

Berkeley Heights Public Schools

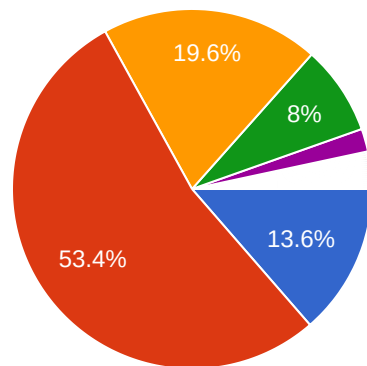
536 responses

Berkeley Heights Public Schools Community Survey

How satisfied are you with the quality of Berkeley Heights Public Schools?

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536 responses



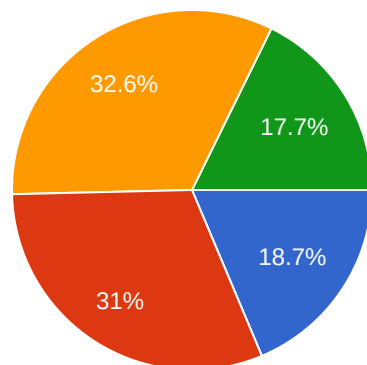
- Very Satisfied
- Satisfied
- Dissatisfied
- Very Dissatisfied
- No Opinion
- In terms of education, it is wo...
- Somewhat satisfied, room for...
- The Schools are OK but need...

▲ 1/3 ▼

How long have you lived in the District?

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536 responses

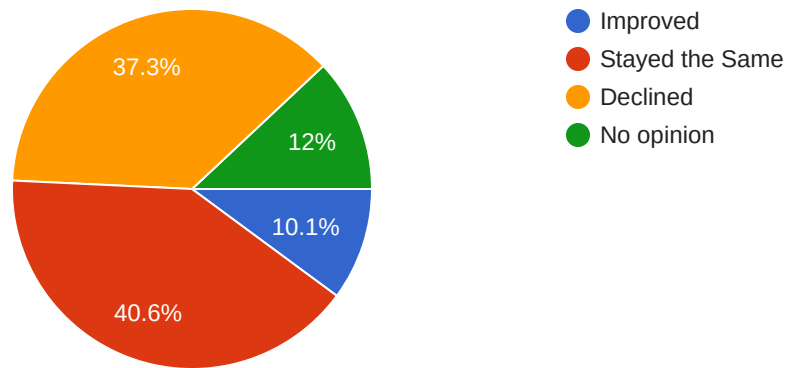


- Less than 5 years
- 6-10 years
- 11-20 years
- Greater than 20 years

During the time you have lived here, do you think the quality of education has improved, stayed the same, or declined?

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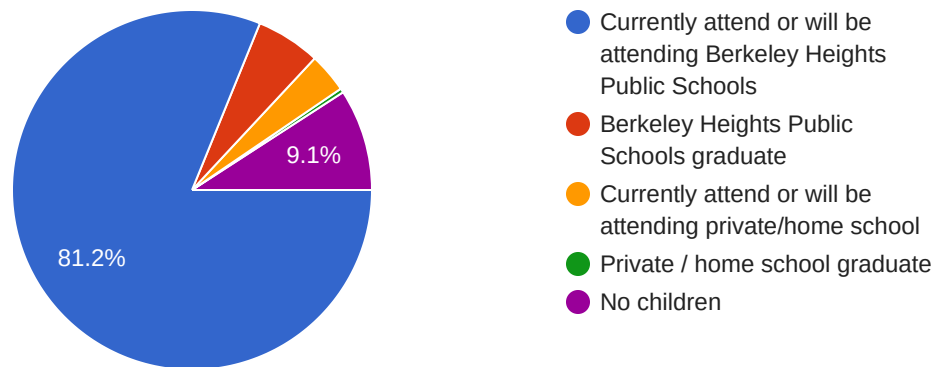
534 responses



Do you have any children who currently attend the Berkeley Heights Public Schools, have graduated, attend private school or are home schooled?

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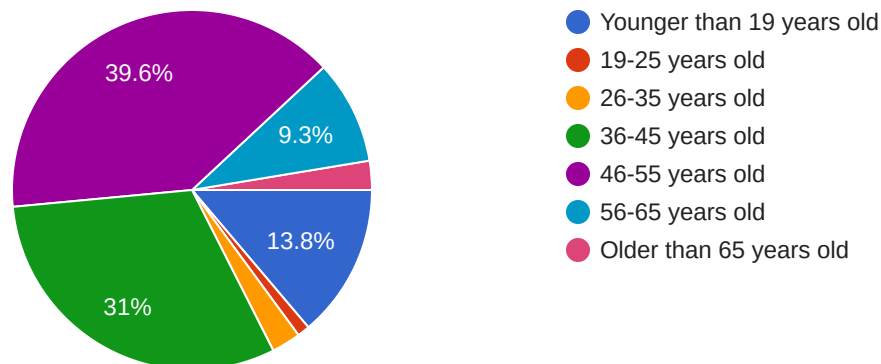
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What is your age?

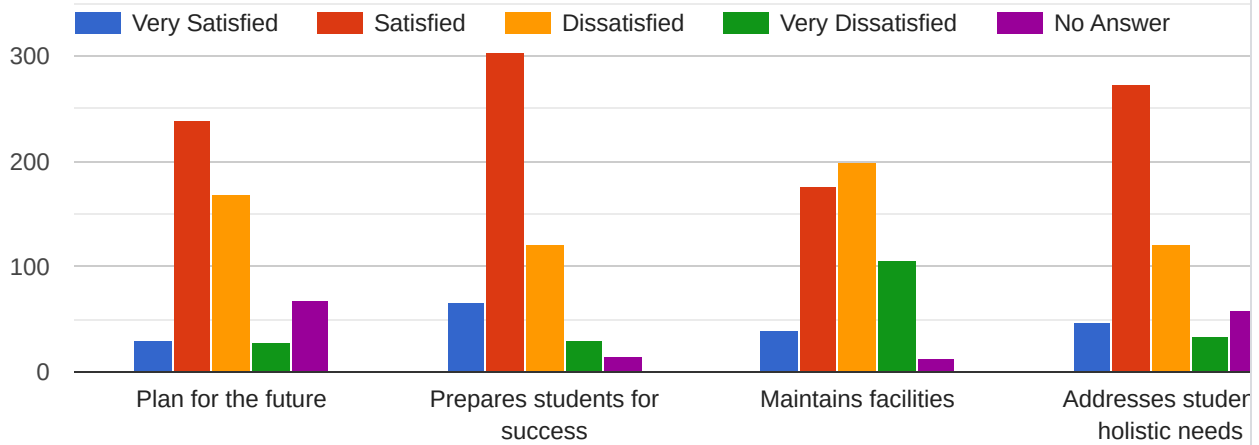
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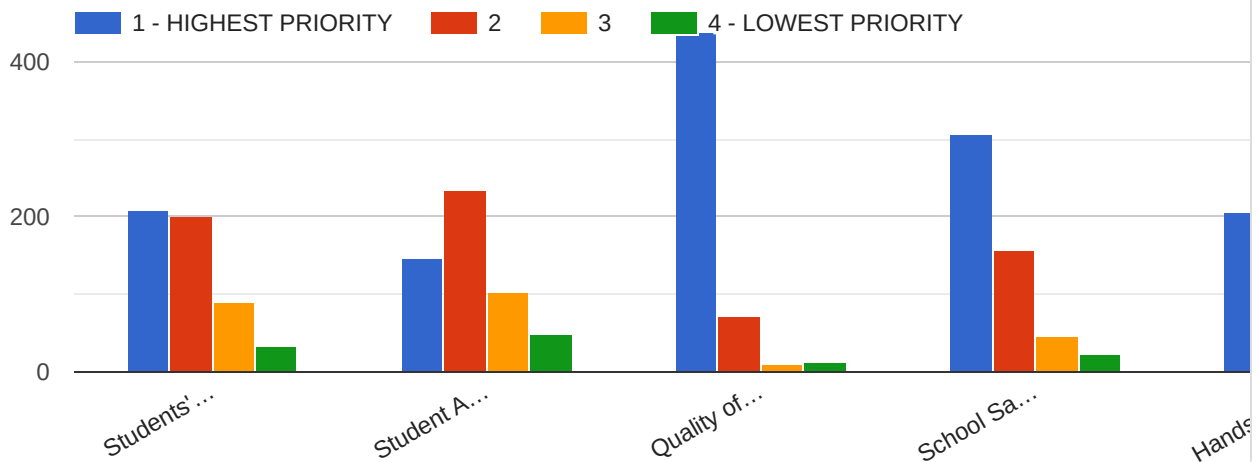
How satisfied are you with how the Berkeley Heights Public Schools...

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Regarding the student experience, what should the District's key areas of focus be in the coming years? Rate each of the following items on a scale of 1-4, with 1 being highest priority and 4 being the lowest priority:

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What are the three best qualities of the Berkeley Heights Public Schools?

536 responses

Na

Teachers

N/A

None

Safety

NA

good experienced teachers, variety of activities & clubs, grade level schools set

Variety of electives offered

none

Not sure

N/a

IEP program, integration with technology, curriculum

Accessibility, communication, academics

Safety, focus on rankings, ?

Instruction in general is good

Secure, teachers are wonderful and safe.

faculty/staff, learning programs, opportunities for students

Teaching staff, varied learning opportunities,

Teachers continue to grow and develop new academic programs to meet learning demands. Students attend grade-level buildings with programming focused on the specific needs for learning and special services for their age groups.

The schools are part of the community and provide arts, athletic, cultural, and service programs to benefit Berkeley Heights.

Caring, involved, and professional teachers, heggerty and phonics programs, WIN program

Small town feel, small student body so most students know each other, dedicated teachers

teachers cleanliness ratings

teachers, safety and curriculum.

Access to resources and caring staff

Accelerated programs in middle school. Quest in high school. Strict cell phone policy

Staff, cleanliness, array of subjects

abc

Variety of course offerings (high school), nurturing environment (elementary and early childhood schools), encouraging students to advocate for themselves (middle and high school)

Small class sizes, highly qualified teachers, high regard for education among community

Broad range of curriculum in high school, sport options, ability of staff to work with students needs individually

Variety of classes/courses ; Security;; variety of clubs,sports, activities ;

1. A lot of outreach projects that appeal to a lot of kids
2. Many sports events
3. Clean facilities

Teachers, programs, and commitment to diversity and inclusion

Safety, inclusiveness, curriculum

Emphasis on challenging curriculum to prepare kids for college, good teacher/parent partnerships in elementary levels, blend of community/family/respect in behavior at schools

teaching staff, quality of education/curriculum, individualized for each student (WIN)

excellent teachers, good values, good administrators

Quality of faculty, academic rigor/reputation, excellence in adolescent/early education

1. The many options and opportunities for students to do different activities
2. The effort to make a kind and safe environment
3. The improvements in teaching methods.

The Child Study Team (including all teachers, paras, and service providers) at MKM is exceptional. They set the bar for the individualized and supportive education that that school provides.

Teachers, Administration

1. Caring teachers and administration.

Ability to adapt to students needs academically, transition to higher grade levels

Community members and students in Berkeley heights

No comment

Qualified teachers, individual attention, safety of the students

The elementary school was great, middle school was a nightmare, and high school was disappointing

Devotion of Faculty and Support Staff, Advocacy for the Students, Instilling of values and morals by offering clubs and checking in with the student. EP and Academic strategies are very important

Berkley Heights public school is one of the best of the new jersey state. Berkeley heights public school has a good teachers

Facilities and range of opportunities .

Generally we are satisfied with the schools.

Offering varied programs and curriculum for students at all levels. Athletic opportunities for students at both middle school and high school.

Teachers, other students, and clubs

Safe Community, overall good academic program, overall good teaching staff

1) Talented, caring, hardworking staff 2) Great job preparing the students for college 3) Most students are kind, respectful and enthusiastic learners

N

Teachers, community, facilities

a

nice teachers, location of buildings, (I can only come up with 2... one of my kids graduated last year, and couldn't wait to leave... she had a miserable school experience. She got great grades, had friends, but the school experience was not happy for her. My other kid is in 9th grade now... She doesn't care about school as much, and is fine, but certainly not excited about school. She says the teachers barely care.

Maintenance, custodians, grounds

Location of schools, varied extracurricular, newsletters

Small town feel , access to many different classes, teaching staff that cares about the students.

Taking good measures toward student safety, availability of a good number of kind and caring teachers,

safe & welcoming environment for all kinds of children, teacher communication, curriculum

inclusivity, school spirit, safety

1) Commitment to the values outlined in the CMS mission statement, "... nurturing an inclusive culture of positive character, academic excellence, and social responsibility that empowers all to thrive outside our walls." This is evident at many levels of the school system and I believe it is the best quality of the entire BH district, which has many positive ripple effects, in addition to excellence in our children's education.

2) The quality of the teachers and staff.

3.) My experience with the Special Education Dept has been overwhelmingly positive. I would like to commend their positive and open-minded approach and see them continue to be supported & funded in their initiatives for ongoing improvements and program development.

Btw- I appreciate that the district reaches out to the community to get input from parents and residents on these important matters, such as this survey. Thank you for your outreach and consideration!

Teachers, activities offered and being safe

After last night's meeting I can tell you 4 of the worst qualities—Natasha Joly, Sai Akiri, Dipti Khanna and Tom Foregger.

The Teachers

Great teachers. Nice classmates. Fun activities.

Caring about students, safety, opportunities for success

Quality education, friendly staff and small classes

Teachers, community support, most administration

Great teachers, schools have a great facility and an opportunity for improvements, extra curricular activities

Families, diverse extracurriculars

The quality educators

Teachers, small size,

There are a lot of opportunities for everyone.

It is at the right size.

The school is supportive.

Good Teachers, WIN Classes, Good PTO

Some really good approachable, teachers who explain well, Laid back atmosphere at GL, unlike CMS clamp down, NOT pushing liberal agendas in classrooms

The dedicated teachers

Small size,

Principal Marley; teachers at William woodruff; custodial staff at William woodruff

nothing

Teachers and community

Communication with staff, activities & knowledge staff

Friendly staff

Wide range of classes to choose from

Friendly staff

Unfortunately, I can't currently think of a third quality

1. Active community 2. Safe environment 3. Hard working teachers

Special education, efforts being made to update curriculum, community involvement

younger grade teachers

they dont hav any

Safety of the school, good performing arts program,

Emphasis on reading

Communication to parents

Structured

Staff, focus on safety, preparedness for what's to come

Ability for students to take action in clubs, good quality in teacher instruction/vigor of classes, ample resources available for pursuing different career paths.

Class options, extracurriculars

The bathrooms, sike

The school teachers

And whatever, whatever

Teachers, cell phone policy at Columbia is excellent - phones are in lockers,

Inclusion, quality of education and safety

411 more responses are hidden

What are the three things about Berkeley Heights Public Schools that you would change?

536 responses

N/A

Na

n/a

None

Not sure

NA

everything

Flexibility for various learning styles

reduce administration by 2-3 salaries, set specific number goal for math & english test scores for EverySchool- publish it! report it! measure result to goal IN PUBLIC, new superintendent must host a LIVE community meeting BEFORE referendum!
(otherwise, she looks too timid & afraid of feedback)

Modernize facilities

More diverse staff who represent the increased diversity of our student body, more advanced research opportunities and independent study options, civic engagement and art programs outside of school hours

High school building is falling apart, more AP offerings, more focus on increasing high school rank

Infrastructure needs improvement

If snow days aren't used during the school year let the students graduate early then expected. Also parents should not be paying for busing their children.

maintenance of buildings, social studies and science in elementary school being every day (time got cut and STEAM is extremely important).

Class sizes being too big for younger grades, better assistance/preparation with transitions to middle and high school

The schools need renovated facilities with classrooms that accomodate all learners. Structural and mechanical systems need to be replaced and/or updated due to age and inability to

provide reliable heat, electricity, and safety systems.

New furniture - desks, chairs, tables - are needed to replace old, broken, or unsafe furniture.

Athletic fields, more emphasis on student social skills- less emphasis on YouTube, have two teachers in every classroom.

Reduce class size, more clubs and activities, start school sports teams earlier (3rd grade)

special services

update/modernize the building facilities, less students per class, and improve athletic fields

Expand teacher PD requirements/opportunities; provide more in-class behavioral support for teachers; facility upgrades

Should participate in national level competitions, should improve high school ranking, clubs have to be better

Facilities (specifically at the HS),

Quality of teachers, quality of administrators, quality of administrators

Offer Chinese lessons for middle school and high school,

Introducing intramural sports for kids in middle and high school, updating buildings that are falling into disrepair, limiting technology use just because it's there (more hands-on learning and working with paper and pencil or dry erase and whiteboard)

Improve/update facilities, excessive testing of students, incompetent staff/leadership

TBD for the new administration, under the old administration - lack of connection with the town's needs, losing very valuable teachers and principles of the district, stop changing math programs stick with something already!

Better quality of teaching staff - parents shouldn't have to spend money on outside tutors bc teachers cannot effectively explain/teach the subject ; more focus on having all the students obtain a strong foundation to be successful in life, not just the honors/AP students; movement away from just pushing the students through to actually providing them with a positive and nurturing learning environment

1. Less "learning challenged" kids in classes (makes it hard to focus)
2. Better lunch food
3. More accelerated courses

More bussing options

Facility upgrades at the high school—poor hvac, sewage, and communications systems, no one can use lockers, aging tech equipment); equal facility space for female athletes as compared to male (no team rooms, smaller/older gym, banners not represented in main gym, locker room

too small to hold athletes and equipment, visitors need to change in classrooms); use of student specific testing data to drive individual areas for improvement (especially kids not in IEP or AP—kids in middle or on plans get overlooked and could be your main driver of grade/testing improvement.

general facility upgrades, technology enhancements, improved athletic facilities

fix infrastructure, reinstate courtesy busing for all, stop bickering within and without BOE

High school facilities, standardized test preparation, avoidance of future contract with town of Mountainside

1. Anything really old (ex. pipes) should be replaced to keep a safe area 2. The strictness in some areas but it depends 3. Teachers not doing there job or are causing inconveniences

Update facilities, update media centers, update playgrounds

Spelling program (3rd grade),

1. The current inclusion model is deeply flawed. As both a parent and an educator, I see firsthand how the system fails to implement true inclusion effectively. Rather than fostering thoughtful and meaningful experiences for both general and special education students, the existing approach often places students in inclusive classrooms without ensuring they have the necessary skills to benefit from the experience. While the inclusion label is widely used, proper supports for both students and staff are often lacking, making the process ineffective and, at times, detrimental to all involved. When done the way it is currently being done this takes away time from students on both the general education side and the special education side. It also takes makes more work for our teachers and administrators.

2. THE WAY WE TEACHIN READING/WRITING/SPELLING :

Teaching students ****how**** to spell, read, and write is essential, yet the current approach often prioritizes workarounds over true skill development. Instead of explicitly teaching foundational literacy skills, students are encouraged to rely on compensatory strategies such as skipping a word and coming back to it or using pictures for context. While these strategies may offer temporary support, they fail to build essential reading and writing abilities.

A major issue in spelling instruction is allowing students to spell words incorrectly, which then reinforces and embeds errors. Over time, these mistakes become habits that must later be unlearned—making the learning process more difficult and frustrating. This is not an effective teaching method; it is a way to reinforce incorrect patterns that require reteaching. Instead, students should be given explicit instruction in phonics, spelling rules, and structured literacy approaches to ensure they develop strong, accurate foundational skills.

3. Improving Our Special Education System

Far too many parents in this district express the same frustrating reality—they have to ****fight**** for their children to receive the services they need. It is deeply concerning that families moving to Berkeley Heights already anticipate a battle with the Special Services Department when seeking academic support for their child. No parent should have to struggle to secure the appropriate resources and interventions their child is legally entitled to. It's time to create a

system where students' needs come first, and parents feel supported, not stonewalled.

4. A BOARD OF EDUCATION THAT CAN WORK COLLABORATIVELY. WHAT GOES ON CURRENTLY IS A DISGRACE.

Ability to test better when compared to neighboring towns in standardized tests

Academic rigor and content, facilities and resources, consistent quality of teachers

Flexibility

No comment

Upgrade/ improve facilities on an ongoing basis, otherwise keep going onward and upward as usually do with improving student experience

Improve the level of teaching at the high school, spend some money on the facilities and technology, and modernize the curriculum.

Cost for lunch- it's too expensive, the cost for clubs- too expensive. I would like to see typing class available so they don't use one finger to type. I would like to see community opportunities- go to the bank, visit a local college, charity events

For me Nothing.

Teachers for higher level subjects, participation in state/ national level programs,

(1) ensure continuous improvement for student prep and advancement for things like standardized test scores, test taking, and study habits. we spend a lot of time teaching our kids how to study! (2) school transportation access and ensure it is at a low cost for those where students cannot walk as the town has terrible walking infrastructure. (3) The politics that are getting in the way of progress.

Student behavior, community and culture in middle and high school. Teacher professional development, grading policies, student academic support.

Less administrators, thinking classroom, more advanced subject offerings with qualified teachers

School Infrastructure, improve music facilities and programs, Tiered learning for later stage elementary education (e.g. different levels for classes so students are challenged to their learning potential).

1)Stronger discipline for students - zero tolerance for bullying and disrespect 2)Prioritize environmental goals (recycle, solar panels, lighting) 3)Update aging facilities

Facilities the kids always comment that the schools look like jail

Better IEP programs

a

We moved to BH 17 years ago, mainly because the schools were supposed to be great. With busses cut, areas in the performing arts cut, pulling teeth to get the district to notice my struggling 6th grader to assess her for extra services, etc... Sadly, I wouldn't recommend anyone move to BH b/c of schools.

Board members fighting. Lack of leadership. No communication

Woke health education, grading so harshly on group projects, teachers sharing political bias

High teacher turnover rate, old outdated facilities, traffic around buildings

Not integrating topics that have to do with sexuality and/or gender preference anywhere in the curriculum, since these views and values differ for each family.

Have teachers show more attention and support to student's quality of work in middle school and high school.

Students have been sent out to recess at Mountain Park School despite the rain and frigid temperatures, while they should be kept indoors when it's below 32 degrees.

College counseling, guidance on career path options, more enthusiastic teachers

Less reliance on/usage of students' Chromebooks.

Reduce the class size, promoting no cell phones to parents so there is no peer pressure, ending or reviewing kids who get called out for violating the HIB policy - it's not always accurately depicted with what actually happened and these kids are way too young to be called in alone in the office and get written up.

Natasha Joly, Sai Akiri, Dipti Khanna and Tom Foregger should be removed from the board immediately.

Division on the Board of Ed

Inclusion classrooms.

Better Communication with delayed buses, more tech support for parent power school,

Improve facilities, academic record and create mandatory swimming program

Parent involvement to take responsibility for the actions of the child. Cooperative CB learning, character/ value oriented emphasis.

Conflicts between the public and the BOE, establishing more transparency with BOE budget with clear and simple communication to public, timely maintenance and improvement of school buildings

Infrastructure, additional high school guidance support

The boe. The bickering about nonsense and minutia is disgraceful. The BOE acting as though they have any idea what goes on in the world of teaching, managing a classroom, managing a department and managing a building. Their job is to manage the superintendent and hold them accountable. With all of the insignificant things that the board of Ed focuses on, our superintendent cannot understand what goes on in our district.

lack of updated facilities, lack of teacher communication regarding student progress

The athletic coaches can be changed especially girls soccer coach.
An ability to be more challenged academically.

Better Facilities, Less resources towards DEI

Upgrade facilities equipment, walking safety and full day PreK

Home Ec is first, then all the rest is the same importance

A) BRING BACK HOME EC/LIFE SKILLS

B) Delete pronouns on emails.

C) Hanging pictures of academic excellent students, not only athletes, in hallways.

D) Have parents be in the schools more often, not locked out.

E) Improving future careers: 1) Have students write and produce more TV shows, a) fiction 3 minute scenes b) weekly newscasts-what's going on in the high school, even just announcing extra curricular meetings and what will occur, c) creating TED talk-like presentations on topics that are interesting to them, maybe broadcasting classroom presentations.

2) Have teachers comment, in the classroom, "if you like this chapter, then a career in xyz would be good for you."

3) Have school contests, like a) spelling bees, b) geography bees, etc all could be student created through TV production. It could foster jobs in tv stations, teaching, and others

F) Facilities 1) change lightbulbs so kids don't get headaches. 2) fix CMS bathrooms if not done so yet. 3) BRING BACK TENNIS COURTS TO GL. 4) Are science classrooms proven to be inefficient? don't ask about changing them, if they work

G) With really good curriculum good teachers just have to give the worksheets as homework, go over every answer the next day, give book tests, and you will no longer need standardized tests. Don't grade on the curve. Student accomplishment is evident.

H) with the double doors locked, and not even parents allowed in, we don't need any more spent on safety.

The disrepair of the buildings

CMS leadership/some teachers, athletic facilities/fields, more collaboration with vocational schools

Context for critical decisions

No answer

Charging for bus, drop off line should be two lanes, more guidance for future plans

Offering various enrichment opps, inclusion of more cultural events, more STEM initiatives

Curriculum- I feel the current style of curriculum is not very helpful, especially with the computer science and math curriculum

Transparency- no one likes being lied to, or being withheld information from, and now that OPRA is gone, it is harder than ever to use your first amendment rights.

Budget- to be concise, we are spending WAY too much money on school. As a student, I feel that most of this money is being used for unnecessary reasons, such as wellness fairs or repainting the gyms. Focus on the core before branching out.

1. Hire staff where needed 2. Update buildings where needed 3. Staff parking lot renovations

Class sizes, extracurricular programs, split high school lunch

Take harassment and bullying more seriously and make IEP classes more inclusive and have more assemblies that talk about inclusiveness and being friendly w one another instead these ridiculous "clicks" these schools have (cms)

Better facilities, Better teachers, Better sports coaches

everythingg

higher quality teachers, more focused on mental health, available toilet paper, paper towels, soap, stop the odor, functioning wifi, improvements to the GIRLS locker room.

Do not complicate Math logic more than required for elementary students.

Provide more practice work for home - online or manual.

Free transportation for any distance

The Board of Education - it's dysfunctional, teachers who prefer have have students teach themselves rather than teach, cell phone policy at CMS

Energy efficient and environmental upgrades to lighting and HVAC, Flooding and plumbing issues across the schools, more hands-on teaching programs.

Focus on academic rigor at expense of individual needs of stidents

THE BATHROOOOOOOOMS!

WATER FOUNTIANS, DIRTTTTY

broken things in GL PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE

Cell phones in locker in high school, have a "maker" club with various supplies for students who want to learn how to fabricate,

Board of Education needs to be completely overhauled as they have failed in their mission to improve the schools. The continued lack of communication and bickering needs to end.

Improve hardscape, too many tripping hazards.

There should be homework over the weekend.

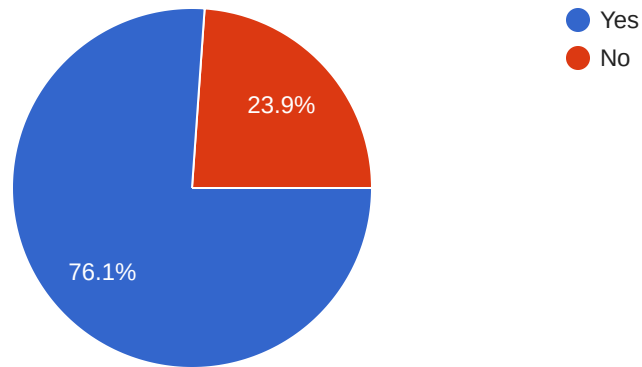
School should start no earlier than 8:30AM.

412 more responses are hidden

Would you be in favor of renovations to the existing libraries that would facilitate more efficient and usable instructional space, collaboration areas and create a more adaptive media / technology center for the Elementary, Middle and High Schools?

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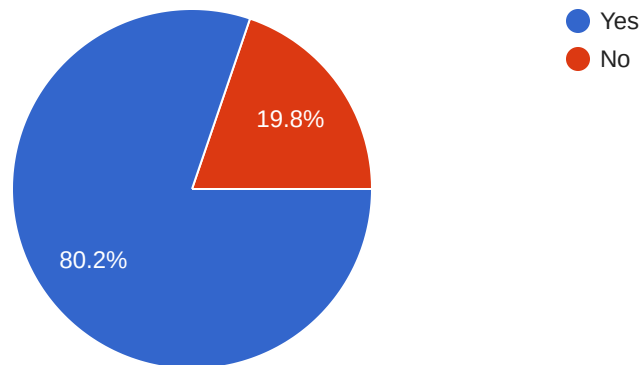
536 responses



Would you be in favor of milling, paving and fencing replacement projects to improve the existing conditions, layouts and drainage at the Elementary, Middle and High Schools?

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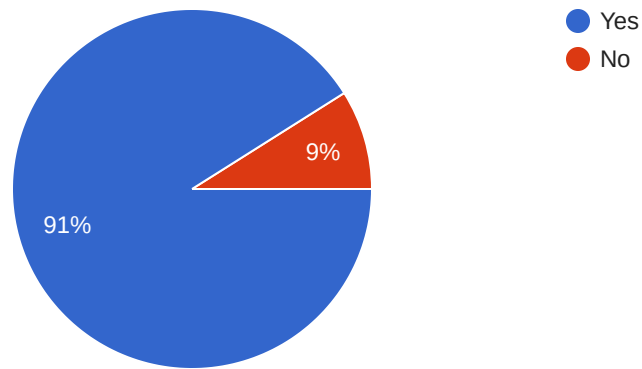
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Would you be in favor of wholesale, roofing system replacement projects that would improve the existing conditions, eliminate leaks and reduce maintenance at the Elementary, Middle and High Schools?

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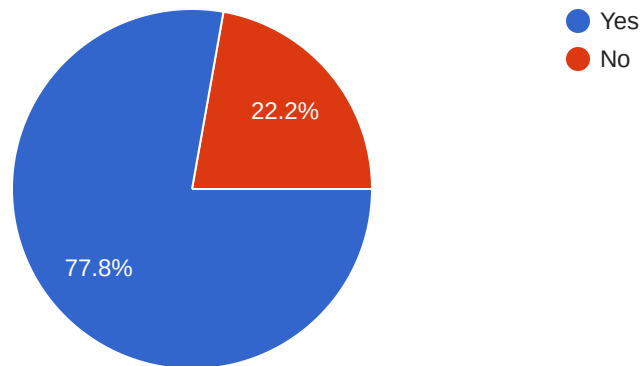
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Would you be in favor of PA/Communications and Security Camera System Upgrades that would improve the existing conditions, provide more coverage and protection at the Elementary, Middle and High Schools?

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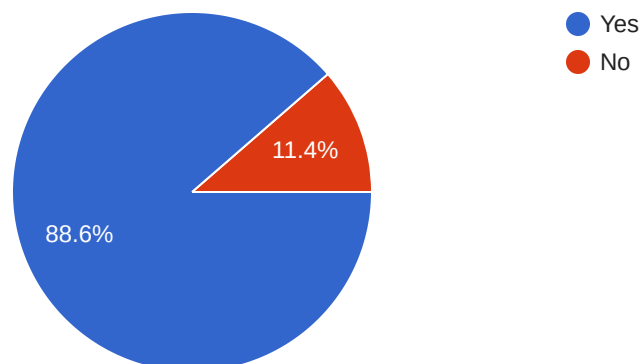
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Would you be in favor of ceilings, flooring (including Asbestos Flooring Abatement) and lighting upgrades in classrooms and other instructional spaces at the Elementary, Middle and High Schools?

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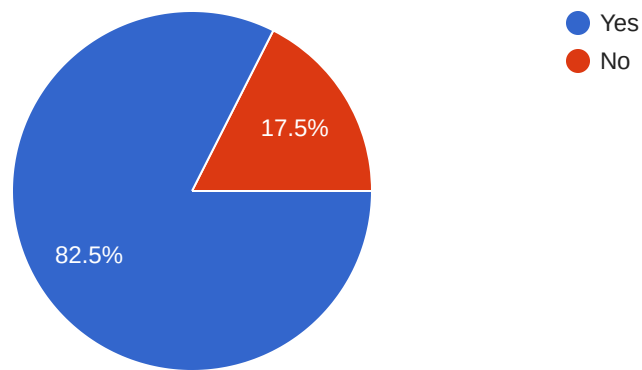
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Would you be in favor of toilet room upgrades and renovations for general toilet rooms at the Elementary, Middle and High Schools?

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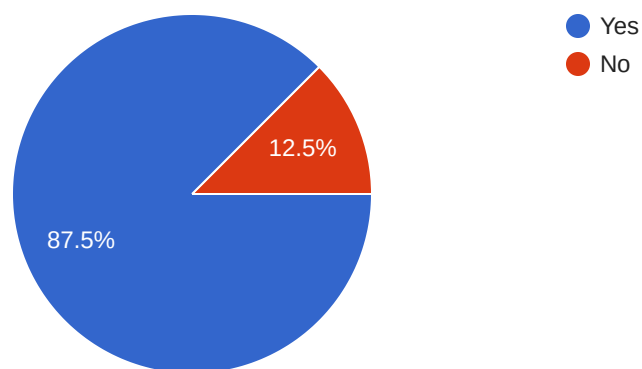
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Would you be in favor of Classroom Renovations (including Science and General Classrooms) that would provide greater flexibility and an adequate number of Classrooms the Science Program at the the High School?

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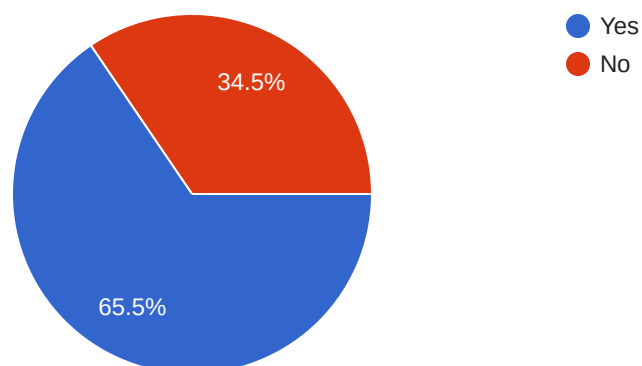
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Would you be in favor of wholesale renovations to the existing Locker Rooms and Team Rooms to provide more space, greater efficiency, proper storage, updated toilet and shower facilities, and trainer's room at the High School?

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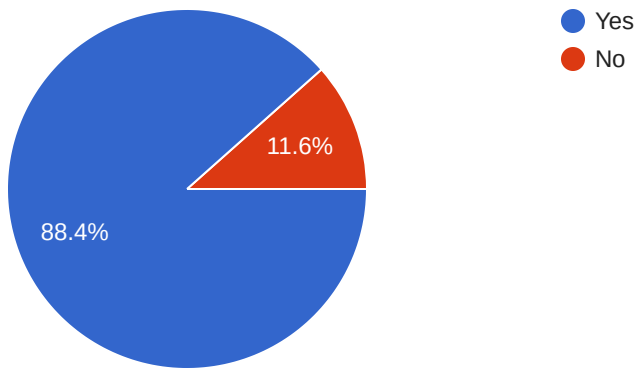
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Would you be in favor of general renovations to existing Science Classrooms (Biology, Physics & Chemistry) to provide layouts that support the advanced curriculum with greater flexibility and efficiency?

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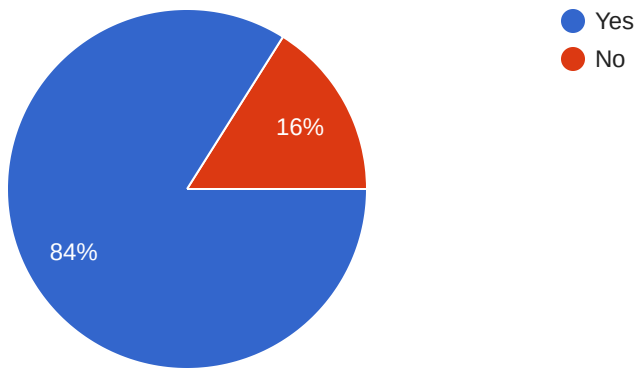
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Would you be in favor of general classroom renovations to support a growing curriculum for TV Production, Broadcasting, Robotics and Technology Labs?

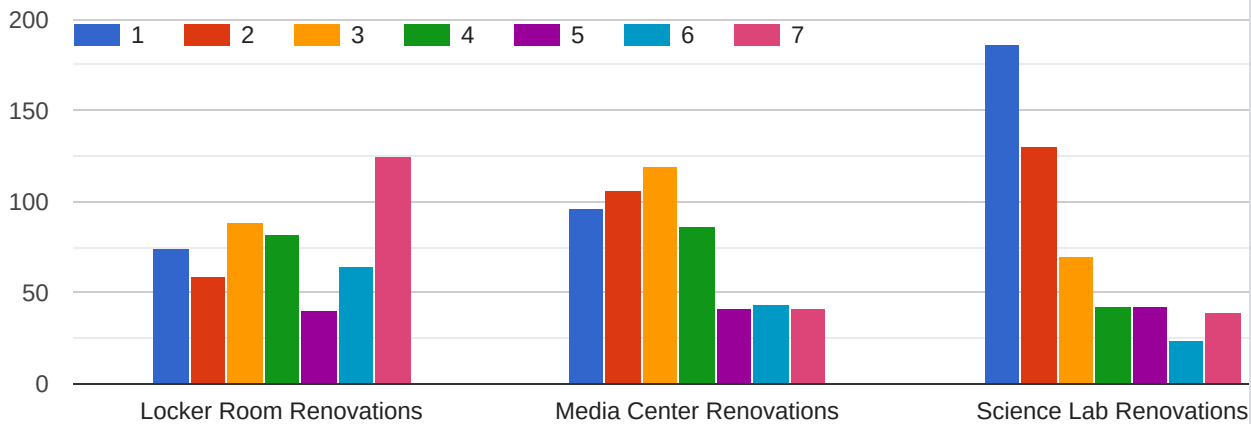
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536 responses



From a facilities standpoint, please prioritize in order of importance at the High School

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From a Facilities standpoint, please list any items you feel should be included, that are not covered above.

536 responses

None

N/A

NA

N/a

Na

none

n/a

None

Nothing

Not sure

no

-

Not sure

No comment

Na

I don't know

.

Yes

ADD THE DOLLAR AMOUNTS PER PROJECT!!!

near impossible to fully evaluate

nothing

N

better use of unused space/fields at GL. Better parking - not enough currently,

Air conditioning in red gym at high school

HVAC or window air conditioners

Everything was included above

renovations should not just be the focus at the high school but at the elementary level as well.

Any roofing issues that might need to be addressed and room for more classrooms with an influx of students coming in

New furnishings - desks, tables, chairs

Fields

Don't know

update classrooms

Nine

None at this time

More classrooms in elementary schools to accommodate influx of students so class sizes don't get too large.

Adding air conditioning to all class rooms in all schools is most important given the increased temperatures through spring - early summer when kids are still in schools

Playground upgrades

Parking lots at cms and backlot of GL, removal of unsightly storage containers at GL, improved sports fields and tennis courts at GL and cms, access to bathrooms from sporting fields at all schools for weekend use, cart transport to sporting event fields on game days for spectators at GL (hill and walk are not possible for many older or injured people)

address the heating system at GL

Tennis courts at governor livingston, indoor swimming pool at governor livingston

Sensory regulation opportunities and sensory safe spaces for students who require this. These options are crucial for students at every stage, in every school. Related service providers (specifically occupational therapists) should be consulted.

Other schools

Parking Lots , specically at MKM

Stem

Lower Columbia field

Anything that is leaking

Lunch room, cafeteria, classroom chairs and technology

One hot room for the bus driver,in the cold and freezing water the bus driver have to stay outside.

not sure

Columbia cafeteria upgrades to accommodate multi-use better.

Larger parking spaces and redo paving in parking lots

Music Rooms in CMS and GLHS. CMS had Bees! GLHS had a flood. No investment in music.

Renovations should be eco-friendly/energy efficient. Move forward with solar panel proposal presented by the senior at the April '24 board of ed meeting. This would save the district money and would move the district towards sustainability goals. Win win

The kitchen room

Unsure

a

building problems (ie: leaks)

New trucks for maintenance dept

I don't have anything additional to add.

Heating and air conditioning systems

Playgrounds

Incorporation of UDL (Universal Design for Learning) principles in any plans for renovation or facility improvements.

Better school bus timeliness

Natasha Joly, Sai Akiri, Dipti Khanna and Tom Foregger should be removed from the board immediately.

I agree with above items

AI

Air filtration

Air quality

Technology, computer systems and telephone communications plumbing , heating, roofing and ceiling all need to be addressed

none that I am aware of

Girls locker room

Don't do any facilites improvement until you get DECENT curriculum for teeachers so that they don't have to piece together information themselves. planning lessons from decent curriculum provided for them is time consuming enough. That is a budget question, not referendum, I know. Also in the regular budget should be PAINT. a few years ago, some of hte classrooms looked like they belonged in the slums.

Heating and cooling systems and WiFi

The path at William woodruff needs paving - among the paving projects. Grounds: Also there's poison ivy along the playground edge of Woodruff, a fence would help or removal.

Parking should be extended

As a student at GL who has experienced the affects of an aging building and poor infrastructure/maintenance, I feel that we should also be focusing on the school Wi-Fi and heating. Almost every single day at GL, the Wi-Fi crashes, causing delays in class. Additionally, the speeds are extremely slow usually around 30 down and 60 up. I am aware that a good mesh Wi-Fi system does cost money, but given that our budget this year was over 60 million dollars, and some funds have been misplaced in my opinion. Due to the lack of maintenance at out school, during the peak of winter, we were without heat in several portions of the school for about a month, leading to students and teachers donning coats and blankets inside. THEN, the school spent money on space heaters for all 17 classrooms affected, and decided to keep the windows CLOSED, leading to higher than acceptable carbon monoxide levels inside the classroom, and the classrooms not being able to be used. This should never have happened in the first place. If the school was regularly maintained, this probably would've never happened. I would also like to place special attention to the plumbing system at GL. GL is infamous for having horrendous plumbing issues as highlighted by the February 18th incident where a "cooking incident" caused a sewage smell to spread throughout the whole entire school, resulting in an emergency evacuation and the fire department being called (which is unfortunately not an unlikely occurrence at GL). Every single time it precipitates, the roof always leaks, leading to ceiling panels needing to be replaced all of the time, driving up costs.

Every single day, it smells like a mix of hot garbage and Secaucus Junction. School should not be making people nauseous. My advice -- go to GL as a student for a day, then reflect on all of the problems you have encountered. That is what we, the students have to endure 180 times per year.

Heating/AC units in the schools need improvement, electrical outlets/wiring needs updating, cameras needed in main office to see outside visitors

idk

Consider the cost to bring the tennis courts at the high school back to life

FUN
BOUNNNCCCY BAALLLLLLS

The library lighting needs to be brighter.

New tennis courts should be added at the high school.

Playgrounds

General Education classrooms

I'm not sure.

Cafeteria. gyms, regular/ everyday lockers

The facilities need to be renovated in particular at the high school

Improved HVAC

all covered above

Sports fields

Lighting at the GL football field.

more athletic facilities

I don't know

Leaky roofs, no heat in buildings or AC

Heating, cooling

Security

Nothing to add

I don't know

All has been mentioned

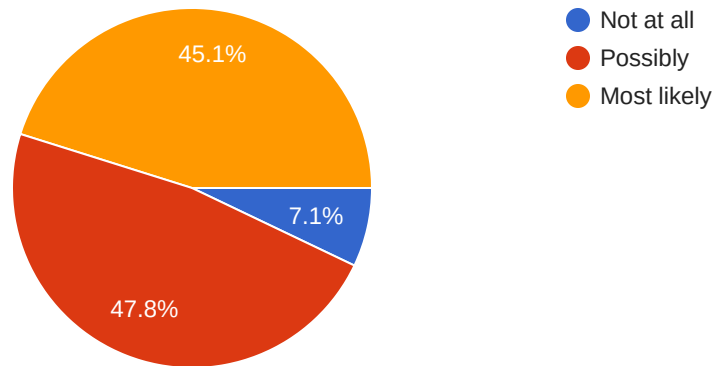
Solar investment

232 more responses are hidden

Would you be likely to support a Referendum to address the needs of the District?

 Copy

536 responses



What projects would need to be included to gain your support for any District-wide referendum? Please list:

536 responses

N/A

Na

N/a

NA

Not sure

None

n/a

none

-

not sure

Listed above

.

Any

Unsure

Depends

All

nothing

I don't know

None

Facilities updates

Must ADD THE DOLLAR AMOUNTS IN ORDER TO JUDGE THE PROJECTS!!!!!!

STEM related projects

Not sure

Renovations

All of them

I don't know

Academic - focused ones

Only those that help increase academic rankings - more AP classes.

Most infrastructure projects

Notice of structural building

repairs and enhancements at the elementary level

I would like to see smaller class sizes in exchange for more money for facilities like a locker room. Prioritize the learning

New mechanical systems: electrical, heating, air conditioning, plumbing

New safety systems such as fire alarm systems

Back-up generator for high school WiFi and water pumping

parent teacher classes/ community opportunities within the school district, social skills, athletic field upgrades, STEM/STEAM projects/resources, any support that teachers need, timely evaluations for students with disabilities

Special needs classrooms

improvements, enlargments and modernization to buildings and infrastructure

Roofing/duct; classroom upgrades; science/tech upgrades

No

Open to debate

I dont know

Upgrade/renovate Mountain park elementary school, updates or renovations to imc/media center

Air conditioning in all schools

Roof, security, science lab

I probably won't support (cause I'm a student)

Science , Media, and tech

Building sewer, bathroom, lockerroom renovations, hvac, parking lot, communication/phone/internet network--no one uses the library for research or books anymore--convert the space to business or science labs

any basic infrastructure projects, paving of all parking lots in need,

Outdoor athletic facilities at governor livingston, indoor athletic facilities at governor livingston (swimming pool)

I would give my support to anything that would improve our district the most efficiently and worth while.

support for the special education program, update to facilities, minimal tax impact

Air Conditioning in multipurpose rooms

Higher academic standard for middle and high school students, most of the suggestions other than security and safety is secondary.

Improvement to academics and facilities

Lower Columbia field Reno turf.

Any improvements would be welcome

For now I don't have

Teachers and upgrading school facilities

Things related to improvement of student safety.

Not sure too many to list

Any facility upgrades

In an ideal world all projects would be included but the priority should be facility maintenance and renovation of academic spaces. Athletic projects should be lower priority.

a

not sure... I would look and decide

New roof at woodruff

Nothing additional to add

Hvac updates

STEAM, special ed

New technology center

Better school bus routes and timing

Natasha Joly, Sai Akiri, Dipti Khanna and Tom Foregger should be removed from the board immediately.

General Repairs to make all classrooms usable

Drainage improvements

Safe environment,

Additional funding

Facilities

Facilities renovation and maintenance; Aligning curriculum with job market

Child emotional safety, special ed paraprofessional support

upgraded libraries and science labs

Girls locker rooms

New play ground at MKM

Only ones that you can show REALLY ARE NECESSARY by pictures (of roofs, pavement, bathrooms etc) Demonstrate the real need. Include items only that can be paid 30% by grants. with our current balances in accounts on hand, pay for the rest. Show the community you are doing all you can not to increase our taxes, and they will vote yes.

Prioritization of teacher and student growth and development which includes desperately needed building upgrades

Vocational school programs and Athletic facilities upgrades

I don't have any demands

Security

Anything STEM or classroom upgrades related

Re-building of GL

Standard grading times (It should not take my teacher 3 months to grade my essay)

Standardized grading by course, regardless of teacher (some teachers grade tougher even when the material is the same)

Mandatory bias training for all staff members, especially counselors

Higher standards for hiring teachers

Higher standards of transparency (students should be told what is happening during important events as well, not just parents)

Investigation into teacher usage of AI (Teachers are being paid to teach, not have a robot do it for them. ChatGPT should not be making my teachers assignments, emails, or assessments.

Using AI resources for inspiration is fine, but every single thing should not be 100% AI. Very hypocritical to denounce the usage of AI by students to do work, but use AI yourself to do your job for you.)

Building repair where needed (plumbing, roofing, heating/AC)

Any

n//a

makke more money so we can have good schoool for our kids

Increase in wifi quality because now students are never going to take the SAT at GL because it has a reputation of having terrible wifi which goes out.

accessibility of toilet paper, paper towels (the hand dryers actually spread more germs and are not effective at all)

Managing the heat better- the heat should not be on when it is spring and vice versa.

Additionally, the gym should not be freezing cold to a point it is uncomfortable for students.

Increase of quality of education and the standards teachers are held to.

I don't know enough on this

All listed

FUN PRJECTS PLS MAAAM

Educational Program Supplies and Room or Equipment Renovations

I'm flexible

More parking at the middle school

What projects would you not support if included in a District-wide referendum? Please list:

536 responses

N/A
None
Na
N/a
n/a
Not sure
NA
none
Not sure
None
-
I don't know
not sure
?
Unsure
Depends
no
unsure
not sure
.

the public should be asked to share input about phasing in the changes!!!
if this survey is the ONLY vehicle for community input, this is practically a blindside!
please host LIVE INTERACTIVE PUBLIC SESSIONS!!!!

N

Full day pre-k

0

N/a

nothing

Locker room upgrades

n

Lockers, media center, toilet renovations

Less emphasis on Athletics

Changing out lockers

enhancement for athletics at the high school

Locker room showers are not necessary kids can shower at home

I would not support getting rid of the school libraries.

anything that keeps kids glued to their iPad or phone

Special needs students need more

anything that would increase the teacher to student ratio

Wholesale athletic upgrades

None at this time

Locker room updates

Items to address issues about identity politics.

I probably won't support (cause I'm a student)

Special Ed room renovations, music/arts space renovations

Paving/drainage at schools

Making classrooms for special education students too small. They need space to move and stay regulated. Crowding them will not help their challenges.

na

All of the above are ok but it must include upgrades to academic curriculum, associated facilities and teacher quality

Gender neutral bathrooms

I don't have, for me all are good.

If it improves the education of the students and improves the overall ranking of our district and education of the students we are 100% supportive. I would want to understand how each item would improve the value and the current state of each. It is hard to say we support locker room improvement, as an example, if we have never been in the HS locker room or have a point of comparison to other top school districts in the nation or state.

Improvement of Science/STEM rooms that are less than 20 years since being updated

Athletics and bathroom upgrades

My support would only waiver if athletic facilities are prioritized over academic spaces.

After or before school programs

The unsure

a

projects that are solely for aesthetic purposes

If property taxes will be raised to support projects, I cannot support.

Bigger class sizes

athletics

paving

I am NOT in favor of installing artificial turf on the lower Columbia field. I think this is an unhealthy choice which will negatively impact our children directly by exposure to chemicals while playing on the turf and which will harm the environment and local wildlife and natural wooded areas around the field. Furthermore, as it degrades over time, it will present a contamination problem. I am strongly against it.

Natasha Joly, Sai Akiri, Dipti Khanna and Tom Foregger should be removed from the board immediately.

Increased funding for sports that already receive the lion's share

Don't know

I can't think of any

Removal of funding

Athletics

Locker room renovations

Athletics as primary focus

Update to special education area

N-a

Any unnecessary items that are thrown in, just so people will vote yes.

Projects that seem punitive or deviate from the mission of supporting teachers and students

.

Anything that takes budget away from teachers

new basketball court

I dont know

advancements in the library (no one reads the books in the school library as they sit there collecting dust , more TV's around the school (we dont need more, no one looks at them)
upgrading the BOYS locker room

I don't know enough on this

I don't see anything unreasonable listed

stuff that isn't nessery duh come on think buddy

Athletics improvements - we already focus too much on athletics when our academics are slipping

I'm flexible

Updating all playgrounds and out door facilities

I'm not sure that athletic room facilities are necessary and they only impact some students.
But I haven't seen the current facilities so it's hard to say.

science classroom renovation

Focus on online learning, extracurriculars and athletics

Listed above

Anything the majority of parents and students don't want.

I don't know

Would not support efforts to shut down diversity and inclusion programs

Safety and Security

Nothing to add

I don't know

I am for anything that needs improvement to better educate the students.

Nothing comes to mind.

...

No sure

230 more responses are hidden

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