

Dear North Hampton School Parents,

You will recall that the North Hampton School Administration, our school board and the SAU 21 office, jointly conducted a survey of NHS parents after the 2015-16 school year. Our intention was to hear from you; to find out what you liked about our school and where you thought improvements could be made.

We presented the results of the survey at a school board meeting in mid August. We have attached that presentation for you to see the detailed results.

What we found out

- There was strong agreement that NHS provides a quality education and 83.5% of parents are satisfied with the overall academic experience provided.
- The majority were also satisfied with the core subject areas, notably 96% of parents were satisfied with reading. There were higher levels of dissatisfaction for math and science as reflected in the satisfaction ratings as well as in some comments.
- Similarly the majority were satisfied with the unified arts program including very strong satisfaction levels with PE and art. There was some dissatisfaction with Spanish and Music. Reviewing the comments showed conflicting parent opinions on both these subjects. For instance some supported the rigor of Spanish, some thought it too difficult.
- A significant number of parents gave neutral scores in ranking special education and guidance. The number of neutral ratings suggested a lack of knowledge of these programs. There are opportunities to improve the satisfaction level of the life skills curriculum.
- While we are fairly well aligned with our vision/mission, 16% disagreed that NHS was sufficiently challenging students to reach their potential.
- Parents are happy with the facility and the resources provided their children.
- Specific areas for improvement in communication include the report card and the website.
- Finally, there is a strong satisfaction level with the leadership of the school administration. However, many were neutral regarding the leadership of the school board and the SAU.

What we are doing this year to improve the school

- Both Science and Mathematics curricular areas are targeted aspects of the 2016/2017 School Improvement Plan (SIP). In the area of Science, we have created a Science Curriculum Committee that is supporting our K-8 Science curriculum in aligning to the Next Generation Science Standards and providing more STEAM opportunities for students. Our work in Mathematics has been focused on developing more K-8 alignment as it relates to curriculum and assessment. Additionally we have been working on supporting our teachers with more resources that are aligned with the Common Core Mathematics Standards.

- Throughout the past 8 months we have had a Report Card Committee that has been working to redesign our report cards in grades K-8. This work has been focused on ensuring the report cards are aligned with curriculum standards as well as making them easier to read and understand.
- Regarding the opportunities for improved communication, the school board has included in its 2016-17 goals the goal of improving communications within the North Hampton community in order to promote transparency, public advocacy and community engagement. A committee has met and begun work to streamline and adopt consistency of current communications as well as add vehicles to better reach parents and the community.

If you have any questions regarding the survey results, please direct them to Rich.

We value your participation and your opinions - over 32% of parents completed the survey and we hope you will continue to provide us feedback. Thank you to all of you who took the time to participate. The plan is to conduct a parent survey annually so we can track our progress and continue to get your opinions on how to make North Hampton School the best school for our community.

Thank you again,
Rich Boardman, Principal

Tracy Griffenhagen, Assistant Principal

James Sununu, School Board Chair

Cindy Burke, School Board Member

Gregg Duffy, School Board Member

Tamara Le, School Board Member

Tom Von Jess, School Board Member

Dr. Bob Sullivan, SAU 21 Superintendent