

Thoughtexchange

Resource Allocation 2019-20 for Student Success



New
Westminster
Schools

What are the most important things we can do to meaningfully support student learning opportunities for all students at New Westminster Schools?

Participation

 1
Exchange

 1332
Participants

 1562
Thoughts

 85925
Ratings

EXCHANGE

All

What are the most important things we can do to meaningfully support student learning opportunities for all students at New Westminster Schools?

 1332
Participants

 1562
Thoughts

 85925
Ratings



639

Participants shared
thoughts



818

Participants rated
thoughts



946

Participants explored
thoughts



Demographics



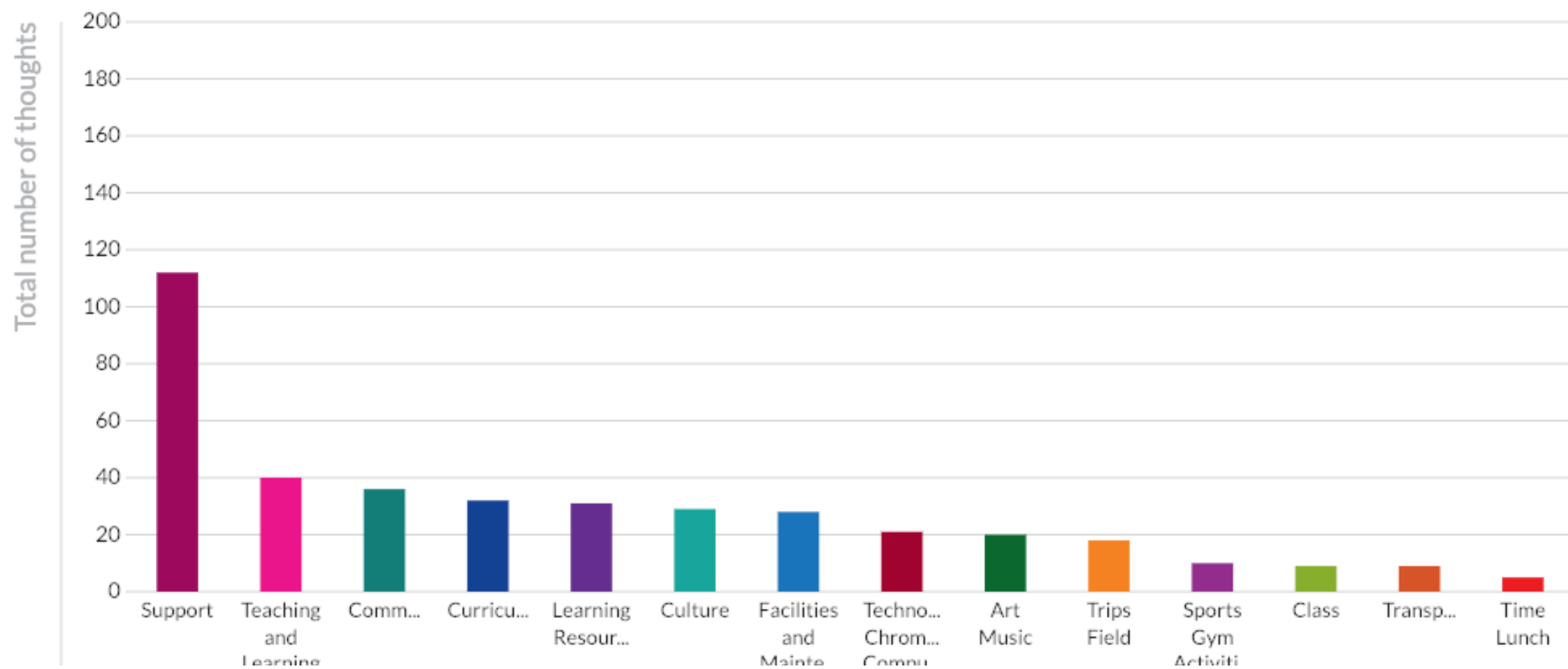
%		
42%	(507)	Parent/Guardian
25%	(309)	Staff
27%	(325)	Student
4%	(46)	Community Member
2%	(28)	Other
0%	(6)	Other - not available

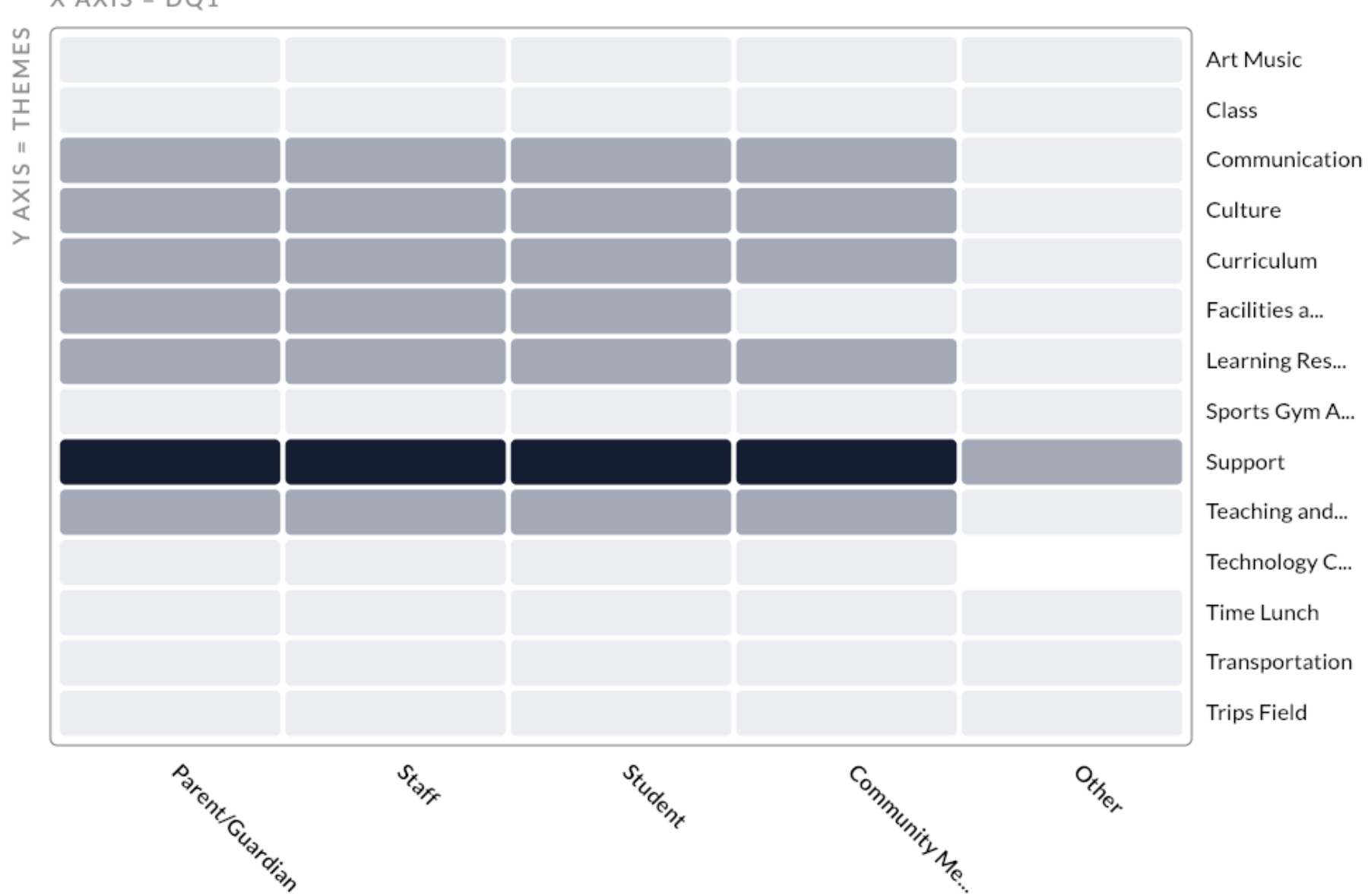
School Breakdown

%		
7%	(83)	I am not associated with a school
4%	(54)	Connaught Heights Elementary School
7%	(81)	École Qayqayt Elementary School
2%	(21)	F.W. Howay Elementary School
9%	(106)	École Herbert Spencer Elementary School
6%	(70)	Lord Kelvin Elementary School
12%	(146)	École Lord Tweedsmuir Elementary School
5%	(66)	Queen Elizabeth Elementary School

5%	(65)	Richard McBride Elementary School
11%	(132)	École Glenbrook Middle School
9%	(113)	Queensborough Middle School
4%	(44)	Fraser River Middle School
14%	(164)	New Westminster Secondary School
1%	(7)	SIGMA
1%	(16)	POWER Alternate Secondary School
0%	(3)	Royal City Alternate Program
1%	(17)	New West Adult & Online Learning
1%	(18)	Home Learners Program
1%	(6)	Other - not available

Themes





Top Thoughts on Support– Students

More counselling services for students with behavioural problems.

Parents may not know what to do, and don't have money to get outside help. A school counsellor would be better to help them.

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3.9 ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ (10 👤)



Have resources available (teaching staff and materials) to meet the needs of all our students.

Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

3.8 ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ (21 👤)

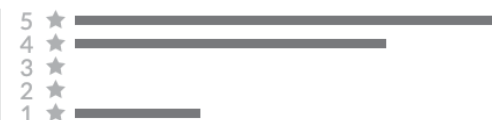


Recognize & do something when there is a learning problem

I have been fighting the school system that my child is way too far behind in writing & reading since grade 5. I have done everything I can at home.

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3.8 ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ (14 👤)



Top Thoughts on Support – Students

To have more resources (at the school level)for students with mild learning disabilities

assistance to students needs to be at a school level and not an outside private setting . Minor learning disabilities don't get funding -it's needed

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3.8 ★★★★★ (12 👤)



Educate middle school homebase teachers about their role as a student advisor.

Social emotional learning is critical with this age group and kids need support.

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3.7 ★★★★★ (25 👤)



Some people may need more help academically (don't expect every student to be on the same level, more individual support).

If teachers were to teach every student the same way, than some students might not understand every lesson. Give support to students who need it.

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3.7 ★★★★★ (25 👤)



Top Thoughts on Support – Parents

Have adequate staffing.

To ensure that all kids, those requiring extra support & those needing a challenge get their needs met.

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4.0 ★★★★★ (37 👤)



More EAs in school

EAs are needed, not just for the ones with designation, but other students who need support as well.

Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

3.9 ★★★★★ (25 👤)



Support IEPs written by staff

My son has an IEP from the end of last year with many recommendations for adaptive equipment. None of which have been provided yet.

Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

3.8 ★★★★★ (39 👤)



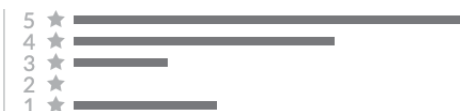
Top Thoughts on Support – Parents

I would like to see proactive social emotional planning to support meet needs versus a reactive behavioral approach

I find responses to issues is usually via a take away approach i.e. there were probs at soccer = no more soccer vs. supporting collaborative play

Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

3.8 ★★★★★ (38 👤)



Provide early assessment for all students to identify learning challenges before grade 3

Students with learnin disabilities should not have to struggle for years, feel bad about themselves and school, before their needs are identified.

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3.8 ★★★★★ (38 👤)



Adequately fund special needs assessments

The waiting list is years long

Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

3.8 ★★★★★ (37 👤)



Top Thoughts on Support – Parents

Support for anxiety

Support social dynamics. How to deal with bullying. How to make friends. Etc

Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

3.7 ★★★★★ (38 👤)



Support learning differences that are not covered by govt funding. ADHD, dyslexia, etc

No student left behind!

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3.7 ★★★★★ (34 👤)



I believe that we need to provide thorough supports for students with unique learning needs.

It is necessary in order for inclusion to be successful for all students.

Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

3.7 ★★★★★ (33 👤)



Top Thoughts on Support – Staff

**Like our students, teachers need to feel supported by administration/Board.
They need resources to help teach the new curriculum.**
Most teachers enter "empty" classrooms, and have to 'plead/beg' for resources.
So many go out & spend their own money, which is wrong!

Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

3.9 ★★★★★ (25 👤)



EA support

Our classrooms are very diverse and students have many needs, having an extra adult in the room helps to meet their needs.

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3.9 ★★★★★ (8 👤)



I think we need more teachers to be providing timely, consistent and direct support to struggling students in the early years.

So much of our Learning Support Teacher time is taken up by assessments, documentation, and meetings that little time is left for direct support.

Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

3.8 ★★★★★ (6 👤)



Top Thoughts on Support – Staff

Make sure that all the resources needed are provided to support their learning and the curriculum.

It's important to have the resources that support learning.

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3.7 ★★★★★ (22 👤)



Have support staff or volunteers for teachers in each classroom.

Kids with disruptive behaviour need support. With more programming time and 1:1 time with the students & teacher, the assignments can be ++ challenging

Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

3.7 ★★★★★ (8 👤)



Provide adequate supports. Support teachers, support EAs, Help parents reach out to the powers that be if we need to ask for more funding.

Because it's not working right now. Old school mentality means there are only certain classes my child can attend.

Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

3.6 ★★★★★ (25 👤)



Top Thoughts on Support – Staff

Added support at the early primary level with literacy and numeracy.

The earlier we are able to identify students that are struggling and put supports in place should support long term support.

Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

3.6 ★★★★★ (24)



Make sure there are enough support staff in the building to support the children who need extra support.

Lots of students who could use extra support do not have it.

Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

3.6 ★★★★★ (23)



We need to support all our students properly and all our teachers by providing classes with fewer students and better resources.

This will help deal with students that are of exceptional behaviors and ability. It will also make it possible for all students to be more successful

Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

3.6 ★★★★★ (23)



Top Thoughts on Teaching & Learning – Parents

Continue to provide flexible classrooms/flexible seating options for students.
Flexible seating increases student engagement, collaboration, and perseverance.

Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

3.8 ★★★★★ (31 👤)



All senior admin and trustees should spend a significant amount of time in classrooms.

I teach in a program of choice. No senior admin in charge of programs of choice has EVER spent time in my class or asked for my input or perspective.

Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

3.7 ★★★★★ (29 👤)



Recognized that all students learn differently and are individuals

We tend to treat all students the same in terms of desired learning outcomes, but this may not recognize that measures of success may vary by child

Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

3.6 ★★★★★ (30 👤)



Top Thoughts on Teaching & Learning – Staff

Provide as many opportunities as possible for students to be exposed to different forms of learning.

People all learn differently so providing ways for students to learn in different environments is key is important.

Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

3.6 ★★★★★ (26 👤)



During my family's four years at NWSS and I have encountered a number of teacher who are creative and flexible in their teaching styles

I've see first-hand how this approach has allowed my daughter to thrive

Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

3.6 ★★★★★ (16 👤)



Use the knowledge that immigrant and international students bring with them rather than viewing them through deficit model.

Validates these students' knowledge and identities. Offers a more global perspective that appreciates differences.

Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

3.6 ★★★★★ (12 👤)



Top Thoughts on Teaching & Learning – Students

A free block / work block

To work on projects / homework

Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

4.1 ★★★★★ (12 👤)



i think we should have a free block in the day where you go to the library and work on homework or projects.

i think its very important because some kids have lots of extra curricular activities and are exhausted after and don't get to finish their homework.

Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

4.1 ★★★★★ (12 👤)



Students need support on how to mentally prepare before an exam.

There's a lot on the line for most senior exams so some practice in mindfulness would give students tools to refer to when they're feeling overwhelmed

Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

4.0 ★★★★★ (23 👤)



Top Thoughts on Facilities – Parents

Consider the probable future population when building and expanding schools.

Too many of our schools use portables for classrooms. It is especially frustrating to see newer schools with portables after only a few years.

Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

3.5 ★★★★★ (31 👤)



Queensborough desperately needs to increase infrastructure and the learning opportunities for its children.

Classrooms for things such as Home Ec., cooking/sewing, life skills etc should not be taken away to make room for more classrooms.

Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

3.5 ★★★★★ (23 👤)



Provide innovative, modern spaces for our children to learn.

Because your environment impacts your energy, your enthusiasm and your ability to learn.

Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

3.4 ★★★★★ (36 👤)



Top Thoughts on Facilities – Staff

More attention should be paid to retaining experienced and new staff. Staff are voting with their feet either to new school districts or new position

The revolving door of staff members makes long-term planning and continuity of service impossible. This hurts the neediest the most.

Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

3.9 ★★★★★ (13 👤)



Provide more funding for staffing and provide it in a timely manner.

We are in the middle of a teacher shortage. This year several classes went without a consistent contract teacher for months. 150 ? Not enough

Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

3.6 ★★★★★ (26 👤)



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Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

3.5 ★★★★★ (18 👤)



Top Thoughts on Facilities – Students

I think we should have better school equipment (gym, desks, chairs etc.)

Because most of the equipment is either broken or we don't have enough, that's mainly for gym. But the desks are also shaky + broken, chairs too.

Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

4.1 ★★★★★ (24 👤)



better bathrooms

the bathrooms look bad and there is a lot of drawings on the walls

Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

4.0 ★★★★★ (24 👤)



after school activities

important for the parents so the kids won't need to go to a day care and will be in a learning environment

Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

4.0 ★★★★★ (20 👤)



Top Thoughts on Curriculum – Parents

Critical Thinking

Advertising and persuasion are a constant in peoples lives today. Critical thinking helps people learn how to made their own decisions instead.

Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

3.7 ★★★★★ (16 👤)



Having the latest technology is cool, but for younger kids it's really important to learn the basics like literacy and math

I'm finding kids are so reliant on visuals—videos and graphic novels—that they can't read text and 'imagine' for themselves

Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

3.6 ★★★★★ (23 👤)



Math Workshops/Learning that teaches understanding

Math is essential throughout life and feeling comfortable and competent with it will help people be successful.

Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

3.6 ★★★★★ (16 👤)



Top Thoughts on Curriculum – Staff

Support early literacy in K and Grade 1 so that vulnerable students will gain the literacy and numeracy foundations early on in school.

The learning gaps get larger as students move through the system.

Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

3.7 ★★★★★ (23 👤)



Critical Thinking

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Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

3.7 ★★★★★ (10 👤)



Life skills such as financial planning, self awareness, mindfulness, critical thinking and dealing with ambiguity/uncertainty.

These are all skills that will help kids become better planners, more disciplined, more focused, more attuned to their emotions, better decision maker

Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

3.5 ★★★★★ (10 👤)



Top Thoughts on Curriculum- Students

giving more oppurtunities to students
to explore and find their passions and interests
Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

3.9 ★★★★★ (12 👤)



We should have cooking a class
We need to learn how to cook
Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

3.8 ★★★★★ (24 👤)



i think we should have more programs and opportunities to show our talents or any extra curricular activity that we are interested in.
i see a lot of kids who are very talented who may have just kept it to themselves or may have wanted to improve
Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

3.8 ★★★★★ (24 👤)



Top Thoughts on Curriculum- Students

Provide multiple learning opportunities. For example outdoor day learning, field trips, hands on experiences that incorporate academic learning
Kids will benefit more by learning in multiple ways and thru diff experiences.

Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

3.8 ★★★★★ (9 👤)



Teach children problem life skills, like problem solving and persistence, and social skills including empathy, compassion and kindness.
Helps encourage them to become contirbuting members of their community as they grow up.

Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

3.7 ★★★★★ (17 👤)



learn more about mental health and bullying
we do have some classes but we need more to give people a reality check such as the white hatter presentation done last year

Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

3.7 ★★★★★ (13 👤)



Top Thoughts on Curriculum- Students

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Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

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Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

3.7 ★★★★★ (13 👤)



Top Thoughts on Culture – Parents

Ensure an inclusive and positive learning environment for all kids

Kids don't learn as well when they don't feel included and valued

Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

3.8 ★★★★★ (40 👤)



Bullying continues to be a problem at the high school

Embed coaching and training in the curriculum

Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

3.6 ★★★★★ (39 👤)



Prioritize creating communities within classrooms including frequent community meetings at which all teachers and students do check-ins.

Groups of kids can too easily degenerate into mob mentalities especially in middle school. Talking, listening and sharing as a group can help.

Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

3.6 ★★★★★ (39 👤)



Top Thoughts on Culture- Staff

Get rid of May Day.

Waste of money. No educational value. Boys and Girls get stuck in popularity contest for may queen, etc. Those that lose feel bad about losing.

Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

3.8 ★★★★★ (8 👤)



Support and valued individuals work harder and are more productive.

People that feel valued and supported they will run the distance; undervalued and unsupported peoples' work output is lower and work not as effective.

Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

3.6 ★★★★★ (24 👤)



Build genuine relationships with the students

If they feel connected they will feel more inclined to learn, listen and care about the school community

Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

3.6 ★★★★★ (12 👤)



Top Thoughts on Culture- Students

Provide safe environment for students to prosper.

It is hard to learn and grow when you don't feel safe.

Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

3.9 ★★★★★ (25 👤)



More school events

I believe its important because, I believe school should teach us how to socialize with all types of people.

Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

3.9 ★★★★★ (23 👤)



Get rid of May Day.

Waste of money. No educational value. Boys and Girls get stuck in popularity contest for may queen, etc. Those that lose feel bad about losing.

Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

3.7 ★★★★★ (10 👤)



Top Thoughts on Communication- Parents

Keep parents informed of classroom changes, student behaviours, missing classes

Parents are often left in the dark if their student is having difficulties... it should be a community effort

Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

4.2 ★★★★★ (39 👤)



Better communication between the teachers and parents can help keep the students on pace and access home support.

Kids need help both in the class and at home.

Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

3.9 ★★★★★ (39 👤)



Staff be available and responsive to parents and children. I have emailed a few times and either not gotten any response or response takes weeks.

It is just generally respectful and helps us to know staff also care about children's experiences and needs

Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

3.9 ★★★★★ (37 👤)



Top Thoughts on Communication – Staff

School cash online to be used for Breakfast Program and others.

It will make easier for parents to pay for the breakfast program online.

Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

3.5 ★★★★★ (17 👤)



Listen to staff and students in a meaningful way. This means valuing their perspectives and reflecting upon the feedback thoughtfully.

Staff and students have a range of experiences and are experts in their own right. Inviting feedback, even negative sentiments supports growth.

Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

3.5 ★★★★★ (15 👤)



Supporting parents with teaching them how to respect the school, and all staff.

respect is an important skill set that both parents and students need more support in learning how to use be respectful when speaking to staff.

Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

3.5 ★★★★★ (10 👤)



Top Thoughts on Communication – Students

communication with parents

so everyone is on the same page

Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

3.5 ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ (21 👤)



Ensure that teacher and student voices are heard when designing learning programs and learning spaces

These are the stakeholders in the classroom (and hopefully other settings) that work together to achieve "education"

Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

3.5 ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ (20 👤)



Better inform parents and students.

Without knowing what is happening in our district it's hard to feel supported.

Resource Allocation 2019-2020 for Student Success

3.4 ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ (24 👤)



What are the most important things to help you be successful at school?

Technology should not be such a taboo, students must be able to self regulate It doesn't make sense to keep tech away from students, when in a real job, that wouldn't happen. Students don't learn to regulate in school.

4.1 ★★★★★ (6 people)
Ranked #1 of 24



School Wide Write is impractical It tests students an a way that we don't learn, you can't write a proper essay in 50 minutes, and without research

4.0 ★★★★★ (6 people)
Ranked #2 of 24



Good teachers To help us understand

3.9 ★★★★★ (7 people)
Ranked #3 of 24



I believe that schools should change the way report cards are graded. I think this is very important to improve/change because the way report cards are graded right now is only causing self consciousnesses and stress.

3.9 ★★★★★ (7 people)
Ranked #4 of 24



A teacher who will listen to you and try and work with you and how you work If you don't have a teacher who will listen to you and work with you your way, you will struggle and probably won't learn properly

3.9 ★★★★★ (6 people)
Ranked #5 of 24



What are the most important things to help you be successful at school?

The most important thing I thing is important in school is being respectful because it will help our environment and it will help people with anxiety Some people in middle schools or high schools have anxiety or depression maybe because people are not kind so maybe we can help them by being kind.

3.8 ★ ★ ★ ★ ☆ (6 👤)
Ranked #7 of 24



Classroom discussions We talked about having a learning environment that encourages classroom discussion. To ensure that everyone has equal understanding about the work.

3.7 ★ ★ ★ ★ ☆ (5 👤)
Ranked #8 of 24



Students in middle school and high school should be able to vote for their school trustees Student are unable to vote in decisions that effect us the most, and it makes no sense

3.7 ★ ★ ★ ★ ☆ (5 👤)
Ranked #9 of 24

