

Feedback from Staff and Middle School Students on the Preferred Future Statement

Summary of Student Results

Overall results of the 1189 respondents

Overall, there is a positive sentiment towards the district's mission and vision statements, with a significant majority of participants expressing support for the mission statement, 95% of respondents indicated they could support it, and 95% also supported the vision statement. The vision statement "We envision schools where learning is joyful..." was preferred by 58% of participants. Core values were also well-received, with 95% supporting them as presented. The most important value identified was "Everyone belongs here" (26%), while "We work better together" was seen as the least important (21%). The Portrait of a Learner was considered clear by 85% of respondents, and 83% agreed that the skills described are crucial for post-graduation success.

Mission

The preferred mission statement option was "Together we create an inclusive and caring community..." with 54% favoring it.

- **95% can support this Mission Statement**
- 54% preferred Option 1 while 46% preferred Option 2
- The mission statement was seen as clear by 83% of respondents.
- 77% felt it reflects what matters most in the district.
- 68% felt their experience in the district aligns with what this mission describes.
- 80% felt the mission communicates a commitment to success for all students.
- 82% agreed that the vision statement describes a future worth working towards.
- Participants appreciated the inclusive and supportive language used in both statements.
- 13% who were neutral about the mission's clarity

Our challenge is to choose Option 1 or Options 2 and consider any refinements to that Option.

The responses from 229 students included several changes to enhance the district's mission. Many emphasize fostering a supportive and inclusive environment, advocating for kindness, respect, and better teacher-student interactions. Suggestions include reducing homework, allowing more social time, and making school start later. Some responses call for curriculum adjustments to better meet individual student needs and

prepare them for future careers. Others propose practical changes like improving lunch options, allowing free seating, and unblocking games. Concerns about bullying and teacher behavior are prevalent, with calls for more empathy and understanding. Overall, the focus is on creating a more engaging, respectful, and supportive educational experience.

Vision

The vision statement "We envision schools where learning is joyful..." was preferred by 58% of participants.

- **95% also supported the vision statement.**
- 42% preferred Option 1 while 58% preferred Option 2
- 82% felt the statement clearly describes the future of the district.
- 85% felt the vision describes a future that is worth working toward for our district.
- 78% felt they could see myself (or my child / my work / my community) reflected in the future described by this vision.
- 79% felt the vision is both ambitious and achievable for our district.
- Participants appreciated the inclusive and supportive language used in both statements.
- Less than 3% responded strongly disagree or disagree. If not strongly agree, or agree the responses were neutral.

Our challenge is to choose Option 1 or Options 2 and consider any refinements to that Option.

The responses from 138 participants included several changes to enhance the district's vision, including making learning more inclusive, fun, and engaging, with less homework and more extracurricular activities. Respondents emphasize the need for electives like cooking and life skills, and advocate for a supportive environment where students feel safe and motivated. Concerns about school management, such as addressing student behavior and teacher-student interactions, are also highlighted. Additionally, there is a call for clearer communication and realistic language in the vision statement, as well as a desire for more hands-on, real-world learning experiences.

Core Values

Core values were also well-received.

- **95% can support all core values as presented**
- The most important value identified was "Everyone belongs here" (26%), while "We work better together" was seen as the least important (21%).
- Participants felt there was strong alignment with the district's proposed values.

- The values were seen as clear and understandable by 86% of respondents
- 85% felt the core values reflect what I hope to see and experience in our district.
- 85% felt the core values communicate respect, belonging and high expectations for all students and families.
- "Everyone belongs here" was highlighted as the most important value, emphasizing the community's focus on inclusivity.
- "We work better together" being seen as the least important by 21% of respondents.
- The responses from 135 students included a range of changes to enhance the clarity and meaningfulness of core values across the district. Key themes include emphasizing fairness, individual growth, and respect, with some advocating for more personalized learning experiences. There is a call for better communication and accountability, both from students and teachers, and a desire for values to be more consistently applied. Suggestions also include integrating life skills, ensuring inclusivity, and fostering a supportive environment. Some responses express dissatisfaction with current practices, highlighting issues of responsibility and

Graduate Portrait

The Portrait of a Learner was considered clear by 85% of respondents, and 83% agreed that the skills described are crucial for post-graduation success.

- 82% participants believe the skills described are essential for student success.
- 83% believe there is a strong consensus that students should have meaningful opportunities to develop these skills.
- 84% agreed that all students, regardless of background, should have access to these opportunities.
- Although 84% agree that all students can access opportunities to develop graduate skills.
- 14% neutral response suggests there may be underlying issues regarding equitable access that need to be addressed.
- 82% Believe the skills and qualities described in the Portrait of a Learner represent what is most important for students to succeed after graduation. (16% are neutral)

Responses suggest several changes to enhance the Portrait of a Learner's clarity and attainability. Key suggestions include simplifying language for younger students, incorporating empathy to reduce bullying, and providing more support for students with learning disabilities. Respondents also emphasize the need for flexibility in teaching,

smaller class sizes, and a balanced focus on various subjects, including math. Additional ideas include fostering respect, creativity, and social skills, reducing homework, and allowing more student input. Some responses express dissatisfaction with current practices, while others call for the return of specific programs or activities.

Summary of Faculty and Staff Results

Overall results of the 104 respondents

Overall, there is a high level of agreement that the mission and vision statements.

Overall, there is a high level of agreement that the mission and vision statements are clear, reflect district priorities, and are worth supporting, with 100% supporting the mission and 96% supporting the vision.

Core values are widely supported, with 94% of participants endorsing them, and the Portrait of a Learner is seen as clear and representative of essential skills for student success.

Mission

The engagement reveals a strong preference for the district mission with 63% favoring **Option 1 generated by the strategic plan team compared to 54% Option 2 generated 465 by the student, staff, and families Vision Survey.**

- **100% said they could support the mission statement.**
- 97% felt the mission statements were clear.
- 93 felt the mission reflects what matters most in our district right now.
- 99% felt the mission communicates a commitment to success for all students.

Our challenge is to choose Option 1 or Options 2 and consider any refinements to that Option.

The responses from 20 people include incorporating high-quality education; into the mission statement to enhance clarity and impact. Revisions include emphasizing curiosity, empathy, and critical thinking, and ensuring the mission supports and challenges every learner. Suggestions also include defining we; focusing on academics, and fostering collaborative communication between teachers and student service coordinators. Some respondents recommend simplifying the language, reducing repetition, and addressing the wordiness of the statement. The importance of creating an inclusive, caring community is highlighted, with a focus on preparing students to contribute and succeed in a changing world.

Vision

The engagement reveals a strong preference for the district vision with **57% favoring Option 2 generated by previous surveys from students, staff and families. and vision statements and 43% favoring Options 1 generated by the strategic plan team** **95% felt the statement clearly describes the future of the District.**

- **96% said they could support this Vision Statement:**
- 96% the vision describes a future that is worth working toward for our district.
- 91% believe this vision is both ambitious and achievable for our district.
- 91% felt they could see their selves (or my child / my work / my community) reflected in the future described by this vision.

Our challenge is to choose Option 1 or Options 2 and consider any refinements to that Option.

The 17 responses include incorporating high-quality education into the mission statement to enhance clarity and impact. Revisions include emphasizing curiosity, empathy, and critical thinking, and ensuring the mission supports and challenges every learner. Suggestions also include defining we, focusing on academics, and fostering collaborative communication between teachers and student service coordinators. Some respondents recommend simplifying the language, reducing repetition, and addressing the wordiness of the statement. The importance of creating an inclusive, caring community is highlighted, with a focus on preparing students to contribute and succeed in a changing world.

Core Values

Core values are widely supported, with 94% of participants.

- **94% can support all core values as presented.**
- 99% The district's proposed core values are clear and understandable.
- 99% felt the core values reflect what I hope to see and experience in our district.
- 98% felt the core values communicate respect belonging and high expectations for all students and families.
- 98% felt the core values communicate respect belonging and high expectations for all students and families.
- Which value feels MOST important for the district to emphasize moving forward?
Everyone belongs here. We care about People.
- Which value feels LEAST important for the district to emphasize moving forward?
Fairness matters. We don't give up.

Our challenge is to keep them CORE. Also a challenge to we like the short statement with the values.

The 17 responses include a desire for clearer, more actionable core values within the district. Suggestions include replacing negative phrasing with positive alternatives, such as We Persevere instead of We don't give up, and emphasizing action-oriented language like We care for people. Concerns were raised about the clarity of terms like fairness, suggesting alternatives like Equity Matters. Some respondents noted redundancy in values and suggested combining similar statements. There is a call for values to be reflected in daily practice and decision-making, with a focus on equity, resilience, and respect.

Graduate Portrait

The Portrait of a Learner is seen as clear and representative of essential skills for student success.

- 96% felt the district's Portrait of a Learner is clear.
- 95% felt the skills and qualities described in the Portrait of a Learner represent what is most important for students to succeed after graduation.
- 96% felt students in our district should have meaningful opportunities to develop the skills described in the Portrait of a Learner.
- 94% felt all students regardless of background school or program can access
- opportunities to develop these graduate skills.

There were suggestions for improvement, particularly in making the statements more meaningful and inclusive. Participants believe the skills are essential for post-graduation success, and there is strong support for ensuring all students, regardless of background, can access these opportunities.

The responses suggest that the Portrait of a Learner could be improved by emphasizing academics and learning, as well as by making the document more concise to enhance community engagement and understanding. Shortening the text and removing less relevant sections, such as self-awareness/confidence, which may be challenging for younger students, could make it more accessible and meaningful.

We recognize the strategic plan team will provide input into the competencies but will not make the final decision. More engagement of teachers and students will be sought.