



Hillman Community Schools
Stakeholder Survey Results and Focus Group Feedback

Executive Summary

May 1, 2023

SURVEY RESULTS

The community stakeholder survey for strategic planning was designed to collect feedback that is representative of the values, beliefs, and hopes for the future of the Hillman learning community. The purpose of this executive summary is to provide the strategic planning team and the community at large an overview of the feedback in consideration of next steps in the planning process. Respondents included students, parents, staff, teachers, community members, and administrators. A total of 292 respondents answered questions that lifted up values and beliefs nested in two overarching themes:

- Teaching and learning, and
- Variables that impact learning

Respondents were also asked to describe their perceptions of the purpose of the school district as well as rank Hillman Community Schools on a zero to ten scale (zero being the lowest ranking and ten as the highest). Finally, respondents were asked to provide open-ended feedback for any scores lower than a 10.

BELIEFS ABOUT TEACHING AND LEARNING

The Michigan Virtual Learning Research Institute analyzed all respondents' feedback and compiled themes for further dialogue and consideration in the development of the strategic plan. It is important to note that respondents to the survey were able to select four choices in quantifying their belief around any given statement or question:

- Great
- Moderate
- Slight
- Not at all

For the purposes of this summary, responses were aggregated to include all stakeholder groups. Furthermore, the percentages of “great” or “moderate” responses were combined to articulate an overall percentage for any given question or statement.

**Top three:**

- 90% of respondents greatly agreed or moderately agreed that *the school environment should be built on mutual respect, trust, and the development of healthy relationships.*
- 89% of respondents greatly agreed or moderately agreed that *education should be a learning process that is joyful and elicits curiosity.*
- 89% of respondents greatly agreed or moderately agreed that *high-quality educational opportunities should be available to all students.*

Additional items for consideration:

- 88% of respondents greatly agreed or moderately agreed that *a student's learning experience should be tailored to their passions and future pathways.*
- 88% of respondents greatly agreed or moderately agreed that *the school environment should honor diversity and value the talents, experiences, and perspectives of all learners within the school community.*
- 87% of respondents greatly agreed or moderately agreed that *students and staff should maintain high expectations for their own performance and strive toward excellence.*
- 87% of respondents greatly agreed or moderately agreed that *open and transparent communication is needed to build a strong school culture.*
- 85% of respondents greatly agreed or moderately agreed that *learning experiences for students should be designed based on the individual needs of students.*

BELIEFS ABOUT VARIABLES IMPACTING LEARNING**Top three:**

- 90% of respondents greatly agreed or moderately agreed on the importance of *having a school learning environment that is safe and secure with up-to-date facilities.*
- 89% of respondents greatly agreed or moderately agreed on the importance of *having teachers and staff that utilize effective and proven instructional strategies.*
- 85% of respondents greatly agreed or moderately agreed on the importance of *having options to learn in real-world situations such as internships or community-based field experiences.*

Additional items for consideration:

- 83% of respondents greatly agreed or moderately agreed on the importance of *having student and teacher schedules that are developed to accommodate the individual needs or pathways of students.*



THE PURPOSE OF HILLMAN COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

Below is a word cloud that captures the respondents' feedback surrounding the purpose of the Hillman Community Schools. The words found below with a larger text indicate a greater frequency in like responses. As an example, there were a number of respondents who used the words educate/education, learn, teach, prepare, and purpose in answering this question.



0-10 FEEDBACK

On a scale of 0-10, respondents were asked to rank the quality of education at Hillman Community Schools. A total of 296 stakeholders responded to this question. The mean score from all respondents was a 7.05 and median score was a 7. The mode (or most frequent response) was a score of 10 with 73 respondents; which represents approximately 25% of the sampling. Below is a frequency table that articulates this portion of the survey feedback. Scores 0, 1, 2, and 3 accounted for 10.8% of the sampling. Scores 4, 5, 6 accounted for 22.3% of the sampling. Scores 7, 8, 9 and 10 represented 67.2% of the sampling. Also found below is a word cloud that represents feedback surrounding ideas for continuous improvement. Like the preceding word cloud, the size of the text is in relation to the frequency of responses (larger font equates to more responses).

* Note - mean percentages in the frequency table were rounded to the tenth.



Score	Number of Responses	Percentage of Sample	Response Bands
0	6	2.0%	10.8%
1	11	3.7%	
2	8	2.7%	
3	7	2.4%	
4	11	3.7%	22.3%
5	31	10.5%	
6	24	8.1%	
7	56	18.9%	67.2%
8	47	15.9%	
9	22	7.4%	
10	73	25.0%	

