week which makes it difficult for any follow-through.
105.
106.
107. No more than 18 students per classroom!
108. I believe that there should be no more than 18 students in a K class. This would allow the teacher more time to meet each child's individual needs.
109.
110.
111.
112. Increased inappropriate behaviors make it difficult for teachers to teach. One or two students can disrupt a classroom to the point where learning is difficult for those who want to learn.
113.
114.
115. I disagree with the way information is being collected – I decline the invitation to participate. Thanks!
116. This survey is a good idea. It is scary to see so many aggressive kindergartners. These children need help now at this age instead of letting it go on until they are older.
117.
118. I am at a non Title school with high parental involvement. I have dealt with aggressive students and your whole class suffers because of the time spent with that one child.
119.
120.
121.
122. I have noticed these students are also subject to frequent "tantrums" or "melt downs." The tantrums can range to dropping to the floor yelling, crying, kicking, to knocking things off tables, to running away.
123. Keep K classes 18-20 with full-time kindergarten aide. Don't start students in K until age 6.

Appendix F
Survey Responses to #9 and additional comments
on other questions from survey as indicated

124. 1.) K classes should have 18 or less students. 2.) Every K class should have a full-time aide. 3.) Socialization should still be the most important skill learned and mastered in K – this would lead to less tattling, anger, and aggression. They would learn to work together and care for one another. Happy children learn easily! 4.) We are expecting K children to read and write. We are pushing too much academically and causing frustration in some children which leads to aggression. 5.) If we expect so much academically from our students, we need children to begin school at an older age such as 6 instead of 5. 6.) Please invest in pre-K programs. Thank you for caring about our young ones!
125.
126.
127.
128.
129. I am seeing an increase in defiant, aggressive behaviors in my students along with children that exhibit no problem-solving skills to help themselves cope with their anger.
130.
131. I have taught for twenty years and behavior problems are increasing. Parents often say they have no control and the children come to school without ever having learned appropriate behavior. *Additional comments on #5:* I've had training. It still is a shame a few can ruin a class for the rest.
132. Defiance/noncompliance is very common in our students.
133. It seems that some years the children are just more aggressive than others – for example, the class I had 2 years ago was very violent as a whole.
134. Disrespect is a major issue with aggressive students. They have little respect for students or teachers.
135.
136.
137. Kids act as parents teach them. More focus ought to be placed on parenting skills.
138.
139.
140.
141. The beginning of the school year is different than the third quarter of the school year. More aggressive kids at the beginning. Our character ed program and great teachers help the students become less aggressive. The numbers decrease as the year progresses.

Appendix F
Survey Responses to #9 and additional comments
on other questions from survey as indicated

142.