

## Princeton Strategic Planning Session

### RESULTS FROM COMMUNITY SURVEY OPEN ENDED RESPONSES

#### Strengths

- Strong diverse academic curriculum.
  - Many levels of courses.
  - Broad array of courses
- Many opportunities for students in the areas of music, visual and performing arts, extra and co-curricular activities, and athletics.
- Quality and commitment of teachers.
- Special education programs.
- Parent involvement in child's schooling.

#### Areas Needing Improvement. (Weaknesses)

- Meeting the needs of a more culturally diverse population. Increased sensitivity to cultural, ethnic differences.
- Addressing achievement gaps that exist, culturally, ethnically or socio-economically.
- Less time spent on test preparation and testing and more time spent on creative and innovative teaching.
- Encouraging teachers and students to take risks in a supportive environment.
- Building a sense of community (PHS).
- Meeting the needs of the "middle range" of students.
- Consistency of instruction across classrooms. Consistent quality of teachers across subject matter.
- Community collaboration and partnerships. Better utilization of the talented and unique people who teach at the University and live in the community.
- Better meet the physical, social, and emotional needs of students. Focus on student well-being. Reduce stress and pressure placed on students.
- Staff morale.

- Internal and external communications. External -teacher to parent, district to community. Internal – administration to staff, department to department, teacher to teacher).

Greater transparency.

## Challenges and Opportunities

### Opportunities

- Use of technology and science to enhance instruction, communication, and interpersonal relationships.
- Focus on STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) areas.
- Collaborations. Tap into the diverse and rich community resources and talents.
- Replace standardized testing with more authentic assessments (also a challenge).

### Challenges (Threats)

- Standardized testing and mandates, which restrict creativity and innovative teaching.
- Restricted finances.
- Charter schools that siphon off students and financial resources.
- Maintain high academic achievement, while reducing stress in students.
- Demographic changes. More diverse population (language, culture, achievement levels).
- Maintaining small class sizes in a time of increased student population and restricted finances.
- Political pressures.