

Focus Group: Inter-School Council (ISC)

Date: 3/11/14

Key Questions

1 What should school look like ten years from now?

- 30 cross-curricular instruction
- 23 decrease standardized testing
- 21 foster innovative creativity
- 14 flex schedule / later start time
- 9 less electronics - build skills
- 8 change in staff training / focus on creativity & individual child
- 4 reduce homework load
- 4 writing / focus on creative writing
- 3 sleep / physical exercise
- 2 improve nutrition
- 2 teach stress reduction skills

2 What should a Lower Merion School District graduate look like? What are the skills, attitudes, and dispositions that we want for all students)?

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| 24 critical thinker (not bubble test taker) | 4 caring |
| 11 good contributing citizens | 4 self-director |
| 8 compassionate | 4 tech savvy |
| 8 curious | 4 time management |
| 8 life-long love of learning | 3 deep reading skills |
| 8 written communication | 3 honesty |
| 6 creative | 3 well-rounded |
| 6 globally aware | 2 open-minded |
| 6 writer | 1 well read |
| | 0 competitive |

3 What do we value as a district? How do we hold onto our traditions while embracing change?

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| 15 teacher quality | 1 college |
| 12 critical thinking | 1 enrichment / balance |
| 12 happiness / well adjusted | 1 extra curricular activities |
| 11 contribution to community | 1 legacy |
| 11 individual development | 1 mission |
| 9 progressive | 1 parent contribution |
| 6 learning | 1 service |
| 4 creativity | 0 engaged |
| 3 basics | 0 excellence |
| 3 innovative | 0 graduate education |
| 2 curriculum quality | 0 history / alumni / generations |
| | 0 student/teacher ratio |
| | 0 testing? / accountability |