

Community Focus Groups Feedback

	<i>Strengths</i>	<i>Opportunities</i>
Themes from this Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programs • Teachers and teaching quality/ efforts: responsive, caring, meet students where they are, who want to make a difference • Value diversity; trying to increase staff diversity • TSS • Repetition of ethnicity, economics, disability should not predict performance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decrease class sizes and no splits/ combos • More opportunity for advanced coursework • Increased preparedness at all levels – PK, EL, MS, JS and beyond, and transitions in between • Addressing needs of whole child; provide pathways and attention to all kids • Addressing behavior and treatment of others (students and staff) • More student voice • Asking parents about child’s needs • Develop students who can cope, are civically engaged, motivated

<i>Hopes & Dreams</i>	<i>Do Well</i>	<i>Do Better</i>	<i>Vision</i>
<p>Adequate funding Capture/ nurture family engagement early, PreK-K Destination school district, not a punchline Don't lose students in the crowd - those who are different esp, find the right channel for students Engage PTO Enough resources/ support so teachers not burnout Fair treatment Gardens, cooking class Gathering students to hear a positive message on a weekly basis</p>	<p>A lot of training Ability to meet students where they are at and work with them (adjusting lessons, showing kindness) Active ROTC Amazing teachers AVID Breakfast and lunch for all Change is good Swapping teachers, younger Constant reminder that ethnicity, economics, disability shouldn't predict performance EI in elementary</p>	<p>Be prepared that every child is different Combo classes/ split classes, area growing Communication from school to parent Engage young people to be civically engaged Ensure coping skills - voice feelings, anger, opinion, concerns Ensure that time is allocated to priorities Full fare bus pass, no student discount Give kids more of a voice Grow students' skills to be critical consumers and ethical users of info and technology - start young. Lost libraries in ES and librarian could teach this High stress in teaching job How many students are on track to college, go to college, and finish and succeed in college?</p>	<p>Life preparedness, are these the right things? Switch the teaching and learning Equity important Missing collaborative conversation: student, teacher, parent Like: Dedicated, efficiency, teaching, engagement</p>

<p>Host events out of school time to engage parents and connect with teachers, do community-based events Kids learn to express themselves Kids look forward to coming to school Knowledge and character More after school More freedom for teachers More kids graduate and are encouraged to do post-secondary More kids involved in community More positivity More programs in school (Drama, chorus, dance, sports) More than just class requirements, take advantage of hidden talents No bullying No judgment No splits Opportunity for all Opportunity for parents to contribute Other districts adopt SCS programs Place at the table for every student Professional development for teachers Professional staff and student diversity Race driven disparity disappears Reopen schools to address overcrowding Retention of K</p>	<p>Embrace cultural and educational differences Food insecurity programs Gifted students Good programs in community like after-school art program Great programs Great special education Great teachers, paras, staff I Spy program IB Increase test scores Increasing diversity of staff JR/ High school opportunities to learn, interests Like Supt More effort from teachers, less stress More programming than some districts On top of issues earlier, services faster Oneida - responsive teachers who meet students' needs Open to new ideas Organized response to community horror Outreach to parents in summer Outside organizations help with homework, after school Para teachers Relationship between principal and parents Staff open to parent ideas</p>	<p>IB - teachers spend too much time on how hard it is IB not diverse If home schooling and online schooling grows, what happens to the school district? Social learning is lost If we add on, we should take something off Increase intrinsic motivation Increase parental involvement (PTA, PTO) Kids following at middle, gap with those who struggle a little Large class sizes, esp at high school Make sure bullying is not impacting students; communicate about actions and impact Make sure that students learn a trade to be successful Money for new technology but not training on how to use it More and more requirements for teachers to do more with less-- need to prioritize More hall monitors More help for kids having problems at home More recognition for children doing well, student of the month, stars by subject Need to check in with graduates to find out - what do they say about civic engagement Nor room for water gear Not enough crossing guards Offer vocational skills - tool use, rulers, basic measurement, cooking Parking and the one way streets, accidents Prep for middle school Small library, including offices for others Staff not diverse like students Students don't learn about or have access to IB Support to parents/ teachers with expertise and experience</p>	<p>Missing: continually improving is negative, acknowledge times, students are society ever-changing ever evolving Want to feel that they are talking to me but not drawn in Like: Make good people/ learners Happy and healthy, best they can be Family, parent involvement to empower encourage expect Fluff Don't like - efficiency</p>
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<p>School expansion Spelling bee Start early supporting hopes and dreams - preK and earlier grades Support students, not ELL for just 45 min Supportive parents</p>	<p>Students reaching out to prior teachers, principals, coaches Support from community, not griping about taxes Take more time to deal with discipline TCIS - commitment to trauma sensitive schools Teachers who want to make a difference Team teaching at middle and high school We support teachers</p>	<p>Teach students to show respect to others Teacher attitude towards students Teachers able to move students to class that they need Too much focus on testing measures, not whole child Teachers should get more feedback from students Training/ learning for parents to improve their skills Transportation the less than 1.5 miles with exception for ELL Violence in MPMS Yates has a bad name in the community Please consider opening the same number of pre k classes as the rest of the grades in each building. As a kindergarten teacher I am aware that my students who attend pre k in my building are much more prepared academically, socially and emotionally to reach the goals set by the district for kindergarten. Also please consider changing the cap from 25 to 20 students per class. Studies show that smaller class sizes are a major factor in the increase of student success in a school. If class size can not be decreased please consider full time para professionals for kindergarten. Having another adult in the room that loves and cares for the students in the room supports our initiative to provide a trauma sensitive environment for our students. Having another adult in the room also promotes safety and cuts down on distractions which increases teaching time. Thank you for reading this. I believe that the school district must continue to take in kids as soon as they are old enough to go. But so many of our students don't enter prepared by knowing numbers, letters, or even English. Plus we have students like every school district that are just</p>	
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		slower learners and need more time. I believe we should institute K/1 and 1/2 classes that are designed to give the kids the chance to repeat K or 1st grade and get their skills up to par like many wealthier districts do. I am marking community member, but I'm a former parent- my youngest graduated last year.	
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