

Focus Group: Young Alumni

Date: June 23, 2014

SWOT

| Strengths | Weaknesses | Opportunities | Threats |
|---|--|---|-----------------|
| Prepared for college | Writing instruction should be improved so it's not just the 5-paragraph essay (no one writes a 5-paragraph essay in college) | Use technology, like Twitter and Naviance | None identified |
| Club variety | More connections between students and advisors/mentors are needed | Alumni Development | |
| Leadership opportunities | Knowledge of resources in the building and in the "real" world is lacking | Could follow a "college" model | |
| Learned how to learn; how to study | More experiences should be available to students: Practical, Vocational, Military | Social media/messaging | |
| Teachers showed concern/care for students | There should be more emphasis on civics and current events and trends | Reflection on student experience | |
| Learned about character | Exposure to business knowledge should be more available | Mindfulness/connect experiences | |
| Experienced a sense of community | Entrepreneurship isn't really addressed in the curriculum, but should be | Alumni could be mentors to students | |
| Learned to be open to new people, ideas, etc. | Public speaking skills should be emphasized more in all classes | Develop more internships and networks for students | |
| | Senior project needs more structure | Workshops could be offered during senior project and during the school year in other grades | |
| | Elective reputation should be strengthened; they should be as important as "core" classes | Offer more courses or embed knowledge about programming and coding into existing courses | |

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| | Emphasize writing in all classes; not just in English class | | |
| | There should be more consistency in the quality of teacher instruction across the school | | |
| | Teachers should be more available before/after school | | |
| | More common experience between CP & H in terms of skills | | |
| | Revamp AR | | |
| | More emphasis on speaking skills in World Language | | |