2022-23



MOUNTIE MINDS

Advisory Council

Superintendent of Schools **Dr. Erik Gundersen**egundersen@sufferncentral.org

Director of Communications & Community Relations **Jenny Mirmelstein** jmirmelstein@sufferncentral.org

Mountie Minds Meeting - Evening At-A-Glance



6:30 - 6:40: Intro activity

6:40 - 6:50: Review Mountie Mind Sub Group Meetings

6:50 - 7:45: Exploring the Value of Suffern Central and its Future

Mountie Minds Meeting Recaps



- Three Sub-Groups
 - Communications & Parent Engagement
 - Examine systems/processes in place
 - Audit buildings / make suggestions
 - Narrow down/define tools used to communicate
 - Pathways to Graduation
 - LIvely discussion about what DIstrict does well/ what to improve upon around C&I
 - Administrator support / dialogue
 - Multilingual Parent Engagement & Communications update



The Value and Future of Suffern Central School District

Families also shared district strengths that attracted them the district such as the community and district reputation and the quality of education and access to resources the district provides.

Survey Quotes

"We knew we wanted to raise our children in a great neighborhood with excellent schools"

- Middle School Parent

"It was very important that we enrolled our children in a district with a well-rounded education that offered strong academics, athletics, arts, and music. Suffern checked all of those boxes for us.

- High School Parent

"I grew up in Suffern and had a great experience. My kids love their school and I am so thankful that their time in elementary school is filled with wonderful teachers and caring community members.

- Elementary School Parent

From day 1 of kindergarten to 9th and 11th grade at SHS today... the faculty and staff of the Suffern School District have consistently demonstrated great love and support for our children in every way. They continue to love school. They have always loved going to school in Suffern.

High School Parent

Source: DMGroup Suffern CSD Community Survey, Winter 2022



Suffern CSD has a "favorable" Net Promoter Score, measured by the extent to which current families would recommend the district to friends.

Net Promoter Score



Source: DMGroup Suffern CSD Community Survey, Winter 2022

Considering the functional benefits of the district and findings from interviews and focus groups, DMGroup identified the emotional values of the community.



Emotional Benefits



Wants

Access to a variety of programs and supports for students

Enrichment outside of core curriculum

Strong extracurriculars

Community connection and inclusion



Needs

Safety

Strong academic programming

High quality teachers

Programming attuned to student need

Fears

Decline of quality of academics and access to programming District resources being threatened and potentially decreasing

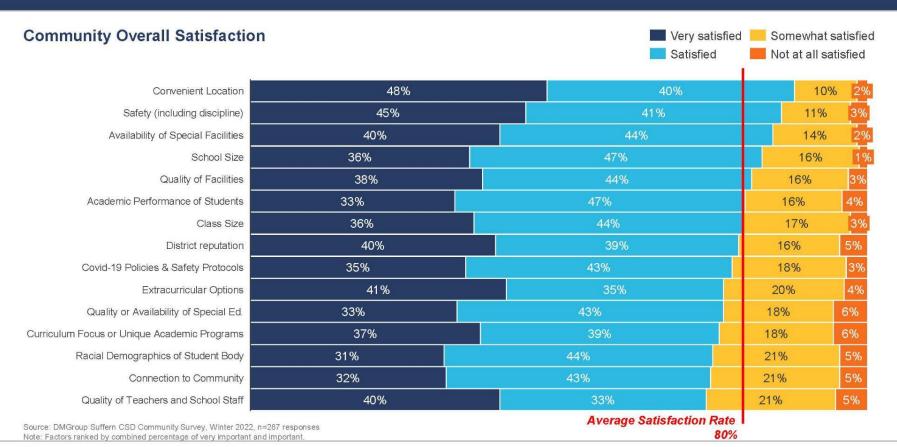
Future of the district

The community needs to be reassured, either through action or communications, that the district is working to ensure the future of the district.

Source: DMGroup Suffern CSD Community Survey and Focus Groups 2022



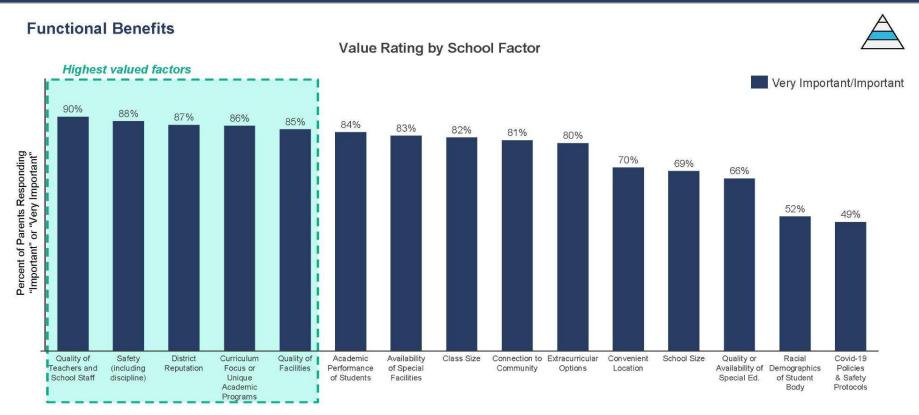
Nearly 75% of respondents were "very satisfied" or "satisfied" with all key district factors and families are most satisfied with location, safety, and extracurriculars.



District Management Group

19

Surveyed families place the most value on quality of teachers and staff, safety, the district's reputation, curriculum and academic programs, and quality of facilities.

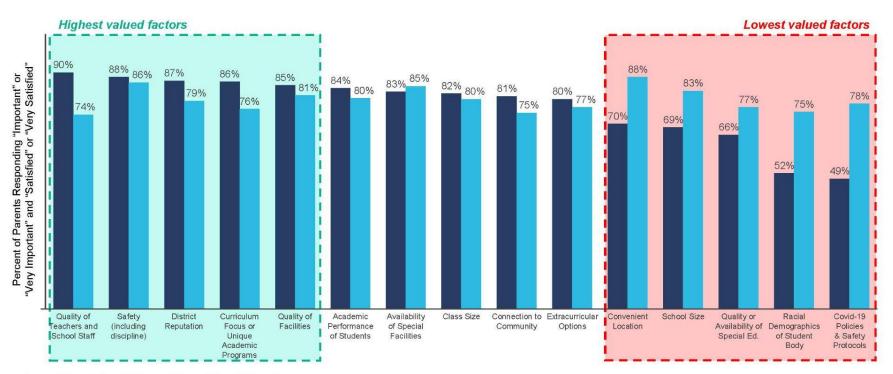


Source: DMGroup Suffern CSD Community Survey, Winter 2022, n=287 responses



Families in Suffern CSD are relatively less satisfied with factors of high value and relatively more satisfied with factors of lower value.





Source: DMGroup Suffern CSD Community Survey, Winter 2022, n=287 responses

Consider the attributes with the highest rates of dissatisfaction.

Discussion

1. How would you define Suffern CSD's approach to or features of:

- Quality and availability of special education services
- Curriculum focus and unique academic programs
- Quality of teachers and staff
- Connection to community
- District reputation
- Racial demographics of the student body

2. Are there opportunities to improve how the community perceives these features?



Where do we go from here...