

Student Focus Groups Feedback

	<i>Strengths</i>	<i>Opportunities</i>
Themes from this Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Like our teachers • Resources (books, playground) • People are helpful • Like movement (PE, Recess, etc.) • Helpful teachers • Like clubs, programs, sports teams • Students get supports from staff and community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elem – playground improvement (time and resources); science/ computer labs/ creativity, be kind, better building facilities • MS – more engagement, more mutual respect – teachers and other student, facilities (bathrooms), sense of unfairness • HS – more cultural competence, more diverse staff, improve facilities (bathroom), discipline bias

Elementary School Students

<i>Hopes & Dreams</i>	<i>Do well</i>	<i>Do Better</i>	<i>Vision</i>
Be a scientist, teacher, police, chef, doctor, actor, dancer, astronomer Change things in school Houses for homeless Money for homeless No food wasted No one hurts anyone No people pretend to be homeless Own my house and car School is like magic See an orca, a dragon To be a good baseball player	Art and PE Bog playground Book selection at Hamilton Breakfast Bully Free, trying to improve Dismissal Do experiments Family, nice teachers, playground Fire drills Fit gym Fix tripping hazard Good nurse who helps you	Add a potions lab Air conditioning Air-conditioned rooms/ fans Be allowed to use our phones for help Be happy, have joy Be tough on us, like army training Bee proof items Better technology Bigger school, bigger playground Cancel homework Change bullies to good people Change the pipes in the water fountains Check apples Computer lab Football training Get money for doing our work	Like always improving, equity, trying their best Missing: no bullying, emergencies

<p>To be an artist, author. Robot, football player, vet, lifeguard, ballerina, doctor, teacher, karate teacher To help people To learn from others To make the world better: healthy tress, no bullying</p>	<p>Good teaching Gym going well Help people who need help Help us when we feel bad Help us with different things I like the teachers I love math Kind and respect others Lunch Math and PE My teachers No fidget spinners No slime is good Orchestra PE Playground Playground and library Ready for things we need to know when older Really like recess Recess then lunch Slime is good Smart, help us achieve our dreams Stress balls Teachers Teachers help</p>	<p>Grass instead of wood chips on the playground Guards watching the school Add 2 hour naps Gym every day Ice cream parties Keep out guns Lunch - not all food is good Make art into fashion style Make math easy More activities More after school More art class More benches More books for book selection More bread and cheese More fans More field trips More playground equipment More recess More recess - outside More spinners More swings More time on playground More time to eat New art projects New bleachers Nicer bathrooms No bullies No fights No more bullying No saying hurtful words Nurse needs more supplies Paint the rooms Pizza party every day</p>	
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	<p>The spinny thing in the playground The teachers are caring. There is no bullying, Everyone is kind. The teachers are so nice The teachers, my friends, my work, reading, writing</p>	<p>Playground bigger School needs to be bigger, need to fix cracks in the walls and floors. School to be fun Science and computer labs Science labs Science labs Snack time every 5 minutes Speak up Supt should visit all the schools Swings, smaller Take out woodchips (soft) Tell us who to help, like on the playground Water fountains</p>	
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Middle School Students

<i>Hopes & Dreams</i>	<i>Do well</i>	<i>Do Better</i>	<i>Vision</i>
<p>Air Force Anesthesiologist Animator Architect At lunch we get to talk and communicate with our BFFs Be reach Beyonce's Asst College Dancer Dancer and singer Design games Finishing school, getting a wonderful education and my hopes and dreams are getting a great job in life, I'd like to be a doctor I'll like to study the different parts of the body and learn a lot so if anyone gets</p>	<p>2nd chances At other school we had no homework Good teachers Learning is fun Listen to music Lunch is free Old school with a nice library Teachers buy me lunch Teachers helping others</p>	<p>Be nice Better bathrooms that don't stink Better computers in computer lab By having better and healthy foods Disrespectful to teachers Don't punish every kid for one's mistake Every special every day Get better lunch Get your education Have everyone "well trained" meaning focused in class and well-behaved, not running around in class and not being disrespectful to adults Have more trust in the students Hot breakfast Let kids use the bathroom when needed Longer lunch</p>	<p>Like: Excellence Missing - too strict, more green zone</p>

<p>injured I'll know right away what to do for that person</p> <p>Get a scholarship</p> <p>Go to a good college</p> <p>Go to college</p> <p>Go to college</p> <p>Graduate middle school</p> <p>Have a very good car, great job, good house</p> <p>Have PJ Day and Halloween costumes and Christmas parties</p> <p>Have twins and live with my best friend and be the richest person and buy my mom a house and go to college</p> <p>Help the homeless</p> <p>I want to be a basketball player, in the NFL, be a boxer like Muhammad Ali</p> <p>I want to have great grades in high school</p> <p>Lawyer or SEAL</p> <p>Learn</p> <p>Learn how to live</p> <p>Learn how to take pictures</p> <p>Let girls wear crop tops</p> <p>Make a change in the world</p> <p>Movie director</p> <p>Never give up on trying</p> <p>No more food fights or detention</p> <p>Sales</p> <p>See the world</p> <p>Speak up for women who do not have a voice</p> <p>Sports</p> <p>Study the stars</p> <p>Superhero</p> <p>Teacher, nurse</p>		<p>More active teachers</p> <p>More field day so get to know each other more</p> <p>More gym every day - 6th grade in big gym</p> <p>More lunch time, field trips</p> <p>More phones</p> <p>No bugs</p> <p>No bullying</p> <p>No bullying</p> <p>No dating</p> <p>No hall monitors, teachers</p> <p>No homework</p> <p>No kissing</p> <p>No math</p> <p>No phones</p> <p>No play fighting</p> <p>No science and English</p> <p>No writing on walls</p> <p>Nor more sitting with class</p> <p>Not being boring</p> <p>Not enough green Zone</p> <p>Not long after school detention for tiny things give them ISS or lunch</p> <p>Plan gym games during lunch because there is only basketball and it is unfair</p> <p>School lunch not good</p> <p>Smaller lockers</p> <p>Spirit weeks - all grades</p> <p>Teachers more fun so far</p> <p>Teachers should be more persuasive for the kids to learn</p> <p>The teachers treat us with less respect than they want in return from the students</p>	
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<p>To become a doctor, nurse, dancer, teacher, boxer, lawyer, famous volley player, vet to help animals, homicide detective, art teacher, NFL player, singer</p> <p>To become a good person to help people</p> <p>To move to California</p> <p>To move to Hawaii</p> <p>Travel the world</p> <p>Try my best at everything</p> <p>Vet</p> <p>Work in a medical field</p> <p>World peace</p>		<p>There's a lot of punishments for bad behavior but no rewards for good behavior</p> <p>To get out early</p> <p>To go to school for 2-3 days a week</p> <p>Too many fights</p> <p>Too many people in the office</p> <p>Treat all the kids the same</p> <p>Try not to be late to class</p> <p>Walking out of class</p>	
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High School Students

<i>Hopes & Dreams</i>	<i>Do well</i>	<i>Do Better</i>
<p>10 year old computer design</p> <p>3d printer in school</p> <p>8th grade textbooks</p> <p>Be successful when you leave</p> <p>Becoming more diverse/ united</p> <p>Better food</p> <p>Better motivation for students</p> <p>Better security</p> <p>Better support from the community</p> <p>Broken bleachers</p> <p>Bugs in lights</p> <p>Chorus</p> <p>Chromebook carts are not enough</p> <p>Depressing - make it more fun</p> <p>Diverse staff</p> <p>Drama club</p> <p>Equipment for weight room</p>	<p>2 lunches</p> <p>Administration helps the "bad" students be motivated to go to class</p> <p>AVID is good at navigating towards college</p> <p>Circle up groups and mediation meetings with kids to help have discussions with students and staff</p> <p>Class works, works for other students</p>	<p>"So diverse we're split"</p> <p>Athletics in different sports don't communicate</p> <p>Attendance policy</p> <p>Avoid tough topics like suicide, race, and sexism</p> <p>A-wing traffic</p> <p>Bad relationships between staff</p> <p>Bathroom quality</p> <p>Bathrooms</p> <p>Bathrooms are not proper/ no privacy</p> <p>Better food</p> <p>Boring, need more activities</p> <p>Bribing students</p> <p>Cafeteria runs out of food too fast</p> <p>Cheaper water bottles</p> <p>Classes are too big</p> <p>Coaches aren't as understanding, more worried about what athletes will do for them than what they can do for us</p>

<p>Everyone graduates and begins work</p> <p>Expand schools</p> <p>Fewer kids but all the resources are at SHS</p> <p>For better communication between students and staff</p> <p>Get the school involved in the community</p> <p>Get to use locker room</p> <p>Guidance counselors help more with college</p> <p>Have more life applicable skills</p> <p>Higher amount of kids going to college</p> <p>Higher graduation rate</p> <p>Higher literacy rate</p> <p>Involve more students in activities</p> <p>Mechanical things in library instead of books and technology</p> <p>Mini store in school</p> <p>More cameras</p> <p>More college opportunities and scholarships</p> <p>More computer classes</p> <p>More one-on-one time</p> <p>More outings for seniors</p> <p>More real-world education</p> <p>More school spirit</p> <p>More social workers</p> <p>New things but old books</p> <p>No candy sales for \$ for field trips</p> <p>No sports, chorus, band, drama</p> <p>Not enough office help</p> <p>Our school is depressing from outside</p> <p>Our sports teams becoming better</p>	<p>Freedom</p> <p>Good support and outreach groups</p> <p>Great fine arts program</p> <p>Groups/ clubs that are supportive and welcoming</p> <p>Guidance</p> <p>Guidance counselors are good at assisting students</p> <p>Hall monitors</p> <p>Having people from the community as staff helps connect with students</p> <p>IB classes</p> <p>Little homework</p> <p>Lots of support</p> <p>More grounded -- need more clubs</p> <p>Motivation and effort behind advanced students</p> <p>Need to get certification/ license when you graduate</p> <p>Professional clothes for jobs</p>	<p>Culinary needs more</p> <p>Discipline - more, biased</p> <p>Disconnect between older and younger students</p> <p>District doesn't care about us</p> <p>Diverse staff</p> <p>Don't learn life applicable skills</p> <p>Dress code (females shamed more than males)</p> <p>Effective hall sweeps</p> <p>Electives</p> <p>Electives that kids want</p> <p>Enrichment groups aren't prompted enough, students don't know about them</p> <p>False advertising</p> <p>Fix heat, AC</p> <p>Fixed vending machines</p> <p>Food</p> <p>Fundraisers led by students</p> <p>Guidance counselors aren't involved enough/ know enough</p> <p>Gym needs more</p> <p>Hall sweeps</p> <p>Hall sweeps</p> <p>Healthier lunches</p> <p>Ignorance to others' cultures and groups</p> <p>ISS</p> <p>It's slowly changing but not enough communication skills happening between staff and students</p> <p>Late according to time of arrival</p> <p>Learning with teachers, need more experience - they don't know their stuff</p> <p>Leaving the cafeteria after entering</p> <p>Lines for lunch are too long</p> <p>Lowkey racist teachers</p> <p>Lunch line</p> <p>More college trips</p> <p>More community-minded than student-centered</p> <p>More experienced teachers</p>
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<p>Prepare you for high school with independence Redo classrooms Remodeled school Safer environment Smartboard doesn't work Students held accountable Study halls instead of opportunities The school can be a safe zone for more kids To be actually prepared for college Way better textbooks Weight room Why wait until we are seniors More global issue conversations/ community conversations Better image for the school; less judgment Less racial profiling Seniors have the ability to speak to kids during orientation More advantages for all kids, not just a select few More mental health supports/ awareness DI Scholarship Graduate early Higher graduation rate Better sports gear Better lunch options School pride Better reputation Safer environment More focus groups</p>	<p>SAT being offered for free Schedules Sports programs Teach methods Teachers have good attitudes The OG program</p>	<p>More field trips More for seniors, more opportunity More funding More inclusive clubs More programs More staff - hall monitors More structure More support in Fine Arts More, new school materials that kids can take home Need more of a voice Need more students and get rid of skippers New textbooks No passes 1st 10/ last 10 No school spirit/ student interest Not enough support for LGBTQIA kids Not having a diverse staff, staff that reflects the community (Schenectady is mostly people of color, why is 94-96% of staff not people of color?) Note the same teacher methods between IB and regular students; regular students aren't pushed the same way Nurse Nurse never here, rude when she is here Phone policy Pre-IB does not prepare for IB Property vacant, not being used Punishments aren't effective Regents not working - need more prep Regular class doesn't get pushed as well as IB kids Rude teachers - told me I was going to fail Safe spaces School funds School has a bad reputation School ID Schools starting and closing doesn't work well Security</p>
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<p>Better heat and AC New track Better girls' locker room Better college scholarship offers Less gang affiliation Win school games</p>		<p>Staff being buddy-buddy Staff not being treated well Student and teacher relationship Students of color are punished harder Students run everything - no staff participation Support for bullied victims Teachers need more supplies/ pay Teachers not as good as at SHS Time of lunch Updated bathrooms and lockers Vending machine Water fountains Window quality</p>
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