

Stakeholder Engagement SWOT Analysis Feedback Report

Overview

A parent/community focus group with 18 participants was held on December 11, 2019. They were asked to provide feedback on the SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats) analysis that was developed at the most recent Strategic Planning team's meeting.

Open comments: Respondents were asked if there was anything missing for each of the four sections of the SWOT analysis. The open comment themes are listed in order of strength. They include a sample of comments for each theme.

Strongly agree (sa)/strongly disagree (sd) section: Participants could strongly agree with up to four total strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, or threats; respondents could strongly disagree with up to four strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, or threats.

Strengths	sa
	sd
High student academic achievement	sa 1
	sd
Dedicated and talented faculty and staff	sa 6
	sd
History of fiscal responsibility and stewardship	sa
	sd
Central Office visionary and shared leadership	sa
	sd
Commitment to continuous improvement	sa 1
	sd 1
Family value for public education	sa 1
	sd
Investment in technological tools and strategies	sa
	sd 1
Extra-and co-curricular activities for students	sa 1
	sd
Subject area opportunities beyond core instruction that develop the "Whole Child"	sa
	sd
Commitment to equity and inclusiveness	sa
	sd

Additional Strengths Themes:

No additional themes identified.



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Weaknesses	sa sd
Achievement disparities and gaps among student subgroup populations	sa 3 sd
Clarity for students and families of readiness expectations—both academic and non-academic performance	sa sd
Inequities among all students, classrooms, and schools	sa 1 sd
Staff collaboration, articulation, and communication	sa sd
Early learning programs and services—serving more students birth to age 6 to better prepare all students for the start of school	sa 1 sd
Support for increased student and staff social, emotional, and health needs	sa sd 3
Challenging all students with rigor and relevance in instruction	sa 2 sd
Student agency—engagement, voice, choice, innovation, goal-setting, progress monitoring	sa sd
Reporting of student, classroom, and school performance	sa sd 1
Innovative instructional practices including technology integration—professional development, follow-up support, and coaching	sa sd 4
Aging facilities and their impact on the learning environment—upgrades, maintenance, safety, environmental	sa 1 sd

Additional Weaknesses Themes:

- *Relationship to and representation at D200:* Lack of representation of River Forest at D200. Disconnect with D200 "school system."
- *Family supports:* Lack of 21st century family supports. Overall lack of family support programs.



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Opportunities	sa
	sd
Community outreach to address birth to five educational programs and services	sa
	sd 1
Broader communication and engagement with the community	sa 2
	sd
Family education and engagement opportunities	sa 1
	sd
Better use of time and space	sa
	sd
Improvement of engagement, satisfaction, and collaboration at the middle school level	sa
	sd

Additional Opportunities Themes:

• *Family supports:* Improved family supports to enhance equity and inclusion. Improve family support for initiatives for single/working families.

Threats	sa sd
Address a mindset that is resistant to change.	sa 3 sd 6
Develop and execute a financial strategy to address financial projections.	sa 1
	sd
Address the impact of social media on District culture.	sa 3 sd
Address the impact of teacher and substitute shortages.	sa 1
	sd
Ensure a collaborative and successful teacher contract development that enhances District	sa
mission, vision, values, and goals.	sd

Additional Threats Themes:

No additional themes identified.

^{**}Report compiled by CEC Director of Programs and Services Arlana Bedard