

My child attends: (check one box)	A1. The school offers a challenging, rigorous curriculum.	A2. The school is focused on academic achievement, setting high expectations for students.	A3. The academic program includes a wide selection of course offerings.	A4. Teachers meet my child's needs by including a variety of teaching strategies and activities.	A5. Teachers assign high-quality homework that supports learning.	B1. The academic needs of my child are recognized by staff.	B2. My child receives additional help as needed.	B3. My child receives additional challenges as needed.	B4. Support staff, including educational technicians and literacy and math strategists, help meet the needs of students.
Freeport Middle School									
1 Strongly Agree	12 15%	18 23%	16 20%	13 16%	14 18%	13 16%	15 19%	8 10%	11 14%
2 Somewhat Agree	39 49%	31 39%	24 30%	30 38%	27 34%	28 35%	27 34%	21 27%	26 33%
3 Neutral	13 16%	12 15%	22 28%	14 18%	14 18%	17 22%	16 20%	23 29%	20 25%
4 Somewhat Disagree	12 15%	10 13%	11 14%	14 18%	17 22%	15 19%	11 14%	13 16%	5 6%
5 Strongly Disagree	3 4%	7 9%	3 4%	8 10%	6 8%	6 8%	2 3%	7 9%	3 4%
Not Applicable	0 0%	1 1%	3 4%	0 0%	1 1%	0 0%	8 10%	7 9%	14 18%
Total	79 100%	79 100%	79 100%	79 100%	79 100%	79 100%	79 100%	79 100%	79 100%

My child attends: (check one box)	B5. My child's emotional needs are understood and properly addressed.	B6. (For parents of students receiving Special Education services only) Special Education services meet the needs of my child.	B7. (For parents of students receiving Gifted and Talented services only) GT programming meets the needs of my child.	B8. The school provides excellent support services (guidance, nursing, mentoring, college planning, etc.).	B9. My child learns life skills such as managing time, prioritizing, meeting deadlines, responsibility, and communicating clearly.	C1. The school offers a broad range of co-curricular activities (drama, etc.).	C2. Students have access to a wide selection of sports through the school's athletic program.	D1. The atmosphere at school is positive and conducive to learning.	D2. The school encourages students to show respect for each other.
Freeport Middle School									
1 Strongly Agree	11 14%	3 5%	4 7%	11 14%	14 18%	39 49%	31 39%	25 32%	36 46%
2 Somewhat Agree	28 35%	2 3%	11 19%	25 32%	31 40%	26 33%	28 35%	34 43%	27 34%
3 Neutral	15 19%	1 2%	2 3%	23 29%	16 21%	7 9%	8 10%	12 15%	11 14%
4 Somewhat Disagree	13 16%	1 2%	4 7%	6 8%	14 18%	7 9%	5 6%	7 9%	3 4%
5 Strongly Disagree	5 6%	1 2%	4 7%	1 1%	3 4%	0 0%	6 8%	1 1%	2 3%
Not Applicable	7 9%	50 86%	34 58%	12 15%	0 0%	0 0%	1 1%	0 0%	0 0%
Total	79 100%	58 100%	59 100%	78 100%	78 100%	79 100%	79 100%	79 100%	79 100%

My child attends: (check one box)	D3. Adults who work in the school treat students with respect.		D4. Teachers have built strong relationships with my child.		D5. I feel welcome at my child's school.		D6. Parents have opportunities to participate in school activities.		E1. Staff handles discipline fairly, consistently, and effectively.		E2. School staff have a positive impact on students' behavior.		E3. Staff proactively educates students about the impact and prevention of bullying.		E4. Teachers manage classroom behavior effectively.		E5. Behavior expectations are made clear to students.	
Freeport Middle School																		
1 Strongly Agree	25	32%	19	24%	36	46%	27	34%	19	24%	16	21%	21	27%	11	14%	30	38%
2 Somewhat Agree	36	46%	30	38%	23	29%	27	34%	21	27%	38	49%	31	40%	38	49%	30	38%
3 Neutral	10	13%	15	19%	9	11%	17	22%	21	27%	18	23%	19	24%	17	22%	13	16%
4 Somewhat Disagree	7	9%	11	14%	8	10%	4	5%	7	9%	5	6%	5	6%	9	12%	4	5%
5 Strongly Disagree	1	1%	4	5%	2	3%	2	3%	0	0%	1	1%	2	3%	2	3%	1	1%
Not Applicable	0	0%	0	0%	1	1%	2	3%	10	13%	0	0%	0	0%	1	1%	1	1%
Total	79	100%	79	100%	79	100%	79	100%	78	100%	78	100%	78	100%	78	100%	79	100%

My child attends: (check one box)	E6. The school tells me about behavior expectations for my child.	F1. The school is safe and orderly.	F2. The school is clean and well-maintained.	F3. The school reflects the pride taken in educating our students.	F4. The school provides quality teaching/learning materials and technology equipment.	G1. Administrators and teachers communicate with parents/guardians effectively.	G2. I have opportunities to share my views about the school.	G3. Teachers and administrators are responsive to my concerns and suggestions.	G4. I feel comfortable talking with my child's teacher(s).
Freeport Middle School									
1 Strongly Agree	24 31%	42 53%	38 49%	30 38%	30 38%	18 23%	18 23%	22 29%	35 44%
2 Somewhat Agree	22 28%	29 37%	30 38%	37 47%	33 42%	37 47%	29 37%	26 34%	32 41%
3 Neutral	17 22%	7 9%	9 12%	9 12%	10 13%	7 9%	22 28%	14 18%	6 8%
4 Somewhat Disagree	9 12%	1 1%	1 1%	2 3%	4 5%	11 14%	7 9%	12 16%	4 5%
5 Strongly Disagree	1 1%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	1 1%	6 8%	3 4%	2 3%	1 1%
Not Applicable	5 6%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	1 1%	1 1%
Total	78 100%	79 100%	78 100%	78 100%	78 100%	79 100%	79 100%	77 100%	79 100%

My child attends: (check one box)	G5. Teachers respect agreements and decisions reached at parent teacher meetings, and follow-up on those suggestions.		G6. Teachers help me understand how my child's work is evaluated.		G7. When reporting about my child's progress, teachers use language I can understand.		G8. The school helps me understand how to best support my child's learning at home.	
Freeport Middle School								
1 Strongly Agree	11	14%	18	23%	31	39%	12	15%
2 Somewhat Agree	32	41%	22	28%	29	37%	24	30%
3 Neutral	21	27%	8	10%	7	9%	15	19%
4 Somewhat Disagree	6	8%	23	29%	8	10%	14	18%
5 Strongly Disagree	3	4%	8	10%	4	5%	11	14%
Not Applicable	5	6%	0	0%	0	0%	3	4%
Total	78	100%	79	100%	79	100%	79	100%

Freeport Middle School - Comments

Please share with us your suggestions for improving our schools:

The grading and student evaluation system is a complete mess and totally confusing. It seems like no one really knows how it works or why it is being used. Instruction seems to have too much focus on projects and individualized learning rather than general teacher based instruction. There seems to be too much wasted time during the school day when no instruction is occurring.

The new grading system is too vague and not easy to navigate reading and really understanding his grades. Need comments by teachers to fill in the vagueness of the system. My son's class is split into 2 classes because his grade is so big. We don't like this and we hope it does not continue through out the 3 years he is there. we also heard of one of the groups looping and not the other. This creates a great bond with the group that loops and leaves the other group out.

Teachers do not keep up powerschool with missing work & that which has been turned in, nor do they put assignments up that are due it is very frustrating when trying to follow the progress of my child

It would be helpful to have a full time nurse at FMS.

Continuing to update facilities as needed.

Great work, don't move backwards

The school needs to handle issues concerning honor roll, and other g&t language better. I would question if honor roll is even needed prior to h.s. Teachers need to be more careful how they discuss such gradations within classrooms as a whole.

FMS should have a full time nurse.

Pay the teachers more. Look at the schools around us

The textbook for World History in 6th grade is old and outdated. I would like to see more opportunities for cross-curricular project based learning opportunities. I would like there to be extended learning opportunities for students who are up for an extra challenge.

reading writing and arithmetic are more important than social agendas which the staff push. Get the electronics out of the school !

The school administration should collaborate with teachers and consult with parents before making decisions on educational changes.

I would like to see more information on the grading system. I feel as though each teacher is using the system in a different manner, which makes the grading inconsistent. I worry about my children's ability to be competitive when applying for colleges down the road.

Standards based grading has made it difficult to understand and achieve academic success.

1)Replace the Math program with a more effective one. Everyday Math doesn't work. Look to Finland, Switzerland and Germany. Just plugging kids into computers is not as effective as direct relationships with great teachers. 2)change the grading system: eliminate the HOW (Habits of Work) and have a 0-100% scale. 3)More funding for G & T for: a)more time with instructors, and b) to bring in special guests. 4) on ? C1, It would be great if Co-curricular included sailing and an outdoor club (hiking, kayaking/canoeing, Mtn. Biking).

Freeport Middle School - Comments

I do not feel that the school/teachers and I are a "team" regarding my child's learning. The relationship feels oppositional at times. My child has a 504 and I do not feel that his teachers are familiar with it and adhere to it. The 6th grade teaching group was the most difficult in this regard. A teacher said IN a 504 meeting that they had too many students and couldn't be expected to know who had a 504 and who didn't, or know what was in it. This is unacceptable. I feel that my child with a disability is held to the same standards in the HOW as someone without a disability which means my child is set up to not meet expectations. HOW should be in the context of the individuals student and their efforts. If a less academically strong student can bring their grade up by demonstrating strong HOW, a child with a disability should not have their academic grade brought down by their disability. My child needs organizational support and I do not feel that they receive. I feel that the teachers expect my child to figure things out of their own. My child cannot tell me why a HOW grade is what it is - he is unclear about what he need to individually work on. My strongest recommendation would by to improve and increase individual communication from the teachers to the students and parents. I feel that the guidance counselor is supportive, but has no influence over what the teachers do/don't do which makes meeting with guidance a waste of time. My child is identified as GT and I would like to see GT more integrated into the daily learning. My child tells me that the school talks about bullying, but that this is not changing the behavior of the students so he feels that the message is not being enforced. The culture has not changed. This pertains to how coaches handle bullying as well.

I would like to better understandng of how to access grades for assignments and tests.

Comments I've heard from my child and other children I carpool about the environment at FMS are a concern - frequent discussion about strange/ineffective teachers and a joyless atmosphere - "it's like a juvenile detention facility". The web site page for FMS is telling - the home page highlights the school's obsession with clock management ("at 7:30 the bell rings....) and NOTHING about wanting to teach and meet the overall needs of the kids??? Totally out of sync with the other RSU5 schools. Understanding resources are limited, it seems like the school needs a culture shift to caring about the whole child.

My child has an ADHD diagnosis. My child is struggling to focus in class and despite my many emails I am having a very hard time with some of the teachers helping my child to come up with a plan that will work (in the school year is almost up!) Instead, I receive emails, but only after I ask how my child is doing. They say things such as "her focus is just not where it needs to be". Yeah! Obviously! Some suggestions for my child and myself would be really helpful. She's going to continue to struggle with her inability to focus unless she has taught ways that she can focus.

Students are allowed to use their laptops for things other than schoolwork during school. BCS should not be used for socialization. Student swear a lot and say really mean and hurtful things to each other.

Change school calendar

My child had a very rough start at school, she was moved a few times in her schedule, her GT Art did not start until December, no communication from the school and there seemed to be no consensus on why. It resulted in our emailing several people and asking around to get it started. The GT reading is confusing as well. My child has more work on the same subject instead of deeper thinking on the subject. She has often had to repeat work. I have also been made aware that there have been some teachers who have great control over the classroom and some who do not. My child finds this time frustrating to learn and embarrassed for the teacher trying to get the class under control. Lastly, if we could encourage you to look into "CloseBuy" for fund raising. They have wonderful, diverse products that are made from Mainers or neighboring states. For those of us trying to avoid the sugar overload and not into sports it would open the door to other options that help our local community.

Do not feel any connection with my student's teachers. Would be nice to have brief updates on what the kids are or will be studying in the different classrooms.

There are too many Profession learning/compensation days. I know teachers need days off and have inservice requirements. However, this causes my child to go to school to far into the summer. It's currently at the 22nd or 23rd. Without those days it'd be a week sooner. Teachers can go in a week earlier or a week later and give the kids more time for summer.

I would like more information to come home via email that talks about what my child is learning in school and if there are concerns.

Give all students a opportunity to speak, teachers need to ask or make the constant interrupters of class leave so the one who really want to be there and learn the opportunity

Give all students a opportunity to speak, teachers need to ask or make the constant interrupters of class leave so the one who really want to be there and learn the opportunity

The grading system is confusing for my husband and I and most importantly my child. Also the lack of seeing tests and quizzes come home makes it difficult for my child to know how to improve upon her work.

Freeport Middle School - Comments

-A "light" has dimmed in my child since beginning at this school. It is noticeable by others. The school system should take stronger steps to understand and learn how to respond in the classroom to the "inattentive type" of ADHD. Some things that were said to us and about our son during a conference were shocking and told me there is a deep lack of understanding. Despite good intentions, it seems the teachers and staff are either not supported to learn more, do not care to learn more, or perhaps they do not "believe" this is a true diagnosis. The fact that someone with this diagnosis is subjectively scored on "determination," and teachers give him a low score does absolutely no good for my child's learning and confidence in himself. I have heard separately from two teachers that they just "don't have the time" to help him in class, even though they say they know what would help him. This diagnosis is really not uncommon. I realize this is a hard job for teachers, but I see my son being left behind despite his efforts. How can the system help the teachers help these students?

-There needs to be a way to allow those who want to go to "Space Camp" to go rather than a selection process. If children are interested enough, then find a way to support their desire to take this opportunity.

Longer lunch, invest more in the 'average' kids. How many \$ go into g&t? Would be nice for average kids to benefit from more extra curricular/ stretch opportunities.

My child is in the 8th grade and doing well however, it appears that they are short a math teacher. This has negatively impacted my child's progress in math. I hope this problem is remedied next year.

I wonder why given what we know about homework and actual performance (<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/innovation/why-are-finlands-schools-successful-49859555/>) are the 6th graders BOMBARDED with homework. My child has become more anxious, nervous, and tense since beginning this school in 6th grade(this year). I am so disappointed that given research on how outdoor time and less homework is better for brain development and ultimately more successful learners. It feels archaic and narrow sighted. (I understand that this is not just Freeport but state and country wide)

More teacher communication and individualization. Would like to better understand curriculum. At the elementary school they have embraced Teacher's College which really pushes independent reading. Wondering about why FMS students are not reading like they did at the younger levels.

Change the grading system. It's not definitive enough. There are too many grey areas and not enough explanation as to what it equates to, other than it doesn't. Am I supposed to say my child is a 4 student, but doesn't play well with others or is disorganized? I don't understand. It's awful.

I THINK THE SCHOOL, OVERALL, IS GREAT AND WELL-MANAGED.

Automatic detention for tardies is very stressful for my child, and does not serve as a positive motivation to get to school on time. This punitive approach may have shifted the quantitative data in the right direction, but the consequences for our experience of school have been negative so far. I am curious how other families feel about this policy and how it has impacted their experience.

The sixth grade teaching staff is not very strong. This needs to change.

Go back to the traditional grading system as I do not believe the progressive grading system is interpreted consistently amongst educators.

Bus supervision. Kids are wild on the bus. Does not seem to be improving at all.

Keep class sizes small so teachers can differentiate learning. As class size ticks up, a teacher's capacity to know and teach to each child goes down. Please ensure that in the transition to state-mandated proficiency-based education, we are consistently inspiring, teaching, and modeling excellence in each classroom. Please teach content and provide opportunities to earn fours as often as threes. Remember that proficiency (3) is the minimum required for high school diploma. A minimum level of performance is not an appropriate goal for many students. Please be sure to define, teach, and model excellent performance so students will be inspired to achieve excellence!

Freeport Middle School - Comments

Prioritize strong engagement/teamwork between administrators and middle/high school teachers re: proficiency-based learning objectives and grading. If teachers are truly on board, communication will improve to parents.

What is being done to follow up with Challenge Day activities with all FHS students, to promote a culture of compassionate and mutual respect? Am hearing there's little difference after 2 weeks.

How effective are mentoring program(s) for kids who really need support? Are you measuring the impact and value of these interventions? Are you soliciting feedback? Do the schools have the right, trained people assisting these kids?

Coaching staff performance management is long overdue. Recent public coaching issues completely avoidable if communication and feedback from students and parents had been solicited regularly.

- Need better communication of proficiency-based standards and associated grading, particularly as students move from the middle school to high school. Both students and parents should be very clear on how things are to be executed, and how students can get above a 3 if they are willing to put in the work. Communications to students and parents about how things change in high school need to happen as early as possible, and at multiple times before school starts and after students have been in the high school for 2-3 months; - need a better process for communicating students' strengths/weaknesses by the middle school teachers to their counterparts in the high school so the students are appropriately challenged out of the gate (including being placed in the appropriate subject tracks/classes); hoping that the high school will provide clearer information on how they are proactively working with college admissions staff on the shift to proficiency-based grading; PowerSchool is simply a substandard piece of software--any way to make a change for the better (lots of other options out there)?; this year in FMS the LA enrichment opportunities were sorely lacking--extremely disappointing. Two previous years were much better

Offer varied levels of curriculum not just one high math class for example per grade with the rest being a homogenous mix.

There should be more communication between teachers about students progress.

Talented students should be rewarded by extra work. I do not think this happens.

The bleachers in the gym are treacherous. They should have stairs.

The children at the middle school need a longer recess, and to spend more time outdoors in physical activities. There is ample evidence that balancing physical activity with academics leads to improved focus in the classroom. A ten minute recess, where children aren't even allowed to climb snowbanks, is ridiculous. Prisoners are given more time in "the yard."

Including Music in Unified Arts would allow for exposing all children to musical genres, history, and theory. Band/chorus, with their narrower focus, could continue as extra-curricular activities, but they do not truly fulfill a musical education need. Freeport is lagging behind other local schools in STEAM and Arts education.

The emphasis on "college and career readiness" seems misplaced before high school. While skills should be taught, more fostering of curiosity, love-of-learning, and imagination would be appropriate, providing a framework conducive to the layering of critical thinking and the fine-tuning of skills in high school. In 6th grade, my teacher assigned a weekly creative writing assignment, and we read a huge variety of well-crafted literature. My 7th grader completes biweekly, non-fiction writing assignments (approached with true loathing), but has not done any mandated creative writing since 3rd grade. Surely it's possible to teach and learn with joy, and in developmentally appropriate ways, without sacrificing "career readiness." It's somewhat bizarre to view elementary and middle school as a long lead-up to job training.

Standards & Standards Based Grading - Love them or hate them, it's, at best, difficult to have a uniform standard apply equally to every single child in a given grade. As parents, "the Standards" are becoming increasingly irrelevant in assessing the quality of our child's education. There is so much necessary supplementation that needs to occur at home. Ironically, text exemplars for ELA listed in the Common Core State Standards Appendix B provide a template for the richer and more complex literary experience we would want for our child.

Unfortunately, the RSU seems to have interpreted the ELA standards as (literary) quantity over quality, and skills over content.

Consistency of expectations within a classroom is so important to kids "buying into" and trusting their teachers. It's easy for them to feel hopeless and bitter when expectations and attitudes change regularly. More options for social evenings. Different events? Different activities available at socials?

Continue to maintain facilities making upgrades as necessary.

Need better in-classroom differentiation. Need more consistency in grading. Need a more nuanced grading system.

Freeport Middle School - Comments

I feel as though the middle school needs to provide more opportunities for health/physical education and athletics. It's a shame that 6th graders can not compete on sports teams unless there are not enough older players. Other schools have split seasons and offer expansion teams. In terms of PE/ health classes, I would think you could hire 1 or 2 additional staff. The gym is certainly big enough to split in two. And there must be room to fit in another classroom.

Please support students, teachers, administrators, and other staff (regardless of tenure) that walk out in upcoming demonstrations for safety at schools.

Is there a basic money management class that all kids take? This seems like an important skill that many children may lack exposure to.

I think the transition to 6th grade is tough. I'd love to see more play encouraged at recess and elsewhere. The more active learning we can provide the better. These kids are still young and need to be active and nurtured.

Limit socials to 7th and 8th graders, with 6th graders being invited to attend the last one of the year. Society is encouraging kids to grow up too quickly in unhealthy ways. Lets stand against that.

Please share with us one or more things we are doing well:

The opportunities for students to participate in non-academic interests are very good and very well led for the most part.

The atmosphere in the school is generally very positive.

Great communication with teachers and principals.

FMS communication has greatly improved over this past year!

You are doing a wonderful job of keeping students engaged with highly interesting topics presented by Teachers who truly connect with students. Great job. We are very impressed.

PBE and changing classroom instruction has been great

The curriculum work, the extra efforts like camps, trips are good. Clubs seem good. I think kids having a little more guidance about h.s. expectations could be stronger.

FMS is doing well communicating with parents and students with the newsletter. Thank you

Pushing my child to be better

My child LOVES Freeport Middle School! She loves her teachers, learning, homework, Kieve, Fab Fridays, etc. She is a very happy student!

The school has some excellent teachers.

Communication on daily activities

Teachers have been responsive when I've had questions or concerns.

The school offers a wide variety of challenging and enriching courses and extracurricular activities. Fab Friday has such a positive impact on my child. I appreciate the extra effort put forth by the staff to provide an engaging atmosphere.

Social awareness is very good. There is a friendly atmosphere. There are some exceptional teachers (Witte, Brown, DesPres, Deeves, Moulton, Forester).

I have found the communication from the school very helpful and current. I have found the middle school assistant principle extremely receptive to discussion and problem solving. I have found the 7th grade use of the homework calendar profoundly helpful in keeping me up to date on assignments/due dates and helping me help my child complete things on time. The 6th grade teachers did not use it at all. The more tools a parent has to support their child's learning, the better for all. Some of the teachers are incredibly engaging and positive with the students and it is clear that they love what they do. Those teachers are amazing for a student to have.

Administrative staff is very supportive and makes my child feel welcome.

Freeport Middle School - Comments

There's an issue with staff who seem tired and/or overwhelmed, but there are also some teachers who are great - who seem to make it a point to think/"get"/care about the kids as young adults in the middle of formative development years, and who try to make the overall learning experience enjoyable. Mrs. Hooper, Mrs. York, Mrs Alvarez, Mr. Brin, Mr. Foster... Also, there is a broad range of after-school clubs/offerings. Overnight field trip for the 6th grade is also good.

Thank you for asking for input!

Positive atmosphere

Kieve was wonderful. A great experience for my child to be away from home that long and in a fun and safe environment. All good things to say. We appreciate the progress reports and direction on how to understand it. Also very grateful for safety information due to flu, school emergencies and where to find help in town blackouts. It is my understanding that you focus a lot on bullying and how to deal with these situations. It is empowering kids to have the courage to speak up and know words matter. Thank you for all your hard work and most of all asking for feedback. Perhaps feedback from the kids, too?

I feel that the teachers and administrators truly care about the children in the school. I feel that they don't have sufficient time to address things, but that it is out of their control or due to a lack of budget.

Emails come through great

Emails come through great

The teachers overall are wonderful with the kids and the school provides a wonderful safe middle school environment which I am grateful for.

School socials are well-run. The assistant principal interacts so well with the children. He is impressive.

I am always impressed with the front desk at all the schools. They know where and what kids are doing all the time and are welcoming. I also love how the schools emphasize "kindness". I think the teachers (most of them) offer interesting topics and different ways of learning these topics. Freeport is becoming known for the "arts" and thats great!

The people /admin truly puts in effort and cares for each child. I appreciate this very much. The individuals work so so hard.

Offering of extra curricular activities - both sports and arts. Celebrations like Fab Fridays, etc.

Freeport has always had excellent staff, not just teachers and I appreciate the efforts they make to continue to cater to their students.

ATTENTION TO INDIVIDUAL STUDENTS AND INTERACTION WITH PARENTS IS GREAT.

Staff and administrators clearly care deeply for our children and their educational experiences, and work hard to address students' needs. The field trips offered are wonderful, and it is sweet to witness how much the staff and administrators try to include everyone in a fun and educational experience. What a big, complicated job it is to manage so many students and families!

Kids should be appropriately challenged and held to high standards of academics and behavior. The sixth grade lacks a positive atmosphere.

I feel my student attends a school with a strong community approach where teachers and administrators care about the success and well being of students.

Seems to me that the teachers and administrators have good rules in place and have good disciplinary procedures in place.

Our school is a positive place that is empowering all students to build a brighter future. Nice work! We have a phenomenal co-curricular activities. Kids are busy developing great new skills, relationships, new perspectives, self discipline, and pride. Thank you!

Ray Grogan is an excellent administrator who has earned the trust of his staff and the community.

The arts teachers (visual, musical, and dramatic) throughout the district are doing a wonderful job.

Appreciate the efforts to communicate more with the community - remember please that it's important to listen without sounding defensive.

Overall atmosphere/culture at FMS/FHS very positive, teachers and staff for the most part dedicated to helping students learn. To have a middle school that actually is positive is saying a lot--have experienced other middle schools across the country that were just horrible. Ray Grogan doing something right to make this happen.; very pleased with visual and performing arts opportunities for students throughout the RSU--teachers doing an outstanding job to have such high student participation rates in the arts, and to have such good output from the students

Freeport Middle School - Comments

Moving in a positive direction regarding a consistent system for standards based grading. Need to communicate expectations and rubrics so students know how they can be successful.

I like the cafeteria.

We love that the middle school fosters such a safe and respectful environment. The emphasis on preventing bullying is well thought-out and executed. Our family's experience has been overwhelmingly positive. Our child has been able to navigate the social and psychological landscape of middle school with ease, thanks to the clarity given to expectations/behavior. We are so appreciative of the healthy social environment!

The teachers at the middle school are exceptional and hard-working. They certainly deserve to be paid more. It's discouraging to see the RSU (through taxpayers) spend so much money on new athletic facilities when its teachers' wages are not competitive with neighboring towns. Teachers are the backbone of academic excellence that no amount of fancy technology or online gobbledy-gook can replace. I applaud the teachers' efforts to integrate standards based learning into their classrooms. They have also played a fundamental role in interpreting those standards for parents. I will trade you a million laptops for one good teacher. We have been fortunate that most teachers in the RSU "exceed the standard."

Phyllis Latham is great! Very concerned and engaged

Fab Fridays are great for our kids, thank you. Theater program rocks, thank you Jill. Middle school is so hard, especially keeping the academics interesting. Thank you for your dedication and love for our kids.

Freeport Middle School is a very welcoming and inclusive environment. My son relocated from another state and immediately felt welcomed to school community. In addition to helping students acclimate, I appreciate the innovative practical approach to teaching. The use of real world examples and scenarios allow students to think outside of the norm and understand (and devise solutions) for real world challenges.

Your teachers go above and beyond when responding to my concerns or those of my child.

Great job building community through after school events, socials, fab Fridays, guest speakers, etc

I like the fab/fun Friday idea.

I appreciate that there appears to be moderation in use of technology. The more face to face interaction our kids get with peers and adults, the more engaged and the better their social skills and connections are - this is a real life skill that is so needed. Thank you for all you do to encourage this.

I also appreciate that the school is bringing different perspectives into the classroom. It is essential that our children learn that there is more than the 'white, western perspective' to our world and the importance of being open to hearing from and learning from other experiences. Hearing different experiences and perspectives and talking about them is a great way to build critical thinking and awareness. The more of this, the better.