

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.	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.
FHS											
1 Strongly Agree	55 30%	45 25%	59 32%	32 17%	23 13%	36 20%	49 29%	23 14%	38 29%	27 16%	5
2 Somewhat Agree	86 47%	89 49%	90 49%	73 40%	69 38%	77 43%	57 34%	46 27%	34 26%	47 28%	2
3 Neutral	24 13%	21 11%	15 8%	42 23%	49 27%	35 19%	33 20%	67 40%	48 37%	42 25%	8
4 Somewhat Disagree	16 9%	22 12%	16 9%	28 15%	25 14%	23 13%	27 16%	23 14%	7 5%	32 19%	5
5 Strongly Disagree	2 1%	6 3%	3 2%	8 4%	16 9%	10 6%	3 2%	10 6%	3 2%	22 13%	1
Total	183 100%	183 100%	183 100%	183 100%	182 100%	181 100%	169 100%	169 100%	130 100%	170 100%	21
Strongly Agree/Somewhat Agree no N/A's	141 77%	134 73%	149 81%	105 57%	92 51%	113 62%	106 63%	69 41%	72 55%	74 44%	7
Somewhat Disagree/Strongly Disagree no N/A's	18 10%	28 15%	19 10%	36 20%	41 23%	33 18%	30 18%	33 20%	10 8%	54 32%	6

		B7. (For parents of students receiving Gifted and Talented services only) GT program 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.		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.
My child attends: (check one box)																						
FHS																						
1 Strongly Agree	24%	5	15%	38	22%	24	13%	68	39%	84	49%	31	17%	50	25%	62	35%	44	24%	50	28%	34
2 Somewhat Agree	10%	12	35%	55	31%	69	38%	77	44%	60	35%	70	39%	72	40%	67	38%	69	38%	51	29%	51
3 Neutral	38%	13	38%	45	26%	35	19%	21	12%	17	10%	28	15%	20	11%	25	14%	40	22%	43	24%	48
4 Somewhat Disagree	24%	2	6%	28	15%	36	20%	9	5%	7	4%	41	23%	31	17%	16	9%	23	13%	19	11%	31
5 Strongly Disagree	5%	2	6%	12	7%	17	9%	1	1%	5	3%	11	6%	8	4%	6	3%	6	3%	13	7%	9
Total	100%	34	100%	178	100%	181	100%	176	100%	173	100%	181	100%	181	100%	176	100%	182	100%	176	100%	173
Strongly Agree/Somewhat Agree no N/A's	33%	17	50%	93	53%	93	51%	145	82%	144	83%	101	56%	122	67%	129	73%	113	62%	101	57%	85
Somewhat Disagree/Strongly Disagree no N/A's	29%	4	12%	38	22%	53	29%	10	6%	12	7%	52	29%	39	22%	22	13%	29	16%	32	18%	40

Freeport High School - Comments
Please share with us your suggestions for improving our schools:
Mental health needs to be addressed. Many students are slipping through the cracks because they are not getting the support they need.
It seems all kids are suspected of breaking rules and acting poorly in the bathroom and now my child is uncomfortable using the bathrooms. She has been in the stall and had the principal peeking in the door. She has never been in trouble and was mortified by this. She was out with Covid during mid terms and most teachers were not helpful in her scheduling mid terms and took classroom site down so she couldn't use it for mid term like all the other kids and she felt punished for having Covid. I could of proxy'd at home and school nurse said they would work with her as she didn't schedule to be sick but it didn't feel that was the case. The world is crazy right now and kids should feel teachers are here to help and not penalize them for something that's not within their control. It kept her off honors. I was disappointed in how it's handled when kids are out. She says school assemblies are always about misbehaving kids and for the kids who aren't doing any of it, it's OLD, and if my child feels disconnected from students maybe spend more time with the ones following the rules.
More consistent updates to grades/powerschool, I 2-3 months without any grade input is very frustrating and concerning.
Normalizing activities during the pandemic
COVID: There needs to be a much more clearly defined SOP for students relegated to home due to COVID. As parents we have no idea what, if anything, is being done to accommodate our student while they isolate.
CLASS LOAD: My freshman is complaining that they have too many study halls and not enough class selection, that everything is full. When a student is complaining they don't have enough classes, there clearly is a gap.
WORK LOAD: My freshman seems to not have much challenge in their curriculum. They spend very little time on homework and yet maintain a 90+ average across all classes. This is a red flag to me that at least my child is not being challenged at the right level academically.
your teachers need to provide up to date powerschool entry to reflect the students daily work. If it is not up to date it is difficult to see where your child is missing work. I have repeatedly requested this and it has never been adequately addressed!!
Freeport High School should not share habits or work with colleges and universities on transcripts. This is not required by higher education, and can put our students at a disadvantage. The last two years of the pandemic has been challenging for most students, and getting organized in all the chaos has been challenging for adults and students alike. Why are we punishing out kids by including this metric, when colleges don't require it? This policy should be changed, as it benefits no one.
Dropping off kids in the morning can be a nightmare, especially when there is a queue of cars extending along Holbrook all the way to Main St at 8:46 AM. Could the drop off zone be extended all the way around the circle? What can be done to enforce "No Parking" in the drop off zone between 7 and 8 AM? Would having a police presence (not just a patrol car) in the drop-off zone be helpful?
There needs to be a stricter phone policy at school. Student distraction is a major problem and when looking at our child's phone activity it is evident she and others are not focused while at school. Recommend a policy of compliance and rules for learning. No phones during school hours.
Continue to have opportunities for students that want to be challenged more; better disciplinary actions for ongoing issues at school (ongoing trashing of school and bathrooms, lack of respect for other students and staff, etc). Hold teachers and staff (guidance counselors) accountable in doing their job—teaching in class, answering emails in a timely fashion, grading tests in a timely fashion.
When our senior was a freshman their class had a full day workshop where they got to really know each other, bond closely, and understand the kinds of challenges they faced in their lives. It was powerful. That doesn't happen any more. I've heard several parents of younger kids say that their class really needed it - but instead they are sent to an offsite with LL Bean, which doesn't accomplish the same kind of empathy-building the previous exercise did. This year there are enormous challenges at the school with the younger classes - disruptive and disrespectful behavior including online bullying and vandalism. Our kids need a program like Challenge Day more than ever - and fast.
Students are NOT treated equally or fairly. The handbook is NOT used when dealing with behaviors, much tougher punishments are given than what the handbook states. Students concerns that are brought to teachers awareness are told "what do you want me to do about it". When this is brought to administration nothing is done. I realize names can not be used when discussing issues however when a parent asks what was done about an issue we are told nothing. We should be told how an issue was resolved. I have NO confidence in the administration or teachers to keep kids safe. Everything is swept under the rug. Parents and kids concerns do NOT matter and certain kids are singled out for punishment.
You use "teachers" throughout. Some teachers are excellent and understand our child's needs, others are less open minded. Hence the preponderance of "somewhat agree" statements. Some teachers are exceptional, others less so. And, with apologies, I don't understand why RSU5 administrators were unwilling to develop a comprehensive, system-wide remote learning plan. The superintendent said she believes in-person instruction is superior. With all due respect, she has no data to back up that claim. In-person instruction may be superior to the form of remote learning you were willing to do (i.e., let individual teachers come up with something if they were so inclined), but no evidence suggests that a comprehensive remote curriculum is inferior.
I think what most needs to happen during this time is recognition that the kids are going through these times as well and some grace should be given to them as well. The call back system is broken at the high school or maybe the teachers are just too busy. Again, this should allow the kids some slack as well. Some teachers are grading assignments months after they are completed and students are then struggling to reassess right before midterms then struggling on midterms because of it which puts them in a bad situation with extra activities. Some of this could be avoided with grace on both sides maybe. Consider the times we are in and stop with the black and white.
Better lunch program. The offerings could be more healthy. The school needs to invest in the nourishment of students. There is a need for home economics and navigating the kitchen, how to eat healthy and make simple effective choices. Students should leave the school knowing basic kitchen skills.
With hopes that our student body will continue to diversify, it is important to continue providing training opportunities for staff and learning opportunities for students on how to create a more inclusive educational environment.
Better and consistent communication from the High School would be helpful. I am concerned about the vandalism and social media issues that continue to be occurring at the HS. It sounds like it might be getting out of control. How safe are the students? I am also hearing about disruptive students in the HS classes, this is distracting for the students that want to learn. What is being done about this? Why is there a Policeman on campus all day what is his role?
Remove the mask!!!!

The [redacted] at FHS has never been nice, or helpful, to the students or parents. The [redacted] is always the one who steps in and helps, or Guiko. I recommend getting someone with more knowledge of the school, and how it works. Or atleast get someone who actually likes people.

Listen to your experienced teachers. Value their knowledge and guidance. They have kept your school running in spite of administration efforts.

In my experience, there is not a clear understanding of consequences for improper behavior. I have witnessed some student get suspended for minor infractions and other get no suspensions for big issues. Young adults have had sexual experiences on the bus and this was not punished. If a "good" student reports a perceived bullying issue the other person is punished swiftly without thorough investigation. Yet if a student who is not "favored" reports such a situation, there is often no, or minimal, consequence. There school is not fair. Additionally, there are some teachers who have been complained about for YEARS and they are still there. [redacted], [redacted] is an insult to every decent teacher out there. Children do not learn a foreign language by reading and memorizing lists of words. The majority of students who have [redacted] for [redacted] switch to another language. This has gone on for years with parents complaining and no change. One of the science teachers for biology will never help students and tells them to figure it out on their own. [redacted] has no clear method of grading. As a whole, the school is too soft about allowing work to be turned in late and not having the grade reduced. I never ever hear from teachers. Vaping and drugs are a huge problem at FHS.

Communication during a medical restriction was disjointed and cause class work issues

Access to bathrooms continues to be a concern. I feel that students who have a completely clean slate should be able to have access to more bathrooms. Maybe other kids could earn the privilege somehow. I know it is a hard situation to deal with, but there must be a better one out there.

My child is not feeling challenged academically. I will say that she chose to not do as many honors level courses as we thought that she should as she feared that HS would be way more challenging than middle school and was playing it safe. Next year she is going to enroll in more challenging courses. She indicates that her science teacher is very 'distracting' talking about xbox, pizza and not concentrat[redacted] on the curriculum. And she loves being a Falcon!!

Encourage more joint student/parent/teacher activities to promote a community feel (I that this was difficult during Covid)

Improve athletic opportunities for young women. [redacted] is out of touch with the needs of women's sports programs. In particular the [redacted] coach is horrendous and coaches in a manner that is unsafe, degrading to athletes and his style is awash in poor decisions. His coaching style is lazy, lacks direction and is disorganized. He should be teaching fundamentals, advancement of skills and student leadership on a team. He encourage none of that. In comparison it was wonderful to watch the experience the boy's baseball team had with their excellent coaching staff who build a strong team skill wise and encouraged those young men to be leaders on and off the field. The hope would be that the [redacted] program could be afforded a new coaching staff that could encourage the same of those talented young women on and off the field.

I think the schools are doing an overall good job during a very difficult time. I appreciate all the efforts put in by teachers and staff.

There seems to be a general acceptance of bullying in various levels from Elementary to High School. I don't feel like situations are taken seriously.

It's hard to say as I know things have been different because of covid. As my student came in as a freshman fall of 2020 we have had a very atypical experience. On the outside it seems like it's very much lacking school spirit, community spirit, community pride and opportunities to build on that.

Global language program is terrible. There are not enough options for students. The [redacted] program is really, really weak. This has been an ongoing complaint for SO many years, from SO many parents and students, yet nothing has changed. In fact, I think it has continued to deteriorate in the 4 years my children have attended FHS. I have brought up the issue to guidance on many occasions and have been told that FHS is aware the program is weak and they are hoping to improve it but I have seen no evidence. For Incoming Freshmen to all know that they should stay away from Spanish and take Latin is a travesty.

Hold teacher to the same standards at the kids. Tests need to be evaluated on time, tests need to reflect what they taught the class and prepare them for the AP exams. When a whole class fails their mid terms, there is clearly a problem. Some teachers show bad habits of this year after year without being addressed and I have brought it to your attention and nothing happens. Same problems with same teachers 3 years later. As a parent you give up bringing these items up as we know nothing will happen or change.

I think you are doing a wonderful job. I do not find looking up gardens on PowerSchool to be easy. All teachers appear to weight things differently some enter grades weekly others put them in at the end of the semester. It is tricky as a parent to keep on top of your kid when it is not consistent. But otherwise you are amazing people and we are beyond lucky to have you all!

I would say poor response to emails or no response at all.

While [redacted] says she is open to listening to both students and parents, it seems to go in one ear and out the other. She is unfortunately, out of touch with the student body.

More communication, unless you in a group with parents that are on a committee you hear nothing. No email, etc

I was expecting to see that with my children entering high school, that expectations and responsibilities would increase at this level. Increases in homework, increases in level of difficulty, increases in expectations of doing work and behavior. However, my kids come home from school talking about how boring their day was, how ridiculously easy classes are (and they are in honor level classes), how homework is a joke, how awful kids act, how ridiculous the rules are, etc. They NEVER have homework. This is high school! How is this preparing them to be successful in College or LIFE? In fact, I don't think our kids have felt even the slightest amount of stress. I don't expect them to be loaded up with home work and stressed out like that in college. But I did expect that things would progressively get more difficult and have more responsibilities placed onto the students. Instead, I feel as if education has become less of a priority with Covid as being the excuse.

Allow the children to understand that what is taught in school and at home no matter how different it does not mean the parent is the one in the wrong the school staff is politically and emotionally brainwashing our kids to a one sided way of thinking

You really need a new [redacted] Teacher. Also, bring back the GPA and averages. It's a shame that one teacher can ruin high honors for many students because of the way it is calculated. We want well rounded students, then a well rounded AVERAGE should be used to calculate honors.

more required outside time for all students during the school day; longer parent/teacher conferences.

I think that questions pertaining g to communication with administrators and teachers should be separate.

We as a school district need to change our opponents to more evenly matched schools. [REDACTED] has some kind of passion for arranging way too many athletic events with schools that are 2 levels above our school. I am told [REDACTED] likes to keep us playing lots of traditional schools that we have historically played in the past. This has a demoralizing effect on our kids when they get beaten so often in sports like boys lacrosse. They have no business playing Class A state Champions Cape Elizabeth in this sport and when we did play them they had 3 times as many kids on the team. They even played their JV against our varsity and we still got destroyed. I would love to hear [REDACTED]'s explanation on how this benefits our kids and their moral. I would like to see us playing more class c teams like my arrarat this year. If I am to really believe you listen to these surveys please put your money where your mouth is and show me with a more competitive spring boys Lax schedule. If not please don't have us waste our time with these surveys in the future. Thank you

The school start time has been an ongoing problem in our household. Coptious research shows that high school students' body clocks prevent them from falling asleep early, which means that the early start of school does not allow them sufficient sleep. Rarely, and usually after an illness, my child gets a full night's sleep, and the difference I've seen on those morning is striking: my child leaves for school awake, happy, ready to be engaged, eager to achieve the most they can. I can clearly see how much my child's academic achievements would increase with a proper amount of sleep each night. Even delaying the start time of high school to an hour later would go far to reduce student exhaustion, increase academic performance, increase emotional stability, and increase basic health in the student population. I know how challenging it is for me to go to my job when I don't get a full night's sleep. The thought that my child needs to do this daily—at no fault of their own—is heartbreaking.

Higher expectations for academic achievement, additional work/homework to improve skill & teach time management etc. Better consistency of treatment/rule enforcement between different "groups" of kids.

Due to COVID I feel a little disconnected from the school, but don't feel the school has any responsibility in that. My child is quiet, shy and lonely in school. He does well academically and therefore flies under the radar. I wish there was a peer support program which he could utilize. I can't imagine he is the only student feeling this way.

When I call to speak to [REDACTED] has never been available. I asked for [REDACTED] to specifically call me back in regards to [REDACTED]. She had the [REDACTED] return the call. I wanted her to hear my concerns I was having with his response times and following up with promises. The guidance counselor takes months to return calls or emails after calling and emailing over and over again. You have to say the next call is to the principle and then she will call you back. The school nurse is great BTW. I'm sure they are busy but this has been the pattern for years.

Remove the masks!!!!

I feel like there is too much emphasis placed on PowerSchool and other technology as an intermediary to assessing a child's progress. With laptops and Google Classroom, parents rarely, if ever, get to see a child's homework, teacher feedback, exams, etc. The school has used technology as a means to distance parents from their child's education. Perhaps teachers could keep a folder of each pupil's work that could be physically shown to parents at conferences, or on request? It would be SO NICE to actually SEE what my child has written, or which math problems they struggled with on an exam. Right now all I have is the corporate-sounding gobbledegook of those god-awful standards. (Yes, even after all this time, and countless attempts at Jedi mind-tricks, parents still HATE common core.)

Mask should be made available outside the school not just inside. Way too many kids go in that school and walk around way too freely not wearing masks properly even being asked to fix them. Harsher punishments need to be set in place for kids who refuse to keep others safe. If my child was to get covid from that school, he would be pulled and you will be teaching him from home. Our lives mean more than entitled brats thinking it's cool to spread a killer virus like it's the next biggest trend on Tiktok. The school also needs to start holding the parent accountable for their children during these times. It's time for the school to finally step up and push these rules. If the town is mask mandated shouldn't the schools?

I would love to see kids being taught how to think, not what to think. Remove all controversial things from the school. Stop with the masks.

Try student led conferences

My tenth grader rarely has homework which blows my mind. Maybe it's getting done at school in one of the ten study halls he has. I don't know. I would love for him to read more books in English class as well. He says he had to write a paper/essay on a book he did not finish and got 100 on this project.

My sons have teachers who take a strong political stance on their assignments. Any attempt at debate is shut down. Grades are reduced unless a student conforms with the teacher's ideology. Even thoughtful, well-supported arguments are not tolerated.

One teacher even publicly belittled my son, by name, in front of another class, a class he was not even enrolled in.

An adult using insulting and derogatory to defame a child when the child is not even present is so obviously wrong that I wanted to have a word with this teacher. My son begged me not to because he knew he would suffer for it.

My other son has straight A's except for one teacher who openly dislikes him and makes sure he is denied high honors.

Please hire some adults who don't make teaching personal. And remind them that they are not the sole arbiters of truth.

O. Also, enough with the masks already!

It's been our experience that there is an unreasonable amount of homework assigned on a regular basis. Our child is regularly up until 11 PM working on assignments and works for hours over the weekend to complete assignments. If the student is engaged in extra curriculars, as ours is, this workload pushes them into working late into the night and adds undue stress when weighed against the questionable benefit of homework.

The probation system for extra curricular activities is a mess. [REDACTED] has no compassion or the skills needed to fairly administer the program. The whole probation system is rife with inequality. Have serious concerns that [REDACTED] is the right person for the job of [REDACTED].

Stop letting DEI dictate curriculum. So many books and projects seem to be centered around race, just like the Superintendent's last letter. It seems that gaining understanding of the subject at hand (i.e. English or History) is secondary to underlying DEI curriculum. Race/racism is not at all the issue it is made out to be in politics and now the school system. Please just focus the curriculum on preparing our kids to succeed later in life.

You will see that most of our answers are neutral. If you were able to look at the demographic of who answered things more positively, you would probably find that those people are parents of stars. Athletic stars, academic stars, visual & performing art stars. Everyone else is forced to average. It's not that the curriculum needs to be harder (the kids are mostly doing the best they can), it's that the standards and expectations for everyone else need to be higher.

I have heard there are issues with students misbehaving. Also, the honors classes are pretty intense and work load is large.

There has been feedback from my daughter on a few things.

Some teachers go very fast, students can't master the material before moving on. Mastering the material seems to be the most important factor in learning it instead of building on information without a strong base to begin with.

My daughter is in a couple of honors classes where there is quite a bit of homework. It's been frequently given over weekends and holiday breaks. I do feel kids need some down time for other things to enjoy, socialize or relax. The work over the holiday or test upon return is disappointing. It looms over the break making it hard to enjoy the time off she has earned.

We all need a mental break. We need to model this for our kids and create opportunities for them to learn to strike a balance of working hard, but also to self-nurture.

less screens more writing !!!!

More communication, especially when there is a concern. When you ask for more support for your student, don't blow them off because their grades are fine. I feel like we were totally blown off when asking for testing for my child with a reading and comprehending issue. I guess we will just deal with it and she will struggle.

It is concerning that my child is nervous about going into bathrooms in the school, for fear of being blamed for damage in the bathroom that she did not cause or for concern that she will encounter a group of students huddled into one stall together doing who knows what and if they are caught while she is in there, be guilty by association. I also know Covid has been rough on teachers, but when students are out due to quarantine or having Covid, several of my kids teachers don't respond to their emails telling them they will be out and asking for work. They end up with assignments marked missing/late and when they return to school they are asked why they didn't complete assignments they didn't even receive. That adds extra stress to these students who would prefer to just be in school.

•Perhaps FHS could look into IB program to meet needs of student who want/need accelerated learning opportunities? Coming from my perspective as a parent, AP curriculum seems so focused on teaching to the test the classes tend to lack space for curiosity, inspiration and joy of learning.

•Giving students more voice in setting goals for the school around concepts of belong (How do I/we make sure everyone feels like they belong at FHS?) achieve (How do I support myself and others to set goals and achieve them?) and contribute (What can I contribute to the school community?).

There is limited communication regarding my child, activities from the school. I do read the weekly announcements. My child is a A student and does not have behavioral issues, so there is limited communication, besides at teacher parent conferences.

The sports announcements text alerts are confusing, changes to schedules and practices are confusing via the text alerts

There has been limited to no opportunity to be in the school due to covid, so I feel removed from the high school

Honor rolls aren't shared? Where do we find this

Please support Plato e learning more consistently. Please ask state for permission to end masking as omicron fades.

My sophomore boys will not go into the bathrooms because of the problems that have occurred there, and knowing that people smoke, vape or do damage. I think we are overdue for school administration to take a much harder line on this. You must be able to determine who did this, as well as set up new methods to catch people who damage the bathroom or smoke, vape or bully in there.

Open the bathrooms,

This year's varsity basketball coach is incredibly vindictive to the past varsity coach. Every Junior basketball player except for two did not make any team.

He is making a basketball team that is only from when he's begun coaching and it's very obvious that the kids have been impacted by his masculine need to be successful and not look at the kids needs.

I love our superintendent I enjoy the principles and I enjoy Craig Sickles but this one higher is incredibly horrible. I like officer McManus and I think the kids are very aware of their surroundings the situation I would like them to have security drills more often not just fire drills but security drills

The school board does no communication to parents they meet but we have no idea what exactly they made about nor did they ever require input.

Hold students accountable for their misbehaviors.

No more masks FHS

Principal acts like it is a bother to answer the phone, not friendly and does not say bye when getting off the phone - this does not seem inviting or make me comfortable when having to call the school. The other lady that is very friendly and helpful. In the cafeteria, kids are constantly cutting in front and rules are not enforced to prevent this.

My sophomore is getting great grades with no effort at home. Enrichment or further challenges would be helpful.

Getting more parental opinions about issues such as gender identity, masks and curriculum

Teachers need to keep up with their grading, putting grades in powerschool in a timely manner so kids can keep up on their work. The teachers should be help accountable to the same expectations the kids are. If a child is failing, the school should be contacting parents and helping to figure out why. They are still kids, not in college yet. If you are "preparing them for college" then do that. Find out what skills they are missing that brought them to a failing grade and help them with that. Don't just let them keep failing. When a kid is failing or struggling in a class, don't tell the kid and parent that the child needs to for call backs, use math lab, use the after school help... maybe the issue isn't the child. Maybe you need to look at the teacher. Stop preventing kids from being part of athletic team when they are making the effort but still failing. It's not the child's fault if a teacher doesn't grade anything for the last two months even though they're going in for call backs and getting extra help as they should. They shouldn't be punished by being removed from the team while kids that skip school, vape, etc get a slap on the wrist and are back on the field. Guidance should be more proactive in helping kids figure out college options (or trade school) in the younger grades instead of leaving it to the kids to take the initiative. Some kids are so overwhelmed they don't even know the first steps to take, including scheduling a guidance appointment because they don't understand how that can help them.

Currently if you have a HOW score below a 76, you are ineligible to participate in extracurricular activities. Students who are diagnosed with ADD and ADHD, and therefore struggle with organization and coursework completion, are frequently barred from after school sports and activities. This group of kids are exactly the ones who need to build relationships with their peers (thru involvement with extracurricular activities) the most! Kids with ADD already have a harder time "making friends"; they get labelled as different, spacey, lazy. It's just harder for them to pay attention to what's before them! Without the opportunity to build these "after school" friendships, it further isolates the student with ADD from his classmates, works to erode self confidence that they can't participate like everyone else and adds to their anxiety being at school. It's not a level playing field. Kids with ADD are being punished for something they truly don't have control of yet. I also do not think HOW grades should not affect your grade for the class or your GPA.

The use of classroom time should increase in instruction and less time on giving kids more time in school to complete homework.

I would like to see advisor period better use than a 40 plus min social time during the day - I would support a shorter advisory and or put it at the end of the day.

Guidance - a lot more time should be spent with juniors and seniors helping them find schools and communication with those schools to educate the higher Ed in the strengths of students. My kid knows what he wants but to help give him some college names to look at in groups so kids can narrow down the type and location of school.

More consistent response to unexpected/inappropriate behaviors happening during unstructured times (hallways, lunches).

I have not received return emails from some teachers when I have had questions about my child's performance in class. Even after I have sent repeated emails. I have had to reach out to admin in order to get a response.

I wish there had been more prep for PSAT and SATs. Would also be great if there were more opportunities for college prep and decisions. When I contacted the school counselor it felt as if they discouraged applying to anything under certain percentage acceptance rates (even though my child is a high honors student) and when my child asked about taking AP history he was discouraged from doing so because "it's hard and not really necessary unless you're majoring in history" so more encouragement and challenge and excitement around the college process, along with access to their GPA would be great.

Additional AP classes, college counseling aside from guidance staff

Few more details about academic planning/progression for incoming freshman. My son has never had a meeting with his guidance counselor, even though we were told he would at FMS and then after he arrived to FHS. Put all the burden on us to figure out what classes he would take that would be best for him...it's good we are so involved/proactive to help him figure it out. Not sure how he fell through the cracks except probably COVID/virtual orientation.

Get rid of masks and respect opinions that run contrary to woke philosophy

We have had issues with the teachers teaching inappropriate subjects. For example, in middle school after the Parkland shooting the English teacher had the students read articles about gun control to learn about bias. They were all anti-gun articles and no pro articles. We went in and spoke to the principal who told us that he does not know the teachers curriculum. Why are the teachers allowed to teach whatever they want?? This year again as in years past the summer reading and videos, which I watched, were all about racism (again for English class). Political speeches are played and critiqued in class. Ted Cruze's speech was poor but Obama's was wonderful. However these speeches were at different times in the political race so they are not comparing apples to apples. How about the kids get taught how to write in cursive and properly punctuate rather than being ashamed to be white? They were also taught that the United States was wrong to invade Iraq. These subjects are things that should be discussed in the home by the family not by liberal democrats who use the schools for their own agenda rather than to teach the fundamentals.

The [redacted] does not place players solely on ability but rather by "friend groups" because he feels they play better together. That is unacceptable. Not only that but the [redacted] has always been a striker but in order for him to pull her up to varsity she now plays defense as does her best friend so that she also can be placed on varsity next year. This past spring one of the player told another that [redacted] had already sent out to some of them who the varsity team would be in the fall. The player recognized that was wrong and was uncomfortable about it. If you spoke to some of these girls privately they would confirm what I am saying. Even some of the boys [redacted] players have talked about it. Most of these young people will never play [redacted] after high school or certainly not college so they should be played based on their abilities and team commitment not who they are friends with.

[redacted] is a horrible math teacher. One student actually left the school for the year because of him. He has told students that they aren't going to pass so they might as well give up. Again check with some of the students who struggled in his class and they will confirm it because I know of at least 3 students he told that to.

My son [redacted] has attempted to meet with his guidance counselor on numerous occasions to discuss his schedule and educational goals. Early in the year he had at least two appointments schedule and sat outside her office for over 30 minutes- she never met with him. There was no attempt to follow up with him and reschedule. He expressed disappointment but "gave up" trying. I understand there are numerous needs from other kids, but my son took initiative and that should have led to a meeting.

More support services. We are seeing unprecedented mental health issues in our teens. I feel like guidance counselors are spending too much time doing administrative activities/scheduling and do not have enough time to support the social and emotional needs of my child despite their willingness to do so.

It's time to follow the science and get rid of the mask mandate in our schools. There is now plenty of respected scientific studies showing that the mental, emotional, and social effects of the masks far outweigh the benefits to our students. They deserve a return to normalcy.

More academic demands on the kids - our son hardly has homework yet gets good grades

The RSU5 remains behind in its ability to proactively protect minority children; such an environment is not conducive to learning or being inclusive. The school community needs to better educate themselves on promoting a positive diverse environment and apply appropriate action whenever racist attacks are bullying has occurred. Not addressing these issues sets a bad precedence for the victims and other minority students. The new [redacted] also has to be informed on this topic, and discouraged from giving a pass to offenders.

Drop the mask mandate asap for students
I encourage all teachers to continue to encourage their students to succeed. Sometimes students left behind if they are not putting their best forward. Seek parental engagement when this happens, or involve the administration so its not a surprise to the parents months down the road.
My son is a freshman so I don't have a lot of experience with high school yet but it has been very noticeable how little homework he gets compared with Middle School and a couple other parents in his grade have said the same thing. That makes me concerned a bit he may not being pushed hard enough.
Please re-evaluate your approach with regards to Basketball coaching...focus on nurturing, supportive, balanced, followership techniques...vs. authoritative, selective, command and control structure...thanks.
Classes should be weighted, for example high academic level classes like AP classes should get more attention. Doing school sports and trying to keep up with high academic classes does not get enough recognition. For years I have missed real class trips.
Step one is removing mask mandates for all students. Their mental health should be our top priority.
Behavior management
Thank you for all your efforts, very appreciated!
Keep all bathrooms open especially gender neutral.
More respect for conservative viewpoints
We met with the RSU5 Superintendent when she started about a serious issue with a DCS teacher who held a meeting at the school against school policy, and whose conduct at that meeting, as well as her actions following, were illegal and worthy of being fired, at a minimum.
We had a meeting with Dr. Foley and asked for follow up rather than taking legal action, as she had basically stolen a total of approximately \$8000 divided between 10 families. No follow up was ever done, and the only reason we have not obtained a lawyer and sued the district is because our two daughters are still in attendance at the high school. Mrs. Gulko and Mr. Mellon have done such a fantastic job at that school that I did not want to jeopardize our relationship with them.
We have already spent hundreds of dollars discussing this with our personal lawyer, but did not want to foot the bill for the thousands it would cost to sue RSU5. All I can say at this point is shame on you, Becky Foley. Everything else about how you have run this district has been excellent, but you really dropped the ball on this major issue.
We've been very happy about how our three sons have been able to access academics, clubs, and athletics at Freeport High School. It has been a rewarding experience for all of them.
Far less time teaching agenda driven race issues. Seems there might be other subjects to learn rather than 3 years plus (so far) of race and religion studies.
Unmask our kids immediately.
Stop masking the kids!
Expand curriculum to teach Sustainability and Macro and micro economics. Have Guidance proactively reach out to each student individually more frequently (our son has not met his guidance counselor yet)
You are working hard and we appreciate you! Thank you!
It is difficult to keep track of my daughter's work assignments.
I understand why we should not access students' Google classroom accounts, but the feature of Google classroom where teachers can share information with guardians is very limited and/or does not seem to be widely used or well-understood by teachers.
Powerschool is somewhat useful for this but only for finding what assignments haven't been completed on-time (which is a little too late). And my sense is that those listings are not always complete.
My largest complaint/ area where I feel like there could be improvement is a seemingly known entity of the high school and that is with the department. My child, against the recommendations of her elder peers, wanted to stick with and the has proven to be less than accommodating.
My child would like to see more done to prevent students from destroying the bathrooms. She doesn't have a solution because you can't keep eyes on everyone but thinks it's dumb. Her words.
I'd like you to consider keeping the mask mandate in place through the end of the school year. Just because a few vocal parents in favor of not wearing masks express their opinion at a school board meeting, it doesn't mean the rest of us feel that way. Other schools are leaving them in place. If you do, thank you. And, please make sure proper mask wearing is enforced. I have heard from my child and also observed myself that some kids don't wear them properly and haven't been this whole time.
The high school needs to shut down bathrooms to prevent vandalism. That is unfortunate and doesn't make me feel good about the student body.
Not have a pandemic. Seriously, my whole experience with FHS is tainted by covid. I answered "NA" to many question because - I simply don't know, because I have had very little direct experience with the school. Parents haven't been able to be there. I don't have much of a clue what my child's day is really like. I haven't seen the classrooms nor met most of her teachers. I'd like to see more non-competitive athletics offered. All kids should learn to be active - we do a great job of that at the elementary level, but as kids get older and finally in high school - all the sports options are so focussed on competition.
There should be more focus on addressing and preventing discriminatory behavior so that students feel safe with their peers and trust that adults will respond in meaningful ways to discriminatory behavior. Students seem to believe that an offense like vaping in the bathroom will result in more significant consequences than would making threatening, racist, transphobic, or other discriminatory remarks/gestures towards other students. While behaviors like vaping are obviously problematic and should be addressed, this should not be the main focus for disciplinary action. Vaping isn't creating a hostile environment and making other students feel marginalized and afraid. Assemblies about inclusion are insufficient and are essentially just checking a box if the kids don't feel like their concerns are addressed in meaningful ways in real time, when they happen. And teachers should not be misgendering or deadnaming students.

I feel the school stance on social media bullying is too tolerant. I feel that issues that that happen at school which target marginalized groups need to be taken more seriously. I imagine they are but given the ongoing issues of bullying on social media for past few years, I feel the school is not addressing the offenders in a way that keeps all students safe.

I have brought up some concerns and felt there to be little wiggle room or deeper acknowledgement of concern and the flexibility necessary to remediate the issue. I found the middle school to have a lot more flexibility in meeting family needs. I am not sure if that is a high school vs middle school structures or different leadership.

Would love to see innovative teaching. It seems like a lot of teachers have been doing the same thing they have done for years. It feels like a time to innovate.

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

Hiring QUALITY teachers

The teachers do care about their students and are pretty good about communicating with the students directly.

School nurse is super helpful and responsive. Variety of courses is good.

Support of students when they ask for help is timely, clear and positive.

Overall school communication is excellent. The staff also seems to address problems well. I commend the entire district on its resiliency throughout the pandemic.

supporting students when the need to be remote for COVID or other

Good job maneuvering through the pandemic, and keeping us all safe.

One of our teenagers is currently being treated for a serious health problem. Her counselor, all of her teachers and the principal have been incredibly helpful and supportive in dealing with the situation.

Communications are good from administrators and I feel there is timely education of bullying and communication with parents when problems arise.

Updates from superintendent and principals.

Focus on student voice is a great start - something I hope we will see take hold and grow for years to come.

Teachers and staff have adapted really well to Covid and all that has required of them.

Some teachers are great!

You seem to have a rigorous academic program. And the principal does a great job communicating with parents and has handled the pandemic well by, among other things, requiring that everyone wear masks.

I feel we are trying to promote a positive culture of respect and good human beings. Keeping the negative out as much as possible is great and inspiring the kids to do that as well.

The administration is very supportive of my child's needs. They have spent time in gathering the right support.

You all are doing an amazing job during a very challenging couple of years. We are grateful for all your passion and efforts - especially your focus on equity for those learners who may be struggling socially, emotionally, and educationally at home and at school. Blessing to you all and let's hope this pandemic winds down to a more sane and management place in 2022.

We are happy that school has not gone remote and hope that will continue.

Some of the teachers are so so so amazing, and clearly love what they do!! And some really make life long impacts on these kids!! :^)

Finding ways to maintain in person learning. So valuable this year. Last year was a failure all around. Poor communication from inexperienced teachers. No assistance from administration when attempting to work through issues. "I'm sorry you're upset" is a condescending sentence no parent should ever hear unless it's given with a path forward

There are some newer teachers that are fantastic - the female Latin teacher, the new female geometry teacher, and some decent guidance counselors. The weekly Freeport HS update is great.

Challenging the kids, academically is going well

Allowing all students to participate in sports throughout the pandemic has been super helpful for all students social and emotional growth. I know it puts a great deal more pressure on coaches, but it is very much appreciated throughout our community!!!

The culture seems phenomenal, despite the lack of academic rigor to truly engage and excite my child she loves it at FHS. She feels emotionally stable and supported in the community. I think that the leadership is phenomenal, particularly with all that has been going on. It feels safe for all and any expression of individuality. Issues seem to get addressed and there seem to be adequate resources. We are so grateful that school has remained in session so that kids can have the consistency as pandemic virtual learning was not a great scenario for learning. We really appreciate everything and now that we know how things work a little better we feel confident that we can get better course selections for the remaining years at FHS. Thank you!

You've managed the pandemic really well!

Collaborating with students and families in all aspects of education. Encouraging of students to be individuals and good citizens. Teachers encouraging students to take risks academically and creatively to challenge themselves and build esteem. Creating an environment that encourages the acceptance of the individual uniqueness of all students.

Efforts to communicate and improve the culture are evident.
For kids who are outgoing, engaged and generally good students, the opportunities are endless and it feels like there is a strong level of school engagement in those kids.
Tirelessly working through the ever changing landscape of COVID-19. I am grateful for administration and teachers that I've worked very hard to try and continue to provide in school education for our students.
Some of the AP courses seem relevant
You have a wonderful school with personnel that have worked so hard, especially the last 2 years to make it as good as possible. I am very grateful for your passion for education and wellbeing of our kids. Thank you!
The communication between the schools and parents about covid changes and policies has been amazing. Your school nurses and secretaries are fabulous.
handling COVID 19
The teachers, administrators, and guidance staff have done an amazing job dealing with all the changes due to covid. It is evident that they really care about the students. Much appreciation for them all.
Keeping school open and having kids go to school in person
That new field is awesome. Emily Guyer is your greatest asset.
I appreciate the accessibility to Jen G.
Great communication and connection with the community.
Dealing with serious situations and following up on them.
Freeport High School has done an incredible job being an inspiring, engaging place for my child after a year and a half of online learning. Most teachers are very respectful of my child's needs as a gifted & talented student who initially struggled to adapt to an in-person style of learning. Ms. Friesland, FHS's Honors English teacher, in particular has involved her curriculum in engaging ways to draw in student interest and build student skills; and most other teachers (Global Studies, Latin, and Foundations of Art) have fostered my child's learning in very productive ways as well. Jen Guiko is a thoughtful and conscientious principal, handling the covid crisis well. I've been impressed too in how she's dealt with the TikTok challenges that threatened FHS's community safety. I'm very glad that my child is at FHS.
My kids enjoy their teachers/staff, they have been kind, friendly & positive.
I feel the school admin and most teachers communicate well with parents regarding school issues. I feel the coursework is rigorous and does well to prepare students for college. Teachers seem willing to go above and beyond to help students with learning. My child has had several call backs with his AP calculus teacher.
I am infinitely impressed by the FHS arts programs. They are exceptional on all levels - teachers, curriculum, inclusion, extracurriculars, etc. Quite spectacular to see this amount of excellence at the high school level!
The attitude of the [REDACTED] Passive-aggressive, smug and being made to feel like shit isn't how I like to be spoken to when I have an issue or a question. We have not felt welcomed since we were forced to attend this school.
Mr. Ogilby gets to know his students, shares quality materials, and personalizes his classes to relevant topics. He has shown my son great character. He really respects all you have done in life.
The LHS principal has shown great respect for my 2 children; even when she was the assistant principal. She takes the safety of students seriously. The honors sophomore teacher uses great literature and thoughtful assignments. Thanks for honoring my son's ability to think critically. Ms. Abbott, the Algebra 2 teacher makes math understandable.
Mr. Anderson - art and photography- my oldest still talks about you. My son says that you really get teens.
Strength training class is motivating and helps my son focus on his personal health and fitness.
FHS appears to be doing a decent job of dealing with the Covid pandemic.
Your school is lovely and my kids have had a great experience there. Great sports. Many excellent teachers.
We really appreciate the FHS announcements emails. They're great for keeping up with what's going on at the school, they build a nice community feel with the lists of student's college acceptances, etc.. We also really appreciate all of the course offerings at the high school, students can more deeply explore areas of interest.
I have a happy student who is engaged in their learning and extra curricular activities. Keep up the good work.
Core math, English, and history well managed.
Free lunch, I really believe that most teachers and administrators really genuinely care about the kids.
Heard positive comments about math classes.

The fact that you are reaching out for feedback is wonderful and applauded! (Perhaps a line or two for us to type specifics after each question? They are very general and some answers do not reflect accurately what we may want to tell you). Thank you.

I am happy with the communication from school about health status, what issues come up with the students in school or outside of school, VERY happy about the zero tolerance for bullying, racism, etc.

I am also very proud you pay attention to donations for those in need, the sneakers, etc. It would be great to make it a bigger deal and have the kids more involved so they can see how much they have and how much others do not.

I was very impressed with your response to COVID and how much effort went into the video for returning back to school, how hard the teachers worked to pivot, the pool testing and all you do to keep everyone as safe as possible and still learning. Thank you for the dance last year, the kids loved it.

When we had parent teacher conferences I absolutely loved my daughters teachers. Each one was very personable, kind and I felt that I could reach out to them if needed.

Thank you for everything you are doing!!

Managing all those teenagers

Arts and music programs are awesome ! I am always stuck by how many teachers and administrators come to night time/weekend music/drama/art events to support kids and experience the joy these programs offer the community. I am grateful that RSU5 fully supports these programs, attracts and keeps music, art and drama educators of such high quality and works to grow the programs.

Communication regarding social media and issues has been good.

Communication about covid has been good.

Keeping kids in school has been excellent

Administration, staff and faculty are available, collaborative and kind.

You are communicating frequently with parents, and that is greatly appreciated.

I like officer McManus and I think the kids are very aware of their surroundings the situation I would like them to have security drills more often not just fire drills but security drills

Strong communication from the principal.

Assistant Principal Mellon is very nice and works well with the kids

Communicating opportunities for students and parents

The teachers are caring and competent

I love that the school offers personal finance. I think this is so important and hope this class continues. It is something both of my kids will be taking. JMG has been another hugely beneficial class for my kids. It has opened up ideas and conversations about career paths for my oldest, given an introduction to investing, stocks, and other valuable life skills (resumes, interviews). Ms Friesland has been excellent for both of my kids as well. She is a gem of a teacher. She recognizes when the kids need help, brings them in for call backs without waiting for them to initiate it and helps them achieve her high expectations. Both of my kids have seen amazing growth with her.

Rigorous coursework, college prep, promoting the arts programs including theater arts.

Guidance has been quick to respond to my calls. I think they have been good to shut down all the boys bathrooms but wish they could solve the students responsible so my kid feels safe to use the bathroom at school.

Some teachers are making amazing connections with my child and I truly appreciate it. He feels truly part of a community in those classes.

Keeping children safe and happy

Administration communication to parents

Very good communication from front office...HUGE improvement over FMS and such a relief! Appreciate this so much as a parent because it's crucial to managing our family calendar and supporting our kids academically and helping them take advantage of opportunities for personal, social and academic growth! Thank you!!!

Miss Abbot (pre calculus) teacher is awesome. She happily takes time to help a student with questions.

Mrs. Moulton is also a top notch teacher.

The cafeteria ladies are excellent. They are willing to help out especially if the student has forgotten their lunch code.

Region 10 has excellent programs.

This survey is a start but it should be done annually. It is hard to give scores because you have some excellent teachers and some that should not be there so how to you give a blanket answer that is accurate and fair.

My son loves school and has time to complete most assignments at during the day. He is moderately challenged in the honors classes. I'd love to see teachers encouraging more clubs and activists in the time of COVID.

FHS does many things that are acceptable. Few are really well done. Too much maintaining the status quo because it's easy. Please stop hiring first year teachers (newbies). Freeport used to be a destination for veteran teachers who had cut their teeth elsewhere. Now, teacher cut their teeth at here and jump ship to more innovative higher paying districts.

Building community

My child is requesting to be transferred out of the RSU5. That doesn't put me in a position to add anything that's going well.

The administration is always willing to help if called upon. Many teachers do a wonderful job, some need to rekindle the fire.
Good weekly communication from administration. Sports programmed is well organized. Teachers are responsive if I need to contact them.
Versatile, smart teachers! Safe, clean High School Opportunities for kids...keep up the great work!
The art program is amazing.
The athletic program and coaches are a huge asset to the school! They have truly given students normalcy during this time.
Communication re: covid
Great teachers, attention to safety, communications well done
There are some really great teachers
The management of Covid 19 seems to be done well.Thank you
You are doing very well at communicating with parents, and your high school principal/vice principal are outstanding leaders. They are the only reason we have not taken RSU5 to court.
Allowing student choice and student voices to be heard.
keeping the students in school full-time in the current environment
Math and science are truly top notch. Excellent work to keep high performing students engaged. Great content and instructors for teaching a challenging subject.
Pooled testing. Teaching students that others are going through some of the same challenges, traumas, etc.
Keeping the school clean
Nursing is excellent. Atmosphere is mostly healthy. Staff, teachers and admin care.
Keeping our students in school and avoiding serious Covid problems is an impressive accomplishment and something I appreciate very much. I think FHS and RSU5 have done an amazing job of balancing the needs of students, parents, staff and the community during the pandemic.
Some of my daughter's teachers are excellent!
I really appreciate that the FHS approach to sports has lots of opportunities for my daughter to participate without being an outstanding athlete.
Laptops seem to be well-integrated into the student experience. Powerschool is a good tool for communicating with parents.
These have been challenging times for the students, teachers and administrators alike and I would like to praise you all as to how you have rolled with some very challenging years. Thank you for all that you do.
My students enjoys her coaches. The push her to do better and build her confidence in her abilities.
Some of my child's teachers do a great job teaching the content. The school has been helpful and accommodating in offering additional academic challenges for my child.
Kept school open all year - so far! Basically I think teachers, staff and administrators are all doing the best they can under the circumstances. Overall the academic program is very good. Theater and music programs!
I have seen many teachers interact warmly and respectfully with students. The building and grounds are well maintained and accessible.
The teachers and staff are responsive. Principal is willing to speak and responds kindly. Sports are great. There is some effort for DEI work.