Community Engagement Summary School Transformation

Minneapolis Public Schools values caregivers and considers them essential partners as we work together to support the educational journey of all students. As we consider our vision that all students - regardless of their background, zip code and personal needs, will receive an anti-racist, holistic education that builds essential knowledge to prepare students for future success, caregivers provide important feedback and information about students' lived experiences and needs. MPS is culturally and linguistically diverse and through our values: equity, representation and anti-racism, physical and emotional safety and wellbeing, relationships, trust and communication, shared decision-making and voice, transparency and accountability, and evidence-based strategies - we support our students as they pursue educational and personal growth and success.

In December 2023, the school board passed a resolution starting the process of school transformation. One of the key directives within that resolution was community engagement. As a first step, the Engagement Department decided to review the feedback we've received from parents over the past 10 years. Below is a summary of that feedback which included a review of 44 documents.

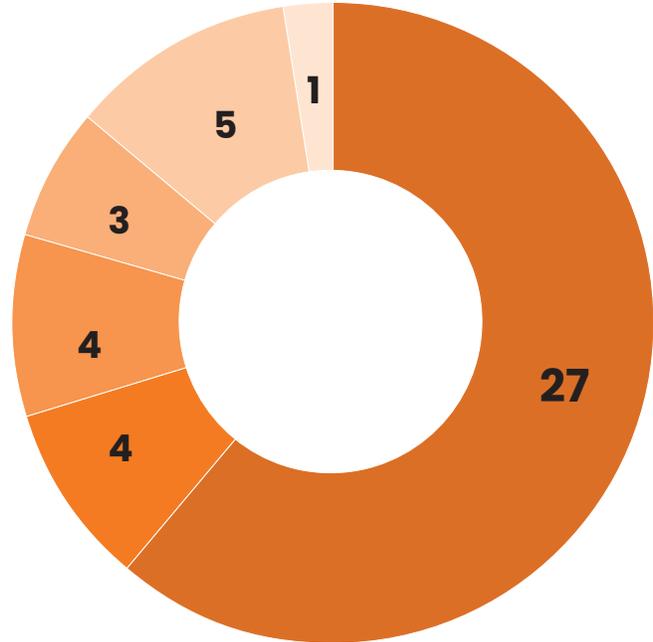| 2023-2024 school year demographics*	
American Indian	5.7%
Asian	3.6%
Black or African American	26.6%
Hispanic or Latino	20.1%
White	38.3%
Two or more races	5.7%
Receive English Learner services	19.0%
Receive Special Education services	18.7%
Eligible for free or reduced meals	55.5%

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Due to the high value of family engagement, we provide many opportunities for caregivers to offer feedback and advice. These access points include:
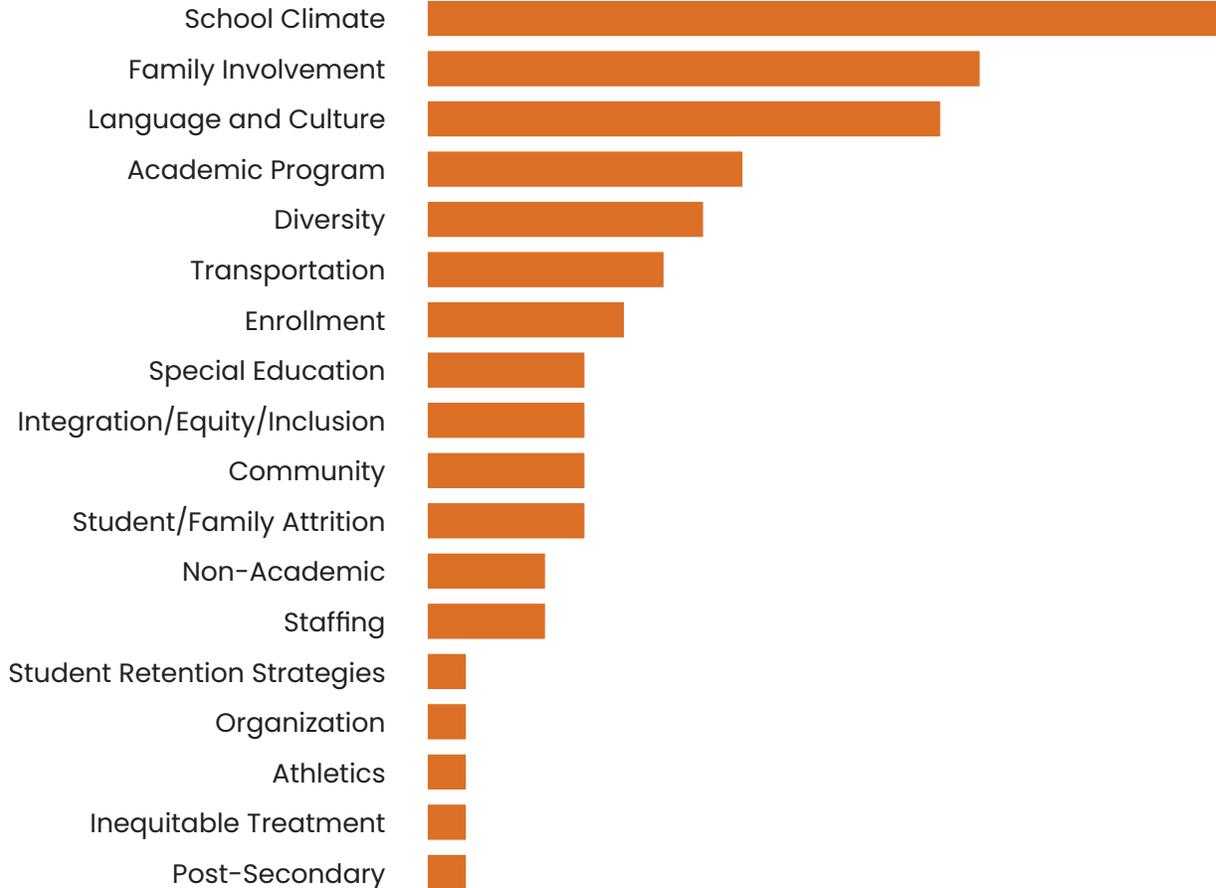
Parent Engagement Opportunities:

Classroom Level	School Level	Districtwide Level
Volunteer opportunities		Parent Advisory Councils (PACs)
Academic-related engagement (re: student progress)	Site Council	Equity and Diversity Impact Assessment (EDIA)
	Parent Teacher Association and/or Parent Teacher Organization	Curriculum Adoption
	Booster Club	Board
	School Events	Board Meetings
	Athletic Events	Connecting Parents to Educational Opportunities (CPEO) and/or Parent Learning
	Parent Pick-up and drop-offs	Districtwide Events
	After School Programs	
	Lunch or meal time	
Caregiver-family conferences and meetings		
Individualized Education Program (IEP) Meetings		
Open Houses & School Tours		

- Polls, Surveys and Focus Groups
- Communications: social media, newsletters, robocalls, text messages, calendars, direct mail (postcards, letters, etc.), flyers, meetings, etc.
- Community Education Programs & Events

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Documents Analyzed (44 Total)

Parent Participatory Evaluation (PPE)	27
Other	5
Comprehensive District Design (CDD)	4
Office of Latina Achievement (OLA) & American Indian Edu. Department (AIED)	4
Equity Diversity Impact Assessment (EDIA)	4
100 Days	1

Primary Themes Across All Documents (in descending frequency order)

- School Climate
- Family Involvement
- Language and Culture
- Academic Program
- Diversity
- Transportation
- Enrollment
- Special Education
- Integration/Equity/Inclusion
- Community
- Student/Family Attrition
- Non-Academic
- Staffing
- Student Retention Strategies
- Organization
- Athletics
- Inequitable Treatment
- Post-Secondary

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School Climate

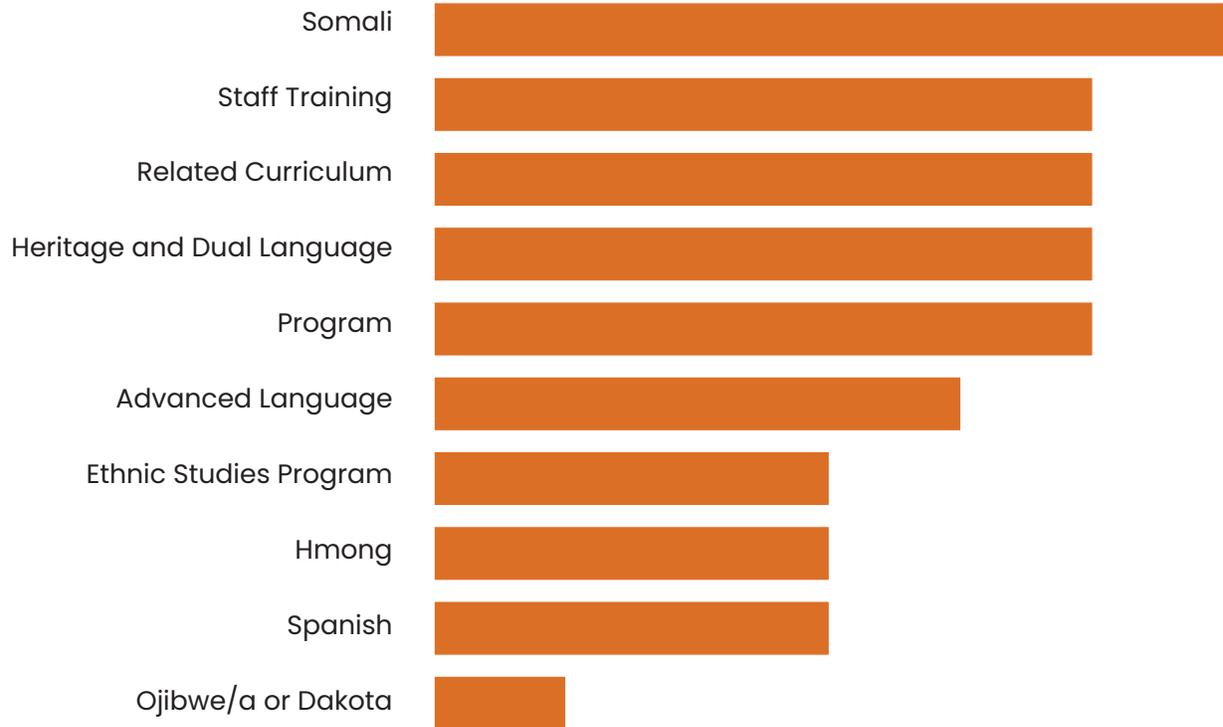|	
Welcoming Environment	13
Equity & Inclusion	10
Safety	8
Student Wellbeing & Achievement	7
School Discipline/ Behavior Policies & Expectations	5
Bullying	3

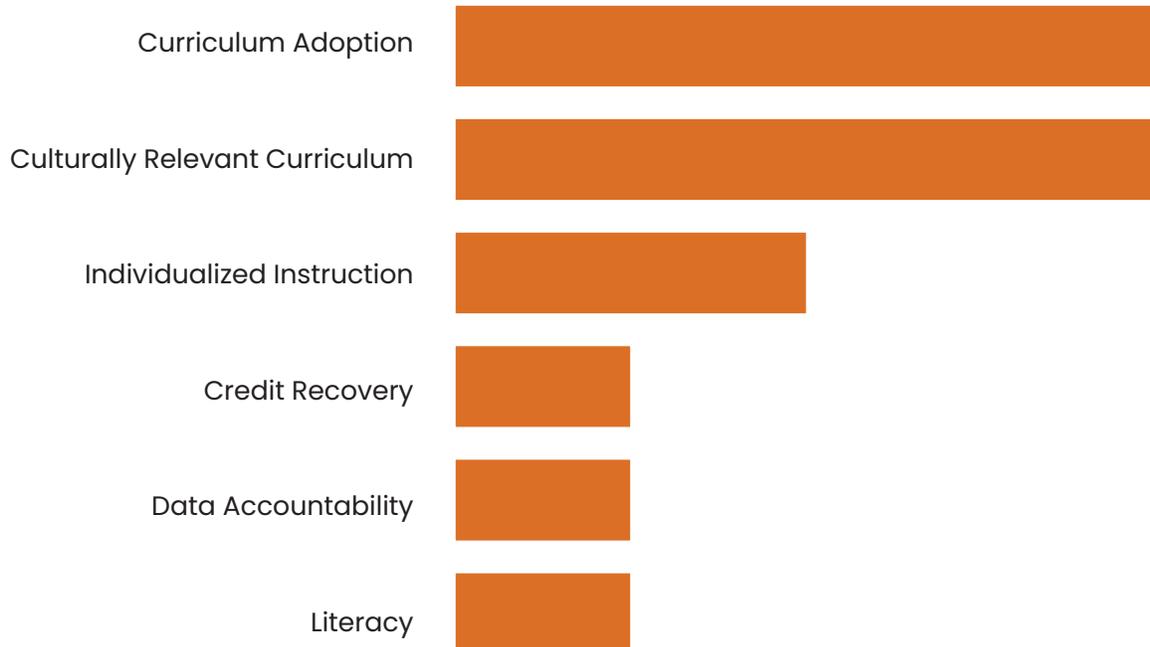

Family Involvement (Top 4 themes)

Transparent	11
Equity/Inclusion	6
Perception of value and use of parent feedback	5
Communications	5
Volunteer	1
Parent-teacher	1

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Language & Culture (Top 4 themes)

Theme	
Somali	
Staff Training	
Related Curriculum	
Heritage and Dual Language	
Program	
Advanced Language	
Ethnic Studies Program	
Hmong	
Spanish	
Ojibwe/a or Dakota	

Academic Program (Top 4 themes)

Theme	
Curriculum Adoption	
Culturally Relevant Curriculum	
Individualized Instruction	
Credit Recovery	
Data Accountability	
Literacy	

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In the coming months, Minneapolis Public Schools is planning to engage caregivers in order to receive feedback about this summary with a particular focus on giving caregivers the opportunity to share anything that we're missing or to provide clarity. Additionally, we will be asking caregivers to rank programs and services so that information can be considered during the school transformation process at the school level, regional level and by demographic groups. We also welcome caregivers to share questions that they have about school transformation, as well as general feedback for MPS to consider. Please contact us at engagement@mpls.k12.mn.us.

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