

# SAU70 2026 Survey Free-Text Answers: HHS Edition

April – May 2026

Based on 688 completed surveys across all 4 schools. This document includes answers from the 232 completed surveys that identified Hanover High School as the student’s school. Free-Text answers for the whole SAU and the other 3 individual schools are available separately.

Select portions redacted to eliminate potential identifying information for individuals or inappropriate language. Each redacted word is replaced by four asterisks: \*\*\*\*.

Only free-text response questions are included in this document.

Some respondents wrote free-text answers similar to “No”, “None”, “NA”, and “Nothing”. Answers like these are not present in this document; these are the differences in counts between “# Responses” and “# Specific Responses” below.

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Total	--	2,873	2,749	823	--

Q08: If you wish to provide more information about your responses to the previous question, please let us know below. *Re: Q07: Generally, is it challenging for you to attend the following school events or late schedule changes?*

109 responses. After removing “no” and similar answers → 104 answers  
→ 28 HHS answers

1. For both middle and high school students, it would make so much sense to adopt a later school start, especially when the students are involved in athletics and still focussed on keeping positive academic standing.
2. The travel time from home to school is about 35 minutes, but we both work within a few miles of the school, so it is convenient for drop-off location-wise. However, it is tricky from a scheduling perspective because our younger child also has to be dropped off at 8 am, thought this 35 minutes from the high school. When one of our jobs requires overnight travel, this makes two separate drop-offs at 8 am, 35 minutes from each other, impossible unless we can call on another family to help with driving. In addition, late evening activities like theater, with 10 pm or later pick ups (at times) can make for a very long day with a 35 minute ride home after, with homework on top of that. We realize we signed up for this, so there are no complaints, it is just a reality that we need to carefully plan for.
3. We are fortunate to live walking distance to school
4. Adult #2 is \*\*\*\*
5. I'm fortunate that my job is flexible so I am typically able to work around school schedules
6. Both my kids are now driving so this takes most of the pressure off the delayed openings, etc.
7. my child drives school, so our issues are lessened by that
8. We both work full-time. If we can plan in advance, it is possible to do some things during the day (meetings, events). However, it's difficult to do it on a regular basis or without a lot of notice. We rely a lot on bus transportation or our child walking to one of our offices after school, etc.
9. In a pinch, I can work remotely for all snow/sick issues and duck out for a kid's dr appt, etc., but unfortunately, the volunteering is the "thing that gives." I sometimes just feel like I cannot take more time away from work that the flexibility I already take.
10. Lack of visitor parking at HHS prevented us from volunteering, and made conferences challenging.
11. We manage! Kids just have busy schedules. :)

12. We have adjusted our lives and schedules to be present in our kids lives, however, having come from an \*\*\*\* urban school district where the majority of parents held office jobs we are always amazed at how demanding the kids schedules are, in particular after school sports.
13. I spend 2/3 of my time outside of the country
14. I answered the question with the following meaning: Generally, is it challenging for someone in your family to attend the following school events or late schedule changes?
15. My husband works full time (M-F 8-6pm) and would like to volunteer at the school. He wants to feel more a part of the school community. Could you make more evening or weekend volunteer opportunities available?
16. These issues are much easier for our family now that our student has a car. Parking is an issue but we're managing.
17. I work in district schools (thus experiencing the same schedule and changes) and my child drives themselves.
18. Difficult with a student who chooses to ride the bus (good) but relies on rides for pick up late from theater and with not a way of communicating the timing (due to challenges of phone use for call, text or email even post-school day)
19. I am \*\*\*\*
20. Generally, we learn about volunteer opportunities rather late to be able to change schedules. Sometimes it isn't clear what kind of help may be needed.
21. Fortunate to have our student have their license to drive.
22. We have \*\*\*\* kids that have already graduated and one high school senior who has \*\*\*\* own car so we do not need to provide transportation.
23. I am a parent of a student at HHS, RMS and MCS in \*\*\*\*, \*\*\*\* and \*\*\*\* grades.
24. My biggest grip is that weekends used to be time off from school and school related activities (except hw) where my family could spend time together. It seems now my child is required (otherwise will be penalized and miss games/opportunities) to commit both Saturday and Sunday to varsity sports. Flat out, this sucks. My family can no longer plan to do a weekend trip together, like go overnight hike, or anything where my child will be away from Hanover for anything other than a few hours on a weekend. It has ruined our family time and I get very upset thinking about all the fun trips we had planned which now are impossible due to games and practices(!!!) being scheduled on weekends every weekend all Fall and Spring. Further, if my one \*\*\*\* has a practice on Saturday, it means it takes away from the entire family not just the parents. Now I have to tell my other \*\*\*\*, sorry we can't go do that other activity because we are committed to driving around our other \*\*\*\*. The current policy or lack thereof is highly determinantal to my family time and I don't mean to be a curmudgeon but, I hate it.
25. Advanced notice really helps - with advanced notice (more than 3 months) for performances, games, volunteering I can usually try to rearrange my work schedule to attend

26. We have 2 kids in school. One is not usually an issue for after school and weekend extra-curricular, it is balancing two sets of weekend and after school extra-curriculars - especially with some middle-school sports not offering busses for away games.
27. My child drives now so many of these problems have gone away . . . I am answering as though he were not yet driving
28. I contacted someone in August 25 about getting involved as a new parent, and received a response in May 26.

**Q10: If you wish to provide more information about your responses to the previous question, please let us know below. *Re: Q09: Did the perceived quality of the SAU70 schools have an impact on your decision to live specifically in Hanover or Norwich?***

**75 responses. After removing “no” and similar answers → 72 answers  
→ 19 HHS answers**

1. It is THE reason we chose to move here. That said, I am overall disappointed in the speed at which a clear curriculum has been limping along. The inconsistencies in what particular teachers teach and how they grade is embarrassingly obvious to the students (and we parents hear all about it). HHS needs serious attention to leadership and teacher awareness.
2. We live in VT on a school choice town.
3. I moved here in 2004 specifically for the environment and the schools. It's been a good experience. Now we're all done... thanks.
4. We settled in a VT town with school choice specifically to have the option of sending our kids to Hanover High School.
5. We did choose our town for the ability to send to Hanover
6. We live in Lyme, and access to HHS was a big part of our choice to live here. But we also value school choice, which our \*\*\*\* child has exercised, \*\*\*\* \*\*\*\* \*\*\*\* \*\*\*\*.
7. We live in Lyme
8. \*\*\*\* family. Chose to live in Norwich so child could go to school in this school district.
9. But we were disappointed with academic rigor in the end, and wonder whether we should have saved money on house+property tax, and gone with Crossroads/KUA
10. We originally moved to Hanover largely due to the school's reputation. We ended up \*\*\*\* \*\*\*\* \*\*\*\* \*\*\*\* to be closer to work so now my child is a \*\*\*\* \*\*\*\* student. We tried to move \*\*\*\* but there just wasn't any reasonable housing options.
11. We live in Hartland, VT, which is a school choice town, so we could attend Hanover
12. Technically, I live in Etna.

13. We come from a sending town in Vermont. Hanover High was the logical choice for our student.
14. The perceived quality of the high school is indeed why our \*\*\*\* is attending, from \*\*\*\*.
15. My son's experience at HHS has been fantastic across the board - academics, March Intensive, sports, extracurriculars. Happy to be part of this community,
16. HHS is part of the reason I chose to move to Lyme
17. The fact that we wanted our child to attend Hanover High led us to pass up more affordable housing outside Hanover.
18. We knew that living outside of Hanover/Norwich would make it more difficult to attend extra/- curricular activities, we did not anticipate the lack of communication and descriptions about those activities. That has been the biggest stash.
19. We moved to the area for work but stayed for the schools

**Q12: If you wish to provide more information about your responses to the previous question, please let us know below. *Re: Q11: Generally, is living in Hanover or Norwich financially challenging for your family?***

97 responses. After removing “no” and similar answers → 95 answers  
→ 23 HHS answers

1. Job opportunities here in my profession are slim to none. Those that do exist pay poorly and have poor advancement opportunities. It’s always been a struggle to survive financially. I work for clients outside the region.
2. daycare was hard to find for the younger children when we moved here. It still is. Transportation to sporting events could be improved in children younger than high school.
3. When we purchased our home, Hanover/Norwich were not affordable
4. School sports are \$150 and then at least another \$300 for uniforms, sweatpants, food donations, snacks etc. Also, there is a vast difference between the quality of coaching for the JV teams, and it feels as though this should be discounted.
5. Living in Lyme is absurdly expensive -- maybe moreso given the taxes. We are fortunate to be able to afford it.
6. We live in Norwich and the Vermont taxes worry us. We support it, but it will be something to think about as we plan for a student heading to college.
7. \*\*\*\* family. Cost of living rises every year. Salaries do not. Not extra funds for a lot of what schools ask for.
8. Indisputably expensive here, housing, food, all of it, but we do love the area.
9. We bought our home in 2014 so we are financially capable of paying our bills. If we hadn't bought our home 12 years ago, we wouldn't be living in Hanover.

10. We are grateful to have moved here 20 year ago, there is no way we could afford to purchase a home now in Hanover or Norwich.
11. We would live in Hanover or Norwich if we could afford it
12. We are extremely lucky to have purchased our home when we did (2015). There is no chance we could afford to live in this district if we were moving here now.
13. It was not a concern when we moved here, but our tax increase has been absolutely ridiculous. Our taxes are now more per month than our mortgage was when we first bought the house.
14. Hard to initially find a home we could afford. Bought something smaller than we would have otherwise.
15. To afford buying a home was very challenging. Hanover needs a more diverse socioeconomic community.
16. The hardest part was finding a home
17. Housing prices in the area have meant that even with a substantial income, we have to be frugal in spending to afford living in the school district.
18. Yes, we have not been able to move to Hanover because of the financial challenge.
19. My property tax bill is something that causes me great stress and I am constantly debating having to move after my youngest graduates.
20. With the new home value assessments and the VT tax systems, we are very concerned about the cost of living in Norwich for ourselves and neighbors.
21. Annual property taxes are rising sharply which is a concern for us living here but a greater concern for future selling of our house
22. Property taxes are very high and keep increasing
23. Taxes are ridiculously high

**Q14: If you wish to provide more information about your responses to the previous question, please let us know below. *Re: Q13: During this 2025-2026 academic year, how satisfied are you with your student's general school experiences?***

**139 responses. After removing "no" and similar answers → 136 answers  
→ 34 HHS answers**

1. Please see my last comments from the prior section. I am amazed at what passes for quality teaching in one or two classes in particular. The stories only cause me to believe that nobody is paying any serious attention to what's being offered to the students.
2. Academics have been top notch - content, LS support. Teacher and coach communication has been poor - haven't received responses to time-sensitive questions. Soccer experience was negative - team dynamics were negative overall -

inter-player language, teamwork, work ethic were terrible. Reports of phone/device usage continued after new policy was enacted, central to peer interactions during downtime (might just be my kid). Seemingly few "entry-level" activities (as reported by my kid) - perception was that you have to be already proficient to be able to participate (sports, clubs)

3. Supportive teaching and guidance in a stress college-application year.
4. I think the school counselors could be more involved for the high school. I think preparing them for college could go a bit further. Advice for AP exams for example since we do not AP exams be good still to provide more direction. Teachers who do honors biology, and other classes like psychology calculus, environmental sciences, English literature should take the AP curriculum into account. if they just spend the month of March and April aligning with the AP content, it would make things easier for everyone and would make it a true learning environment that is also aligned with what the exam content will include and make them better students overall instead of having to learn two different curricula.
5. My child has stated that he overall feels that he has received a good education with educators who care. In hindsight, I wish he had taken computing courses.
6. This survey assumed only one child in SAU70 where we have three (\*\*\*\* \*\*\*\* \*\*\*\*, \*\*\*\* \*\*\*\* \*\*\*\*). All answers are linked to the HHS student. We are very satisfied with the high school academics. We are less satisfied with the middle school academics. Our \*\*\*\* grader consistently has some homework (nothing overwhelming) while our \*\*\*\* grader rarely has homework. We are concerned that he will not be fully prepared for the pace in HS. Also, the math instruction might as well not even have a teacher as everything is self-paced, and the quality of writing of our \*\*\*\* grader is not where it should be (yet they are watching another movie in the classroom again).
7. I think Hanover High school does well for high performing students and supports lower performing students at the expense of the students in the middle
8. My son is struggling academically and it feels as though it is falling to me to monitor his progress. I have emailed teachers and get some reply. Where does the responsibility for student care/progress lie? HHS seems a great school for wealthy families who have high achieving students and who can afford tutors, outsource their household chores, and have their kids involved in all activities and clubs.
9. I wish they were able to get a better March intensive experience, but my child did not advocate for themselves.
10. Academic wise, students are always stressed out. For the only AP course Calculus BC, the school doesn't prepare the students well to take the AP exam. The required course contents are barely covered in class.
11. As is the case with any school, there are always social dynamics at play. If you are an athlete, you tend to do very well at Hanover High. If you are not, you are somewhat on the periphery.
12. I do not think that Hanover's policy of accepting late homework or redoing homework benefits the student later in life.

13. I feel more encouragement to do things outside of school, such as summer jobs learning about applications, preparing for college financial independence, and information regarding taxes and other things once a person has a job is important to teach in high school.
14. Open campus allows for too much HERE and THERE. I don't think it promotes learning on campus or community.
15. Everyone at HHS has always gone above and beyond to make us feel welcome and to help us, and we are very grateful.
16. I love HHS sports program
17. Get rid of open campus. Wait a waste of time for students. They need to be finishing work so as not to do it after school. More help with SAT prep and more help writing college application.
18. Overall support has been good for both of our children. My only issue is the skills based classes in 9th grade do not draw their interest and have a large executive load.
19. We wish we could have stronger STEM teachers
20. Would help if there were viable low-technology options
21. Mostly fine. It would be helpful if the teachers gave more regular feedback and graded material promptly.
22. The communication necessary with a counselor, teacher, and \*\*\*\* to handle an academic issue with my child was far more difficult than necessary and leaves me concerned about handling anything similar going forward.
23. Our daughter spends a lot of time on homework and is continuously stressed out, balancing sports and schoolwork. She consistently stays up until midnight many nights, and although she does well in school, it seems there is very little comprehensive evaluation of her workload. This is without the added stress of APs and SATs. At this point, we are looking at a \*\*\*\* \*\*\*\* just to give her a rest and to give her a chance to take her additional exams in the \*\*\*\* grade. I am not sure how she is supposed to balance all of this with college applications. We find the environment intense with very little support.
24. Counselor less available than last year's.
25. Some teachers are excellent, others are below or average instructional talent
26. I think the school provides good opportunities. I wish my child were more engaged.
27. Teachers have been good. We do have concerns about high school \*\*\*\* professionalism and decision making - especially around negative chatter and sharing of personal information of others. We know the school board has been aware of these issues over the years but nothing has changed with the \*\*\*\*. Since Superintendent - \*\*\*\* \*\*\*\*, there have been school leadership issues throughout the district.
28. We do feel that the creative outlets especially music is under supported/under represented/under funded vs emphasis on sports. Talking to the students to understand what is important to them is not done enough.
29. I love Hanover High School. Love the atmosphere -- down to earth but rigorous. Also feels caring toward the kids. \*\*\*\* sets a great tone.

30. HHS ranks well in the state, yet some teachers aren't holding up their end of the deal. Academic excellence should be expected in this town given the focus of the lion's share of its residents - if normalized to educational attainment and income, I'm not sure how well we're doing, honestly.
31. We opted to \*\*\*\* \*/ VLACS course for math instruction. This is the one area we have been very underwhelmed with for HHS.
32. I wish my student felt like they had an in-school mentor to really push and challenge them academically.
33. The bullying is out of hand, no communication or working out grading issue from teachers, no teacher conferences to see how my child is doing
34. Very happy with high quality teaching at HHS and strong leadership and communication from admin.

**Q16: If you wish to provide more information about your responses to the previous question, please let us know below. *Re: Q15: Generally during this academic year, how satisfied are you with the following personnel or groups?***

**106 responses. After removing “no” and similar answers → 103 answers  
→ 27 HHS answers**

1. Does admin pay attention to equity among teachers teaching required courses? Did the school board consider the consequences of scheduling HHS's graduation on the same weekend as Dartmouth's?? Does the HHS admin conduct serious performance assessments for teachers on a regular basis, and if so, who oversees this process? I suggest conducting a simple but anonymous survey of parents' responses to the teaching their students receive, from parents' perspectives, and survey every single teacher so the administration has an alternate perspective as a starting point for consideration. I do not feel comfortable singling out individuals using this format but the administration certainly should be aware of some of what goes on in classrooms.
2. Not balanced politically so decision-making is very much based on leftist ideology
3. There is little opportunity to get to know school staff or teachers in high school.
4. I think some of the teachers are trying to act like college teachers in some categories, which is good, but then they treat the students like little kids. I like it when the students are treated in a more mature manner, and this will help the students grow. Some teachers have punitive approach, which is not healthy. Some teachers take delight and taking the student's phone is away like it's a game. Some teachers are very with grading and are not seeing the big picture.
5. One teacher was so frustrating/demoralizing for our child and our child's classmates that they decided to drop honors even though they qualified. The

contrast with the prior teacher in that subject was markedly different. Went from finding joy in the subject to tolerating it.

6. I was frustrated with the slow and clumsy pace of removing phone devices from the schools
7. So grateful for the school board and their dedication to the district!
8. Time to get rid of march intensive. Teachers and parents do a ton of work but I rarely hear about anyone enjoying it. It is incredibly inequitable. Some kids make friendship bracelets and some go to Florence. Not fair. Make it so that freshmen- so something local about themselves (yoga etc). sophomore - everyone does something philanthropic - (haven) junior- everyone gets a local trip (New England) and senior year- everyone gets a big trip. the discrepancies are enormous. Also- if you are not getting rid of it all together- then have students choose their top 3 choices. 8 is too many.
9. I can't say for the teachers as a group -- we have been very satisfied with one and very unsatisfied with one and rather satisfied with the rest.
10. Why did the JV hockey organization need to become such a huge effort for the people organizing? Why do we have a separate spring break schedule relative to everyone in the state? This is a HUGE issue for families and for athletes and I've heard a lot of questioning as to why we do this. Please fix.
11. Teacher experiences vary widely. We have some that have been fantastic and others that have created issues. We seem to have a trend towards more and more uncertified teachers, and keeping teachers on with significant health impacts on the schedule. While we love the teacher, if they can't be in the building for a bulk of a semester, students are missing out on much needed direct instruction that subs are not prepared to deliver.
12. The one area that is a bummer is that my student's perception is that some classes (specifically Chem) have very different expectations/grading practices/etc depending on the teacher. It would be ideal to have experiences be similar across the board even with different teachers.
13. My child's academic counselor, \*\*\*\* is amazing. \*\*\*\* is wonderful. The staff in the admin office are so kind and helpful.
14. The high school is a black box so I don't really know what happens inside. This is fine by me. High School kids should have independence. I feel like HHS would reach out if my child were not doing well.
15. HHS Administration and counseling department are fantastic. Very responsive and professional.
16. I pay attention to the school board only during elections to try and prevent crazy people from being elected. Paid a lot of attention during covid. I don't have a good sense of the high school front office or \*\*\*\* the way I did at Ray or RMS, but that's probably a good thing because my kid is older and more independent. I'd probably only notice if the admin was performing poorly.
17. Challenge working with \*\*\*\* and \*\*\*\* \*\*\*\* to get an event underway.
18. I could have put satisfied as that is generally what I hear from my student, but I do not (over)involve myself in my student's domain (i.e. school)

19. I'd prefer to leave it in the past and move forward.
20. It seems that now and then there is a teacher who is a terrible fit for our daughter. She goes from making As to nearly failing a course because the teacher switches. We learn sometimes that other students may be experiencing the same difficulties. The school does not seem to be aware of these kind of shifts in grades adding even more stress to her plate. We don't know how to deal with this. It already cost her a lot in \*\*\*\* grade with math and now seems to be an issue with \*\*\*\*.
21. We have been so impressed with the quality, caring and dedication of teachers and staff. Extremely satisfied and grateful, with one exception of a \*\*\*\* teacher whose teaching style has been more challenging.
22. Wasn't happy with the middle school principal search and decision. Last HHS lockdown poorly executed and as it happens it wasn't real, it might have been.
23. I am a bit disappointed in the athletics department's unwillingness to support a JV hockey program that was previously a part of Hanover Highschool Athletics.
24. Poor \*\*\*\* performance and lack of professionalism.
25. The school budgets for the last few years have increased dramatically above the rate of inflation while programs focused on the arts and music get cut. There appears to be an unbalance emphasis on sports.
26. Re other teachers: Last academic year they had a \*\*\*\* teacher who did not have a \*\*\*\* background and did not mesh well with my student. They did not teach the material in a sufficient manner for all students and this affected my student's ability to progress in \*\*\*\* this year.
27. Some teachers are amazing, some are not Some offerings are great, some are not

**Q18: If you wish to provide more information about your responses to the previous question, please let us know below. *Re: Q17: Generally during this academic year, how satisfied are you with your student's experiences for the following academic subjects?***

**164 responses. After removing "no" and similar answers → 161 answers  
→ 34 HHS answers**

1. Had the opportunity to take Dartmouth math classes.
2. I think some teachers take grading to a level where it seems to be punitive and not the bigger picture college like atmosphere in the high school.
3. I would like to share some reflections on the Methods Honors and Chemistry Honors sequence at HHS, based on my child's experience and conversations with other families. Before 9th grade, there was already significant concern about taking Methods Honors. Some friends strongly advised against it, and even families whose children did well described it as very demanding. My child chose to take the course,

and while he has been doing well academically, the experience has still been quite stressful. A major challenge has been the strong focus on detailed grading criteria and constant attention to scores. He often feels pressure tracking grades and worrying about performance. While I fully respect the rigor and high standards of the course, the level of strictness can sometimes create anxiety that feels counterproductive to learning. In addition, precise wording in assignments and lab reports is heavily emphasized, and small issues in expression can significantly affect grades. While accuracy is important, I wonder whether there could be a bit more flexibility in grading to better support learning and improvement. Looking ahead, many students are already concerned about Chemistry Honors being even more demanding, which adds to anxiety. While we appreciate the dedication and rigor of the teaching, it is also important that grading practices support students' confidence and engagement in science. Overall, I hope the program can continue to maintain high academic standards while also ensuring students feel supported and able to focus on learning, rather than excessive concern about grades.

4. We never get to meet school teachers and discuss the children's academics
5. I'm grateful for cell phone/tech changes this year
6. The chromebooks should be updated. To keep things equitable, each student should use a school chromebook and not bring their own macbook.
7. I understand that the student cell phone ban is NH law but the way enforcement has been carried out has been strange. My child was sent to the office because an alarm sounded on \*\*\*\* phone from inside \*\*\*\* bag. It is not feasible for high school students with afterschool independence to leave their phones at home and I wish the school was more understanding of this reality. I also think it's wrong that students' browsing activities are analyzed by GoGuardian. This is inappropriate for high schoolers. Having an AI looking over their shoulders is insulting to them, especially when they are committed students who deserve the benefit of the doubt.
8. It should not be acceptable for multiple students to be doing so poorly in honors \*\*\*\* that they opt into a different teacher's class the next term.
9. This year was great for the world language as our child switched languages. However, we were very disappointed with the \*\*\*\* teacher, \*\*\*\* \*\*\*\* for all of our children and are very surprised \*\*\*\* is still at HHS. We are aware of so many complaints to the school and feel \*\*\*\* does not fit the general vibe of the other teachers at the school.
10. Guidance has been incredibly helpful. My \*\*\*\* \*\*\*\* attended other high schools in the area and there is no comparison with regard to applying to college. Personal and academic support at HHS is also unmatched.
11. The new cell phone policy is an issue as well as the new device and WiFi policy.
12. They don't have technology classes. Or guidance. or health.
13. Mixed French class (year 1 and 2) challenging if not trying to make this an advantage in teaching. Hard for year 1 to contribute.
14. It would be better if students in 9th grade had more opportunities to take honors classes, so they could feel more challenged. Additionally, AP courses would be helpful for interested students as they progress through high school. For one thing,

some students might appreciate the opportunity to bypass huge general survey classes once they begin as college freshman.

15. Math and science are written too much for the lowest-level students. This is a school district filled with doctors and professors -- our brightest students should have classes that challenge them and prepare them for the best science & engineering undergraduate programs
16. French did not go well and \*\*\*\* of my kids are looking for alternatives if they are assigned the \*\*\*\* \*\*\*\*.
17. In general, we have been fans of the World Language offering, however, the level 2 honors taught by \*\*\*\* \*\*\*\* has been problematic and a disconnect from level 1 taught by \*\*\*\* \*\*\*\*.
18. We've had issues with teachers in math and science this year. Math due to \*\*\*\* \*\*\*\* and science due to \*\*\*\* \*\*\*\* to the school and content.
19. My child often complains about the chrome books moving so slowly.
20. Science: one outstanding teacher and one teacher who did not seem to read my child's IEP profile. The expectations were not always clear in some courses, and work was uneven. Math and English had consistently great teachers, but the curriculum in English seems outdated.
21. It seems quite strange for honors classes to take the approach of not teaching the material and instead allowing the students to figure it out as a method of learning.
22. My child's experience with the French program at HHS has been deeply unsatisfying, such that after beginning the study of French in kindergarten at MCS my child has opted to change languages beginning in \*\*\*\* grade. This is not because my child does not like studying French, it is because there is no guarantee that my child will have access to a \*\*\*\* \*\*\*\* \*\*\*\* next year or into the future. We have not found the school to be proactive or supportive in addressing this issue, which has been disappointing. We hope our child will have a better experience with the faculty of the other world languages.
23. See above re Chemistry
24. Too much reliance on computers to turn in homework. The students should be writing with pens on paper more.
25. Overall, I am very satisfied and grateful my children have attended HHS. However, this year, there are two teachers that were/continue to be extremely challenging for my daughter, i.e. not effective at teaching, confusing in their expectations, discouraging and unwilling or unable to clearly communicate with my daughter and provide her the support that she repeatedly requests. These teachers are \*\*\*\*. \*\*\*\* and \*\*\*\* \*\*\*\*.
26. Variable quality of teachers in social studies department - some seem unorganized, lack communication skills and and having quickly changing expectations of students
27. My child feels very seen by ALL of her teachers at the high school. She is excited to be challenged and feels successful.
28. We have not been very impressed with the \*\*\*\* \*\*\*\* teacher

29. My student was surprised how few written assignments there are, particularly assignments with teacher feedback - including in English class. The exception is Methods (H): lab reports are detailed and rigorous, and the \*\*\*\* provides feedback. In Geometry (H), we are puzzled that concepts are introduced within homework and reviewed in class afterwards.
30. New \*\*\*\* teacher did not grade students work for 3 months. Poor teacher/students relationship.
31. Overall a good staff, but leadership is not really active in moving instruction and culture forward.
32. This year is unusual -- my kid is 18 and I've taken a big step back. I no longer have close insight into academic experiences. But part of the reason for this is that in the prior 3 years I developed so much trust in the school and its teachers.
33. My student has felt confused and unsupported throughout the science program this year. She doesn't match very well with her teacher, but it's an issue she's been working to solve. The French program at this high school has been extremely unsatisfactory. The \*\*\*\* \*\*\*\* \*\*\*\* \*\*\*\* frequently and the students are incredibly behind and genuinely despise the language- many are quitting next year.
34. I don't know much because teachers never reach out

**Q20: If you wish to provide more information about your responses to the previous question, please let us know below. *Re: Q19: Have you ever considered sending your student to alternative education systems, such as home education (home schooling), private school, or tuitioning in to another school district?***

**111 responses. After removing “no” and similar answers → 108 answers  
→ 27 HHS answers**

1. My daughter takes VLaCS classes
2. Yes, we did consider this when our \*\*\*\* was in another district but we are very happy now that \*\*\*\* attends Hanover.
3. Thought about private school but the environment in Hanover and the quality of the schools are so good that paying tuition doesn't make sense. That's why we live here.
4. I went to boarding school and I think Hanover high school with just a little bit of tweaking can do all the things a boarding school that is much better endowed can do and it's not about resources but it's more about how the teachers think and trying to align the teachers to the bigger picture. Otherwise it's a great school and I have no major complaints.

5. School is high paced , unorganized. Lots of mental pressure on kids . Kids literally surviving to be awake on energy drinks which will for sure create health issues later but they have no choice because system or teachers they only care about their subjects while kids doing sports , traveling, coming home late and no time to do their homework. I hope school system is more organized and consider children human beings with their well being instead of Robots . No wonder why high schooler has more mental issues, anxiety.
6. Clarification on #19 - had previously been in private schools before coming here; we are very happy with the public schools here, particularly the high school.
7. It seems all the kids who can afford to leave to go to private school do, with few exceptions.
8. We have private tutors for certain subjects.
9. Another child chose \*\*\*\* HHS. \*\*\*\* is very strong academically and socially but was turned off by the HHS culture/pressure and lack of diversity.
10. Would only consider it for athletic reasons.
11. Students are on and off campus all day. They leave to get on cell phones. They are not encouraged to stay and do work or study. I don't think school feels like an immersive academic experience for my child.
12. Homeschooling would not benefit our child and private is way too expensive. Plus, HHS provides an excellent education for the students!
13. Our child was at private school before attending HHS.
14. Homeschooled \*\*\*\*-\*\*\*\*. Something I never thought I would do. COVID was part of the reason, but it was a real blessing, and is why his understanding is good in math and Spanish, and reading is advanced. Helped keep him from hating school at an age when a lot of the boys turn into little jerks.
15. Sent my child to \*\*\*\* and it was not a good fit. Brought \*\*\*\* back to HHS after \*\*\*\* years away. HHS has been great and I wish we had never left.
16. The academic rigor is so high at HHS that even just regular good students feel dumb compared to the students doing calculus as sophomores. I don't think HHS does as good a job with students that aren't quite as academic and there is an elitism associated with it.
17. We seriously considered local private high school for our student but found that the special ed offerings at HHS were more in line with his needs.
18. We did send student to \*\*\*\*, which was a terrific experience I think that more Hanover HS students would benefit from doing this, if affordable. The emphasis on working at the school to keep it running may not be entirely feasible at HHS, but some may be very appropriate.
19. We explored finding alternative avenues for the study of French language for our child, but ultimately decided to support our child's desire to stay at HHS but change languages.
20. Our student has been in private school elsewhere but we have no plans to leave SAU 70.
21. We have school choice so have considered all local high schools.
22. Im thinking about homeschooling for the following year

23. We considered sending our children to private at various point in their education, but most issues were minor and resolved professionally at the elementary and middle school levels. The \*\*\*\* at the high school is not very good but our children don't have any contact with them.
24. We have augmented HHS courses with outside content. If the kids wanted to go to a good private school, we'd support them in doing so.
25. 11th grader will complete senior year at HHS. Exploring other options for my current \*\*\*\* grader at Crossroads because I have not been impressed with the general state of STEM at HHS. Poor quality math instruction, lack of available advanced courses and support for AP work -- this is baffling to me in today's competitive environment and all I can assume is that the resources are not available to be competitive even at a relatively well funded school district like SAU 70. I don't for a second buy that this choice is based on what's best for the student -- it just transfers the onus to parents to supplement with STEM support which if I'm going to do that why not just go private?
26. It didn't have to do with the school it had to do with the needs of the student
27. Due to dissatisfaction with the French and basketball programs, this has been taken under consideration.

**Q22: If you wish to provide more information about your response to the previous question, please let us know below. *Re: Q21: Have you ever used a supplementary private educational service for your student, such as one-on-one tutoring or group-based lessons, for subjects also taught in school, such as math, reading, or writing? Please select all that apply. Note that related teaching or academic apps, such as DuoLingo, should not be considered for this question.***

**116 responses. After removing “no” and similar answers → 112 answers  
→ 38 HHS answers**

1. Engaging with Kumon this weekend
2. unfortunately, we are having to privatize our students education because teachers are not seeing the bigger picture. What do I mean by this: try to prepare them with homework that is inspiring, teachers should focus a little bit less on grades and more on what students are actually learning and how they apply this knowledge This help helps tease out the true learners from the ones that are just going through

the motions. I don't find our students inspired by the teachers in the sciences and math category.

3. I didn't feel like the math teachers lectured and explained the material to my child well. The tutor did this and my child had no problem understanding the concepts. Although some of the teachers have been great, it's always hot or miss it seems.
4. We cannot afford tutors.
5. My kids do not have on-one tutoring or group-based lessons. he is just doing the subject from different education system or organizations
6. No remedial help, but our \*\*\*\* has taken \*\*\*\* at Dartmouth and \*\*\*\* \*\*\*\* for language immersion and challenge.
7. We hired a private tutor for honors geometry
8. My child has had many absences \*\*\*\* \*\*\*\* \*\*\*\* and refused in-school tutoring because \*\*\*\* did not want \*\*\*\* peers to know \*\*\*\* needed help. I tried to find tutors outside of school, but was not successful.
9. Tried to get math tutoring but was challenging
10. There needs to be more help with SAT prep and college applications.
11. We gave him advanced material ourselves.
12. my child needed private math tutoring to get \*\*\*\* out of the mess created by 6th grade math at RMS.
13. We had to have both of our children tutored in math. Self paced math is a disaster for many kids and really needs to be revisited.
14. We hired a math and ELA tutor specifically for SAT prep.
15. Math tutor. Probably Spanish tutor soon.
16. I understand that many families in the HHS system use external resources. We do not but would if they were accessible to us.
17. Took a few AOPS math classes.
18. Math tutor over summer while attending RMS. Necessary because the math teacher (\*\*\*\* \*\*\*\*) did not teach to all levels in the class and my student did not feel confident. Was able to regain confidence with a better teacher/tutor.
19. It is necessary for my child to have a tutor to ensure that he is able to keep on top of his work.
20. Math tutor has been necessary because of COVID and because of how HHS handled honors math classes.
21. We used Varsity Tutors to work on a variety of subjects last year and we may hire a tutor in the future.
22. My child's \*\*\*\* teacher became \*\*\*\* \*\*\*\* \*\*\*\*\_\*\*\*\* and so a teacher in charge of another section stepped in. Although the school did its best under the unforeseen circumstances, this mid-session switch adversely affected my student's learning and grade. We hired a \*\*\*\* tutor to help support him.
23. Had a Spanish tutor for one year.
24. My tutor is very helpful. Wish my child felt comfortable using the extra help resources at school but she doesn't.
25. Kumon during Elementary School. Biology tutor for AP exam.
26. Private tutor to help keep up with math class

27. We have thought about math tutoring to help with test anxiety anxiety-\*\*\*\* seems to understand the material but worries about doing well on tests.
28. Just for Math - 1 hr a week of tutoring. It has been very helpful.
29. Math teacher is falling woefully short of actually teaching. Too much reliance on students teaching themselves, checking answers, and then hoping teacher has enough time to answer questions or provide additional help. Paid weekly math tutor a necessity for my child.
30. for getting better at writing without being subject to grading while doing so
31. Weekly math tutoring, summer writing tutoring
32. My \*\*\*\* really struggled with advanced math and chemistry, and I considered tutoring. But \*\*\*\* teacher stepped up and provided extra support, as did I.
33. Unclear if you're including VLACS, Learn Everywhere, and other similar programs here. If so, modify the above to yes, formerly and currently.
34. Before opting out of math all together we had some success with 1:1 tutoring. We got the advice from other parents that "everyone uses tutoring" to be successful in math given teacher turnover etc.
35. Math tutoring
36. SAT test prep course
37. VLACS, Dartmouth
38. Kumon when math deficits identified in 3rd grade during pandemic

**Q24: If you wish to provide more information about your response to the previous question, please let us know below. *Re: Q23: For which of the following subjects have you sought outside tutoring for your student? Please select all that apply.***

**52 responses. After removing “no” and similar answers → 48 answers  
→ 21 HHS answers**

1. We have found that honors algebra II and honors pre calculus are taught in a way that many kids struggle. The tests are not a good reflection of what is taught in the classroom.
2. And executive function
3. Took AOPS classes.
4. If there were tutors in English at the school, I would send my other child.
5. German at HHS has limited range.
6. Sought, but did not find tutors.
7. Our daughter was diagnosed with \*\*\*\* quite late and we hired outside help to help give her tools to prepare her during the summer before 8th grade
8. derailed for two years by a poor pre-calc experience

9. I believe that the middle school math structure is extremely challenging for the district, though options at the HS are better.
10. My child has \*\*\*\* and so math is VERY hard for him.
11. I would have liked math tutoring for him, but it is too expensive.
12. The Richmond School was neglectful and harmful to my child's math education. My child has brilliantly recovered from that negative experience but we have had to undo the educational damage with privately financed tutoring.
13. I don't know that I'd call violin lessons "outside tutoring", but that's what I mean by "music"
14. Not tutoring but classes.
15. My husband did a lot of homework support
16. My student has taken advantage of peer tutoring from the Help Hub for science.
17. We haven't needed to hire a tutor-just considered it.
18. Needed math tutor due to learning gaps from RMS math program
19. Japanese
20. have considered math and science tutoring, not sure how to get it, who to ask, difficult logistics
21. College essay writing

**Q26: If you wish to provide more information about your response to the previous question, please let us know below. *Re: Q25: What was the reason for the tutoring? Please select all that apply.***

**42 responses to “Other (please specify)”. After removing “no” and similar answers → 42 answers → 16 HHS answers**

1. Needed help understanding some of the concepts which they did not understand in school
2. the standard science sequence of HHS is a bit off
3. My daughter loves the language -- her decision and drive to accelerate.
4. prep for AP bio
5. My child wanted to learn a specific type of music.
6. Too many absences and had difficulty catching up (language.) Suspected undiagnosed learning disability for math.
7. Self paced math does not work for many students. The lack of direct instruction is an issue.
8. SAT prep
9. The dissatisfaction applies to RMS not HHS

10. My child requires more input on what the expectations are from the teachers, and the tutor helps with executive functioning. My student does not struggle with the material of the course.
11. We felt the regular, scaffolded and supported practice offered by the Kumon curriculum would be of value to our child.
12. He had Covid-era related holes in his knowledge that were compounding as the subject became more complex.
13. See above re: switch in teacher personnel.
14. Math facts were encouraged to practice at home. There was gap between Honors Biology and AP exam content.
15. We have thought about math tutoring to help with test anxiety-\*\*\*\* seems to understand the material but worries about doing well on tests.
16. Behind in math, gifted in music and has taken outside lessons

28 responses. After removing “no” and similar answers → 25 answers  
 → 7 HHS answers

1. Study skills class was not fruitful as described
2. Our student does not need supplementary education due to difficulty with the material. However, the current course structure and sequencing do not fully align with the student’s academic interests and goals in STEM. At our high school, the standard science sequence is Methods in 9th grade, Biology in 10th grade, Chemistry in 11th grade, and Physics in 12th grade. While many people view the Methods course as a useful general introduction to scientific thinking and lab skills, it may not be necessary for students who already have strong STEM preparation and interest. For these students, spending a full year on this course can delay access to core sciences such as physics and chemistry. In addition, Physics being offered only in 12th grade limits earlier exposure to a foundational subject that is important for students interested in engineering and technical fields, and it may also mean students do not have a physics grade available during the college application process. The school also offers only one computer science course, which is not sufficiently advanced or flexible for students seeking more rigorous or accelerated STEM coursework. As a result, supplementary educational opportunities have been helpful not for remediation, but to provide appropriate academic depth, pacing, and enrichment that better match the student’s interests and long-term goals.
3. There is a large discrepancy in how fast teachers go through curriculum in any given subject. Some teachers go way too fast because they are teaching to the most intellectual people in the classroom. It would be nice if more time was put into the differentiated classroom.
4. My child and friends did a small group sessions with a local teacher in preparation for AP Bio exam. It was largely to help cover materials that the class wouldn't get to before the test and for review of previous materials. Otherwise, no other tutoring.

5. My child was extremely curious about advanced \*\*\*\* concepts as a younger child so we hired a Dartmouth students to answer his questions and mentor him weekly, as we lack that background
6. I wanted my student to get extra challenge and be completely comfortable with a tough subject.
7. The tutor just helped him navigate his challenging honors classes.

**Q28: If you wish to provide more information about your response to the previous question, please let us know below. *Re: Q27: During this academic year, does your student participate in organized afterschool athletic activities of some sort? Please select all that apply. Note that we are not referring to subject-based camps that occur during summer or vacation breaks.***

77 responses. After removing “no” and similar answers → 72 answers  
→ 17 HHS answers

1. I wish there was access to a school-sponsored ski/ride program!
2. Crew! Its terrific! Both Fall and Spring.
3. HHS track and Ford Sayre skiing
4. They do not participate because of a brutally toxic environment. Truly disappointed.
5. Due to the lack of JV hockey last year our student lost interest in the sport
6. Football
7. Son participated on the HHS football team and loved everything about it until he \*\*\*\* \*\*\*\* \*\*\*\* and realized it might be the end of his \*\*\*\* career.
8. Gymnastics team at NLG
9. 1. It is insane how much parents have to pay for sports. 2. Then after the initial payment then have to pay for uniforms. 3. then have to pay for fundraising. The town MUST support sports better. There is so much school support for some fields, but then no support for ski racing or ski jumping. no support for tennis courts. School needs to make it fair across all sports.
10. Sports for one kid; theater for the other
11. Ford Sayre skiing and HHS track.
12. HHS sports were tried Freshman year and it was too much time away for school and too many hours after school impacting homework time.
13. My \*\*\*\* was doing sports up until 8th grade and then \*\*\*\* said its too competitive and didn't want to continue into high school.

14. One thing that has always baffled me is the association of after-school sports being run in Hanover through the Parks and Rec Dept. There is no reason for this. Where I grew up, and in every school we compete against all sports are run through the school system and provide transportation to and from practice/games. The basic principal here is equity. Equity to ensure every child has the opportunity to participate, not just those who can get a ride or who's parents can disrupt their afternoons and evenings to be a shuttle service. All school sports programs should be migrate to the schools AND they should be done by 5pm-6pm at the latest to ensure parents have the evening to have dinner with their kids, ensure they have adequate time to do homework and work on projects, and allow them to get to bed at a reasonable time for their growing bodies and get the extra sleep they require. Practices that "wrap up" at 7:30 are a joke. When's the kid supposed to go home and have dinner with his parents? When's he supposed to do his 2 hours of homework? This is completely unreasonable. If we need additional fields to ensure all teams have access to a field from 3-5pm then, lets build some fields or provide transport to AND from practice back to the schools. My honest opinion is that sports in Hanover, while great, are also a disaster in regards to organization and execution and are again detrimental to important time that was once reserved for the family.
15. UVRF
16. HHS field hockey and club ice and field hockey teams
17. He rows in Hanover High School crew and in UVRF

**Q30: If you wish to provide more information about your response to the previous question, please let us know below. *Re: Q29: Generally during this academic year, how satisfied are you with your student's experiences for afterschool athletic activities?***

**105 responses. After removing "no" and similar answers → 101 answers  
→ 48 HHS answers**

1. Football practices were too many and too often, but coaching was exemplary, inspirational, and transformative.
2. last minute scheduling and transportation to baseball field is tough for non-drivers
3. Very satisfied overall, but I have some real concerns about \*\*\*\* coach \*\*\*\* and how he treats \*\*\*\* (verbally and through threatening individual emails). The school needs to query parents and \*\*\*\* and address these behaviors.
4. See above re:soccer Crew schedule was inflexible to accommodate regular schedule conflicts
5. How fortunate we are to have the crew program here.

6. I just wish after school sports can be from 3:30 to 5:30 with student students home at 6 o'clock to have dinner, shower and do homework
7. Not enough options
8. Kids need better coaches
9. Football program and coaching is great; track, on the other hand, is a bit loose and undisciplined with varying oversight by coaches
10. Preference seems to be towards certain sports over others. Less popular sports get very little attention and field time
11. See comment about sports. If you're not an incredible athlete, there are not serious opportunities to be coached and participate. This is really disappointing as we all know the benefits of physical exercise, interacting with humans, and being on a team. HHS should look closely at the programs for JV for tennis and basketball and compare what is being offered for these student athletes. HHS is always looking to have the most competitive team and nothing else. They should be offering better opportunities.
12. I think the rigidity of 6 days a week of practice especially through school vacations takes away from family time. If the student misses practices for family gatherings, they are often punished and miss game time. I did notice more flexibility this year luckily.
13. Some v satisfied. Others not at all.
14. Nordic has been fabulous throughout. \*\*\*\* coaching became toxic in \*\*\*\* 2023/4/5 and \*\*\*\* left the team. Coaching culture at odds with HHS ethos and values (especially academics) after \*\*\*\* 2023.
15. Some sports are terrific. Others really suffer from an overemphasis on competition over player growth and development which ironically undermines the competitiveness of the team.
16. Coach \*\*\*\* is an outstanding coach. He cares about the entire student, not just the \*\*\*\* player.
17. The extra cost of any extra curricula activities is difficult. The work asked of parents is not always possible for some parents. Pressure is intense.
18. The girls \*\*\*\* coach is exclusive and harsh. My child quit because of \*\*\*\* treatment of the \*\*\*\* girls (after playing \*\*\*\* for 10 years). There needs to be a change.
19. With the updated wifi rules, it is extremely difficult to navigate snow/rain changes to games and practices for children who do not have their own car.
20. The athletic department at HHS is well-organized, and inspires students. The facilities are incredible as well. Much better than anything I saw in high school or college. I think my son is much improved for his time in sports. It taught him about grit, personal responsibility, and the importance of community.
21. demeaning, exclusionary and sexist behavior
22. Girls JV soccer Track
23. The coaching and scheduling decisions this season have been disappointing. It is unfair to schedule games during school vacations and then penalize players for spending time with their families. Children should not have to choose between their team commitments and family holidays. A more reasonable solution would be to

move the primary break to March by eliminating the February break or reducing the March Intensive to allow for one consolidated vacation period. A February break comes very early in the season, and a March vacation would better align with scheduling needs and reduce conflicts with games and tournaments. This adjustment would also allow for a longer and more consistent spring sports season. Overall, this seems like a practical and straightforward solution that would better support both the athletes and their families.

24. Very satisfied with JV field hockey VERY unsatisfied with JV basketball. It was a disaster and made my kid hate the sport.
25. Both HHS Varsity Hockey and HHS Varsity Lax have been well managed and terrific growing opportunities.
26. Student athletics are such an important part of growing, learning, friendships. I can't imagine not being part of a sport.
27. Mixed: excellent experience in Winter track + spring track, less than ideal for varsity soccer
28. I believe it is our job as a community to provide opportunities for students to play where there is a demand for it. This includes at the JV level and if tradeoffs are required should balance across sports (i.e. not sure we need 4 soccer teams). It's not about whether they will eventually make varsity, it is about opportunity for positive athletic experiences to help keep kids active and healthy. I generally think the athletic department does a good job,
29. The coach last year wasn't great. Much improved this year.
30. \*\*\*\* coach is mean and unfair- does not inspire the best from \*\*\*\* players
31. HHS athletics perpetuates economic inequalities in our town and body-shames kids. We have a golf team for which you have to know how to play golf if you want to join — none of the schools teach golf, so only kids whose families have taught them can join. My kid was not given the opportunity to learn and we were told we should get private lessons and then try again. That's next level economic discrimination and the \*\*\*\* \*\*\*\* \*\*\*\* doesn't care (my perception is not helped by \*\*\*\* own investment in the program). My child regularly gets body-shamed by coaches. There have also been comments from the \*\*\*\* \*\*\*\* and teachers to my kid on which sport my child should play based on their body type.
32. After 4 years rowing crew, our \*\*\*\* was still relegated to JV.
33. Hanover High School should not have replaced its \*\*\*\* \*\*\*\* coach. The \*\*\*\* program has suffered as a result.
34. Clearer communication from the baseball coaches about practices. Very difficult to plan when you don't know what time practice starts and ends.
35. The only hard part is some of the games are so far away that the kids miss a lot of school and get home very late. I wish we could play teams in VT that were closer.
36. I am a bit disappointed in the athletics department's unwillingness to support a JV hockey program that was previously a part of Hanover Highschool Athletics.
37. I'm not happy with the JV hockey situation, the challenges of forming a team despite the student numbers and coaches support. Otherwise satisfied

38. Please see prior responses on weekend scheduling and response on organization of sports and practices. There are significant problems that are detrimental to our family.
39. \*\*\*\*\_\*\*\*\* is very hard and uncaring with any kid other than \*\*\*\* favorites - can be very demeaning to girls.
40. At HHS some coaches have been in their positions far too long and do not respect or seem to care about students as people or even players but more about winning
41. Girls JV \*\*\*\* was fantastic - great coaches, great communication, great program. Girls JV \*\*\*\* was a terrible experience - coaches undervalued JV players, were not good at communicating with families about the schedule or expectations, and undermined players' confidence. PLEASE FIND NEW COACHES. The girls tried talking to the coaches and were yelled at. This was not a positive experience at all.
42. Athletic fields and surrounding areas not well maintained. Always garbage around. Hill next to turf field bleachers total eye sore. Quality of coaching very variable. Don't feel like areas for improvement or other concerns are addressed by the \*\*\*\* \*\*\*\*.
43. I was disappointed by the lack of any contact by basketball coach after our \*\*\*\* \*\*\*\* \*\*\*\* \*\*\*\* during basketball practice. This was a coaching fail.
44. Our daughter's participation on the JV-\*\*\*\* team was disappointing. The coaches seemed to me more concerned with a helping varsity, where there was a better chance of winning, than working with the JV team.
45. My child is on crew. I wish they had the opportunity to train together year round. The schools that have really successful teams train together year round.
46. Athletics and athletes do not seem to be supported well, and there seems to be an inequity in boys sports (prime times on turf, under lights etc)
47. Her field hockey experience was amazing- awesome environment and the coaches were great. Her basketball experience was horrible. Coaching lacked communication and would frequently cancel practice minutes before it began/show up very late- the girls were very upset with how the season went.
48. \*\*\*\* \*\*\*\*/\*\*\*\* \*\*\*\* plays favorites and doesn't correct poor sportsmanship/behavior

Q32: If you wish to provide more information about your responses to the previous question, please let us know below. *Re: Q31: During this academic year, does your student participate in organized performing arts activities, such as music and plays, of some sort? Please select all that apply. Note that we are not referring to subject-based camps that occur only during summer or vacation breaks.*

78 responses. After removing “no” and similar answers → 73 answers  
→ 19 HHS answers

1. Footlighters is incredible! We are so grateful for this group and \*\*\*\* amazing effort!
2. I wish club participation was forced for the first part of the year (or something applicable)
3. HHS appears to have a divide between the athletes and the performing artists.
4. School orchestra and UVMC.
5. We are not able to afford singing lessons or music lessons
6. Our \*\*\*\* takes private music lessons, and performs privately and with a band.
7. My kids love the plays. What we do not love is that the school prioritizes plays and performances and success of art and drama but never for athletics. The kids work incredibly hard at sports and the \*\*\*\* never sends a shout out on \*\*\*\* weekly letters. There are no school or town celebrations when kids win states or do well even after states. There is nothing from the school, town or local paper. It would be nice for these athletes to be celebrated. Also- we have to pay for drama performances yet not athletic ones. Again- does not seem equitable.
8. My child takes piano lessons outside of school.
9. Sports take all the available time
10. School orchestra and strings at UVMC.
11. My \*\*\*\* participated in jazz band previously, but it was too much of a commitment combined with private music lessons.
12. Theater
13. Would do more if practice for performances didn't cross seasons.
14. My student loves the theatre opportunities but this year was frustrated that her time was not valued. She was called to rehearsal almost every time but did not actually need to be there for some of it.
15. They did not have time in their schedules to do studio art and performing art.
16. She used to do a great deal of music work but does not do so any longer.
17. For grade 9, there are only 2 electives possible - including World Language. So my student had to choose between Art and Music for classwork. We are compensating for the lack of opportunity in school, by finding time outside of school.

18. Too hard to do athletics and music/play.
19. Private Voice Lessons

**Q34: If you wish to provide more information about your responses to the previous question, please let us know below. *Re: Q33: Generally during this academic year, how satisfied are you with your student's experiences for performing arts activities?***

62 responses. After removing "no" and similar answers → 58 answers  
→ 12 HHS answers

1. I wish he was more interested!
2. Theater program is AMAZING. Thank you.
3. We all enjoy going to the performances
4. I would love to see theater and dance as electives at HHS
5. need more funding for theater and arts in my opinion. HHS feels like it supports a "jock" culture too much. Also, uneven budget priorities for sports. Skiing, esp. nordic skiing gets underfunded in my opinion, e.g. transportation.
6. My kid loves theater but it requires a serious time commitment that excludes \*\*\*\* from participating in other activities. While it has been a challenge to balance academics with theater, my kid has thrived in the environment until very recently. Today is opening night for the musical and my kid is exhausted because the \*\*\*\* has been keeping them until almost 11 pm every night this week as well as all day last Saturday and until 7-8 pm every night last week. \*\*\*\* is behind on ALL \*\*\*\* homework and petrified of what could happen to \*\*\*\* grades. \*\*\*\* is SO upset, I worry the stress will prevent \*\*\*\* from being able to do \*\*\*\* \*\*\*\* for the performances over the next 4 days. They don't finish until 11 pm tonight and yet still have to attend school tomorrow and also perform tomorrow night. I realize Footlighters is not part of HHS but there should be an agreement in place that prevents a \*\*\*\* from imposing these requirements on students.
7. Clubs/Groups don't get "equal" support, not financially or with advisors.
8. For the performing arts there needs to be more of a balance that the kids are students first. I know theatre gets stressful toward production time, but the kids need some boundaries so they can do school work and rest adequately. In my ideal world rehearsals would end by 9pm even the week before the show.
9. I am not as happy or satisfied with the music department since \*\*\*\* \*\*\*\* departure.
10. We are happy with the robust music program, but it is a shame that Jazz is only offered in combination with other courses (1 day out of 3 within another music class)
11. We feel that the music/performing arts activities at HHS are very good.

12. I am disappointed my child cannot participate in sports and theater in HS but pleased that he can do music through chorus and a capella alongside sports

**Q36: If you wish to provide more information about your responses to the previous question, please let us know below. *Re: Q35: Does your student currently receive mental health and/or behavioral health services?***

41 responses. After removing “no” and similar answers → 36 answers  
→ 10 HHS answers

1. \*\*\*\* had difficulty several years ago with situational depression but has recovered after receiving counseling and medical support.
2. Stigma of in school counseling hard to overcome
3. very challenging to figure out
4. No, but it would be nice if the school did more for the kids. Small group meetings. One on one.
5. used in another school district
6. \*\*\*\* sees a therapist to manage stress levels.
7. Counseling/therapy sessions
8. for anxiety
9. \*\*\*\* \*\*\*\* \*\*\*\* see social worker for \*\*\*\* \*\*\*\* anxiety
10. Saw \*\*\*\* a few times - she's great

**Q38: If you wish to provide more information about your responses to the previous question, please let us know below. *Re: Q37: To your knowledge, does your student have any of the following devices or social media accounts for their own specific, individual, use?***

23 responses to “Other (please specify)”. After removing “no” and similar answers → 19 answers → 5 HHS answers

1. Telegram
2. Those left blank are unknown
3. Roblox
4. SportsYou required for HHS Crew team, Spond required for club team
5. lots of apps required for sports- snack, hudl,

62 responses. After removing “no” and similar answers → 57 answers  
→ 12 HHS answers

1. I'm very unhappy about no internet rule
2. Social media addiction was a challenge several times. She recognized it was a problem and weaned herself off it.
3. Often needed social media to communicate for sports activities
4. don't know about Threads, Discord, Signal
5. I am not sure of what social media my son accesses beyond what I've indicated above.
6. We have had a very difficult time regulating phone use. Sometimes he uses it creatively, but mostly to socialize and it can be extremely distracting and cause lack of attention to responsibilities.
7. We monitor and provide 15 min or less of social media use. Most is used to connect with sports teams for school. 😞
8. I wish snapchat and instagram weren't so popular among this group. I also wish the school more actively discouraged its use for sports teams another other school related groups/activities.
9. One of my major concerns with HHS's computer policy is that they have single handedly overridden our parental right to restrict access to scientifically proven detrimental social media sites. These site use algorithms as we all know to manipulate our biology to gain engagement. Children with not fully formed frontal lobes are exceptionally susceptible to these manipulations. And yet, here we are in 2026 with HHS giving my child a device where he can have unfettered access to any social media site he wants regardless of my wife and my concerns. I believe the response I received when I asked the \*\*\*\* \* was something along the lines of, "well the kids have a say in this and they voted for it." Would we also let them vote to smoke cigs on campus too if they voted for it??? Of course not. HHS doesnt allow them to visit pornographic sites because there are known dangers/issues to their development and frankly I do not understand the incentive on giving them access to harmful manipulative sites so they can learn to regulate their use when they are scientifically biologically incapable of regulating that use. Laptops should be for education uses period end of story. Really they shouldn't be allowed off campus but could see how that would be non equitable for students who might no be able to afford them.
10. WhatsApp is used to communicate with her club teams. Snap Chat is used to communicate with her HHS team and for social purposes.
11. I am not sure which social media platforms he is on, I know he is on a couple.
12. Why does this matter?

**Q40: If you wish to provide more information about your responses to the previous question, please let us know below. *Re: Q39: In this 2025-2026 academic year, New Hampshire and Vermont laws went into effect that generally banned individual smart devices “bell to bell” within the schools. The district’s policies were updated to reflect this legal change in late 2025. Have you noticed an impact of this policy and legal change on your student and family?***

**43 responses to “Something else”. After removing “no” and similar answers → 41 answers → 16 HHS answers**

1. I'm ok with it, but it is very hard to contact my student when practices are not planned well or changed.
2. Kids got around it this past year by knowing the wifi password. This has now changed
3. I appreciate they aren't in phones during the day but it is very hard to coordinate after school with no service or wifi
4. The school and teachers need to do a better job enforcing it.
5. But has caused an increase in anxiety
6. But I do appreciate designated times and spaces not being allowed to use it
7. I'm neutral about it. Not good, not bad.
8. Now students leave campus more because they can. Not good.
9. It's difficult in that we've become accustomed to being able to be in constant contact... it will take time to adjust.
10. I love less technology but I also need to be able to get in touch with my kids.
11. Yes, and I love it, but they have found a way around it, downloading the apps on the computer. The school should do something to control this.
12. I agree with it but it makes it very difficult to get an important message to her when needed. Calling the school and asking them to relay a message only works half the time in my experience.
13. I don't dislike it, but it does make communicating with my child more challenging. I don't observe that the limit on use at school has been helpful (nor harmful) to my particular child
14. I like it for all the students in general, however my child never abused it, and it is extremely difficult to communicate with my child during the day

15. Generally, it's fine. But during the lockdown it was vital that my child had access to their phone. I was relieved when we were able to communicate.
16. no network in Hanover anyway, makes no difference - very unsafe

## 91 responses. After removing "no" and similar answers → 87 answers → 37 HHS answers

1. The policy is implemented very inconsistently, contact is nearly impossible, and Chromebooks don't allow consistent submission of assignments.
2. student doesn't know until 3pm after-hours wifi is on what his pick-up plan for the day is (some of this has to do with coach being less organized.)
3. Great move in my opinion.
4. Some teachers allow it although most do not. But given some teachers do or ignore the use it makes it challenging for students to have consistent rules. This applies to both phones and other personal devices.
5. HHS zone has no cell service and it makes pickup incredibly challenging after school
6. Smart watches should be allowed. Texting between classes should be allowed.
7. I would like the opportunity to contact them during the day. I understand the law and the purpose, but the limited contact is difficult - not impossible - but difficult when coordinating after school options for a younger sibling not at HHS.
8. Before the policy change, my student didn't bring the phone to school anyway, so there is no change.
9. My kids come home every day and ask the question why teachers are always on their cell phones in school, while the kids have to adhere to the policy. While I understand that teachers need to use their phones at time, the roll out and oversight of the policy has not been all that great. I think if you are asking the students to keep their phones away, the teachers should model the same behaviors.
10. I have noticed a change with the "no cell phone" law, but it's not either good or bad. I find it harder communicate with my child, especially around time-sensitive coordination when there's a change in plans. Minor inconvenience, but we find our way to work around it.
11. I hate that I can't reach my child before and after school because of low signal.
12. Same as answer above- very hard in regards to sport changes
13. child still texts me during the day so not entirely free of smart devices, which is appropriate I think. It also makes me pause before texting my student so I don't interrupt her, which is excellent
14. I do find it challenging to get in touch with my kid at pick-up time, especially for extracurriculars, with no cell service in the area whatsoever.
15. I have noticed that teachers have been inconsistent in their application of this policy.
16. Having access to phones in the office is helpful. More clarity on how to get messages to kids would be helpful.

17. I would like my child to learn self restraint and how to manage devices. I can see their activity during the day and know that they were doing a good job before the change. They are actually just learning to be sneaky, which, I very much dislike.
18. I believe it encourages kids to leave campus more during the day (to obtain service), which I don't think is ideal
19. In my opinion, it is disruptive to our family life for our high schooler to NOT be able to use a cell phone in between classes or at lunch.
20. Get electronics out of schools!!! And you have to do something about AI — it's a scourge
21. My child is a freshman so I have nothing to compare it to. I have heard that students are using their phones in the bathroom to cheat which is unacceptable.
22. I love it in school. Not sure I've noticed any change in device usage outside of school.
23. We have not noticed a change - yet - but feel that this is a good and necessary new policy.
24. I support this - however last-minute changes or other information communicated through SportsYou to students by coaches does not then get received as quickly as possible. Practice timing or other details that my student would want to know in advance, she does not find out about until she is able to access wifi again with her phone. I hope that coaches are aware of this barrier to communication during school hours and adjust for it - or perhaps the athletic department has additional ideas to make this more seamless for student-athletes. Thanks!
25. Students leave to use phones is what we hear. Kids still use but much less so at least. It was really bad before. My kids complained.
26. Generally, the only thing I don't like is that we can't connect with kids until after school is out. It doesn't seem to impact them negatively though.
27. With no internet or contact at school it would be very helpful to hear from coaches when practices or games have been changed or cancelled as our students can't contact us.
28. I appreciate that students are not to use their phones during school hours and now there is wifi available after school hours to communicate with students.
29. I think the no cell phone during the day policy is terrific! Thank you for having the courage to do it! I would say, though that it would be better if the phones were just put away in students' homerooms and retrieved at the end of the day. One of \*\*\*\*  
\*\*\*\* \*\*\*\* goes to a high school that does it that way and it works so much better because the kids aren't thinking about them all the time. The kids describe the sense of freedom and it just isn't an issue until the end of the day. When I hear the kids at Hanover talk about it, there's still a lot of confusion about when you can use it and when you can't and it seems like it weighs on the kids' minds because they still have them with them all the time. Please take it out of the kids' hands and just have them leave them in homeroom for the whole day! It will be so much better for everyone, kids, teachers, and administrators!

30. Early in the year we learned that the students figure out the Wifi Password for the network and gained access again on their devices. Hopefully the school has a rotating password system.
31. I wish teachers would not use AI to grade papers.
32. I would like the kids to have the option to have and turn on their phones in the case of an emergency (e.g. lock-down)
33. I haven't seen much change at home, and surprisingly, I haven't heard any complaining at home. I think the kids honestly like the break - no FOMO if everyone's off the \*\*\*\* things...
34. Student hates it, parents love it.
35. My younger child calls from the office if they need to be reached during the day. I could use clarification on how to get a message to my child. I don't need to often, but it has been hit or miss.
36. If you don't pay my bill you shouldn't have a say. With the shooting threat that just happened we were strictly relying on the school to inform us what was going on but not how our children are. This is a horrible policy and causes a lot of anxiety and unnecessary duress in those moments!
37. I don't feel "the less tech the better" but do think getting phones away bell to bell has had a huge benefit. My child didn't get a phone until after the ban but he still benefitted

**Q42: If you wish to provide more information about your responses to the previous question, please let us know below. *Re: Q41: Generally, what are your thoughts on your student's daily time in front of screens, such as computers, phones, and televisions?***

**109 responses. After removing "no" and similar answers → 105 answers  
→ 23 HHS answers**

1. If phones are not allowed, they should be locked in individual lock boxes. Teachers are wildly inconsistent in their handling of this rule, and students all pay that price. That said, it seems unfair to put that responsibility on teachers. The district should seriously consider purchasing Yondr boxes if we want to make this policy work.
2. Although we are very deliberate about limiting screen time at home, I do think we need a systematic change in educational environments, particularly in the K-8 setting, but also in grades 9-12. We know that reading comprehension is affected by the delivery medium, and that we learn best from human interaction.
3. The kids do not experience life as fully in the real physical world because they don't have the time due to all the screen involvement.

4. When not doing sports, spends a lot of time playing games on his phone (even when watching tv).
5. It will be helpful if the school can arrange more screen free time, like outside activities, which will be a good balance for students physical and mental health.
6. I would love to eliminate all screens in schools, and go back to pencil and paper. We have limited internet at home, but it is still too much.
7. It's not the screens its the social media. And it's a constant struggle.
8. It's hard to regulate; kids today are excellent at getting around tech barriers.
9. All the homework is on screen too. So she is always in front of a screen doing homework. I don't know how much time they spend in front of the screen at school.
10. My student is very self-regulated concerning her screen time and effects of social media. She would rather be living in a time where we didn't have these options (as would I!) but we support our school district trying to navigate what is such a challenging time!
11. For another child I answered the last choice but this child does not use her phone much at all. But at school and doing HW she is still on the school issued computer a lot. I believe that kids (all of us) learn better with physically writing notes, reading and being able to highlight, etc. I would love to return to more pen and paper and even text books (so much easier to find the needed info to study for a test) than all the schoology docs, etc.
12. My child has asked us to put pretty limited screen time on apps like instagram.
13. I wish they had more pen and paper and book work. It is better for learning for many students.
14. After a full day using screens at school for most classes, my student will have 2-3 hours of homework that usually requires a screen. This is a lot of time on screen.
15. My child is not very screen focused, so it's not as much of an issue for us, but observing her peers, it feels like too much screen time is an issue for a lot of them!
16. While I tend to want my child to grow and develop new skills supported by technology and its advances. It is a very fine line and the use of videos to teach subjects traditionally though through engagement with a human being, typically a teacher, we've seen at Ray School (math 8th grade) is deeply concerning. I believe with the politization of these platform and their physiological manipulation much of our society needs to understand and work to develop new rules of engagement for our communities including our schools.
17. Too much reliance for all schoolwork on a screen - headaches and eye tiredness are becoming a regular problem.
18. My student would prefer less need for digital technology. Schoology is particularly irksome to use.
19. we limit screen time and don't enable the internet or any social media apps on the phone - that seems to manage it just fine
20. I guess its a common problem; he'd rather play games with friends than do schoolwork, and needs to be cued, even though he a junior in high school.
21. I am not sure how much screen time is happening at school

22. I have mixed feeling about so much homework on computers....my kids have benefitted from links to videos that reinforce a topic, but it is understandably easy for them to be distracted and it is hard to figure out how to block distractions. We try Freedom.io, but it is glitchy and could be pricey.
23. Bring back physical text books and notebooks for note taking. Save computers for essay writing & research.

**Q44: If you wish to provide more information about your responses to the previous question, please let us know below. *Re: Q43: What are your thoughts on AI (artificial intelligence) technologies, such as ChatGPT, for use in school or for school projects? Please select up to 3 of the most important choices below for you.***

**118 responses. After removing “no” and similar answers → 115 answers  
→ 30 HHS answers**

1. Dartmouth professors I know are resorting to all writing assignments in class as well as conducting all exams with paper and pen.
2. AI can be useful as an efficiency tool for professionals who already have a deep baseline in a particular area, but it can be very dangerous for students who will find its ease replaces the need from knowledge or and work necessary to become proficient in essential skills.
3. AI has severe environmental implications that harm poor communities / targets for data centers
4. Students must be taught how to utilize AI chatbots and associated tools, including the appropriate use and misuse of AI in academic settings. This is here to stay.
5. AI is a trend. We should train teacher and student to learn how to use it, and make good judgement.
6. AI is an essential tool that all kids will need to use in college so proper and efficient use is important to teach now.
7. I think the school should provide AI training for students, to get them ready and prepared for the future, otherwise, they will be left behind when they graduate.
8. AI is here to stay. AI is far MORE than just chatbots. I think it's important for both teachers and students to understand how to use AI safely, integrate it into their work. Banning or restricting just keeps the danger in the shadows.
9. Given the need for data centers for AI and the enormous amount of energy these data centers need, I think AI will not benefit humanity in the end. It will also significantly effect brain development if students are not thinking for themselves. So many problems with AI.

10. There is a difficult balance here. I don't have the answer, but I think that AI can be used appropriately and I think our kids need to learn to use it appropriately to remain current. I don't know how best to police the limits.
11. older child, already graduated, has shared that they 1) never read a book while at HHS because they could use the internet to get by and 2) used AI to do well, or at least fine, in most of their classes
12. Now that AI is here teachers and schools need to figure out how to use it when teaching.
13. I will not say the teacher cannot use AI to assist in grading -- but if he uses it as a replacement for himself as a grader, and it gets things wrong -- he is responsible.
14. Obviously this is an evolving area, I trust the schools to assess and adapt.
15. I don't like AI but it is here and there is no turning back. Our kids will use it regularly in their life and so we might as well teach them out to do it in a way that is responsible and helpful.
16. By what stretch of the imagination will children NOT learn how to use AI in their future lives? The school doesn't need to teach them how to use Instagram and likewise it doesn't need to teach them how to use AI, they will learn that on their own. Anyone who tells you otherwise is selling stock in tech companies — don't buy it! The school needs to teach kids critical thinking skills, foster creativity and curiosity. It needs to nurture social skills and emotional intelligence.
17. I don't mind AI but am concerned that for students, they are missing the opportunity to learn how to think critically and creatively.
18. AI is a life skill for students with learning challenges like dyslexia.
19. AI needs to be managed responsibly by the teachers and administrators.  
Fundamentally it can be confusing for young minds that are trying to learn good writing and basic academic skills when they are getting the marketing from all sides that AI can do everything for them and do it better. Students can be introduced to it at the highest levels of study, but I don't think they should be encouraged to think that using it is necessary or helpful to do well in school or to have good ideas.
20. I don't use AI or like the idea of it much BUT I do think it is important for kids to be trained/taught in how to use it appropriately.
21. Seems like kids should have an opportunity how to learn about AI with guardrails. When to do it, when not, where does it work well and not well, how do you use smart prompts/instructions
22. I think we need to be careful using AI, first the natural resources such as water used to cool data processing plants and electricity to support the energy needs are not healthy for the planet nor humans as water and energy needs are already limited. Secondly, I believe AI should be taught about and used sparingly as an editor, not as content development for teachers and students.
23. Kids need clear guidelines for when AI is appropriate and when it is not. It must be made clear to them that generative AI is never to be used for writing or original work. One of the things I have heard from kids is that they really resent the sense of hypocrisy when teachers tell them not to use it, but then use it themselves for lesson planning or grading. I support the use of handwritten assignments in order to

prevent the use of generative AI, as well as oral presentations and other ways of really assessing whether students have acquired knowledge themselves. This is a huge challenge facing every school in the world, and I think involving kids in conversations about it is a good thing and really trying to help them understand why the use of generative AI shortchanges their own educations.

24. AI engagement and use will likely come with an associated drop in critical thinking skills developed through the mundane task of researching and learning. At this point the use of AI does not enhance the ability to think or create enhanced skills for students (as far as I can tell), it will mostly spoon feed information (unverified and often wrong) to a person. Sure it can solve complex math problems and create programs/code, create engaging images, etc. but I'd love a real explanation of how it creates a better more inquisitive, motivated, and educated student.
25. Limited and judicious use of AI should be embraced. The goal is to have AI improve learning rather than replace the (sometimes hard) work necessary to build fundamental skills (reasoning, reading comprehension, writing, etc...).
26. AI is inevitable and learning to use it for productivity enhancement is critical to being prepared for the future of work. Guardrails should ensure it is not a substitute for learning to write or cheat.
27. AI should never be used by kids for their writing. Kids should be taught to verify all sources/information provided by AI if used for research.
28. I'm concerned that the way question 37 is presented begs the question/will introduce bias in the answer set.
29. AI is here to stay and has been embedded in everything the tech companies can shoehorn it into. Dartmouth seems to have embraced AI and high schools doing the same may be the only path forward. I also worry about students being wrongly accused of using AI for cheating simply because their writing style resembles AI. As a frequent em-dash user, this is a personal concern as well, even as a fully-grown adult!
30. No AI detection tool is likely to ever work well. I think AI should be integrated into education the way computers have generally been.

Q46: If you wish to provide more information about your responses to the previous question, please let us know below. *Re: Q45: We have heard numerous comments this year about the lunch programs across each of the four schools. Please let us know how you typically handle lunch for your student. Please select all that apply.*

174 responses. After removing “no” and similar answers → 172 answers  
→ 52 HHS answers

1. Great variety!
2. They also state lines are too long
3. She loves the lunches available at the school cafe. She thinks kids who complain about the cafe offerings are out of touch with reality. She notes there’s always a balanced healthy meal offered.
4. Super aggravating that our child qualifies for free lunch due to being a Vermonter yet still has to pay for lunch
5. still a bit too expensive, though
6. Offerings at hhs seem better
7. I have heard that the cafeteria sells Monster Energy (or similar) drinks. The school should not be condoning or enabling the consumption of these types of products. Overall, it sounds like the food service in the school is in need of a major overhaul. My child ate lunch every day at their elementary school. The food there was locally sourced, nutritious and affordable thanks to state and town support.
8. Kids do one school lunch a week, but the choices are not terribly healthy (but not terribly unhealthy either). The expense is when things start adding up which may speak to the quantity. As it is only once a week, this is not a big deal.
9. My child isn’t too picky about food but it
10. My child hasn’t mentioned anything about food options, but I would like to see soda and candy removed as options.
11. I hope a slightly larger portion size could be provided to students, especially older or more active students, as their nutritional needs can vary. My student often gets home around 3:30 and is already hungry, which suggests that the current lunch portions may not be sufficient to last through the school day.
12. It is cheaper to eat at the co-op than it is to eat in the cafeteria. That seems to be a problem.
13. More GF options
14. My kid loves the HHS lunch
15. The food quality got much worse this year!!
16. It would be extremely helpful to have a lunch menu published for the high school

17. Drinks are WAY too expensive. Also things like chips and snacks. If the School is buying it in bulk, they should be much cheaper for the school and the student.
18. My student buys every day and despite me telling \*\*\*\* no candy or strawberry flavored milk, \*\*\*\* keeps buying it! I wish there were more healthy choices and no candy.
19. My student leaves campus because that is the HHS norm. I wish she would stay and learn to sit and eat with friends at school.
20. I wish we knew what was the main meal of the day at HHS in advance! We only let our child buy twice a week and sometimes they don't care for it.
21. Some is excellent, but we do wish there were some additional healthy choices - Odwalla smoothies great addition
22. More healthy options and get rid of candy soda and junk food.
23. There should not be unhealthy choices like candy and sugared drinks, including diet drinks. Real, whole foods please. Chocolate milk would be so much better. My kids only eat fried foods, candy and sugary drinks at the schools and it is so frustrating that these are even options.
24. It's rare for my student to eat on site because he says the food is not good.
25. Foods with high sugar and saturated fats should not be served. The quality has gotten better, but it's still resembles fast food. I know we can do better. Look at the Japanese!
26. Eating more at school in May due to the Assassin Game.
27. the school needs to offer more healthy choices, less sugary items, no sodas, and all less expensive.
28. Sometimes he eats off campus, but likes the school lunches-- some more than others, but no complaints except that it's cheaper to get chicken nuggets at the coop
29. My student buys more food outside, but may eat 2-3 meals/snacks per week from HHS café
30. MyMealtime made it challenging for us to budget and our kid kept overspending. We would have liked to have the ability to limit what snacks our son ate and have more control over his food choices.
31. My child brings lunch but will often buy extra snacks/breakfast or drinks at the cafe. The things she does buy seem a bit expensive.
32. The cafeteria does not have enough appealing healthy options. It should also take out all drinks except water and milk.
33. Increasing vegetarian options is preferred over simply removing the meat from regular menu options.
34. It would help to have the menu available in advance so we can plan better.
35. If we want to hire more help and increase the budget we could probably get better food. There used to be four workers at Ray and three at RMS. This question makes me wonder if people think we can do more with less given prices and resources.
36. Takes too long to get food and not enough GF options.

37. My student is running up large bills at the Hanover High cafeteria. Sometimes over \$20 a day. Items are too high priced and he visits multiple times a day. This is a source of strife at home.
38. School lunches seem expensive for what you get. It would be great to have healthier options each day. More protein options, with healthy carbs.
39. It also takes too long my kids tell me.
40. Quality and choice is poor and unhealthy - no regular selection of veg, fruit or salad. Sandwich bar takes too long. Very Frequently food run out !!
41. Will get snacks or beverages
42. The food is expensive and I have no way of limiting what my kids can spend - if they have no money on their account, the school will still sell them sodas.
43. I find it expensive Seems that the price has gone up, the quality has gone down and there are options that I do not approve of. For instance, if I put \$ in the account for lunch, I see that my child has purchased overpriced sugary drinks and food, not 'lunch'. So, I am not putting more \$ in the account. He goes to the co-op and spends his \$ there. If parents are funding the cafeteria, it should have reasonable options for good brain food.
44. The food is expensive but our family understands. What we do resent is that our children report that the \*\*\*\*, other administrators, and some faculty help themselves at the cafeteria without paying and sometimes eat the last portions of a certain food before students can access them. Do administrators and faculty eat for free? If so, then disregard the aforementioned concerns. If not, then this troubles us as parents and taxpayers.
45. The food is expensive. While I am sure that there are many healthy options, my student often selects 'junk' food- candy, cookies, soda. I am disappointed that these are sold in the school cafeteria. We have restricted her My Meal Time budget to stop these purchases and send her in with preferred snacks and lunches. When she attended the Ray School and RMS, we felt confident that the in-school options were nutritious and did not require policing via a small budget.
46. My student is an athlete who is conscious of weight and says he has difficulty finding palatable healthy/lower calorie options
47. More healthy options would be appreciated.
48. Eliminate the outside lunch vendor at HHS and get an in-house \*\*\*\* like at RMS. Everyone hates the food at HHS and Ray, but loves the food at the middle school. This issue should be pretty obvious and simple to fix. There is poor variety and quality offered by the HHS lunch program, at way too high of a cost for students. For example, \$3 for a small protein bar is absurd in a school lunch room setting. We send our children to the Hanover/Dresden school district to receive a high-end education, and the lunch food they receive should reflect that as well.
49. The school frequently stocks fried food as one of the only alternatives to the main lunch- something like a açai bar could absolutely be what the cafeteria needs.
50. Very expensive and not a great healthy variety

51. HHS options are better than RMS or Ray but still depend on the day. There is a big need for fast healthy high protein breakfast options for students with am practices especially but I imagine others who don't eat at home would also benefit
52. This district's lunches are very expensive! Would be great to simplify options and make them cheaper.

**Q48: If you wish to provide more information about your responses to the previous question, please let us know below. *Re: Q47: Please assess these aspects of our schools.***

**97 responses. After removing “no” and similar answers → 93 answers  
→ 31 HHS answers**

1. Homework amounts should be far more consistent among teachers of same subjects.
2. I have older children in college. The amount of HHS homework has gone down since they were in school. They were prepared for college. I'm worried that my freshman might not be as prepared for the college work load.
3. There is a lot of homework in the honors classes-- maybe too much at times relative to non honors but overall okay. I strongly feel schools should implement AP classes.
4. Junior year with honors courses was overwhelmingly difficult for \*\*\*\* of our kids. They all barely slept three hours per night. Reducing the total homework load for kids taking multiple honors courses at once should be thought about.
5. The last option (academic assistance), I don't really know nor has it been needed.
6. The amount of homework my kids have is quite intense. When \*\*\*\*, one of the things the schools worked on was coordination of expectations around homework. If every teacher gives substantial homework without talking to one another, the students stay up to all hours of the night to get it all done.
7. She was missing text books
8. My answers are specific to my child. It may be very different for other families and students.
9. My son takes three honors and has SO much homework. It makes it hard to balance with sports and get even seven hours of sleep some nights.
10. I think academic assistance is available but not always really accessible, or in some cases required to be accessed
11. No open campus. Time should be spend in school. Guidance- health- homework- college prep- So much can happen in that time.
12. My answers may seem contradictory but there is an intense culture for success at the school that my kids already feel and it stressed them out. Simultaneously, they

really haven't been pushed/challenged as I expected, though I hear that picks up in 10th grade.

13. Outside of spanish which has been difficult to get the proper level of assistance.
14. I don't know about curricular resources or additional educational assistance. That information is probably shared with families on an educational support plan but not given to students who don't get assistance
15. Some kids are concerned that the lack of AP classes makes their college applications less competitive
16. Transition to school and style of education was a challenge at first
17. There seems to be no discussion with parents about individual student needs in terms of academic support.
18. As a parent of a junior who is starting the college search process, it seems like the pressure to go to college is put on them by their peers and the school.
19. The academic assistance is not clear. Not sure exactly what is offered or how to access it.
20. Interestingly, I have found this year that my daughter has mentioned that multiple teachers don't do a review session prior to giving big exams, and they tend to teach new material on the day before an exam. That seems like poor lesson planning to me.
21. Some classes have too much HW but others are fine. I know there are more resources for academic help but both my kids do not feel comfortable using it or don't feel like it will be helpful. I am a little unclear on what the resources are and how to access them.
22. The Help Hub and Academic coaching have been great resources.
23. It's hard to tell where the pressure to succeed and plan for the future is coming from, but it's intense.
24. There is little meaningful curriculum information articulated to parents. Syllabi and course goals at the very least would be helpful.
25. it seems like you can get the level of academic rigor you want. Yes, there is pressure for grades and performance, but honestly that is a useful tool to drive focus and build ambition.
26. Sometimes finding the right resources and curriculum content on the online platforms is confusing (at least for parents trying to support kids!). Can't we go back to text-books?:). Homework is just too much. Kids needing to stay up very late to complete sometimes.
27. It is too easy to coast at HHS. Academic expectations should be higher - students should be stretching to grow.
28. A bit variable across classes.
29. As I said before, bring back physical text books or offer both physical and digital. This would greatly benefit many students. I wish my student's advisor provided even more mentorship.
30. Kids don't want to reach out for help because there is such a culture and pressure for academic excellence, they feel "stupid and embarrassed" to have to ask for help

31. My child is on an iep and is supposed to have a helper in certain classes and states that the majority of the time one is not in class for \*\*\*\* to get help

**Q50: If you wish to provide more information about your responses to the previous question, please let us know below. *Re: Q49: When your last student graduates from high school, do you anticipate any changes for living in Hanover or Norwich?***

**51 responses. After removing “no” and similar answers → 47 answers  
→ 16 HHS answers**

1. We're waiting to see what happens in the upcoming mid-term elections.
2. The tax burden is difficult to sustain now. I will likely relocate in the next few years, which is sad. I liked living here.
3. We live in Lyme but don't plan to leave (despite the taxes) -- though it's tempting!
4. We live in Lyme and plan to move to another part of the country or world
5. We won't rush out, but can envision a change in 10-15 years.
6. Maybe.
7. Taxes are just too high. We can't afford to stay here longterm if that doesn't change.
8. I am overall very happy with our schools. Most of the teachers are great and my kids have had mostly good experiences. I am very upset with HHS athletics and with RMS math — those experiences were harmful to my child and have damaged my relation to the school. I also think writing this is pointless and my hands are tied with raising this through other venues: I strongly feel that if I talk more than I already have to athletics, there will be repercussions for my kid.
9. We are relocating due to a parental job change, but are staying in the Upper Valley through our last child's graduation.
10. We might leave, it's a possibility, but we feel that we are lucky to live here.
11. I want to stay, but not sure I can afford to pay such incredibly high property taxes
12. This is not a hypothetical situation for us. Our youngest child is about to graduate HHS at the same time as I'm being offered a lucrative package to relocate with my company that is moving. I turned it down and found another job here in the area so we can keep living here.
13. We really have no idea.
14. We will probably continue to live and work in Hanover until retirement, perhaps 5-6 years after our daughter graduates from high school.
15. We moved up here for work, but still own a home in \*\*\*\* \*\*, so we may well sell our Hanover property and return there.
16. If we move, it will be for other reasons

Q52: If you wish to provide more information about your responses to the previous question, please let us know below. *Re: Q51: What are the biggest current challenges adversely affecting quality of life in our SAU 70 schools? Please choose up to 3 of the most important answers for you.*

57 responses to “Something else (Please specify)”. After removing “no” and similar answers → 55 answers → 19 HHS answers

1. Students are not bully neither they welcoming I don't think there is such thing as a community for newcomers
2. The library collection does not have a well balanced selection of books that cater to more conservative values or outdoor interest like hunting and fishing
3. Administration that feels insensitive even though thinks is sensitive
4. Lack of oversight of programs such as varsity hockey
5. unevenness of teaching quality
6. Wealth divide. Don't ask students who apply for March intensive financial support to prove how they will fundraise. Either ask everyone, or make it work. Don't make student athletes have to fundraise and then reward those who 'win' fundraising challenges when we all know their wealthy relative wrote a big check. There is a stark difference between those who have and those who don't. Give each student the same opportunity to thrive that is not based on their family's wealth.
7. Crazy sports practice times... I understand court availability is a problem, but him getting home at 8:30 or 9:00 is also a problem
8. Too much ethnic diversity
9. See above
10. Students are relying on AI to achieve high grades and not getting caught.
11. Pressure of feeling the need to go to college
12. Entitlement-students receive a lot of benefits but don't have to give back. I think there was a missed opportunity with Portrait of a Graduate and not requiring 10 hours or more per year of community service. Also, requiring practice during spring vacation? So no family vacations anymore??
13. Would like to see AP courses as part of the curriculum (beyond Calculus)
14. Stronger Music department
15. I think the biggest challenge is facing Hanover Norwich schools are the budgetary crisis that is going to result from education reform in Vermont. I hope this school board can get out in front of this and find a solution that ensures Norwich is participating meaningfully in the statewide Vermont system, but at the same time

doesn't destroy the educational opportunities available at Hanover HS. It's going to be very tricky.

16. over-reliance on digital technology; particularly Schoology
17. High achievement culture; lack of emphasis on character growth and too much emphasis on academic and athletic achievement.
18. School leadership is poor and not acceptable for any school, especially given the amount that taxpayers provide to support the schools and students.
19. Indoor facilities- the school itself needs to be updated and upgraded

77 responses. After removing “no” and similar answers → 75 answers  
→ 24 HHS answers

1. Feels like some of the honors science/math classes are just too hard for kids who aren't naturally brilliant but want to be challenged by honors science/math; and the non honors classes feel too easy and unfulfilling. There is a huge gap between the two
2. My child has navigated these issues well but they have damaged a lot of her friends and former friends.
3. Academic rigor is specific to RMS. Otherwise, everything feels just fine.
4. Consider PowerSchool and its benefits. Perhaps updates don't have to be immediate. Consider turning off during exam time so exam results are all released after the exam period concludes.
5. I have concerns about the Methods Honors and Chemistry Honors courses at HHS
6. One teacher noted that my kid's \*\*\*\* was an “issue”
7. Rigor is exceptionally high and should remain so. That said, there is too much homework most nights. The same demanding level of rigor could be maintained with 25% less homework, making more time for family/community connection. Similarly, great to see athletic excel, but scale back the time. There is very little time for family, and there is no downtime for ambitious students.
8. Our child is receiving a great education, but the world is challenging. For students of color and LGBTQ students, I think there is a underlying level of stress and unease that's palpable in school and outside of it.
9. I wish it were easier to learn about what after-school/extra curricular activities are available
10. The \*\*\*\* minute daily drive almost broke my \*\*\*\*. It would be amazing to have some sort of bus option, or to have a 3-4 day week vs a 5 day week in the upper grades.
11. Strange that some sports provide transportation to practice- baseball soccer, and then a bunch do not provide transportation- skiing, tennis, jumping, crew.
12. I know that not everybody needs more rigorous teaching but it should be there for those who do. Too much in-school time is of no benefit at all -- I can't even disagree with him when he says he would learn better & faster if he skipped school, some days.

13. It doesn't seem like there are many clubs and it is hard for parents to encourage kids to participate especially in early grades. More info on when sign ups are and info on clubs and when they meet would be helpful.
14. Balance is extremely important to our family in regard to our student's mental health and well-being. She is able to manage it, but the intensity of academic requirements coupled with the intensity of athletic requirements, make balance extremely challenging and require more household support (packing food, driving, etc.). I am VERY concerned about how much sleep my student is able to get in order to achieve her goals for academic and athletic pursuits - I would be happy to see a later start time to allow more sleep, though I understand the many complications with this. I would greatly prefer my student be able to take the bus or some sort of ride-share, both from an environmental aspect and from my time and energy spent in drop off and pick up (we do not live "in town" - however we do not utilize the bus because it would require even less sleep for her).
15. There may be a "forgotten middle" of the kids who are average, but not excelling or failing.
16. The school building is very dated and somewhat rundown. While it does not necessarily affect the academic rigor, it's kind of a downer. Not reflective of the perceived or actual affluence of the town.
17. Too much homework over vacation, too much homework assigned and/or due outside of class time.
18. Not that I think you are doing anything wrong, I just think these are always the three things that should be challenging for the school.
19. It would be really nice if the bus from Lyme left later in the morning. The bus leaves and arrives too early. Why not later?
20. The issues that we have experienced have all been related to school leadership competency and prior experience.
21. Our child is doing fine and is generally happy. Our only real wish is that he was more inspired academically, but it's hard to tell if that has anything to do with the teacher quality or whether that's just his own personality.
22. I was very surprised to learn that students are drinking \*during the day\* and showing up at school obviously inebriated... and that teachers are aware. Difficult to fathom this one.
23. Certain activities that should be fun like carnival becomes a slog because no one can choose to be with friends (it's random placement), advisory could be fun (and some are) but some groups are not fun and forced socialization isn't going to make kids friends
24. Answers differ a lot between schools. Rigor seems right at Ray and HHS, very low/ not enough at RMS.

Q54: If you wish to provide more information about your responses to the previous question, please let us know below. *Re: Q53: What are the most pressing academic needs within our schools? Please choose up 3 of the most important answers for you.*

72 responses to “Something else (Please specify)”. After removing “no” and similar answers → 70 answers → 27 HHS answers

1. Need to teach study skills and homework management with such rigorous academics and hold students accountable. They need guidance now so they can survive and thrive in college.
2. consistency among curriculum with teachers teaching the same subject. Some much more rigor than others in the same grade level/subject.
3. Kids are increasingly trying to take AP exams to stay competitive for college, and the lack of AP classes is really hurting them. Because Hanover High grades so difficultly in hard classes (relative to other schools) and lacks AP, our top kids are really not succeeding in college acceptances as many parents are hoping relative to other schools. This has become a huge topic of conversation among parents who have moved to Hanover for the school system.
4. Consideration of less lengthy homework assignments for honors courses so that people taking multiple such courses can handle the combined load.
5. The Norwich to RMS jump
6. Vast inequities regarding opportunities due to cost
7. smaller more personalized instruction for kids with learning differences
8. Teachers checking in with students who have overdue work and finding out what is going on
9. I have concerns about the Methods Honors and Chemistry Honors courses at HHS. please
10. The 8th grade math program is a disaster. I have had kids come up through the entire Dresden system, both Norwich and Hanover, and in my opinion this is the biggest problem in the district
11. Make march intensive more meaningful
12. Too much homework
13. Get rid of 9th grade "methods". Would love to add another language but with all the time he already spends, it's hard to see how
14. German is very popular because it's super easy- otherwise they would be little demand. How about a one semester survey class of Chinese? Nh
15. Clarity around AP classes / test prep
16. AP classes

17. Provide classes for sophomores and up to help w daily life tasks. Maybe an elective or combine w extra math requirement
18. AP classes would be nice
19. Drivers Ed, we need this in the schools and to be accessible for our students.
20. More communication with parents if students are struggling, not just a poor mark at the end of the quarter where parents then can only react to an issue.
21. Not enough scope for electives.
22. I less interested in consistency of curriculum — which seems to be fetishized - and more interested in teacher's providing thought-provoking interesting curriculum. It seems that the curriculum is becoming more boring and rote in the interest of standarization.
23. Change the Wednesday schedule. It's too many classes in too little time.
24. Kids don't know how to socialize with people they aren't friends with to a debilitating extent. Be able to talk to acquaintances is something these Covid kids have lost.
25. As a taxpayer and parent it would be great to view a well articulated vertically aligned curriculum K-12. The lack of communication and transparency is primarily at the high school level.
26. I'd like to see more guidance provided to the students - help them with goals and the path to achieve those goals. Parents own the "life goals" conversation, but teachers and councilors can help a lot... and parents aren't equipped to know the details of pre-requisites (some of which are coming in middle school) that define a path.
27. Help kids navigate SATs (offer mandatory prep course), ACTs and AP testing-they don't feel confident they are prepared and don't feel the school offers guidance

48 responses. After removing “no” and similar answers → 45 answers  
 → 18 HHS answers

1. Kids should leave MCS after 5th grade
2. March intensive is a relative joke for someone who can't afford international travel. And the prior year we had to pay for programming that partially didn't happen yet we didn't receive a partial refund
3. I would like to share some reflections on the Methods Honors and Chemistry Honors sequence at HHS, based on my child's experience and conversations with other families. Before 9th grade, there was already significant concern about taking Methods Honors. Some friends strongly advised against it, and even families whose children did well described it as very demanding. My child chose to take the course, and while he has been doing well academically, the experience has still been quite stressful. A major challenge has been the strong focus on detailed grading criteria and constant attention to scores. He often feels pressure tracking grades and worrying about performance. While I fully respect the rigor and high standards of the course, the level of strictness can sometimes create anxiety that feels counterproductive to learning. In addition, precise wording in assignments and lab

reports is heavily emphasized, and small issues in expression can significantly affect grades. While accuracy is important, I wonder whether there could be a bit more flexibility in grading to better support learning and improvement. Looking ahead, many students are already concerned about Chemistry Honors being even more demanding, which adds to anxiety. While we appreciate the dedication and rigor of the teaching, it is also important that grading practices support students' confidence and engagement in science. Overall, I hope the program can continue to maintain high academic standards while also ensuring students feel supported and able to focus on learning, rather than excessive concern about grades.

4. Change the way that honors classes are perceived. Those kids believe that kids not in the honors classes are 'dumb'. The pressure is too much.
5. I have concerns about the Methods Honors and Chemistry Honors courses at HHS
6. I would add more languages
7. By rigor I don't mean MORE, I mean supporting teachers in keeping up with how student's use technology to ensure they are able to teach the most effective way(s) possible
8. There is no need to cancel school so that 1/4 of the school takes the SATs.
9. Because there are so many electives, they are not offered with enough frequency so that a student can necessarily enroll in their desired courses, and rotations often aren't publicized so students cannot plan years out (in order to take a less frequently offered course).
10. It does seem like there can be wildly different teaching and learning happening between identical courses taught by different teachers. I wish that was different. It's always a let-down to not get "the good teacher" for a course you need to take.
11. When students switch teachers at the 2nd semester there is not a way to meet the teachers and I don't recall getting an email of introduction from teachers. I would like a chance to know the teachers if he/she is new for 2nd semester. There is a big jump from a regular class to an honors class. Some regular feels too easy at times and some honors classes are too rigorous.
12. We also need more trade options and to have our students introduced into these careers and not pushed into college.
13. A lot less is taught within school time in comparison to what is given in homework
14. Again, most of the issues we have encountered are a result of poor school leadership (mostly at the HS level). This affects the culture and often serious cultural issues are not addressed. Our children have learned to avoid these issues and feel that school leadership is unaware of doesn't care. They joke that they often see the \*\*\*\* walking about town during the school day.
15. need better writing instruction at the middle school level (and elementary). Same with math - it feels like the middle school will need time to recover from the unusual approaches promulgated by the \*\*\*\* \*\*\*\* regarding the math instruction
16. freshman year was viewed as a "waste of time" and repeat of what my student had in 8th grade at \*\*\*\*. Alignment of STEM curriculum with what is expected and required by top tier schools is not there. The population is privileged and advantaged to start with so I don't think it's noticed but comparing the curriculum at

HHS with what \*\*\*\* had at a top public high school in the \*\*\*\* suburbs I have been underwhelmed. My \*\*\*\* not having taking physics by the time \*\*\*\* applying to college for example is bizarre to me.

17. I'm happy HHS is offering German.

18. It doesn't make sense that Math and Science have honors tracks but English and Social Studies don't. Academic Rigor at RMS is very spotty with a few strong teachers unwilling to lower the bar but the norm, especially in Eng and Social Studies, is embarrassingly weak. At Ray, need to figure out how we teach History. Reaction to criticism during / post pandemic was to stop teaching history which isn't a viable option. Our 2nd grader's AWESOME teacher has created/brought in her own social studies/citizenship curriculum where there is a huge void. We are thankful for her leadership and dedication but this shouldn't be up to an individual teacher to solve.

**Q56: If you wish to provide more information about your responses to the previous question, please let us know below. *Re: Q55: What are the most pressing student support and service needs within our schools? Please choose up to 3 of the most important answers for you below.***

**31 responses to “Something else (Please specify)”. After removing “no” and similar answers → 27 answers → 8 HHS answers**

1. Less focus on advisory, stress-related games. Not felt to be helpful.
2. Super aggravating that the school discourages parent connection
3. I have concerns about the Methods Honors and Chemistry Honors courses at HHS.
4. Improve food choices and increase elective options to include theater
5. See above; also, there should be more equitable access to school trips and students should not be forced to choose March intensive opportunities based on their family's wealth or lack thereof; HHS is. Ongoing a good job on economic equality and equity issues
6. Every type of relationship counseling - how to be a supportive, a good listener, respectful, being a good partner and friend, stress, resilience, social emotional should be taught alongside sex education and mental health.
7. School culture. The visible and acted upon message that students are the priority.
8. I'd like to see more support and guidance regarding academic and career goals, which will in most cases increase motivation.

31 responses. After removing “no” and similar answers → 28 answers  
→ 7 HHS answers

1. I see the culture of the school as still in need of change particularly in regard to some boys’ attitude of disrespect toward girls. In my opinion this needs to get stepped on very strongly. It’s a blight on an otherwise good school system.
2. I think when you have a spring festival (forget what the field day thing is called) and it is known that less than 50% of the population shows up for it, then I believe it needs to be re-evaluated. We forced our kids to go and they came home saying that it was horrible because there were so few people there.
3. Personal finance was a great addition to the curriculum. It would be helpful to have more classes like that, perhaps a cooking/healthy eating and home/vehicle maintenance class.
4. March intensive should have travel options, particularly for older students, but should also include required exposure to knowledge, systems, and skills that will help build a understanding of basic life skills, civic skills, and career understanding: such as basic car maintenance and repair, basic home maintenance and repair, gun safety, dog training, interior/exterior plaster and painting, garbage disposal and recycling, small engine repair, trail maintenance, emergency services, forestry, road building and repair, etc.
5. Very few electives are motivating or appealing to my student
6. I actually think the HS does a tremendous job at this, but it is a large and continuing challenge for some kids.
7. For my child, student tutoring wasn't a great option.

Q58: If you wish to provide more information about your responses to the previous question, please let us know below. *Re: Q57: What are the most pressing concerns for your specific student during the school day? Please choose up to 3 of the most important responses to you below.*

55 responses to “Something else (Please specify):”. After removing “No” and similar answers → 52 responses → 16 HHS answers

1. Struggles with work overload management
2. A particular teacher's methods don't seem to benefit most students in the class, or in fact may be detrimental to most.
3. Inability to communicate after school or changes in plans due to no personal technology

4. Lack of communication about certain opportunities until it's too late
5. The gym not being available at lunch time as the \*\*\*\* so the kids can play volleyball. Physical activity is excellent for mental health and focus. Staff it so they can be in there!
6. My 9th grader says he has no friends, but isn't necessarily upset about it. That worries me.
7. no others. but I have concerns about the Methods Honors and Chemistry Honors courses at HHS.
8. Boredom
9. Focus with so many distractions like screens
10. Grading practices
11. See above
12. DRIVERS ED IS A NIGHTMARE! We cannot find a drivers ed program that works. I don't understand why NH doesn't teach this in school like so many other states. This is a totally bonkers system that hugely disadvantages certain families.
13. Communication — difficult to find information about what's going on, doesn't seem to be a consistent place where a parent can look — lots of silos
14. Support and uplifting of minorities
15. Time management and home work pressures.
16. School leadership seems checked out, not trustworthy, and self-serving. Students are not valued.

40 responses. After removing “no” and similar answers → 37 answers  
 → 9 HHS answers

1. My student isn't challenged nearly enough academically, and when they are, the challenges are wildly unequal teacher to teacher. Some teachers do and expect absolutely nothing of the students, others are wildly inconsistent from student to student. In each case I am alluding to, stories of inconsistent grading practices and unequal treatment of students have been eerily the same from many years now past.
2. HHS and the whole district/community fall into the liberal bubble/echo chamber—much of which is not wrong but stifles more balanced dialogue
3. Unless you are looped into a parent network or had an older student go through you miss awareness of certain opportunities
4. Hanover is intense. We love that it prepares our kids for college, but the pressures put on kids feels excessive.
5. Academic pace at HHS is generally punishing. Stress during college admissions cycle was absurd. Better now in senior spring!
6. Our \*\*\*\* has \*\*\*\* and getting to school on time, and all other activities that require planning and time management are extremely difficult for \*\*\*\*. Any help in this area would be great for students like \*\*\*\*, and perhaps all other younger students.

7. Fortunately I think most official school activities seem to avoid most of the us-vs-them of the current political climate... there's nothing HHS can do really about where it finds itself.
8. He gets stressed about homework because he's busy, but it's part of learning time management and is not unreasonable
9. I am concerned that my student didn't have proper academic foundation, and maybe is not thriving in that arena. Do the teachers give concrete feedback on writing? Grammar, punctuation, etc?

**Q60: If you wish to provide more information about your responses to the previous question, please let us know below. *Re: Q59: What are the most pressing concerns for your specific student outside of the school day? Please choose up to 3 of the most important answers below for you.***

**45 responses to “Something else (Please specify):”. After removing “No” and similar answers → 43 responses → 15 HHS answers**

1. Not being challenged enough academically
2. Social media
3. Not having any friends, not enough cultural diversity
4. Not enough time out of schoolwork to maintain desired level of physical fitness.
5. I have concerns about the Methods Honors and Chemistry Honors courses at HHS
6. Screen time
7. Time for sleep
8. Too much homework and busy work (eg annotations)
9. academic pressure at Hanover High
10. Time Mangement
11. Time for family or just to relax and introvert
12. Time management, too much time on screens with inability to self regulate
13. Feeling valued at school. Knowing that students come first.
14. Screens - we're struggling, as is our child.
15. Time for family with extracurricular (athletic especially) commitments

**23 responses. After removing “no” and similar answers → 20 answers → 7 HHS answers**

1. Getting enough sleep is tricky when there are evening extracurricular activities that go late, there is a commute home, and then homework. This then compounds over time.

2. We still cope with the loss of \*\*\*\* seven years ago. \*\*\*\* grew up without a \*\*\*\*.
3. My \*\*\*\* grader's \*\*\*\* is exposing \*\*\*\* to hate speech. I've alerted \*\*\*\* school counselor, but I'm considering escalating the issue beyond the counselor.
4. So much homework. Please have teachers talk about test days and how much homework feels reasonable.
5. Generally all good - Time for homework (along with everything else) and not getting enough sleep are related.
6. It would be nice if the school day were time well spent. (And of course in some classes it is)
7. Most of my child's time is spent on homework if not afterschool activities

**Q62: If you wish to provide more information about your responses to the previous question, please let us know below. *Re: Q61: In recent years, the schools have undertaken several large-scale initiatives, such as introducing Pre-K at MCS, afterschool athletics at Richmond, district-wide Strategic Planning and Climate Action Plans, a new septic system and playground at MCS, new and renovated track and baseball fields for HHS, curriculum program adoptions at MCS and Ray, and ongoing curriculum development and standardization. Within the next 5 years, which new large-scale initiatives are the most important for you? Please choose up to 3 of the most important answers for you below.***

72 responses to “Something else (Please specify):”. After removing “No” and similar responses → 67 responses → 22 HHS answers

1. More college preparation
2. Introducing AP classes
3. Staff support at the element school (teachers' aids) should be supported more strongly.
4. New leadership at MCS
5. Teach Japanese language at high school
6. Let MCS kids go to RMS for 6th grade

7. More opportunities for individual projects vs testing, especially at the high school level
8. More community space for kids to hang at school and study!!
9. Focus on mental health and relationships
10. Improved athletic fields and availability. It is ridiculous that my RMS student (I have two students and refer to them both in the survey, the other is in the HS) has to be driven to the Dresden fields after her school day but during my work day.
11. I think the middle school should have a multi purpose, full sized turf field so that there are more opportunities to extend the shoulder seasons.
12. Students in some sports hit a dead-end in high school Can we bring back JV hockey to let them keep playing?
13. Continue the Alignment of Curriculum
14. My kids will be out of the school system by then so no opinion
15. Climate related curriculum
16. See above: do a study of what offerings at the schools are inaccessible to the most economically anonymous and offer financial support to those students and families. You are not focusing enough on socioeconomic diversity and need to address that blind spot.
17. Bring 6th graders from Norwich to RMS
18. If there are to be sports programs added, I feel it needs to be done with more notice and more organization than this year. It disrupts other community programs and stretches families too thin because they haven't been able to prepare in advance. A school preschool program would streamline expectations for incoming Ray School students (both typical and kids with developmental delays)-and greatly improve communication among stakeholders.
19. Organizational structure and less cronyism.
20. need better math and writing education at Richmond & Ray
21. I'd like to see a plan to go from "one of the top public schools in NH" to "best HS in the US". Aim high - HHS has the potential to get there. Continue to lean into HHS's strength in civics - this is crucial for our students, country, and world.
22. find better math teachers if you can

51 responses. After removing “no” and similar answers → 48 answers  
 → 16 HHS answers

1. Drivers Ed would be such an amazing addition, but the ability to offer it to all the students would be difficult given the amount of time and then, do you pay for those who opt to take it outside of school? Difficult dilemma.
2. having a first period free so they can sleep in a little two days has made a HUGE difference in my child's health and happiness
3. Again- more fairness across all sports.
4. The lack of facilities drives the ridiculously late practice times mentioned before.
5. All 6th graders in the district should start middle school together.
6. DRIVERS ED!!!!

7. I do not live in Hanover/Norwich, but I do feel that sponsoring afterschool programs is very important. It supports our local workforce by providing a safe place for kids until their parents can pick them up after work.
8. Can't stress enough how much it would help if school could help organize driving lessons.
9. Would be easier for us if school started later, since it's a 45 minute drive to get student to school.
10. Need to do more for those that aren't going to college or are struggling to keep up. My child suggested teachers coordinate test schedules during their Wednesday meetings.
11. I think quality child care is critical for supporting young families in the UV
12. Driver's ed
13. All of our current concerns are centered around HS leadership. They have been for years. We viewed this as poor leadership on the part of former \*\*\*\* who were not addressing poor leadership and conducting adequate searches for qualified school leaders that could have brought about positive growth and change for faculty and students. Too much status quo.
14. HHS seems to provide adequate to strong academics. Richmond and Ray are lacking. The math setup at Richmond is particularly abysmal, and by the time a student gets to HHS they have read very few books and had very little training on writing. There needs to be much better coordination between schools, and better opportunity to accelerate, particularly in math. If you want to take calculus before senior year in this town it turns into a "do it yourself" project for the parents at the middle school and elementary levels, which is a bit odd for a town that prides itself on its educational opportunities. Its the same for becoming a great writer.
15. Allow the Lyme students to return to the RMS athletics and co-curricular activities that they previously attended.
16. Our kids belong to gyms outside of school, but they haven't been great ways to maintain social interactions....ways for kids to be with friends and active especially in the winter would be nice if the budget allowed.

**Q63: Are there any survey questions you think we should ask in the future? Please list any questions, and possibly answers, below.**

**33 responses. After removing “no” and similar answers → 31 answers  
→ 10 HHS answers**

1. As I suggested above, I think SAU70 would benefit significantly if a survey asking parents about satisfaction with all teaching staff with room to voice why would go a long way towards investigating teaching quality, consistency, and ultimate student wellbeing.

2. I have concerns about the Methods Honors and Chemistry Honors courses at HHS. While I value academic rigor and understand the importance of high expectations in honors-level classes, the current structure, workload, and grading expectations can feel disproportionate and not always aligned with deeper learning goals. In particular, a significant amount of student time is spent completing lab reports and assignments that must follow very specific and sometimes unclear \*\*\*\*-specific expectations, which are not always consistently communicated in advance. This can shift the focus from understanding scientific concepts to meeting detailed procedural and grading criteria, which can feel inefficient and stressful even for strong and motivated students. In addition, the overall difficulty and grading expectations in these courses can feel significantly more demanding compared to similar honors-level courses in nearby schools, which raises concerns about consistency and fairness in honors placement and evaluation. For many students, achieving top grades in these classes can feel very challenging, even when they are highly capable and engaged. Another concern is that this structure can unintentionally reduce students' intrinsic interest in science. Instead of encouraging curiosity and exploration, the heavy emphasis on grading criteria and performance can cause students to focus primarily on grades rather than developing a deeper passion for learning. For example, my older child, currently in 10th grade, has found Methods Honors to be very stressful and is hesitant about continuing into Chemistry Honors, even though \*\*\*\* enjoys taking honors-level courses. My younger child, who will enter 9th grade and is very interested in science, is already aware of these concerns and feeling anxious about these courses. Overall, I believe it would be helpful to review the balance between rigor, workload, grading consistency, and learning experience to ensure students are appropriately challenged while still maintaining engagement, confidence, and a genuine interest in science.
3. The way that parking passes are distributed to students is unfair.
4. Ask about open campus and cell phone use.
5. Don't combine strongly supporting teachers with increasing diversity - both are important but they are different
6. It is TERRIBLE that we have to pay \$55 a month for parking at a Public High School.
7. School and administration need to safeguard the entrance at RMS and all doors at both schools. Suggestions from staff for protocol have been ignored. Past RMS \*\*\*\* (not \*\*\*\*) and HHs \*\*\*\* don't seem to share the concerns of those monitoring the doors and the students that use the doors and report back to parents.
8. I think it might be interesting for you to ask parents what kind of student they have/how they would describe their student. Hanover high school is fabulous for certain kinds of students, but doesn't work as well for other kinds of students. I think that if you are a classic "good student" you can do anything you want at Hanover and it is really just a terrific place with terrific resources. I have one kid like that and I just can't say enough good things about the experience that they are having. But kids who may not fit that mold can have a different experience. I think trying to get at that in a survey would be very instructive. Who is falling through the

cracks? Which kids feel “less than” in a highly competitive academic and athletic environment?

9. I would like to see questions related to families' experience with Powerschool and Schoology.
10. Do your kids have enough time to spend with friends?

**Q64: Did we miss anything about these issues, or anything else, that you think is important for us to know? Please put anything here that is not covered by the other survey questions.**

**71 responses. After removing “no” and similar answers → 69 answers  
→ 23 HHS answers**

1. For high school, would love to see more teachers taking a few minutes to write notes on the report cards for students to read. Usually Q1 all teachers write a quick note about performance, but after that, slowly fades to maybe one or two teachers writing notes (in our case, the Honors classes.) Only one Q3 note from a teacher. My kids read them and I suspect it helps counselors when it comes time for letters of rec. Thanks!
2. Thanks for everything over the years.
3. Inconsistent experience across administrators. The ones who think they are doing great need the most training to improve their awareness and consideration of varying perspectives. The school district performs well on paper more due to parent resources than the schools themselves.
4. I hope teachers are more qualified and trained especially in middle and high schools.
5. Yeah, this should be designed to reflect multiple children in SAU70
6. I think there is definitely a case of "haves and have nots" at Hanover. When my child attempted to advocate for \*\*\*\* and switch classes due to concerns around the teaching style of the teacher who \*\*\*\* had before, \*\*\*\* was told to give it a try. \*\*\*\* went and then again tried to switch. \*\*\*\* was told \*\*\*\* could not. I attempted to get more information and was told that the school does not switch people out. When I mentioned that I knew for a fact that several people had been switched out, there wasn't a good answer. Over my time at Hanover, I find that parents with connections or have influence or affluence get what they want and those who don't, are given the runaround. It is a large issue that shows itself regularly. If Hanover wants to be the school system they desire to be, they need to have a conversation about how they want to handle this reality. It is a well known thing talked about within the community.

7. We don't think our student was protected and represented fairly from a religious perspective.
8. Ask about learning styles
9. College prep counseling starts too late and many students feel pressure to get a private counselor.
10. Nope, thanks. My kid loves Hanover High.
11. Thank you to everyone at HHS for all their kindness and assistance over the last four years. We are very grateful.
12. March intensive is amazing - but of quite inconsistent quality
13. I am really pleased with the high school leadership and my kids experience. I support the continued alignment of the experience.
14. There doesn't seem to be enough opportunities for parents to meet one another and organize projects and events to support their students. Why isn't there a way for parents to organize a diversity committee? There are very limited ways for parents to be involved and support the school.
15. I strongly believe high school students should be introduced to political science and that American students, in particular, understand the direct and outsize role played by American policy decisions in uplifting or impoverishing other nations.
16. Board is very engaged but also seemingly unaware: spending differences between schools and on students for unnecessary things; wage gap between teachers and others is growing; meanwhile, other districts can't pay for a \$150 course that is required or pay for supplies that are needed when new staff are hired. How much was this survey? I hope it generates some improvement because I think the money could have gone to people or reimbursements for items that were cut from budget and people paid for themselves.
17. Thank you for all the wonderful staff and SAU do to bring quality education to our students. I have one minor issue that I would like considered. Please ban cigar smoking from HHS graduation. My allergies to the cigar smoke, made my older child's post-graduation miserable. Additionally, people are dropping ashes on the expensive turf. I too like traditions, can we think of a new tradition. Thank you!
18. How school is being effected by current political climate.
19. Mental health should be considered as important as physical health. Too much stress has longterm repercussions. Learning how to navigate stressful and potentially socially tricky situations is very important. Indisputably more important than knowing the exact dates of World War II.
20. I've been curious about the fact that it is emphasized that students are advised to reach out to teachers for missed work or for help and reaching out to friends to get assignments or "notes" is not mentioned in syllabi, orientations, etc.. That was a major mechanism when I was in school and it was a nice way to foster connections. It might reduce work for teachers (or maybe create more headaches). Not a criticism...just a thought.
21. Hanover High School should come up with a class name and rally program. Here's how it works: The freshman, sophomore, junior and senior classes all come up with a class name/mascot and choose class colors (i.e. The Phoenix class of 2026 with

colors black and red) . Every new freshman class would have the same mascot and colors. (The freshman cubs with colors brown and white) When they moved to sophomore year, they would “inherit” the class mascot and colors of the graduating senior class (The freshman cubs would become the new phoenix class and take on the red and black color scheme). Each name/mascot would cycle through every three years. Hopefully that makes sense. In the mid-fall, the school has a rally day where all classes compete in the gym, utilizing their class mascot and colors. They pick a theme and design a large poster, short skits/cheers to go along with the theme, and make up song parodies to fit the theme and mascot. Competitive games are played as well and schools develop simple mascot related costumes that all students wear at the rally each year. Local community members act as judges and pick an overall winner based on the games, cheer, song, poster and overall spirit shown. The winning class mascot and grad year are engraved on a plaque. The class mascot follows the students sophomore through senior year and they would graduate as the “X class of 2026”, like “the Phoenix class of 2026”. This would tie each class to all other classes carrying that same mascot into the future. It helps to create bonds between classmates as well as the other classes, past and present, who represent that same mascot. I know this is an out of the blue idea, but I’ve seen it done well. It brings a lot of camaraderie when a class gets to represent a cool mascot and colors and then pass that down to their “younger sibling” class. You could even tie-in a big brother/big-sister/big-nibling type mentorship to this, where the seniors would become buddies with a freshman to help them acclimate to HHS before passing on their class name at graduation. It’s just a quirky idea, but I truly believe the students would have a lot of fun with it and the long term benefits for social cohesion would be undeniable!

22. It would be nice if the school had a system for helping student athletes interested in continuing their sport in college. The timelines for recruiting are so challenging to navigate. These conversations should be happening with players, counselors and coaches or the \*\*\*\* \* starting in 9th grade. Each student athlete is on their own to figure this out. This is something private schools do very well and is/was our main reasons to investigate sending our children to private school
23. Thank you for listening !