

Homework Assignment:

Part A. For the Orientation, please read the article you have been assigned:

Article 1: 2024 Trends in K-12 Education

Article 2: Guiding Principles for Creating Safe, Inclusive, Supportive and Fair School Climates

Article 3: Forging the Future of Learning

For that article, please **identify five important takeaways** that you would share with others who did not read the article to summarize what you learned that you feel will help you and others as you do your work as a strategic plan team member crafting future direction for District 94.

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Be ready to share.

Part B; Spend five minutes looking over the results of the recent survey conducted with students, parents and staff.

Participant numbers:

Student responding: 1066

Parents responding: 84

Staff responding: 123

Notice results:

Questions in red need most attention

Questions in yellow need to grow and improve

Questions in green are celebrations

Who is most satisfied? Who is least satisfied?

Be ready to share what surprised you.

WEGO 2024 Student Survey Results, Fall 2024 1066 Responses			
Student Survey Question	Percent & Number Responding A or B		Percent & Number responding D or F
Students are often given grades of A, B, C, D, and F to denote the quality of their work. If West Chicago Community High School District 94 was graded in the same way, what grade would you give District 94?	72%	772	4% 50 (13)
Student Survey Question	Percent & Number Responding Extremely Well, Very Well		Percent & Number responding Somewhat, Not at All
How successful do you think WCCHS has been in preparing you for developing good work habits?	69%	741	31% 325 (23)
How successful do you think WCCHS has been in preparing you to think critically across subject areas?	70%	749	30% 313 (20)
How successful do you think WCCHS has been in preparing you to be a good citizen?	79% 845		21% 219 (27)
How successful do you think WCCHS has been in preparing you to work collaboratively in groups?	72% 765		28% 298 (21)
Student Survey Question	Percent & Number Responding Strongly Agree, Agree		Percent & Number Responding Disagree, Strongly Disagree
I learn interesting and challenging things at school	77% 825		3 % 44 (12)
My school has the equipment, technology, and materials needed to support my learning.	88% 934		2% 22 (11)

If I am stressed or having trouble with my peers, I am comfortable talking to an adult at school.	59% 633	11% (33)	117
I receive the help I need if I am struggling academically.	80% 858	3% (10)	33
I believe the educational experience at WeGo will prepare me for success beyond high school.	78% 828	3% (14)	33

Top Ten Responses Most Often Given to these open-ended questions:

I am most proud of District 94 for . . .

- 1. Future Readiness:** Many students value their education for how it equips them for college, future careers, and life beyond high school. They mention the need for a strong academic foundation to pursue their desired professions.
- 2. Supportive Environment:** Several responses emphasize the supportive role of teachers and family in helping students succeed academically. The relationships built with teachers are seen as crucial for obtaining good grades and overall learning.
- 3. Academic Opportunities:** The availability of advanced classes and a diverse range of subjects is appreciated, as these contribute to a well-rounded education and better preparation for higher education.
- 4. Personal Growth:** Students recognize the importance of education in fostering personal development, including critical life skills, social skills, and a sense of independence.
- 5. Community and Relationships:** The sense of community at WCCHS and the connections formed with peers and teachers contribute to a positive educational experience.

West Chicago Community High School would be better if . . .

- 1. Food and Lunch Options:**
 - More affordable and diverse food options.
 - Free lunch for all students.
 - Better quality lunches and reduced prices.
- 2. Class and Elective Variety:**
 - More English electives and classes related to various career paths.

- More advanced classes and dual credit programs.
- Opportunities for field trips and practical learning experiences.

3. School Environment and Culture:

- Increased kindness and respect among students and teachers.
- Better mental health support and understanding from teachers.
- Less strict rules regarding phones and personal freedom.

4. Support and Resources:

- More academic support and tutoring opportunities.
- Better communication and understanding from teachers about students' needs.
- Enhanced counseling services to help with post-high school plans.

5. Class Structure and Scheduling:

- Longer lunch periods and more free time.
- More flexible schedules, including late start options.
- Elimination or modification of Den periods to focus on academics.

6. Safety and Security:

- Better security measures to ensure student safety.
- Cleaner bathrooms and improved facilities.

7. Student Engagement:

- More opportunities for student involvement in school events and activities.
- Encouragement of clubs and extracurriculars that cater to a wider range of interests.

8. Teacher-Student Relations:

- Teachers being more approachable and understanding.
- More engaging teaching methods and less reliance on worksheets.

What do you think should be the single most important goal or priority of the school district .

1. Safety and Well-Being:

- **Ensuring student safety and comfort is a recurring theme, emphasizing the need for a secure environment.**
- **Mental health and emotional well-being are highlighted, with calls for less stress and more support for students.**

2. Equity and Inclusion:

- Many responses stress the importance of treating all students equally and providing equal opportunities for success, regardless of age or background.

3. Academic Support and Achievement:

- There is a strong emphasis on helping students achieve good grades and providing academic support for those struggling.
- Preparing students for life after high school, including college and career readiness, is frequently mentioned.

4. Engaging Learning Environment:

- Responses indicate a desire for a positive school culture that encourages enjoyment in learning, with calls for engaging teachers and relevant curricula.
- Suggestions for hands-on learning, extracurricular activities, and a focus on student interests are also prevalent.

5. Community and Relationships:

- Building relationships among students, staff, and the community is seen as vital for a supportive educational environment.
- Some responses emphasize the importance of involvement in school activities and fostering a sense of belonging.

6. Practical Life Skills:

- There are requests for education that focuses on real-life skills, including financial literacy, trades, and personal development.

7. Food and Lunch Quality:

- Many responses address concerns about school lunches, highlighting the need for better food options and reasonable pricing.

Conclusion:

Overall, the responses reflect a desire for a balanced approach that prioritizes safety, equity, academic success, and a supportive community while also addressing the practical needs of students. If you need help synthesizing these themes into a report or presentation, or if you'd like to explore any specific theme further, just let me know!

WEGO 2024 Parent Survey Results, Fall 2024 84 Responses

Parent Survey Question	Percent & Number Responding A or B	Percent & Number Responding D or F
Students are often given grades of A, B, C, D, and F to denote the quality of their work. If West Chicago Community High School District 94 was graded in the same way, what grade would you give District 94?	74% 62	5% 4 (1)
Parent Survey Question	Percent & Number Responding Strongly Agree, Agree	Percent & Number Responding Disagree, Strongly Disagree
My child's school has the equipment, technology, and materials needed to support their learning.	82% 71	6% (1) 5
District 94 does a good job listening and responding to parents' opinions.	57% 49	10% (0) 9
District 94 is a good steward of its financial resources.	61% 52	5% 4 (1)
Parent Survey Question	Percent & Number Responding Very Satisfied, Satisfied	Percent & Number Responding Dissatisfied, Very Dissatisfied
How satisfied are you with the school's efforts to keep you informed about how your child(ren) is doing in school?	71% 62	10% (1) 9
Parent Survey Question	Percent & Number Responding Excellent, Above Average	Percent & Number Responding Below Average, Failing
Quality of the buildings/facilities.	70% 60	3% (0) 3
Quality of the academic programs/curriculum.	68% 58	3% (0) 3

Parent Survey Question	Percent & Number Responding Very High Quality, High Quality	Percent & Number Responding Low quality, Very Low Quality
Quality of social/emotional supports for children	63% 53	11% (1) 9
Quality of resources available to students for additional help.	67% 56	8% (0) 7
Parent Survey Question	Percent & Number Responding Far Above Average, Above Average	Percent & Number Responding Below Average, Far Below Average
Quality of staff, including teachers, custodians, secretaries, aides and administrators, etc.	67% 56	5% (1) 4

Top Ten Responses Most Often Given to these open-ended questions:

I am most proud of District 94 for . . .

1. **Positive School Environment & Caring Staff (Teachers and Administration):** Many parents expressed pride in the dedication and caring attitude of the staff and teachers, as well as their concern for students' well-being, both academically and personally.
2. **Student Progress and Achievement:** Some parents noted that they are proud of the academic progress their children have made, as well as the programs offered that help students succeed.
3. **Diversity and Inclusivity:** Several responses highlighted pride in the district's diversity, inclusivity, and welcoming atmosphere for immigrant families.
4. **Safety and Security:** Safety measures within the school, the sense of security for students, and the tranquil environment of the school community were appreciated.
5. **Extracurricular and Support Programs:** Parents appreciated the extracurricular activities available and the support programs that help students stay engaged and motivated.

West Chicago Community High School would be better if . . .

- **Communication:** Many parents expressed a desire for better communication from the district, particularly between teachers, administration, and families. This includes timely updates on academic progress, events, and issues affecting students.

- **Academic Rigor & College Preparation:** Several parents felt that the district should improve the academic rigor and focus more on preparing students for college and life after high school. Some parents mentioned a need for higher expectations for students, better AP programs, and enhanced academic support.
- **Student Support and Mental Health:** Some responses highlighted concerns about the availability and quality of student support services, including mental health resources and counseling. Parents emphasized the importance of more individualized attention for students who may be struggling academically or emotionally.
- **Curriculum and Educational Resources:** Parents suggested improvements in the curriculum, including offering more varied elective courses, technology integration, and ensuring that the material is up-to-date and relevant for today's world.
- **Teacher Quality and Consistency:** A few responses pointed out concerns about teacher quality and inconsistency, with parents wanting more professional development for teachers and ensuring that teaching methods engage students effectively.
- **Extracurricular Activities and Programs:** Some parents requested more variety and funding for extracurricular activities and sports programs, as well as greater emphasis on including students of all interest levels in these programs.
- **School Safety and Discipline:** A handful of parents mentioned concerns about discipline and behavior issues within the school. They requested improvements in maintaining discipline and ensuring that all students feel safe and respected in the school environment.

What do you think should be the single most important goal or priority of the school district .

1. **Student Safety – A significant number of parents emphasized the importance of maintaining a safe environment for students, both inside and outside of school.**
2. **Education Quality – Many parents highlighted the need for strong academic programs that prepare students for life beyond high school.**
3. **Support for Students – This includes both academic and emotional support, with parents advocating for resources such as counseling and help for students with special needs or slower learning progress.**

4. **Life Preparation – Parents want the district to prioritize preparing students for real-world challenges, including post-secondary education and life skills.**
5. **Student Motivation and Engagement – Ensuring that students are motivated to succeed and that the school fosters a positive learning environment was a recurrent theme.**

Overall, safety, educational quality, and preparation for life beyond school were seen as key priorities by parents.

WEGO 2024 Staff Survey Results, Fall 2024 123 Responses		
Staff Survey Question	Percent & Number Responding A or B	Percent & Number Responding D or F
Students are often given grades of A, B, C, D, and F to denote the quality of their work. If West Chicago Community High School District 94 was graded in the same way, what grade would you give District 94?	56% 69	11% 14 (2)
Staff Survey Question	Percent & Number Responding Strongly Agree, Agree	Percent & Number Responding Disagree, Strongly Disagree
School classrooms have the equipment, technology, and materials needed to support student learning.	79% 98	1% 1
District 94 does a good job listening and responding to staff opinions.	41% 51	37% 56 (16)
I am generally satisfied with being employed at this school.	52% 76	6% 8 (1)
I am generally satisfied with the professional growth opportunities made available to me by the district.	47% 58	27% (12) 33
Staff Survey Question	Percent & Number Responding Very Satisfied, Satisfied	Percent & Number Responding Dissatisfied, Very Dissatisfied

How satisfied are you with district's efforts to keep you informed about important information to you as a staff member?	50% 52	28% (5) 35
Staff Survey Question	Percent & Number Responding Excellent, Above Average	Percent & Number Responding Below Average, Failing
Quality of the building/facilities.	71% 88	4% (0) 5
Quality of the academic programs/curriculum.	51% 63	15% (3) 18
Staff Survey Question	Percent & Number Responding Very High Quality, High Quality	Percent & Number Responding Low quality, Very Low Quality
Quality of social/emotional supports for children	70% 87	3% (1) 3
Staff Survey Question	Percent & Number Responding Very High Quality, High Quality	Percent & Number Responding Low Quality, Very Low Quality
Quality of resources available to students for additional help.	77% 94	2% (0) 3
Staff Survey Question	Percent & Number Responding Far Above Average, Above Average	Percent & Number Responding Below Average, Far Below Average
Quality of staff, including teachers, custodians, secretaries, aides and administrators, etc.	75% 92	2% (0) 3

Top Ten Responses Most Often Given to these open-ended questions:

I am most proud of District 94 for . . .

1. **Community and Support:** Many responses emphasize the sense of community within the school, where students feel welcomed and supported. The relationships between teachers and students are highlighted as being genuine and caring.

- 2. Teacher Commitment:** Respondents express pride in the hard work and dedication of teachers, who go above and beyond to support their students, fostering academic and personal growth.
- 3. Diversity and Inclusion:** There is a strong appreciation for the diversity of the student body and the efforts made to create an inclusive environment for all learners, including English Language Learners and those from varied backgrounds.
- 4. Opportunities for Students:** The wide range of programs, including advanced courses, arts, and sports, is noted as a significant strength. Many staff members feel proud of the various extracurricular opportunities available to students.
- 5. Focus on Improvement:** Respondents recognize the ongoing efforts to improve the school facilities and the learning environment, with a commitment to addressing the unique challenges faced by students.
- 6. Collaboration and Morale:** The collaborative spirit among staff and the emphasis on supporting each other contribute to a positive school climate.

Overall, the responses convey a deep pride in the district's commitment to its students and community, with a collective goal of nurturing and educating young people in a supportive environment.

West Chicago Community High School would be better if . . .

- **Community and Engagement:** There is a strong emphasis on fostering a sense of unity within the school and community, enhancing family engagement, and ensuring that all stakeholders are involved in the educational process.
- **Accountability and Policies:** Many responses stressed the need for students to be held accountable for their actions, particularly regarding attendance, behavior, and academic performance. Suggestions included revisiting grading policies and enforcing consistent rules, especially regarding cell phone use.
- **Teacher Support and Retention:** Staff highlighted the importance of competitive salaries to retain quality teachers, as well as creating a supportive environment that acknowledges their workload and challenges.
- **Curriculum Improvement:** There is a call for a comprehensive and expert-vetted curriculum that meets the needs of students, as well as for more opportunities for differentiated learning and post-secondary preparedness, including career paths beyond college.
- **Student Wellbeing:** Ensuring a safe and conducive learning environment for all students was frequently mentioned, along with the need to support both academic and social-emotional development.

- **Improving Attendance:** A recurring issue is student attendance, with calls for strategies to increase student presence and participation in school activities.
- **Collaboration and Communication:** Enhancing communication among teachers, administrators, and families was highlighted as vital for creating a cohesive approach to education and addressing student needs.

Overall, the responses indicate a desire for a holistic approach that balances high academic standards with supportive measures for both students and staff.