

Focus Group: Harriton High School Students from the POWER Program

Date: 3/18/14, 3/19/14, and 3/21/14

SWOT

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities	Threats
Sport Programs	Food (price/quality)	Changing schedule to allow college students to come here (longer hours)	Redistricting students
Teacher take time for students/Teachers are available to students (RAM, after school, Help center)	Start time (we are sleep deprived)	More internships	Population
Communicate well	Advisory (every A day)/Advisory shouldn't be required for upper classes	More "real life" lessons from colleges	Drugs
Fair grades	Challenge	Military (Jr. Rotc)	School doesn't have enough in the budget
Courses help to prepare for the future	World Language Options	Hands on work	Online Education
Technology/Laptops	Testing (too much)	College like classes	
Free periods	Too much focus on grades	More E.C.	
Electives (art, tech, fitness)	Bullying in our School	Drill teams/cap group	
Safety in School	Dress code needs to be influenced/ uniforms are needed	Team up with Wawa	
	some topics are in certain classes are hard to understand		
	Too much work		
	There is a visible lack of discipline in the school		
	Restricted Internet access interferes with learning		
	RAM should be teacher assigned so more can get done		
	Need more "real life skills" classes especially during senior year/ learn to write checks		
	No school spirit		
	No enough 1:1 time		
	Not enough black history/no afro-centric perspective		
	Homework causes stress; too much		
	Support isn't constant		
	Connection between tests and study guides		
Key Questions			
1. What should school look like ten years from now?	2. What should a Lower Merion School District graduate look like? What are the skills, attitudes, and dispositions that we want for all students?	3. What do we value as a District? How do we hold onto our traditions while simultaneously embracing change?	
Partnerships with different schools	"Book" & independent learning/practical smart		
Senior year should be different	Good communication		

it should feel "warm" in the building; more on the walls; more fun	Prepared to work		
more interactions between students and teachers outside of the classroom	Work experience		
more spirit	Help students understand what skills/content they need for a career- be well informed		
no standardized tests/Keystones	School shouldn't have control over students to keep them in the same grade over for years		
student control over what to learn/Should be able to pick all the classes you want	Stress free		
learn about what we are doing into the world	Graduate with a positive attitude		
High school needs to prepare us for the world without stress	More revolutionized with selective classes and more strict leaning purposes		
It should have a staff of great teachers, different electives that will help them with their future careers			
Good food/food will get nastier			
Advanced Technology/more technology Distinctive Classes			
Less test/no test's at all			
grade isn't mainly dependent on test Grade			
College Classes			
Hands on work			
a mandatory minimum amount of credits			
Less stressful faces			
less academic and more imaginative classes			
no grade systems			
Flex hours			
Help in the building			
Green space School			
More SAT and ACT test opportunities			
Flexibility in subject choice			
Black History Class			
New Books			
More Kids			
4 day week			
Start Later and end later/Start early and end early/Start late and end earlier			
More opportunities			
more colorful			
Good education			
More learning			

More of a diverse school			
Smaller			
naptime			
Better campus			
Online classes			
More courses available			
More field Trips			
ISS is not a punishment/should be taken away			
No more worksheets			
More connections			
Take your own classes			
Our Look, (rank as in school)			
Dress codes will change			
More minorities			
Not as strict			
Seniors should leave half day			
We are going to be able to leave during lunch			
We value the students and we will keep doing that by communicating with them			
Have a growth mindset			
given every opportunity			
independent English classes			
Tutor opportunity increase			
Culture Class like POWER but for all people /Black History Class/Be multidimensional/More of a diverse school			
Not supportive for poor athletics			