HALTON CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD CDSB

2020-2021 Budget Consultation

SURVEY REPORT

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Research & Development Services
3/20/2020

Contents

Survey Background 3

Survey Results 3

About the Respondents: Demographics 3

Question Summaries 4

Q1: How satisfied are you with the quality of the school's facilities? 4

Q2: Which of the following school building components do you believe require additional investment? 6

Q3: Which of the following Faith initiatives do you find essential to strengthening faith formation? 8

Q4: Which of the following areas in Special Education should HCDSB focus on during 2020-21? 8

Q5: Parent involvement is instrumental in student achievement. How might HCDSB engage parents to participate in our schools and learn more about supporting student achievement? 9

Q6: What areas of Information Technology (IT) would you like to see strengthened in the upcoming year? 10

Q7: Do you have any ideas or thoughts on where the Board of Trustees can find savings and/or efficiencies for the Board? 11

Appendix A 14

Appendix B 51

Appendix C 54

Appendix D 60

Appendix E 65

Appendix F 69

2020-2021 Budget Consultation
SURVEY REPORT

Survey Background

The Halton Catholic District School Board (HCDSB) was interested in seeking stakeholder input about the 2020-2021 budget to help identify potential areas for achieving savings and efficiencies, while also continuing to meet the needs of all learners in the Catholic system. While many HCDSB stakeholders provided their opinions on the 2020-2021 budget survey, the results are not representative of the entire HCDSB community and should be interpreted with caution.

The HCDSB community was invited to participate in the online survey between Wednesday February 19th and Wednesday March 4th, 2020. In total, 1101 responses were received. Responses are aggregated and discussed below.

Survey Results

About the Respondents: Demographics

Respondents were asked to indicate their role[1] (see *Table 1* for a summary). Overall, most of the respondents (78.1%) were ***parents/caregivers/guardians.***

Table 1. **Respondents' Roles**

Role	Count (n)	Percentage (%)
Parent/Caregiver/Guardian	**860**	**78.1%**
HCDSB Staff	190	17.3%
HCDSB Student	39	3.5%
Community Resident	5	0.5%
Other	3	0.3%
Parish	3	0.3%
Community Partner	1	0.1%
Total	**1101**	**100%**

[1] Respondents were only able to select one of the roles from the provided list.

If respondents selected *HCDSB Staff*, *HCDSB Student*, or *Parent/Caregiver/Guardian* as their role, they were then asked to select their school(s)[2] or place of work. Overall, the majority of respondents (75%) were part of the *elementary* panel (see *Table 2* for a summary).

Table 2. **Respondents' Panel/Work Location**

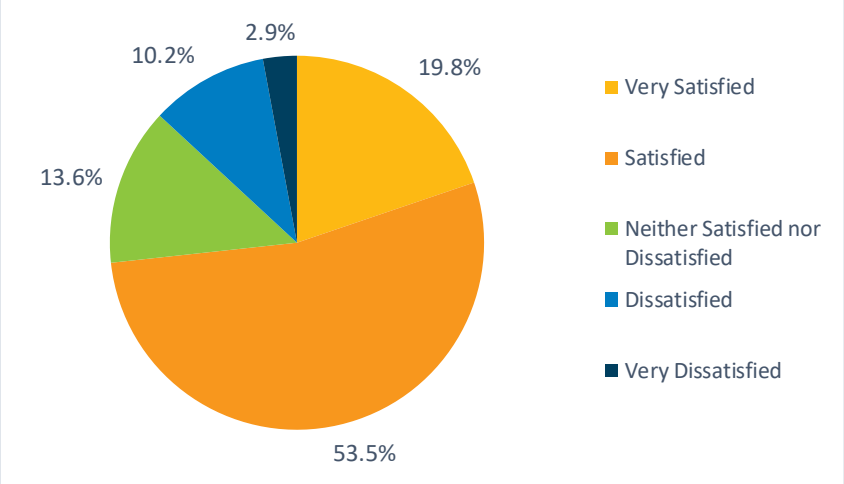
Panel/Work Location	Count (n)	Percentage (%)
Elementary	817	75.0%
Secondary	331	30.4%
CEC	30	2.8%

Question Summaries

Q1: How satisfied are you with the quality of the school's facilities?

This question was only asked to respondents who are associated with a school or the CEC office (i.e., staff, parent/caregiver/guardian, students). Parents who indicated that they have children in different schools were able to answer this question multiple times for each school they selected. Overall, the majority of respondents (73.3%; n = 439) were either *satisfied* or *very satisfied* with their school's facilities (see *Figure 1*)[3].

Figure 1. **Overall Satisfaction with School Facilities (n = 1198)**



[2] Parents with children in different schools were able to select more than one school, and so the n may be larger than the survey n.

[3] Note that the CEC office is included in this analysis, n may be larger than the survey n.

Similar results with respect to satisfaction with facilities were found for each panel and for the CEC office. That is, the majority of respondents were either *satisfied* or *very satisfied* with their school/work facilities (see *Figures 2*, *3*, and *4* for the elementary, secondary, and CEC office breakdowns, respectively).

Figure 2. **Satisfaction with School Facilities: Elementary Panel (n = 837)**

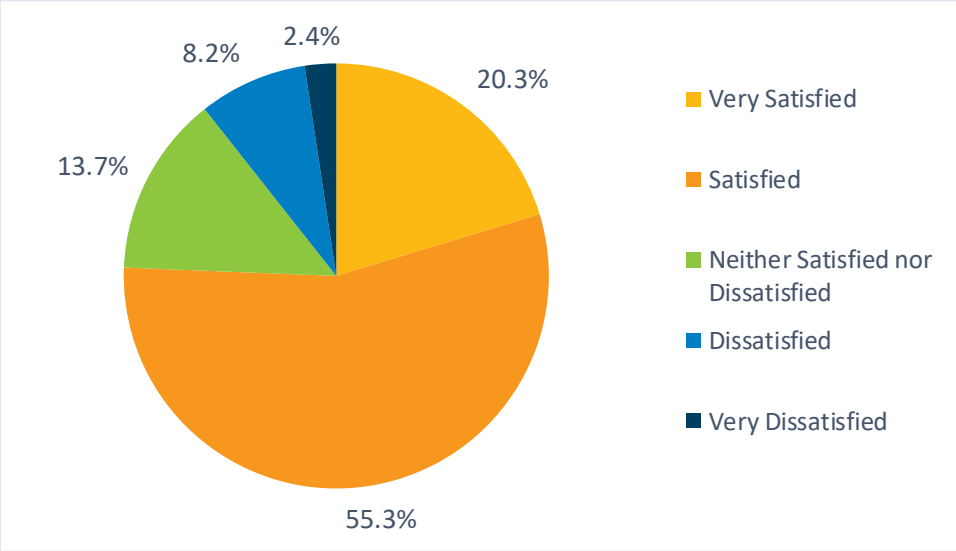


Figure 3. **Satisfaction with School Facilities: Secondary Panel (n = 331)**

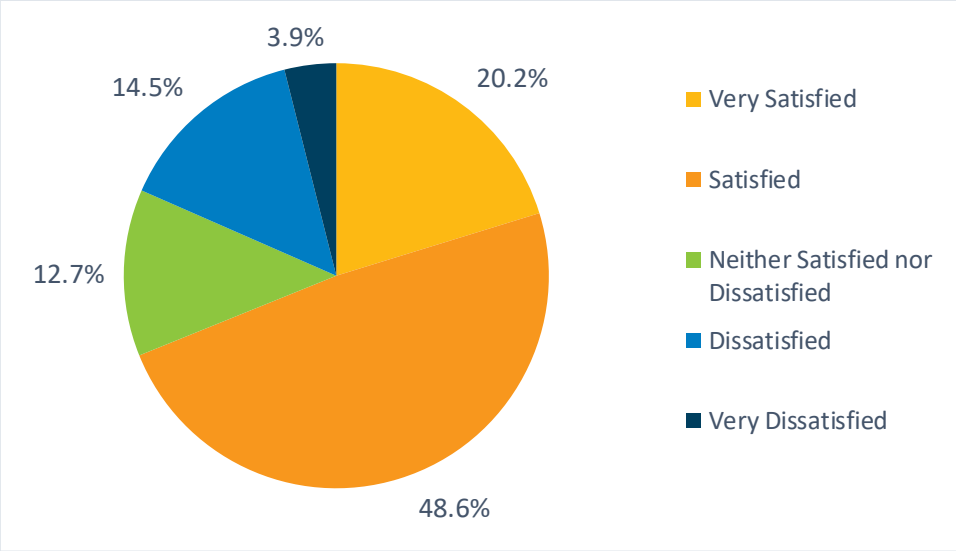
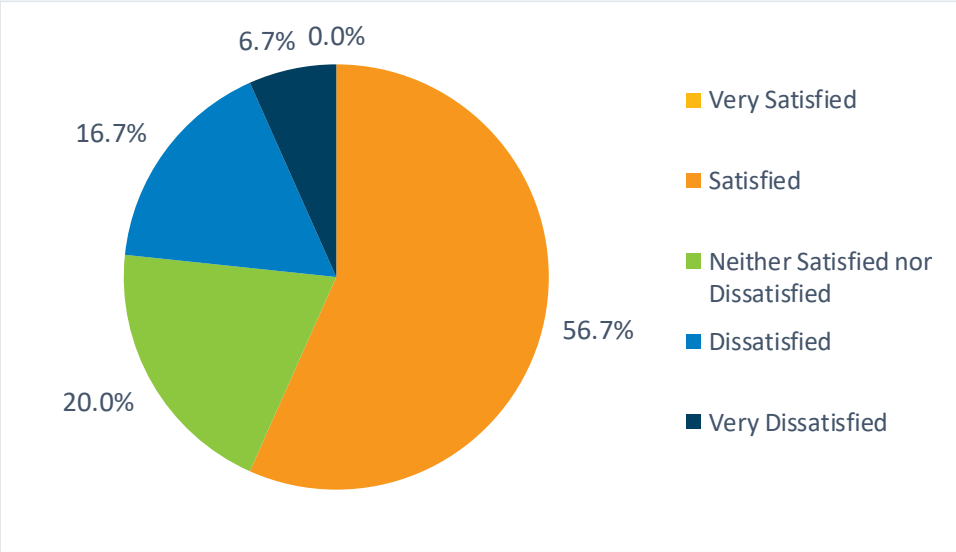


Figure 4. **Satisfaction with Location Facilities: CEC Office (n = 30)**



Q2: Which of the following school building components do you believe require additional investment?

Respondents were asked to select all of the school building components they believed required additional investment at their school/work location (see *Figure 5*). Overall, the three most selected answers were: ***Outdoor play areas, fields*** (47%; n = 531); ***Washrooms*** (35%; n = 391); and ***Classroom furniture*** (25%; n = 285). If respondents selected *Other*, they were able to provide a comment. There were 245 respondents who selected *Other;* their comments have been organized by school and can be found in *Appendix A*, as can each school's breakdown of which building components require upgrades.

Figure 5. **Summary of School Building Components Requiring Additional Investment: Overall (n = 1126)**

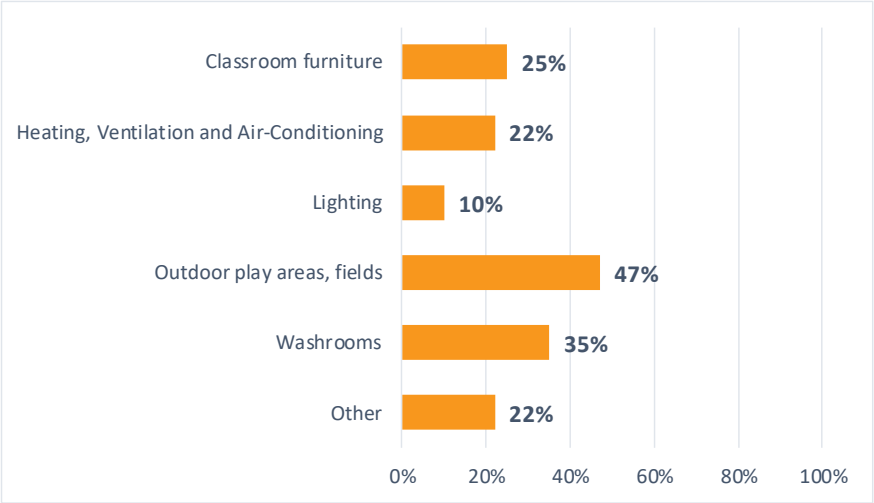
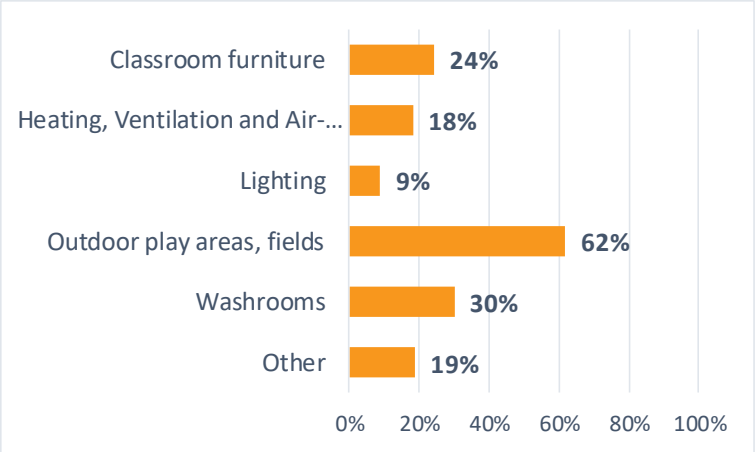
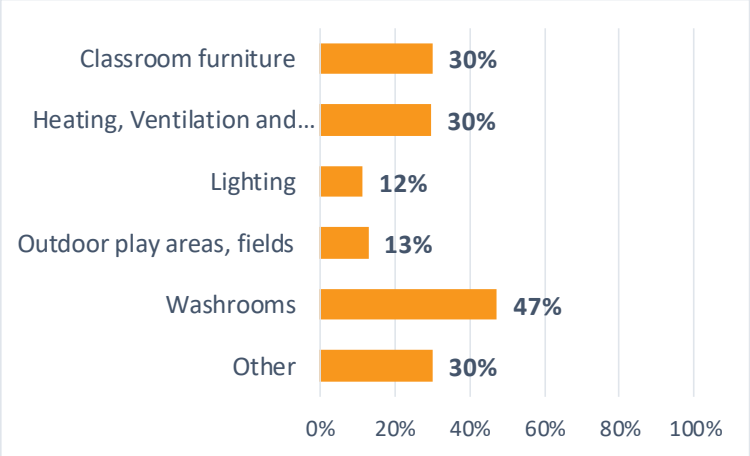


Figure 6. **Summary of School Building Components Requiring Additional Investment in the Elementary Panel (n = 795)**



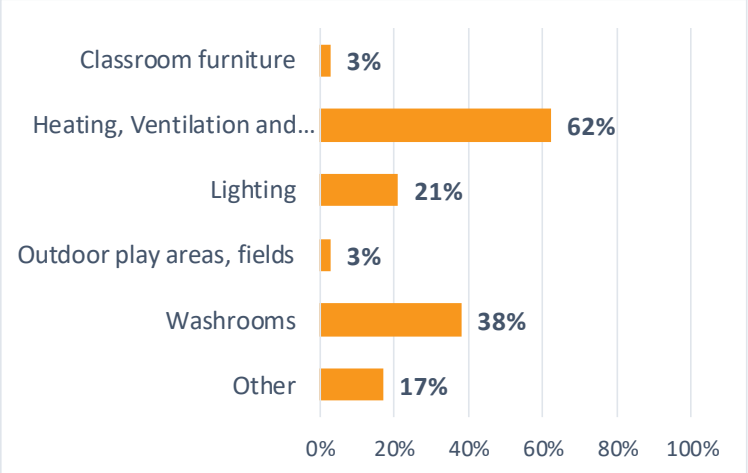
Outdoor play areas, fields was the most selected response by respondents in the elementary panel.

Figure 7. **Summary of School Building Components Requiring Additional Investment in the Secondary Panel (n = 302)**



Washrooms was the most selected response by respondents in the secondary panel.

Figure 8. **Summary of School Building Components Requiring Additional Investment at the CEC Office (n = 29)**

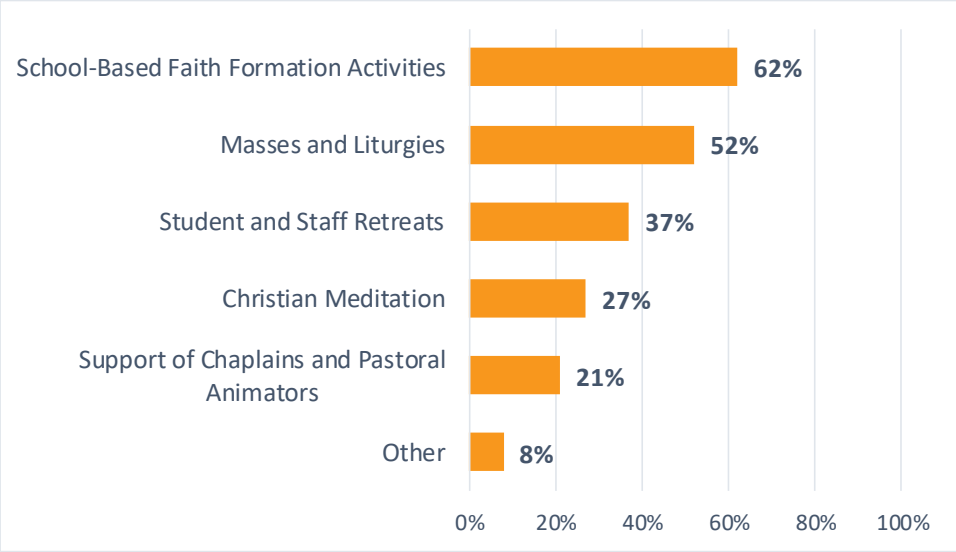


Heating, Ventilation and Air-Conditioning was the most selected response by respondents at the CEC Office.

Q3: Which of the following Faith initiatives do you find essential to strengthening faith formation?

Respondents were asked to select all of the faith initiatives that they believe to be essential to strengthening faith formation (see *Figure 9*). More than half of respondents selected ***School-Based Faith Formation Activities*** (62%; n = 648) and ***Masses and Liturgies*** (52%; n = 543). There were 87 respondents that selected ***Other***; responses can be found in *Appendix B*.

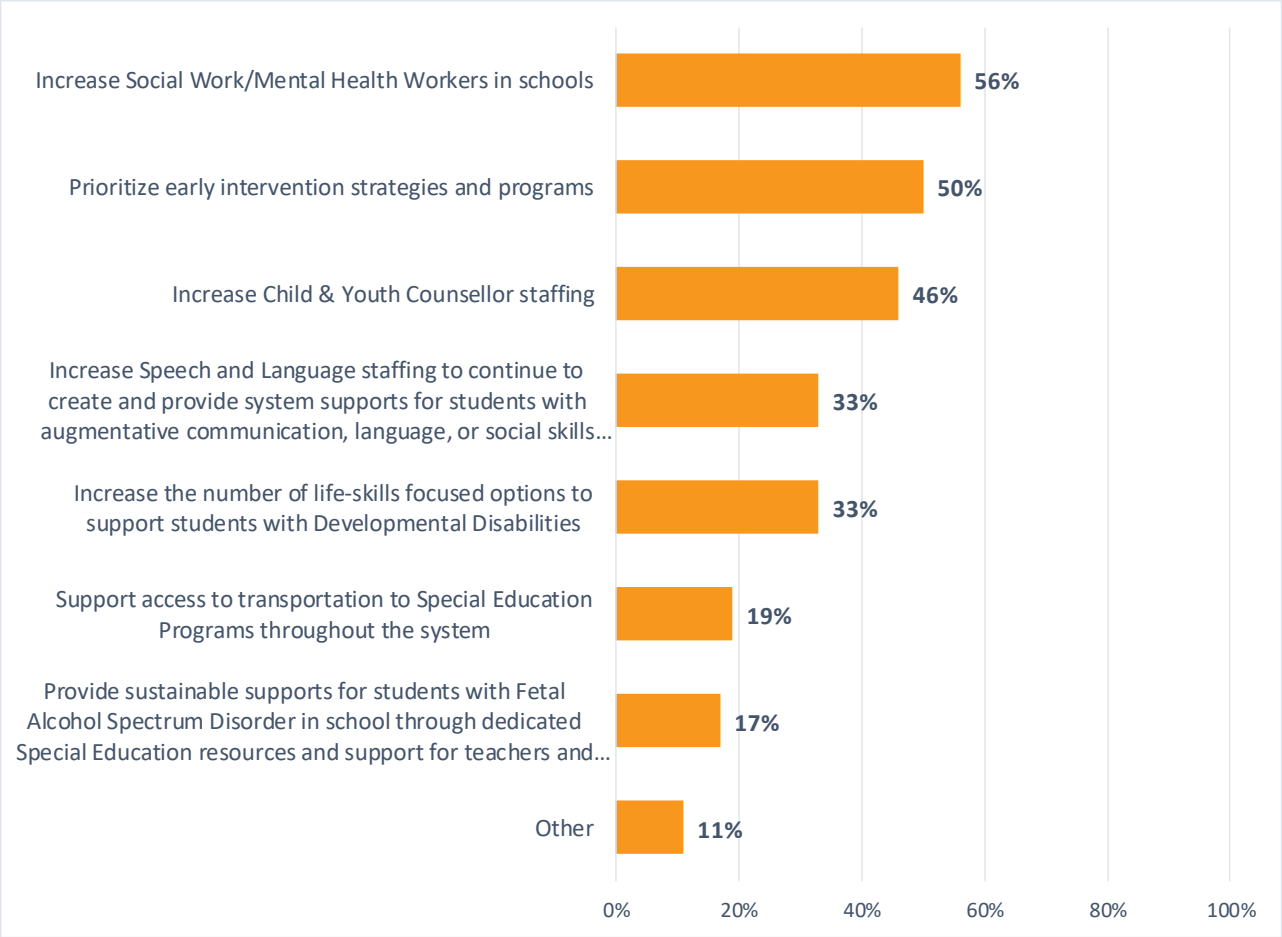
Figure 9. **Summary of Faith Initiatives (n= 1045)**



Q4: Which of the following areas in Special Education should HCDSB focus on during 2020-21?

Respondents were asked to select all of the areas in Special Education that they believe HCDSB should focus on during 2020-21 (see *Figure 10*). More than half of respondents selected ***Increase Social Work/Mental Health Workers in schools*** (56%; n = 599). Half of respondents selected ***Prioritize early intervention strategies and programs*** (50%; n = 534). There were 122 respondents that selected ***Other***; responses can be found in *Appendix C*.

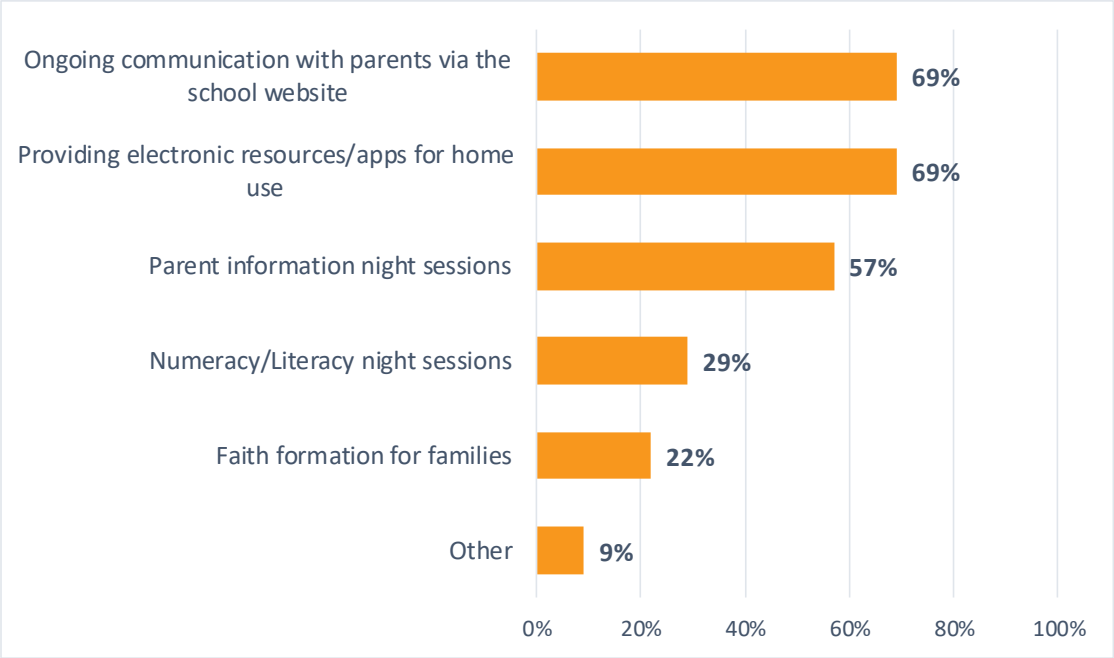
Figure 10. **Summary of Special Education Areas of Focus (n =1066)**



Q5: Parent involvement is instrumental in student achievement. How might HCDSB engage parents to participate in our schools and learn more about supporting student achievement?

Respondents were asked to select all of the ways in which HCDSB might engage parents to participate in our schools and learn more about supporting student achievement (see *Figure 11*). More than half of respondents selected the following three response options: ***Ongoing communication with parents via the school website*** (69%; n = 742); ***Providing electronic resources/apps for home use*** (69%; n = 739); ***Parent information night sessions*** (57%; n = 609). There were 99 respondents that selected ***Other***; responses can be found in *Appendix D*.

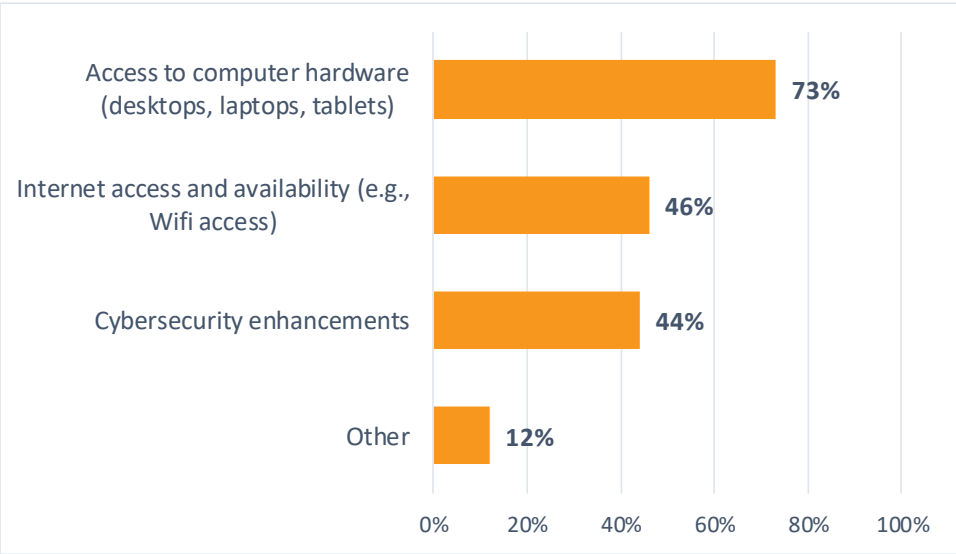
Figure 11. **Summary of Parental Involvement Suggestions (n = 1069)**



Q6: What areas of Information Technology (IT) would you like to see strengthened in the upcoming year?

Respondents were asked to select all the areas of IT that they would like to see strengthened in the upcoming year (see *Figure 12*). More than half of respondents selected ***Access to computer hardware (desktops, laptops, tablets)*** (73%; n = 730). There were 121 respondents that selected ***Other***, responses can be found in *Appendix E*.

Figure 12. **Summary of Areas in Need of Strengthening for Information Technology (n= 998)**



Q7: Do you have any ideas or thoughts on where the Board of Trustees can find savings and/or efficiencies for the Board?

Respondents were asked if they had additional ideas or thoughts about where savings and/or efficiencies can be found for the Board; there were 300 ideas or thoughts submitted for this question. The responses can be aggregated into the following common themes: (1) ***Efficient Management of School/Board Operations***; (2) ***Efficient Staffing of Schools/Board***; and (3) ***School Programming and Supports.*** Note that some responses mentioned where to increase or move funding to, rather than where savings and/or efficiencies could be found.

A number of sub-themes are also provided down below. Please note that the percentage provided with each theme refers to the proportion of respondents whose comment aligns with said theme. These themes do not account for all opinions expressed in the survey, but they do provide a summary of the most frequent themes found in the comments. Some of the responses are listed multiple times, under various themes. We have provided examples for each theme below, but to read all of the responses received please see *Appendix F*.

THEME 1: EFFICIENT MANAGEMENT OF SCHOOL/BOARD OPERATIONS (n = 102; 34%):

a) **SUB-THEME: Manage our consumables and the budget allotted for classroom/school supplies more efficiently** (e.g., printing, paper, devices, etc.) (17%; n = 51).

Examples:

"Go paperless for everyday tasks and meetings. Save on paper costs and copier repairs"

"More access to technology that actually works"

b) **SUB-THEME: Consider fundraising to raise funds for school needs** (5.6%; n = 17).

Examples:

"I think the schools could do more fundraising. Such as selling products that the school could benefit from as a fundraiser such as wrapping paper, greeting cards, chocolate bars...etc whatever is available these days as a school fundraiser…"

"… I'm thinking that additional opportunities for fundraising within the legal frame of the school could help to close the budget gaps and I assume parents will support additional efforts…"

c) **SUB-THEME: More efficient use of energy** (4.0%; n = 12).

Examples:

"Lights need to be turned off when there is nobody in the room in order to safe electricity. All lights do not need to be on in the classroom at all times as electricity bill will be higher."

"Strategic sustainability initiatives can save money/create quantifiable efficiencies–solar panels as part of roof replacement capital projects (economic/environmental impacts),… take advantage of natural classroom light with more plants for air quality and consider solar-powered countertop fans for air circulation even in winter, install motion sensor light switches when renovating, install more power bars/strips for tech and non-tech plug-in devices to reduce stand-by power usage."

d) **SUB-THEME: Reduce spending on Board expenditures, such as catered meetings, retreats, mileage,** etc. (4.0%; n = 12).

Examples:

"Perhaps cut costs of non-essential things like food at meetings or rentals for when superintendents or principals meet together… "

"I suggest reducing the number of times staff (including administrators) are called off site for meetings. Costs incurred such as mileage and supply teacher costs can be prevented. Oftentimes these meetings can be via conference call or email."

THEME 2: EFFICIENT STAFFING OF SCHOOLS/BOARD (23.3%; n = 70)

a) **SUB-THEME: Reassess school and board staff positions, including eliminating certain positions that are not deemed necessary** (12.3%; n = 37).

Examples:

"I think the board should look at all areas to find savings and efficiencies. Look closely at the board staff and trustees and find ways to save money there and not just cut costs within the schools themselves. Costs should be cut from the top not the bottom."

"cut HCDSB upper management. HCDSB is top heavy"

b) **SUB-THEME: Limit school and board staff wages, benefits, and sick days** (8%; n = 24).

Examples:

"Cap the salaries of all staff. Reduce sick time and allow no carry over of sick days."

"The board & trustees should not be taking wage increases at this time. More effort should go towards savings within administration"

THEME 3: SCHOOL PROGRAMMING AND SUPPORTS (16.3%; n = 49)

a) **SUB-THEME: More support for Special Education programming, via more support staff, private support workers, resources etc.** (4.7%; n = 14).

Examples:

"Reduce the number of consultants, and put that money to towards supporting the students with more Educational Assistants and support staff (speech therapists etc.)."

"I would say invest in Special Education, especially in services for Autism. These should include more access to SPL, and possible behavioural and OT. Special education department should have a quicker process for psycho-educational assessments. Teachers in special education should be trained to work with students with Autism…"

b) **SUB-THEME: Cut/reduce the funding for non-core French programming** (3.7%; n = 11)

Examples:

"…Cut French immersion or at least the transportation costs. French immersion classes should be combined into split grades in junior and intermediate when the numbers drop"

"Spend where you can impact more kids and don't consider opening programs like the French immersion that will only impact a few students…"

c) **SUB-THEME: Use e-learning/online courses** (2.3%; n = 7)

Examples:

"…Offer well-thought-out online learning options to supplement, not replace classroom learning at all levels."

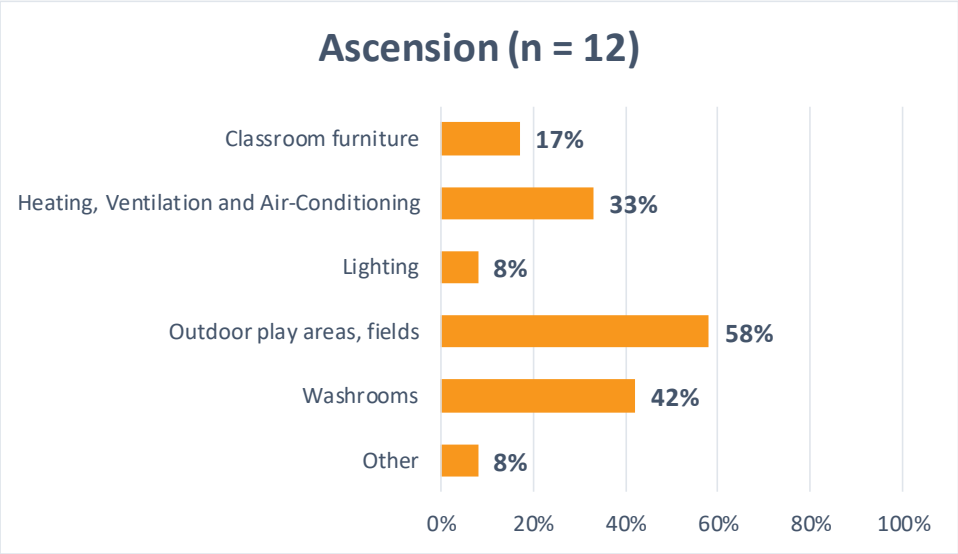
"Online and e-learning activities/courses can assist to reduce costs…"

Appendix A

NOTE: Consider the total number of respondents (n) when interpreting the percentage provided.

Ascension:

Overall, the majority of the respondents from Ascension felt *satisfied* or *very satisfied* with the school's facilities (83%). A breakdown of what building components should be invested in is below.

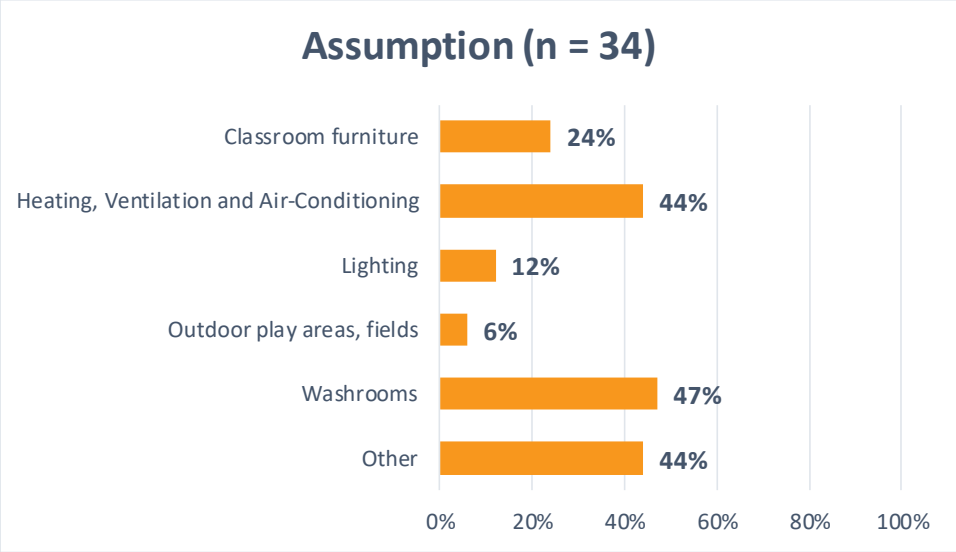


Ascension: 'Other' comments:

Soccer and voleyball equipment and air conditioning in all school. The classroom are so hot. Kids have to bring ice at school. Food deteriorate easily.

Assumption:

Overall, 37% of the respondents from Assumption felt *satisfied* or *very satisfied* with the school's facilities. A breakdown of what building components should be invested in is below.

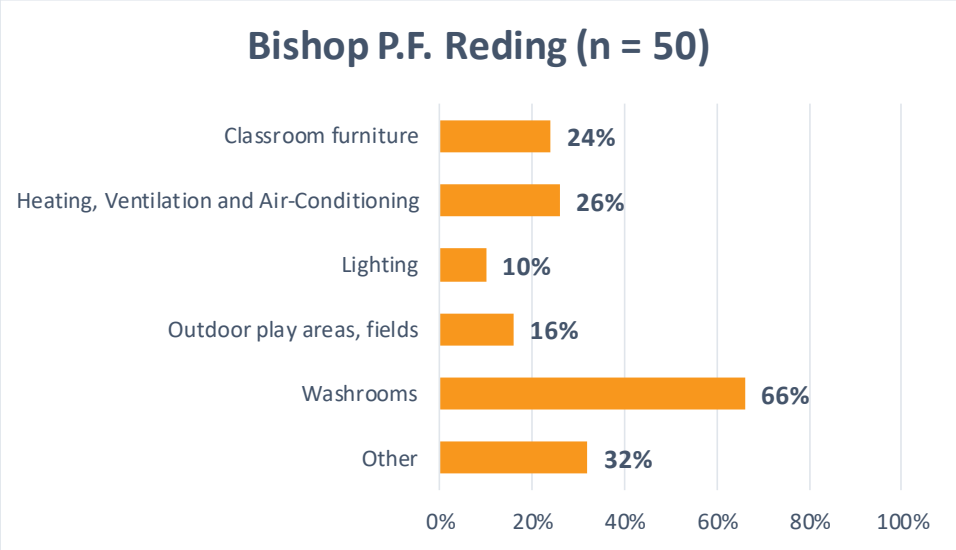


Assumption: 'Other' comments:

All the construction had been way too long and disruptive to students. The students will have spent 2 full years under massive construction or have been displaced to another school. They don't even have a library for this whole year
an additional full gym...also a source of revenue for the school. Assumption doesn't have one full size gym and the renovation isn't correcting that issue.
Completion of the renovation!
Construction is poor - delivery is shameful - quality of what is complete poor
Currently school is being renovated... gym wasn't improved on and my son barely did anything in his wood shop class first semester because the ventilation system wasn't working properly.
Finished the actual project
hard to know until the never ending construction is finished
Hard to say as the school is currently undergoing a renovation which is taking way longer than planned - but we don't know what it will look like after. Hoping it will give kids more space to hang out, do homework etc.
n/a School being rehabilitated.
Once the renovation is complete I am sure it will be great.
Renovation needs to be completed
theatre, performance space
This school needs to get the renovations finished - fast.
Waiting for reno
Waiting for reno

Bishop P.F. Reding:

Overall, the majority of the respondents from Bishop P.F. Reding felt *satisfied* or *very satisfied* with the school's facilities (53%). A breakdown of what building components should be invested in is below.

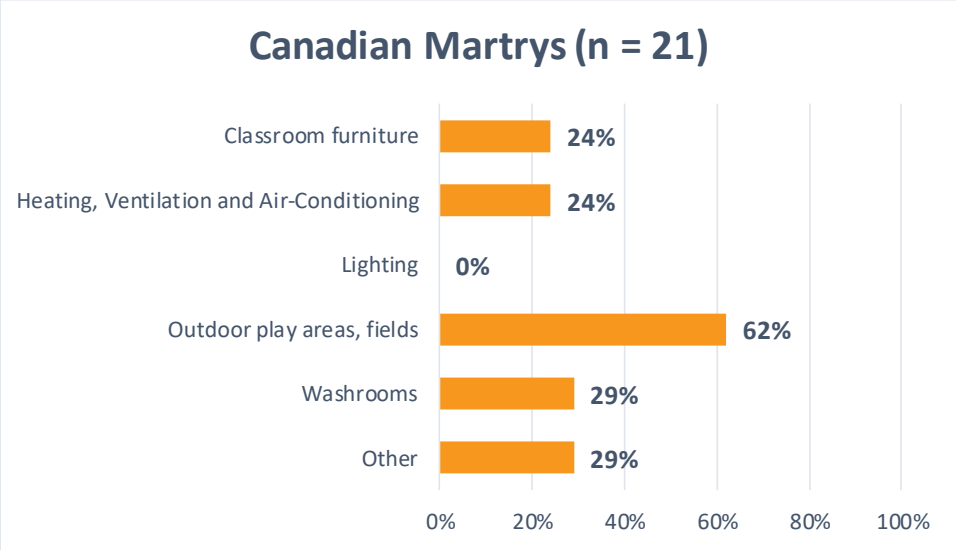


Bishop P.F. Reding: 'Other' comments:

1. Dedicated indoor play areas during breaks - and not just for InterMurals- for indoor stuff like Table tennis, Chess etc. 2. Clubs for sports like cricket, tennis with support on equipment for cricket and tennis
Better enforcement of hygiene clearning for bathroom facilities
Change rooms
Classroom space that is not in portables.
Currently undergoing construction =)
eliminating portables
Getting a proper, well done and constructed theatre without cutting corners to save money.
Landscaping
less portables
Number of classrooms
People to TEACH the classes.
Portables
Science labs
Student washrooms need renovations .
Transportation availability
Wifi

Canadian Martrys:

Overall, the majority of the respondents from Canadian Martrys felt *satisfied* or *very satisfied* with the school's facilities (86%). A breakdown of what building components should be invested in is below.

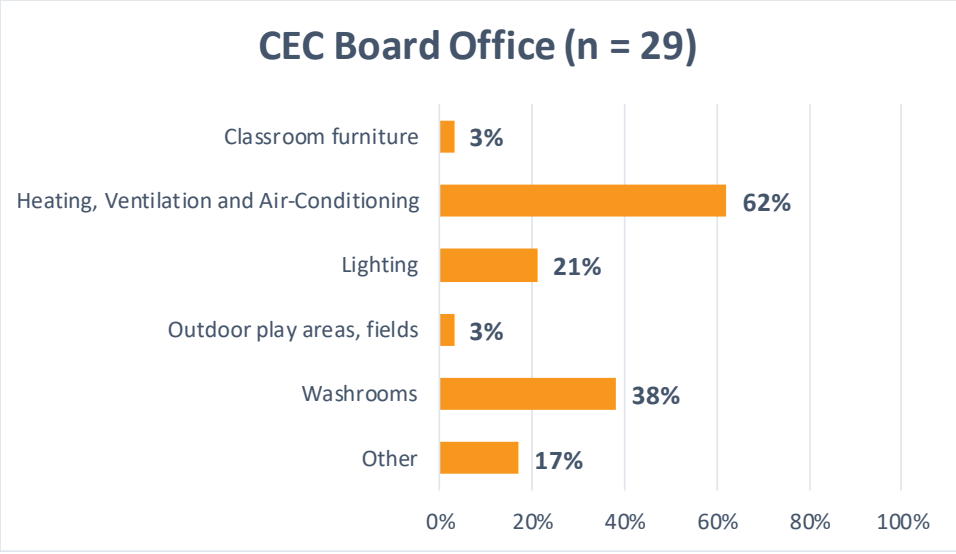


Canadian Martrys: 'Other' comments:

Computer systems
flooring
Teachers need to work
The main sidewalk for students is not accessible and their play area has massive 'potholes' it needs to be repaved very badly!!
The school is very old and looks...and smells...it's age

CEC Board Office:

Overall, the majority of the respondents from the CEC Board Office felt *satisfied* or *very satisfied* with the school's facilities (57%). A breakdown of what building components should be invested in is below.



CEC Board Office: 'Other' comments:

Board Staff/not applicable

connect the buildings :)

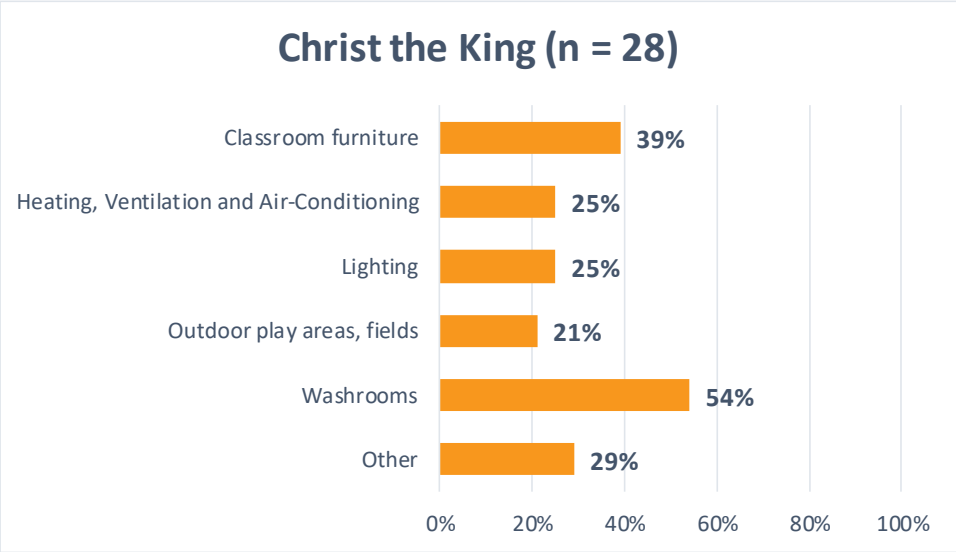
More permanent classrooms instead of portables

There is not enough space for staff, there is not sufficient privacy for confidential work (for example phone calls), staff have to work out of satellite offices; finding meeting spaces is a huge challenge

Very cold in the offices during the winter.

Christ the King:

Overall, the majority of the respondents from Christ the King felt *satisfied* or *very satisfied* with the school's facilities (68%). A breakdown of what building components should be invested in is below.



Christ the King: 'Other' comments:

1. Too many portables, 2. Parking lot needs to be bigger, there needs to be more lanes coming in and out of the school due to traffic overflow and congestion every morning!

Broken doors in girls bathrooms, bathrooms are rarely clean or sanitary. Bathrooms are often locked with only one girls bathroom open for a school of almost 2000 kids.

Its very dirty....the cleaners aren't doing their jobs very well

None

Technology in classrooms, availability of computers

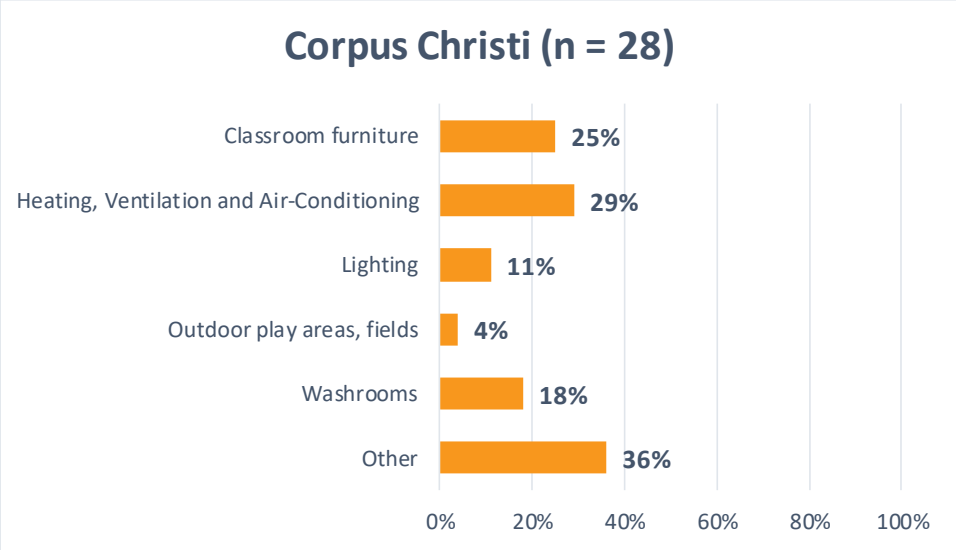
Technology in the Classroom

This is a good school.

Water damaged/missing ceiling tiles

Corpus Christi:

Overall, the majority of the respondents from Corpus Christi felt *satisfied* or *very satisfied* with the school's facilities (84%). A breakdown of what building components should be invested in is below.

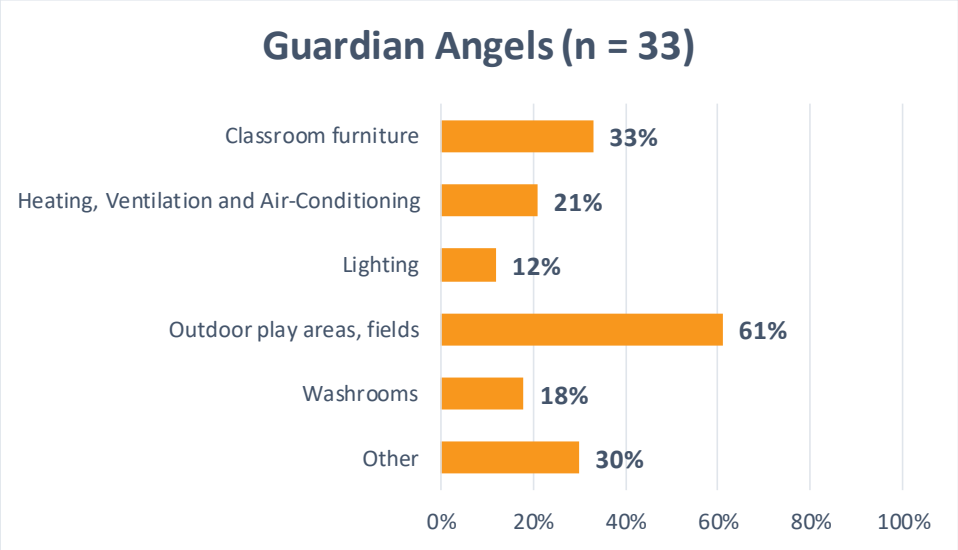


Corpus Christi: 'Other' comments:

Ceiling tiles that could be connected to the roof
Changing all blackboards to WHITEBOARDS. Chalkboards present allergy risks with the dust that is created. Whiteboards are more user friendly.
It all looks good. No need that I see.
Laptops!
Make parking lot driveways safer for autos and pedestrians.
None
Roof repair; constant leaks with almost every substantial rainfall which will likely increase due to global warming. Also there are significant cracks in the flooring on the third floor.
teachers
We are presently getting desk top computers in staff room, lovely improvement. Full class sets of chrome books for loan needed.

Guardian Angels:

Overall, the majority of the respondents from Guardian Angels felt *satisfied* or *very satisfied* with the school's facilities (79%). A breakdown of what building components should be invested in is below.

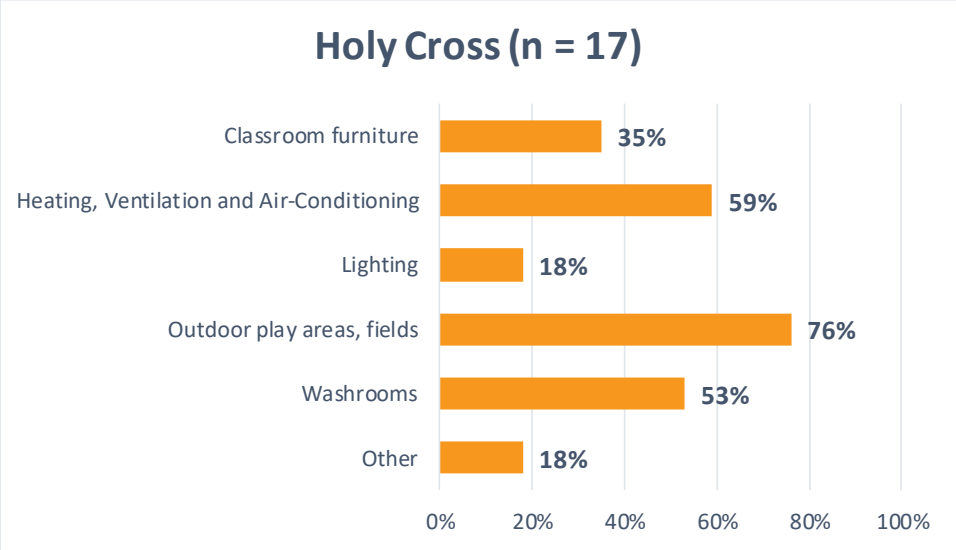


Guardian Angels: 'Other' comments:

Age/condition of portables
Areas that actually need maintenance and provide long-term cost savings as well but might not be something that people get excited about but are necessary for long term success
class computers
Classrooms
eliminate portables
For older children. Some activities/ equipment.
front door sticking when opening. A more periodic review of items such as this one
Sensory Rooms, school needs an additional gym. Too many students for one small gym. Outdoor equipment is needed to stimulate play. Investment in flexible seating for all students.
Space for ESL instruction
stairwell railings are broken fixed with tap??, broken doors

Holy Cross:

Overall, 50% of the respondents from Holy Cross felt *satisfied* or *very satisfied* with the school's facilities. A breakdown of what building components should be invested in is below.



Holy Cross: 'Other' comments:

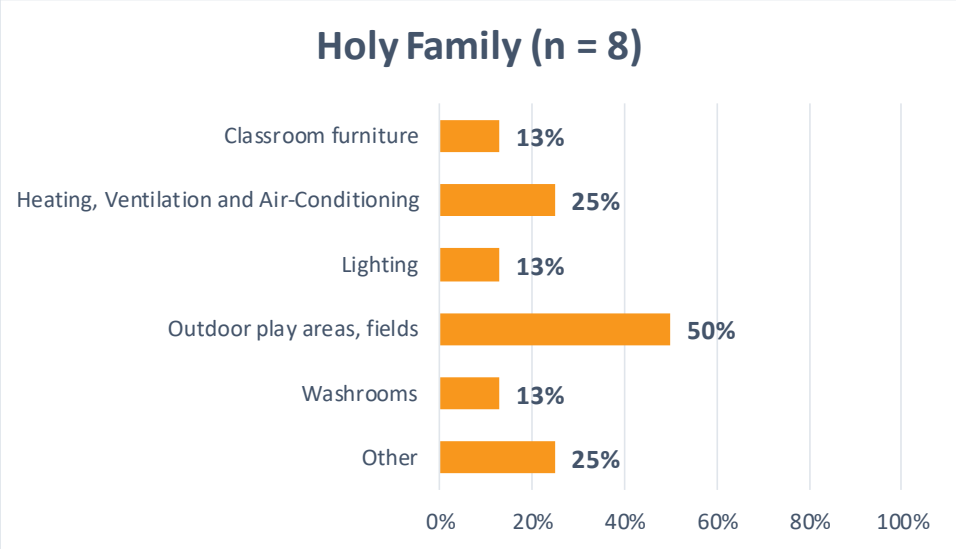
Holy Cross should be replaced with a new school with up to date/modern facilities

New staff room chairs

Snozzle room

Holy Family:

Overall, 50% of the respondents from Holy Family felt *satisfied* or *very satisfied* with the school's facilities. A breakdown of what building components should be invested in is below.



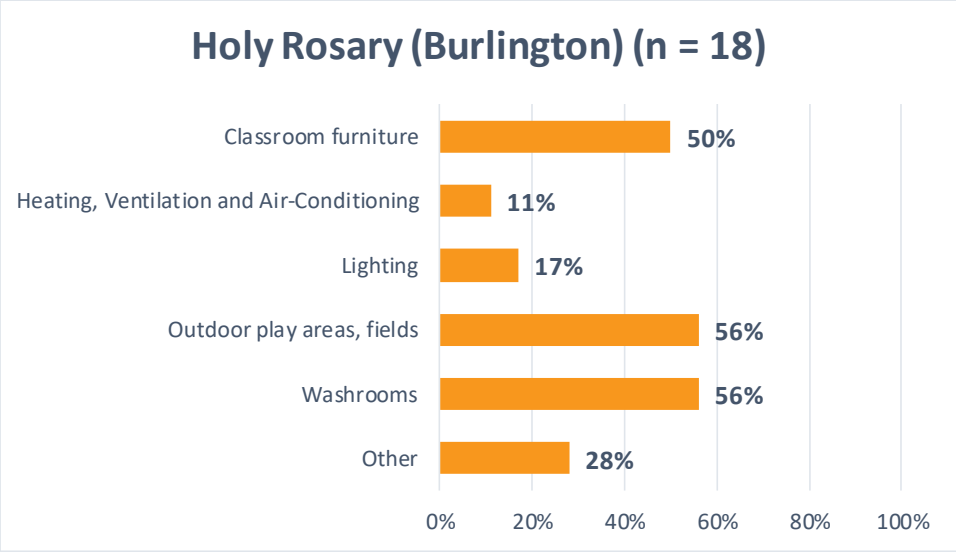
Holy Family: 'Other' comments:

School programs such as raz kids

SK/JK are fenced in with a sandbox. There is nothing to play with outside. It's quite a shame comparing to other schools.

Holy Rosary (Burlington):

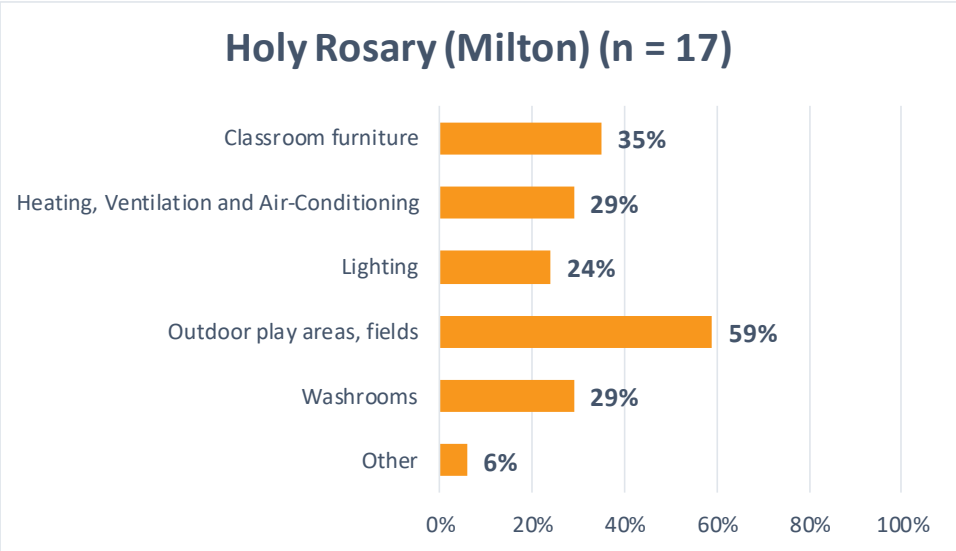
Overall, the majority of the respondents from Holy Rosary (Burlington) felt *satisfied* or *very satisfied* with the school's facilities (67%). A breakdown of what building components should be invested in is below.



Holy Rosary (Burlington): 'Other' comments:
Immunization/Vaccinations Education and awareness
technology/computers
Water fountains
Water pipes old; high levels of led
Water quality

Holy Rosary (Milton):

Overall, the majority of the respondents from Holy Rosary (Milton) felt *satisfied* or *very satisfied* with the school's facilities (83%). A breakdown of what building components should be invested in is below.

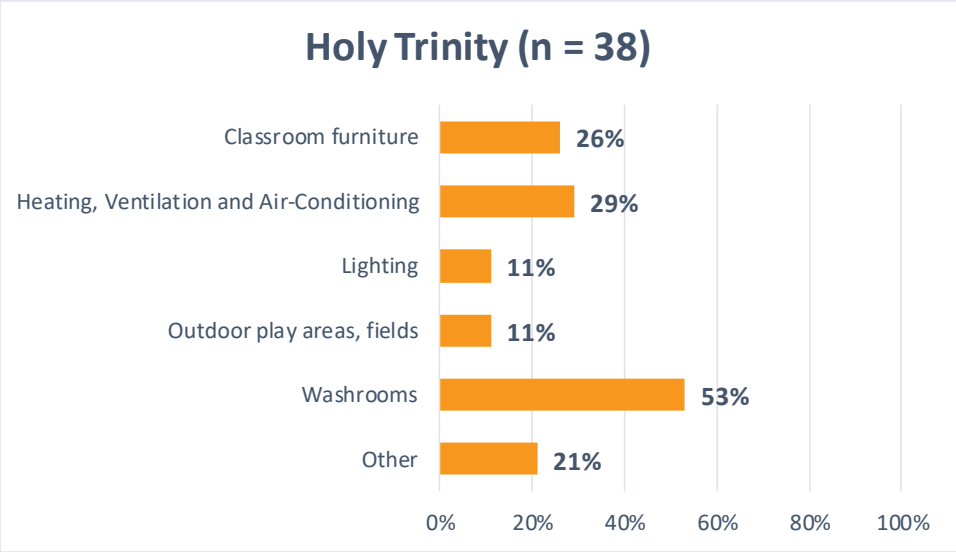


Holy Rosary (Milton): 'Other' comments:

science and math labs are an investment as part of STEM that should be in our schools now

Holy Trinity:

Overall, the majority of the respondents from Holy Trinity felt *satisfied* or *very satisfied* with the school's facilities (86%). A breakdown of what building components should be invested in is below.



Holy Trinity: 'Other' comments:

Classroom, special ed maintanence broken windows, leaking roof etc,

Maybe off topic, but recycling, garbage, and compost bins are dumped together by night custodians. Defeats purpose of recycling as it becomes contaminated. REAL recycling initiatives needed for environmental stewardship.

more areas geared towards kids with anxiety

None.

Painting classrooms

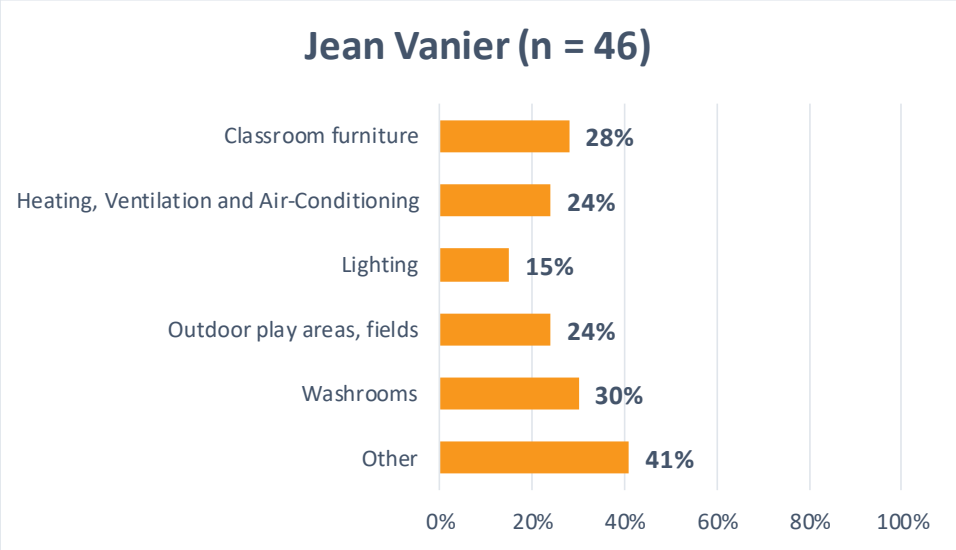
Robotics and STEM funding

The washrooms at Holy Trinity are AWFUL! There are not enough Science Lab rooms for the number of science classes at Holy Trinity.

Theatre roof leaks. Energy efficient windows in library (drafty). Energy efficient lighting throughout.

Jean Vanier:

Overall, the majority of the respondents from Jean Vanier felt *satisfied* or *very satisfied* with the school's facilities (73%). A breakdown of what building components should be invested in is below.

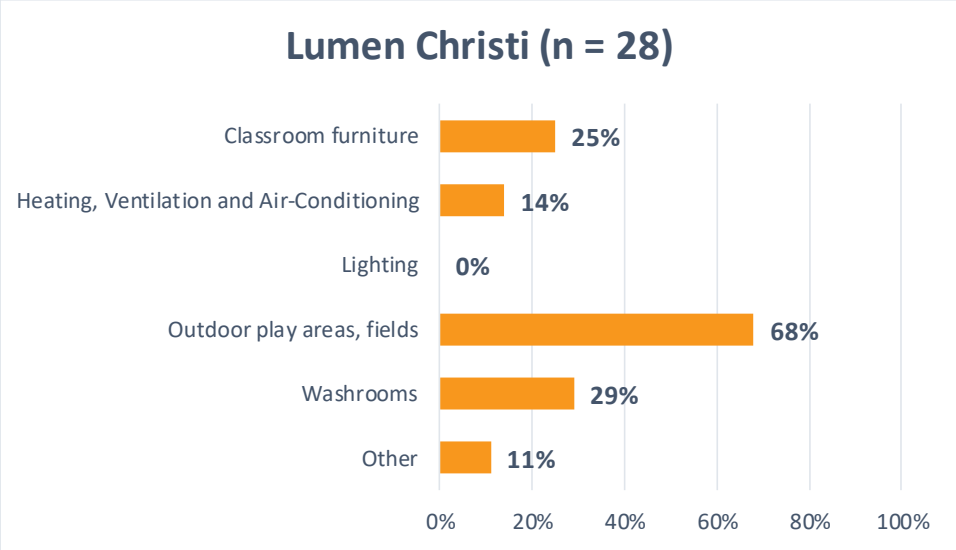


Jean Vanier: 'Other' comments:

Buildings instead of over 35 portals
Buildings instead of over 35 portals
Extension of building. Students are in portables
I think the school looks just fine, well maintained.
Individual lockers for students. Sharing lockers, especially during the winter months is not acceptable.
JV is just too small for the population it houses
Less use of portables for learning
More shelves in the library and more areas for activities for teens
Most classes are too bright which make some students feel tired. Also the morning music should be of relaxing mood not speedy mood.
Need to build another Catholic Secondary school in Milton. That is most needed.
None
Please change the name as well
Safety. With such a large population, we need better safety equipment such as student drop off signage and zones, better camera software (current system fails often), signage requesting students to stay to the right in hallways and stairs,...
Space in general. The school is overcrowded.
The school is overcrowded
They need more room
This is a relatively ne school, why are so many classes taking place in the portable.
Too many portables
Wish the school had less portables. I don't understand the reason for having them.

Lumen Christi:

Overall, the majority of the respondents from Lumen Christi felt *satisfied* or *very satisfied* with the school's facilities (94%). A breakdown of what building components should be invested in is below.

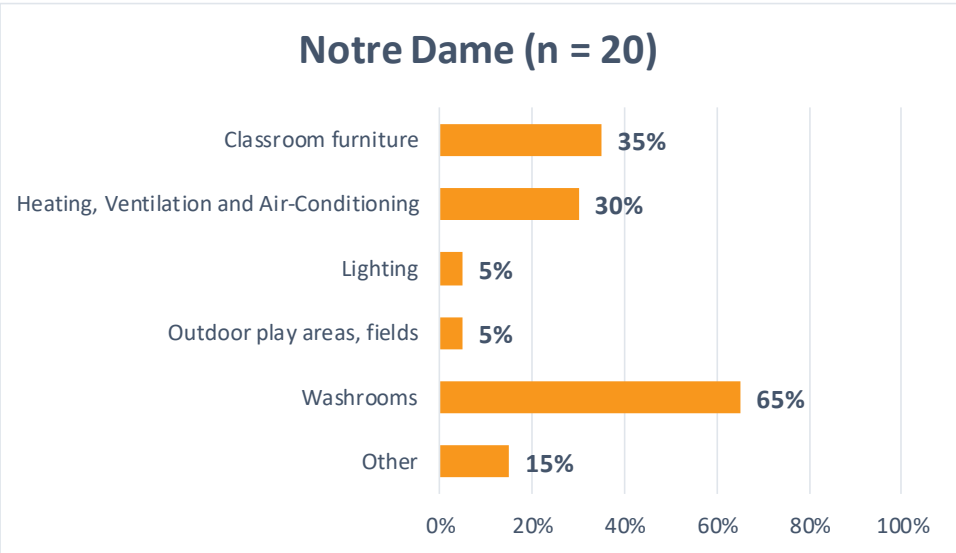


Lumen Christi: 'Other' comments:

my child is in a portable. I do not think it is up to the standard of a classroom. too limited space
Portables (More classrooms as numbers grow)
Special Education Classrooms

Notre Dame:

Overall, the majority of the respondents from Notre Dame felt *satisfied* or *very satisfied* with the school's facilities (81%). A breakdown of what building components should be invested in is below.

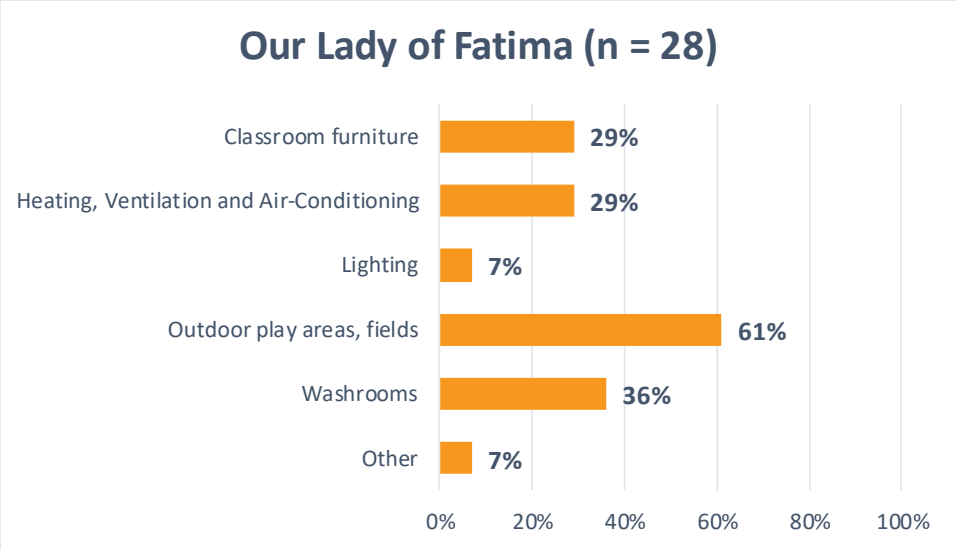


Notre Dame: 'Other' comments:

eliminating portables
Exterior-front lawn, gardens
resources - French

Our Lady of Fatima:

Overall, the majority of the respondents from Our Lady of Fatima felt *satisfied* or *very satisfied* with the school's facilities (80%). A breakdown of what building components should be invested in is below.

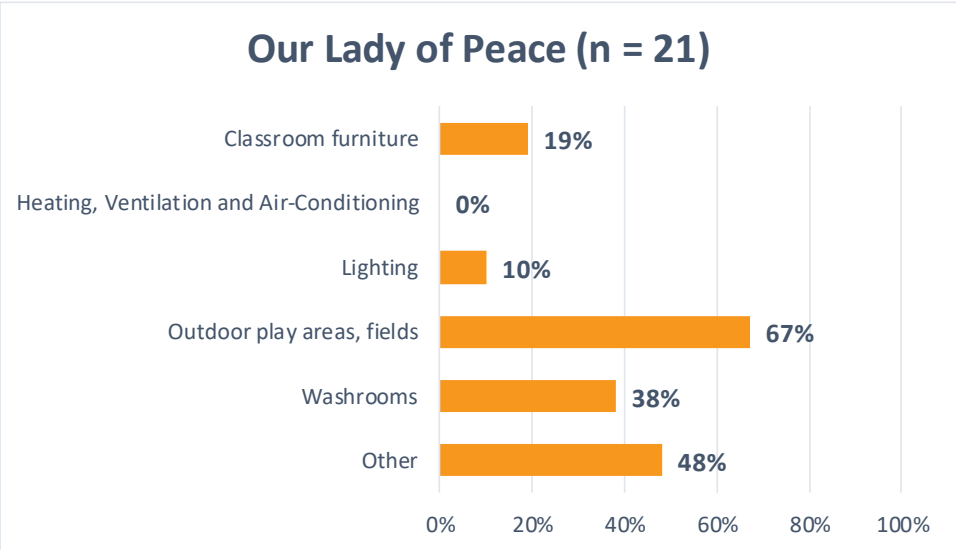


Our Lady of Fatima: 'Other' comments:

Classrooms
Teachers

Our Lady of Peace:

Overall, the majority of the respondents from Our Lady of Peace felt *satisfied* or *very satisfied* with the school's facilities (67%). A breakdown of what building components should be invested in is below.



Our Lady of Peace: 'Other' comments:

Fencing around the entire playground for safety
Music equipement and resources
New technology

Number of classrooms

On numerous occasions there has been large debris in and around the kindergarten play area that took weeks to be cleaned up. There has been a large branch most recently leaning up against the school fence at kindergarten play area that has been there for numerous days. Halloween time there was a broken pumpkin left in the play area for weeks. The exterior play areas need to be kept in a clean and safe manner especially where the smaller children play.

Programming ie. instruments/ resources

There is no play structure for children grades 1-8

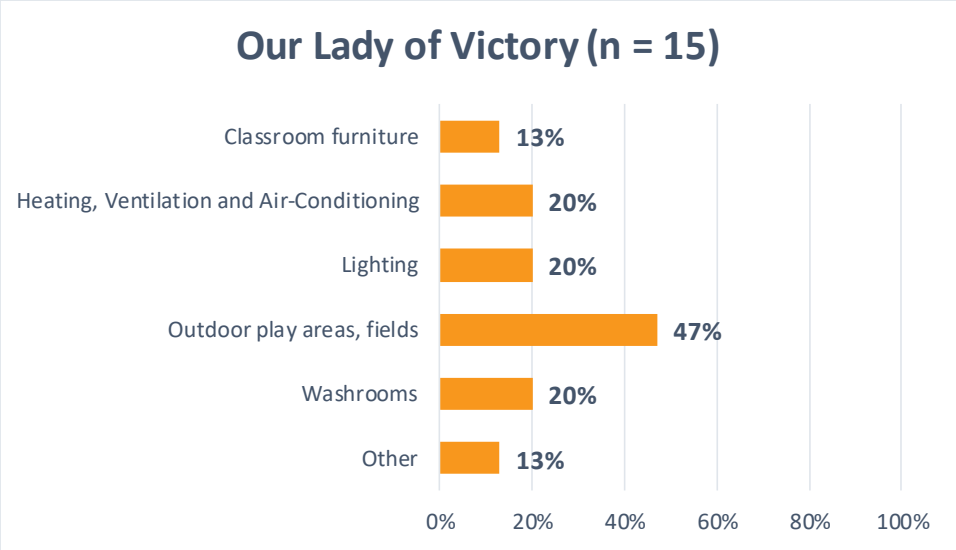
water dispenser

West side parking lot is very dark and dangerous during winter evenings when it is very dark. This is also the side where the daycare and kindergarten kids come out of.

West side parking lot is very dark and dangerous during winter evenings when it is very dark. This is also the side where the daycare and kindergarten kids come out of.

Our Lady of Victory:

Overall, the majority of the respondents from Our Lady of Victory felt *satisfied* or *very satisfied* with the school's facilities (60%). A breakdown of what building components should be invested in is below.



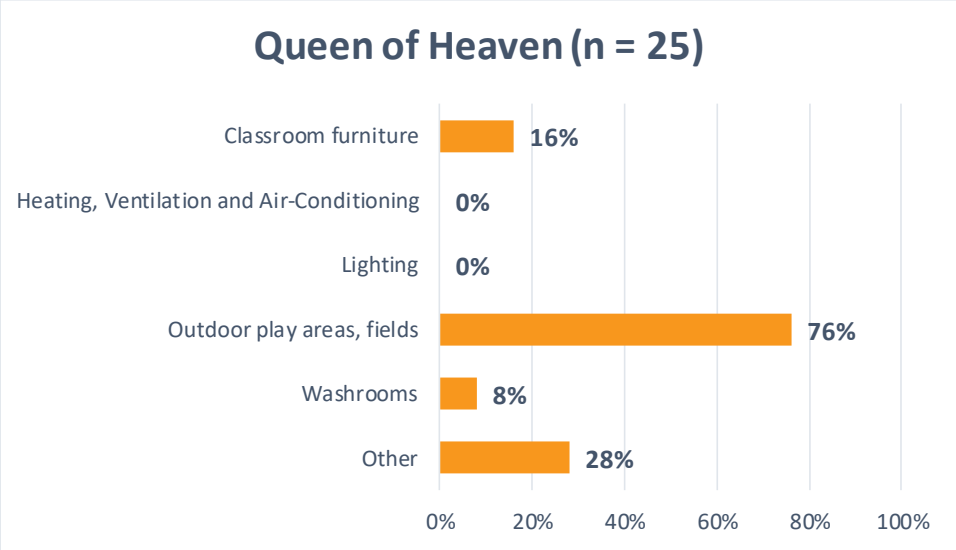
Our Lady of Victory: 'Other' comments:

None

you removed the baseball field!!!!!! WHY????

Queen of Heaven:

Overall, the majority of the respondents from Queen of Heaven felt *satisfied* or *very satisfied* with the school's facilities (96%). A breakdown of what building components should be invested in is below.

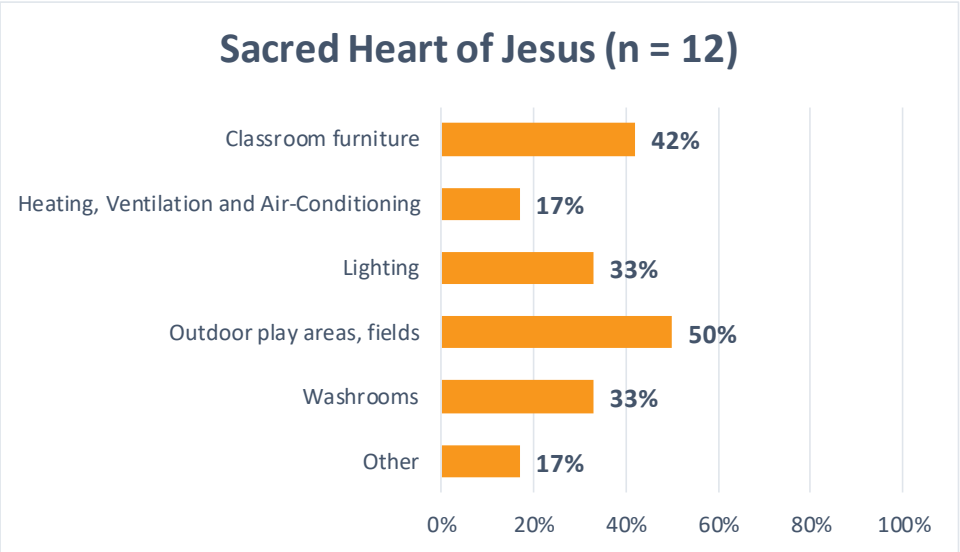


Queen of Heaven: 'Other' comments:

Any possibility of having a cafeteria in the school?
Less portables, allow children to play on the grass.
more hooks, portacabin to be avoided or improved
Need more computers and tablets or to encourage E-learning.
nothing needs upgrading
Noticing rust in a number of the stairwells due to wear and tear. This should not be the case from a school that is a newer facility.

Sacred Heart of Jesus:

Overall, the majority of the respondents from Sacred Heart of Jesus felt *satisfied* or *very satisfied* with the school's facilities (77%). A breakdown of what building components should be invested in is below.

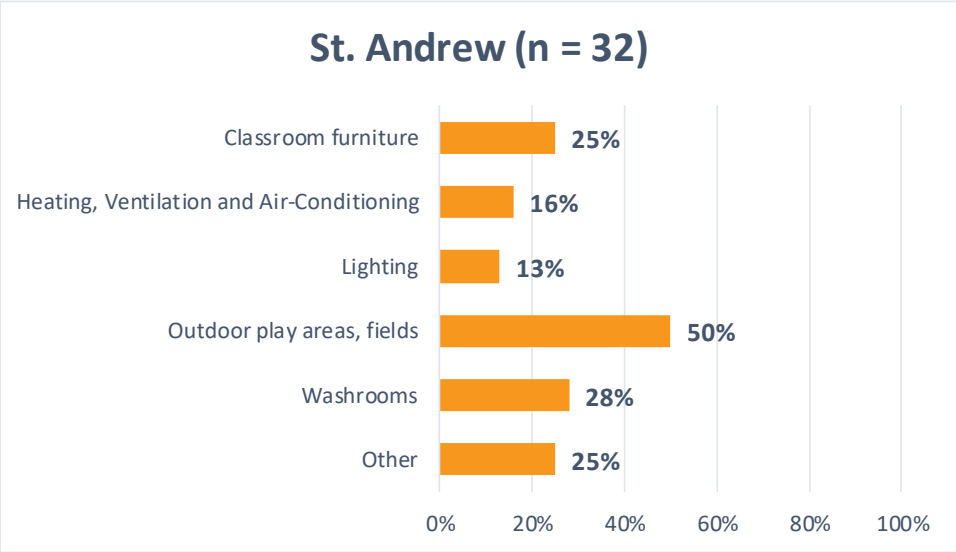


Sacred Heart of Jesus: 'Other' comments:

Energy efficient bulb products including lighting control with dimmers at classroom level
Lockers

St. Andrew:

Overall, the majority of the respondents from St. Andrew felt *satisfied* or *very satisfied* with the school's facilities (72%). A breakdown of what building components should be invested in is below.

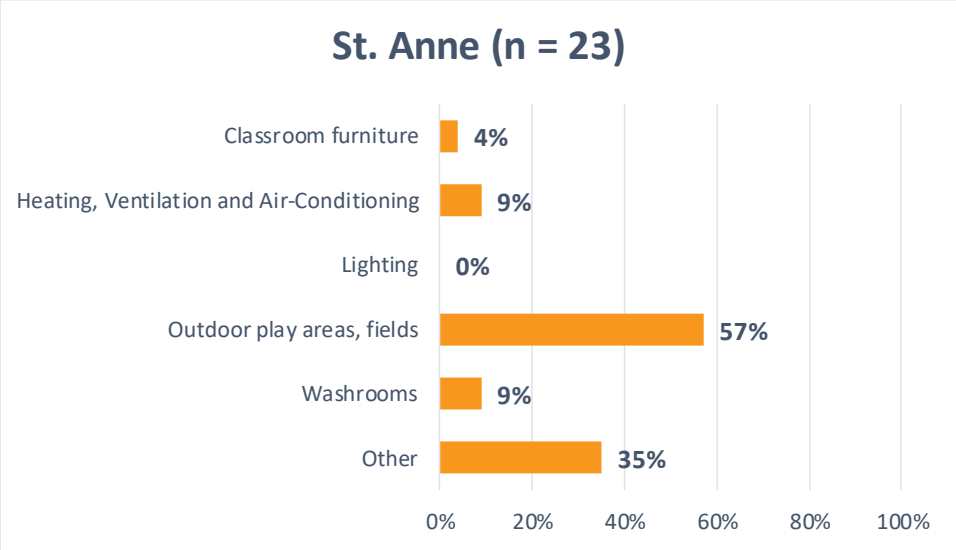


St. Andrew: 'Other' comments:

How about bigger or more schools? My grade 6 kids have been in portables for years now. It would be nice if they got a classroom in the school. I'm not a fan or portables at all!
How about bigger or more schools? My grade 6 kids have been in portables for years now. It would be nice if they got a classroom in the school. I'm not a fan or portables at all!
Portables need lockers or detected one portable for lockers
Portables need renovatio.
St Andrews has portables from overcrowding yet St Margerite is under utilized. Rebalancing is required
Too many portables; portables not in great condition and not always conducive to learning
Ventilation is really bad. Kids complain of headaches every day
We must have a decent playground area for our younger kids. They don't have anything to play with when they are outside.

St. Anne:

Overall, the majority of the respondents from St. Anne felt *satisfied* or *very satisfied* with the school's facilities (80%). A breakdown of what building components should be invested in is below.

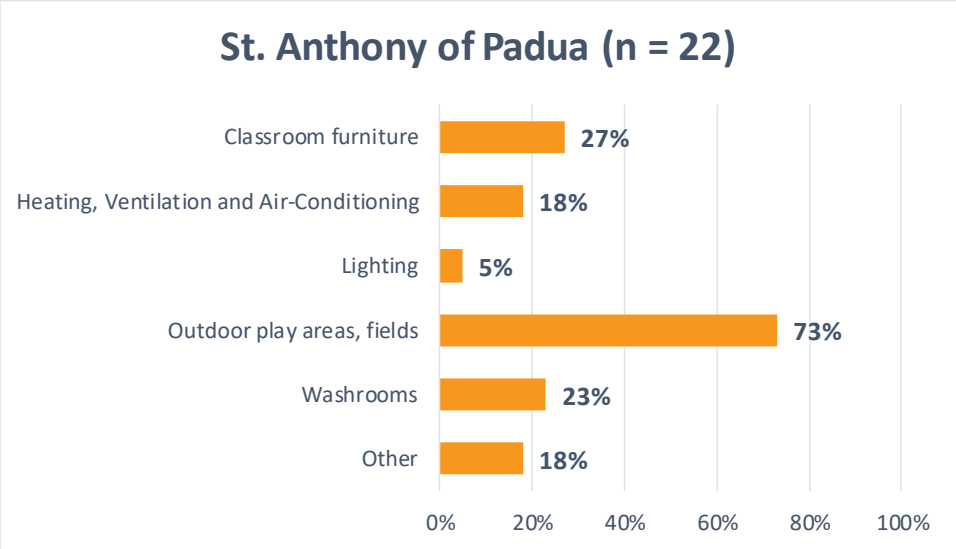


St. Anne: 'Other' comments:

Additional classrooms
Cleaning (especially FDK washrooms multiple times a day)
Do not know
overall school building size. stage has been converted to classroom. many portables take up much of already small playground for the large number of students
Size of classroom (especially JK and SK) seems too small to accommodate the amount of children expected to be in there.
Teachers
The portables are not the best. So crowded and awful ventilation.

St. Anthony of Padua:

Overall, the majority of the respondents from St. Anthony of Padua felt *satisfied* or *very satisfied* with the school's facilities (78%). A breakdown of what building components should be invested in is below.



St. Anthony of Padua: 'Other' comments:

It is too bad that the school has to have so many portables. Can we invest in a time machine, go back and build a bigger school?

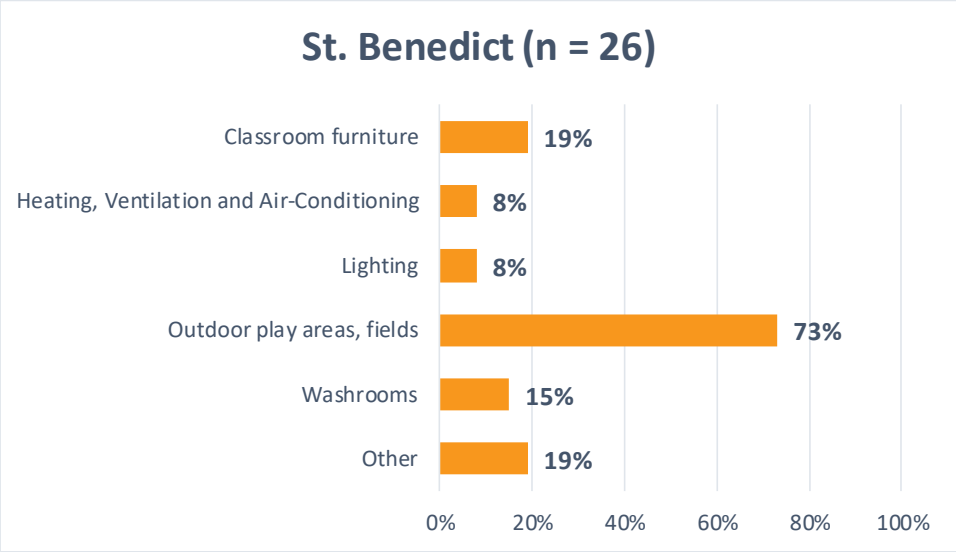
Teacher technolgy

the fdk children all have wonderful playgrounds however gates dont work properly and take forever to be fixed. the older children have nothing but pavement.

Too many rules in playground, not enough play equipment. No bouncing balls outside?? WT...?

St. Benedict:

Overall, the majority of the respondents from St. Benedict felt *satisfied* or *very satisfied* with the school's facilities (89%). A breakdown of what building components should be invested in is below.



St. Benedict: 'Other' comments:

It might be easier if there's washroom from the kids that are in portable, but pls not the portable washroom.

More classrooms no more portals

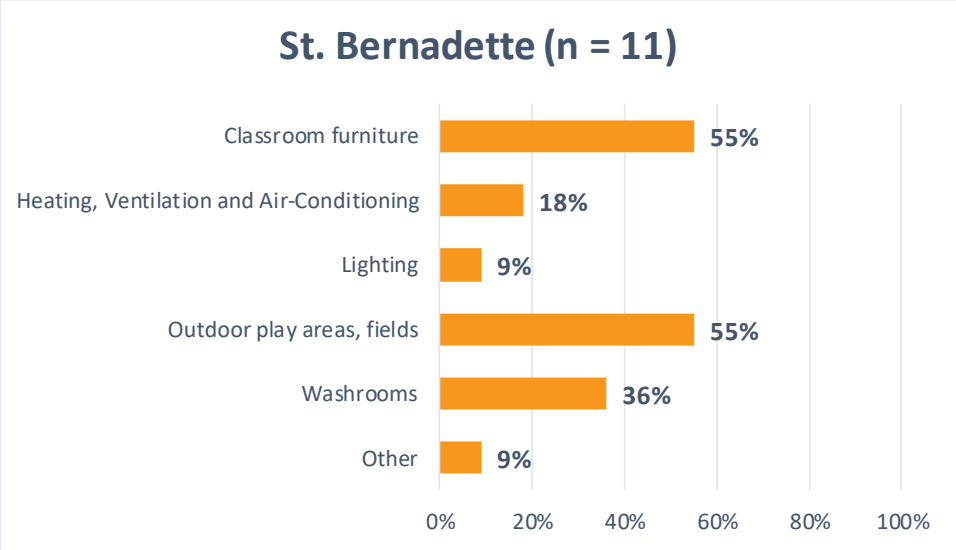
more special teachers

none - It needs to have things removed and sold off for money. Why is the school so overly architectural?

School too smsll

St. Bernadette:

Overall, the majority of the respondents from St. Bernadette felt *satisfied* or *very satisfied* with the school's facilities (85%). A breakdown of what building components should be invested in is below.

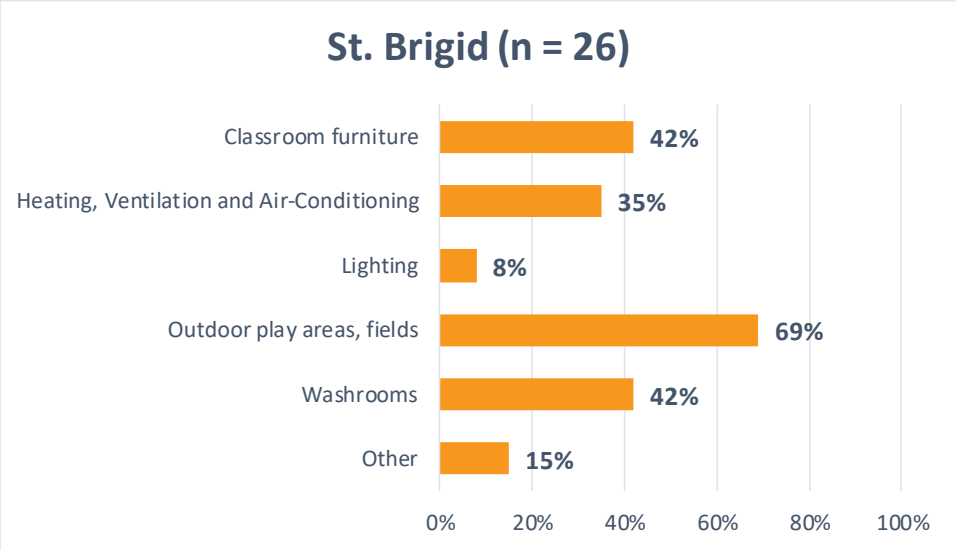


St. Bernadette: 'Other' comments:

Extra activities for all community

St. Brigid:

Overall, the majority of the respondents from St. Brigid felt *satisfied* or *very satisfied* with the school's facilities (79%). A breakdown of what building components should be invested in is below.



St. Brigid: 'Other' comments:

Get rid of portables and expand the school size to accommodate all kids.

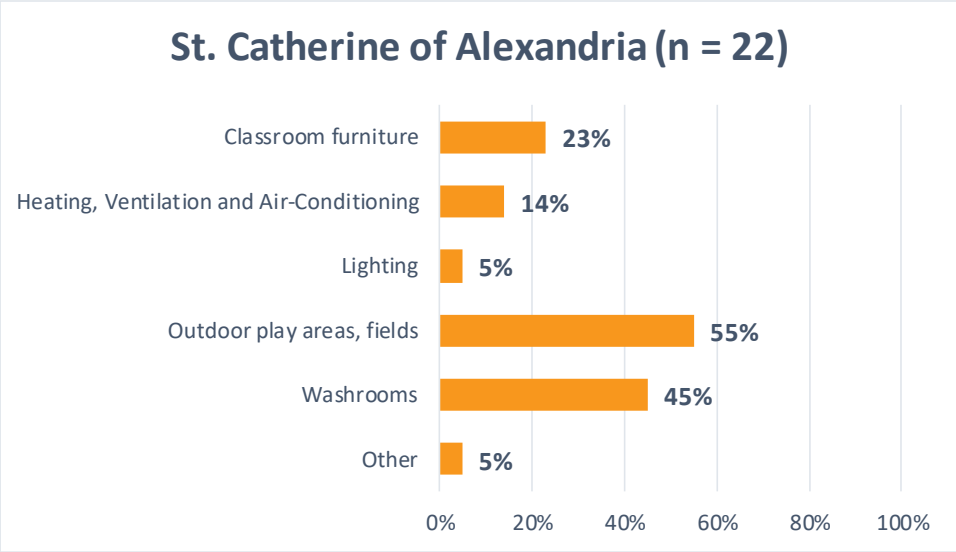
Replace portables.

Too many portables.

where's the option for none? this survey is already skewed and shoudl be considered invalid

St. Catherine of Alexandria:

Overall, the majority of the respondents from St. Catherine of Alexandria felt *satisfied* or *very satisfied* with the school's facilities (68%). A breakdown of what building components should be invested in is below.

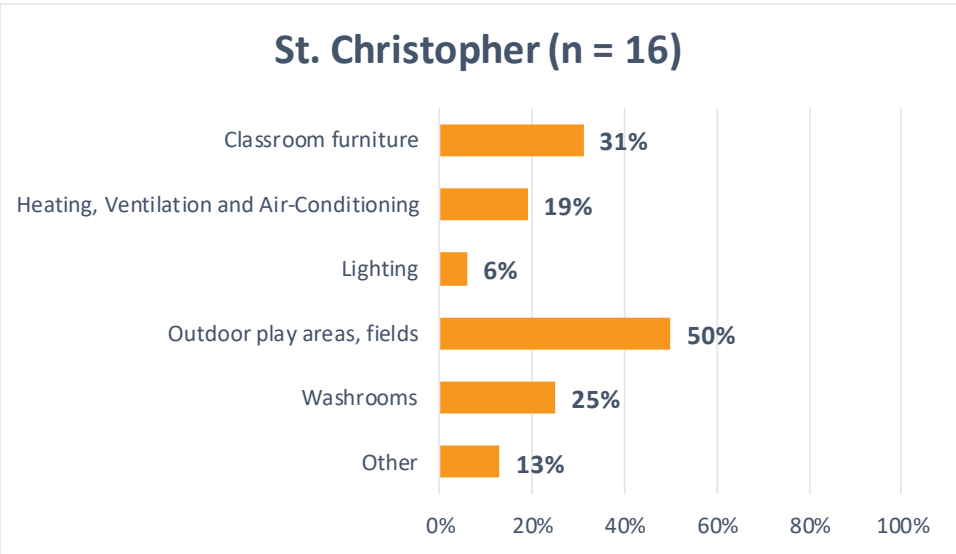


St. Catherine of Alexandria: 'Other' comments:

wifi, laptops

St. Christopher:

Overall, the majority of the respondents from St. Christopher felt *satisfied* or *very satisfied* with the school's facilities (88%). A breakdown of what building components should be invested in is below.



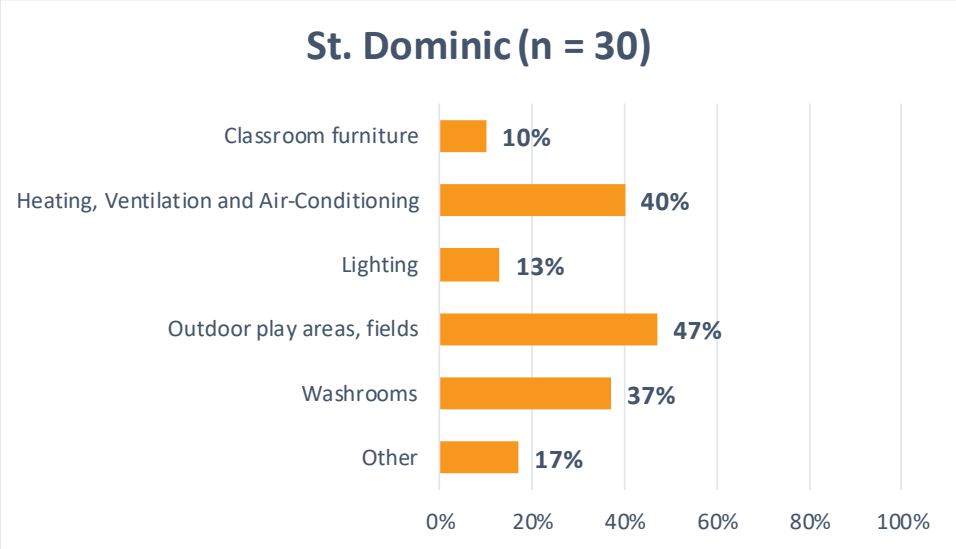
St. Christopher: 'Other' comments:

Plumbing in washrooms smell

School looks great take that budget and spend it on more support for kids who need it.

St. Dominic:

Overall, 44% of the respondents from St. Dominic felt *satisfied* or *very satisfied* with the school's facilities. A breakdown of what building components should be invested in is below.

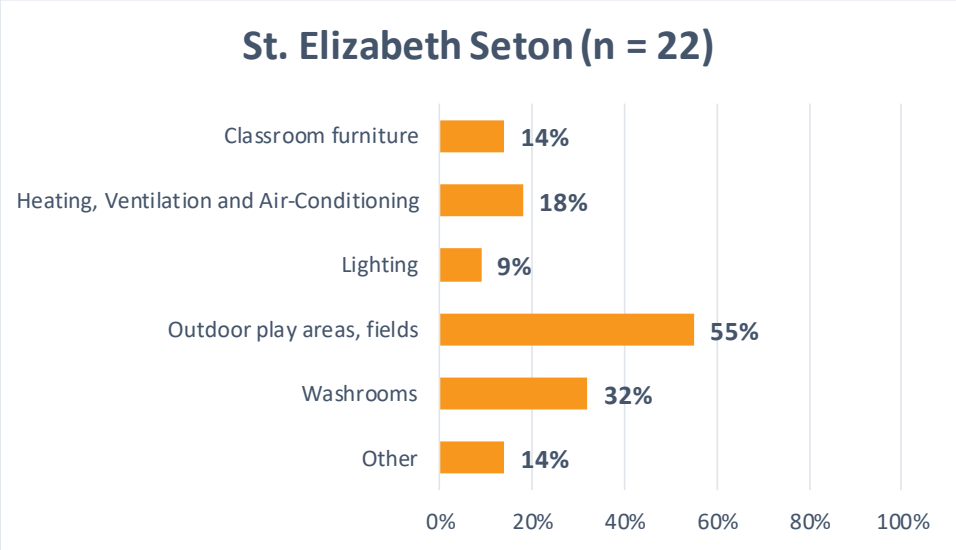


St. Dominic: 'Other' comments:

Heating inconsistencies/ lack of proper ventilation
Heating inconsistencies/ lack of proper ventilation
Inconsistent heating/ limited ventilation often creates an uncomfortable classroom climate.
plumbing
Rather than spending money on Aesthetic improvements we need to ensure the school is safe from mold or any other environmental hazards.

St. Elizabeth Seton:

Overall, the majority of the respondents from St. Elizabeth Seton felt *satisfied* or *very satisfied* with the school's facilities (96%). A breakdown of what building components should be invested in is below.



St. Elizabeth Seton: 'Other' comments:

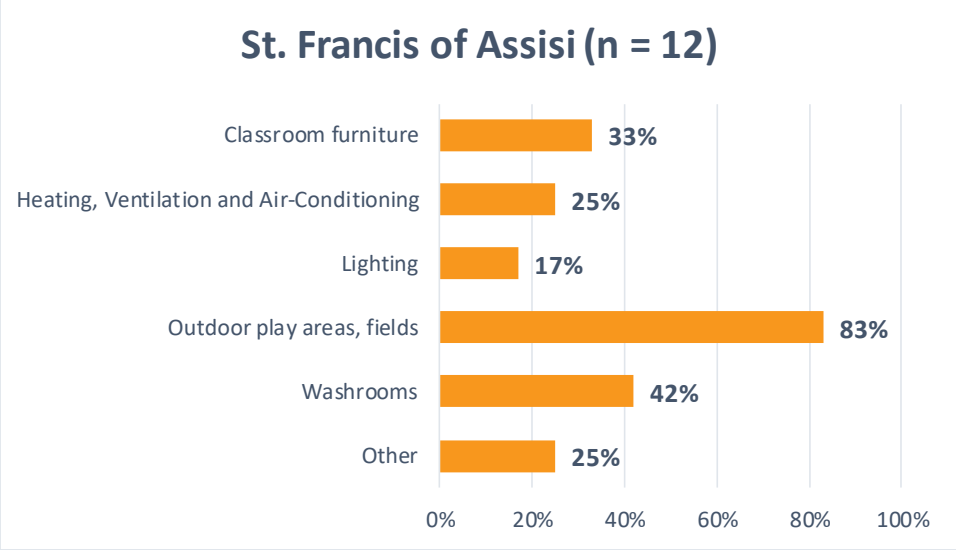
None

Parking Lots

technology

St. Francis of Assisi:

Overall, 50% of the respondents from St. Francis of Assisi felt *satisfied* or *very satisfied* with the school's facilities. A breakdown of what building components should be invested in is below.



St. Francis of Assisi: 'Other' comments:

Report cards and teaching kids

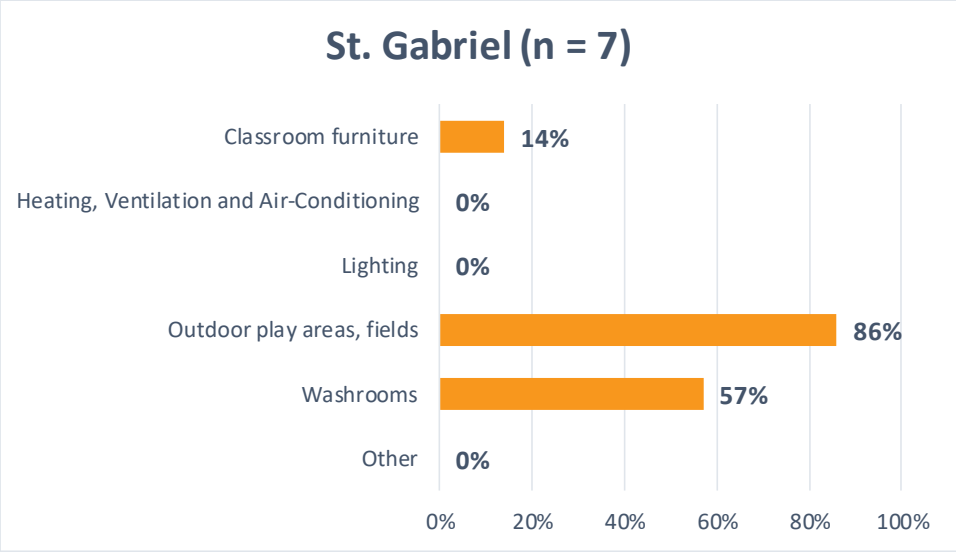
It is an older facility

Stop asking the parents to donate toilet paper. The funds allocated to the school board are for such things. In the chart it says 82 percent of the money goes directly to the students but I say 81

percent of that is towards teachers salaries. Enough is enough. Teachers make more than the median income of the people that pay their salaries!!!

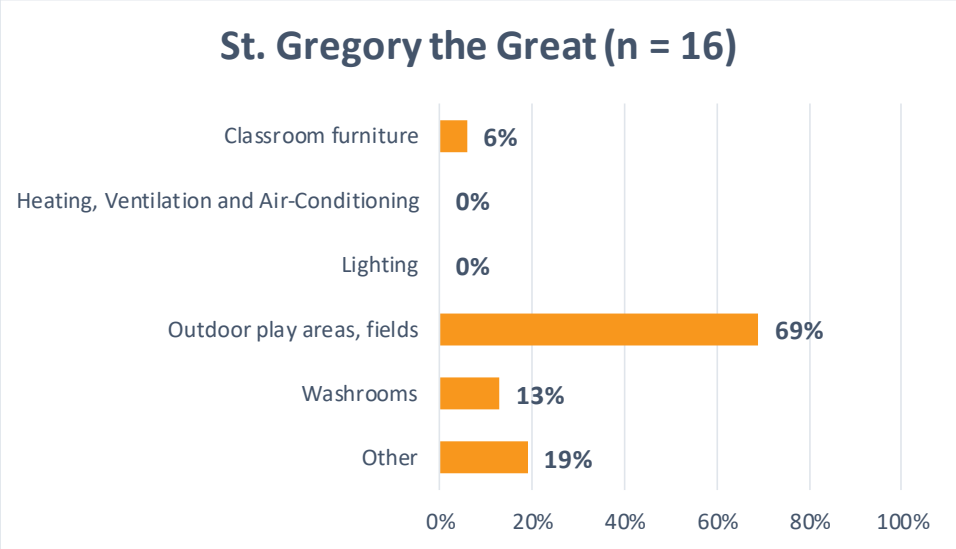
St. Gabriel:

Overall, the majority of the respondents from St. Gabriel felt *satisfied or very satisfied* with the school's facilities (75%). A breakdown of what building components should be invested in is below.



St. Gregory the Great:

Overall, the majority of the respondents from St. Gregory the Great felt *satisfied or very satisfied* with the school's facilities (82%). A breakdown of what building components should be invested in is below.



St. Gregory the Great: 'Other' comments:

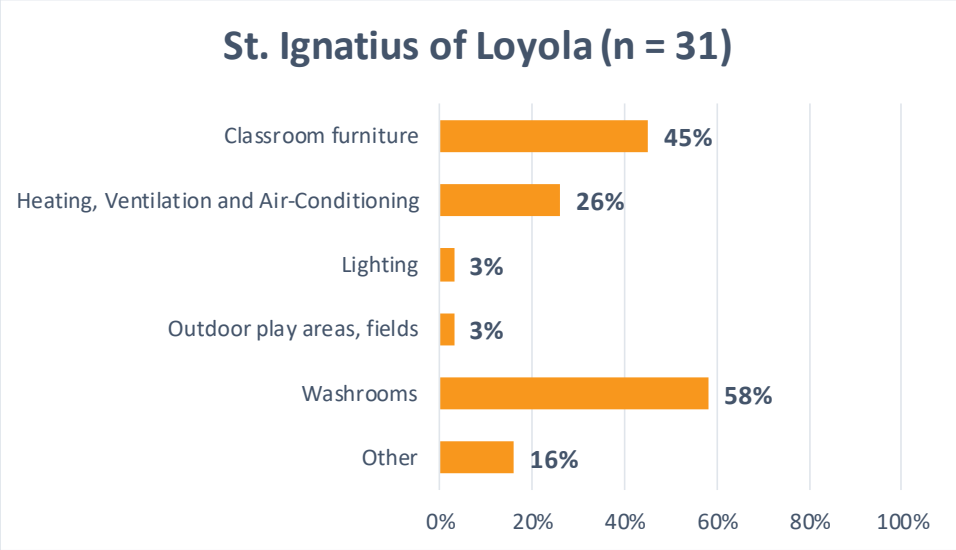
Parking lot

Parking lot configuration

school day trips

St. Ignatius of Loyola:

Overall, the majority of the respondents from St. Ignatius of Loyola felt *satisfied or very satisfied* with the school's facilities (84%). A breakdown of what building components should be invested in is below.

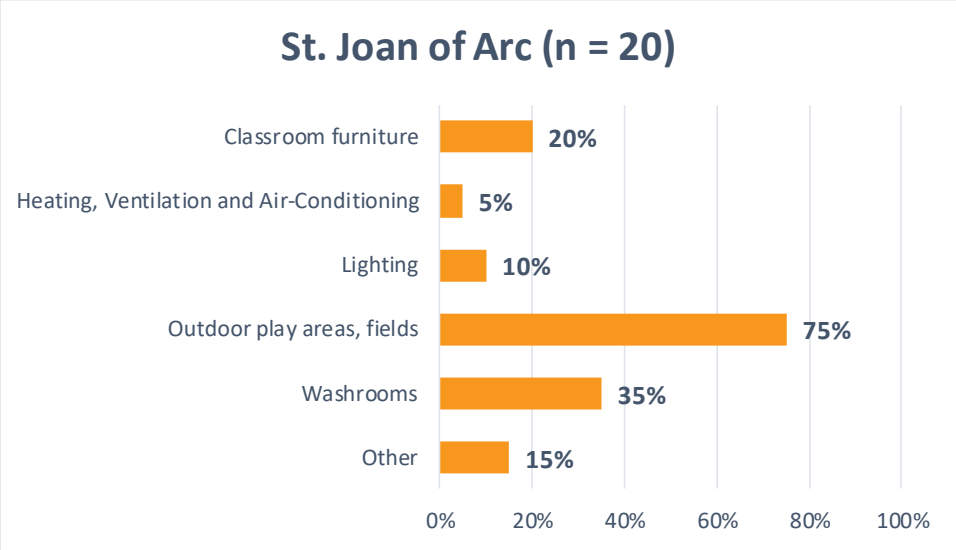


St. Ignatius of Loyola: 'Other' comments:

Classroom technology
Computers
Extra activities for all community
none
Security surveillance

St. Joan of Arc:

Overall, the majority of the respondents from St. Joan of Arc felt *satisfied or very satisfied* with the school's facilities (75%). A breakdown of what building components should be invested in is below.



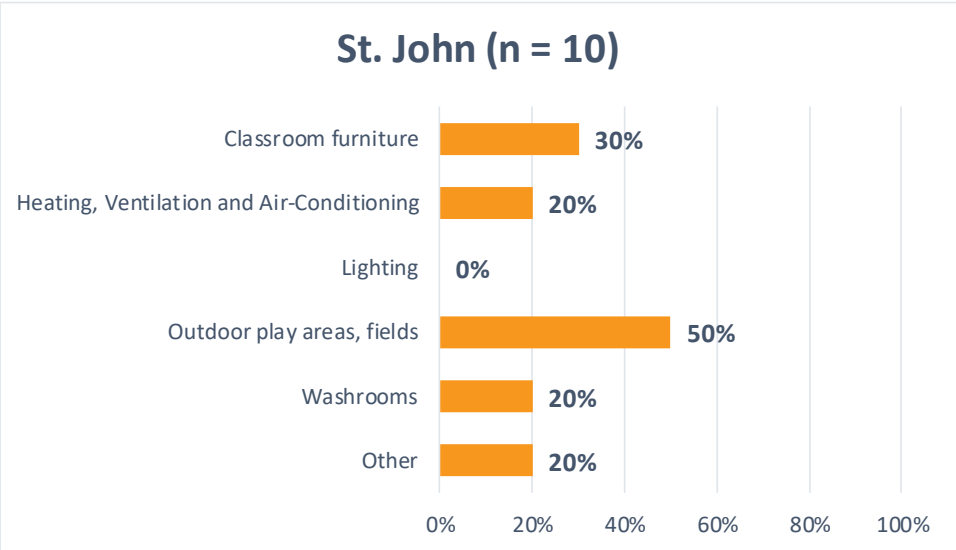
St. Joan of Arc: 'Other' comments:

Computer lab

Computers

St. John:

Overall, 50% of the respondents from St. John felt *satisfied or very satisfied* with the school's facilities. A breakdown of what building components should be invested in is below.



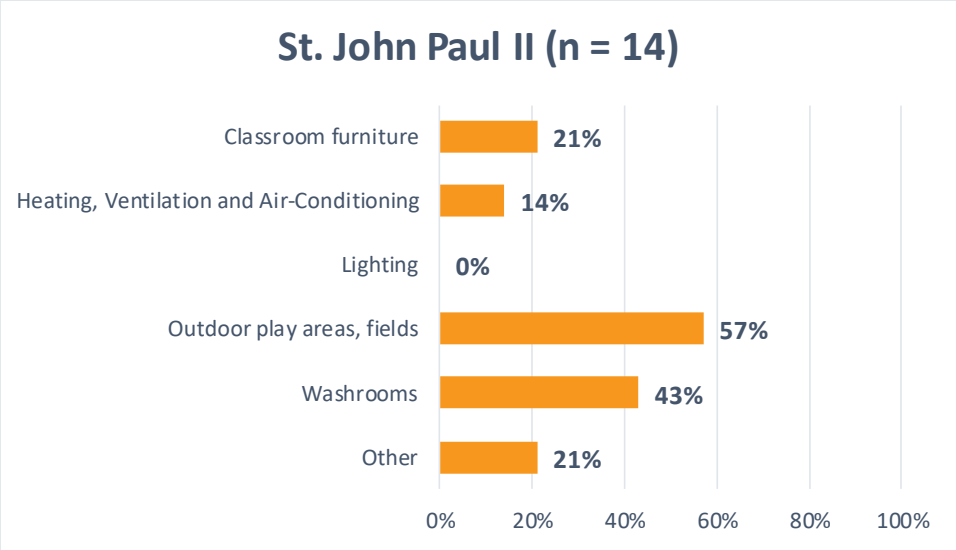
St. John: 'Other' comments:

Everything

Library needs to be revamped to make it more inviting and useful.

St. John Paul II:

Overall, the majority of the respondents from St. John Paul II felt *satisfied or very satisfied* with the school's facilities (79%). A breakdown of what building components should be invested in is below.



St. John Paul II: 'Other' comments:

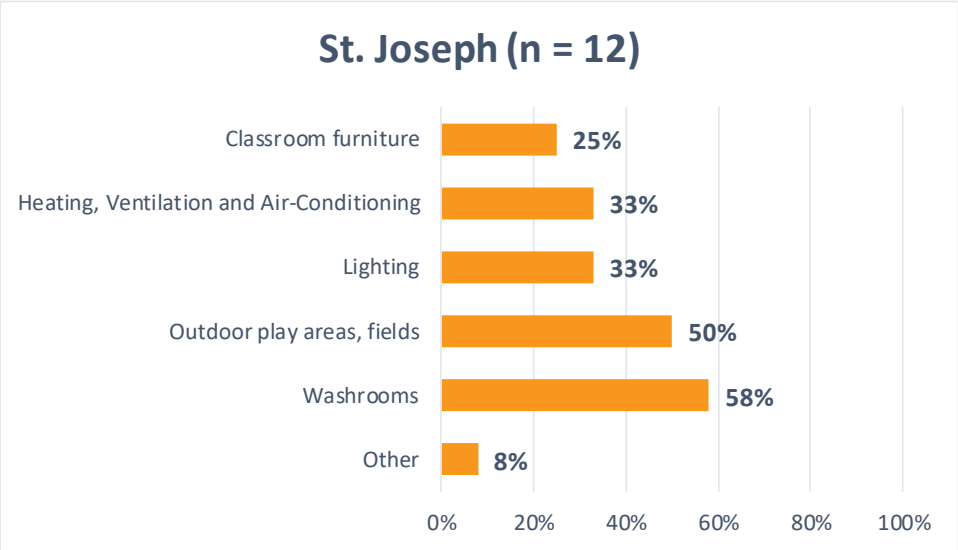
computer facilities, laptops, iPads etc

Investments in things that help kids learn. Computer coding courses, STEM speakers, etc.

My children tell me that the bathrooms are quite dirty and doors are broken. They do not like using the washrooms at school.

St. Joseph:

Overall, 50% of the respondents from St. Joseph felt *satisfied or very satisfied* with the school's facilities. A breakdown of what building components should be invested in is below.

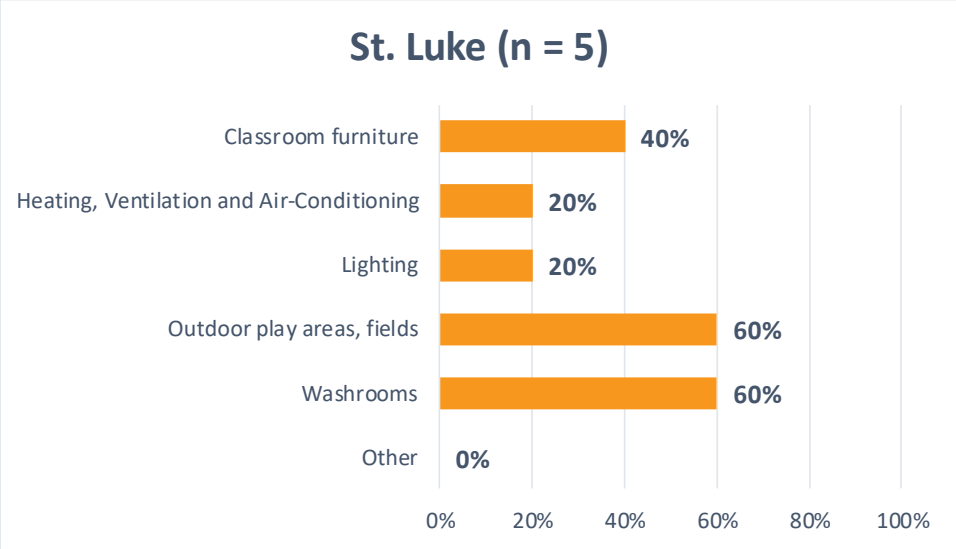


St. Joseph: 'Other' comments:

They took the playground down and did not replace it with a better outside play structure which all other schools in acton have

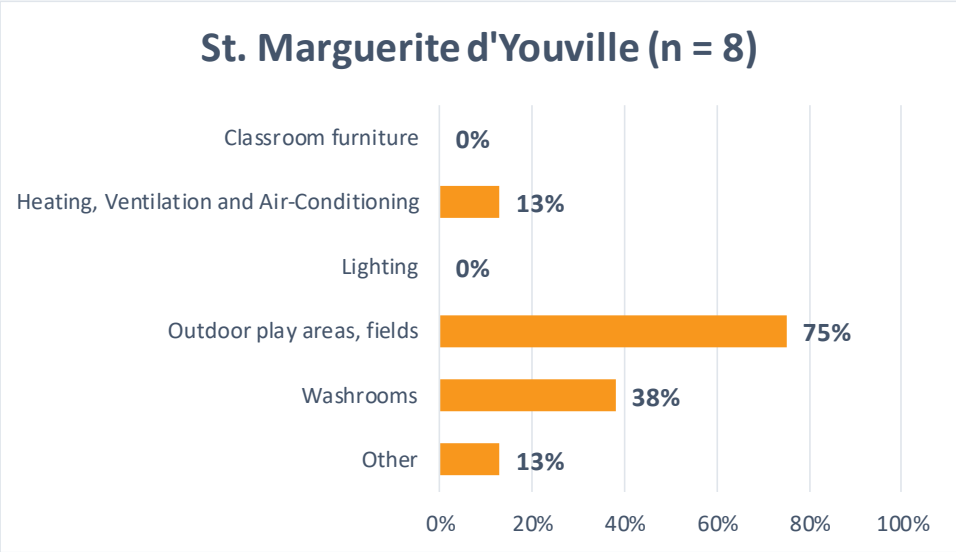
St. Luke:

Overall, the majority of the respondents from St. Luke felt *satisfied or very satisfied* with the school's facilities (83%). A breakdown of what building components should be invested in is below.



St. Marguerite d'Youville:

Overall, all of the respondents from St. Marguerite d'Youville felt *satisfied or very satisfied* with the school's facilities (100%). A breakdown of what building components should be invested in is below.

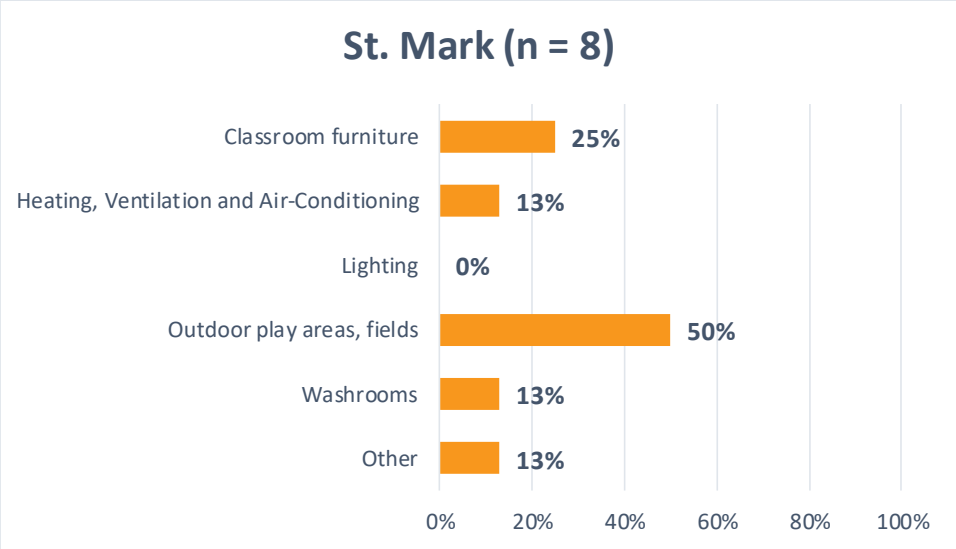


St. Marguerite d'Youville: 'Other' comments:

Not familiar enough with premises to opine

St. Mark:

Overall, the majority of the respondents from St. Mark felt *satisfied or very satisfied* with the school's facilities (88%). A breakdown of what building components should be invested in is below.

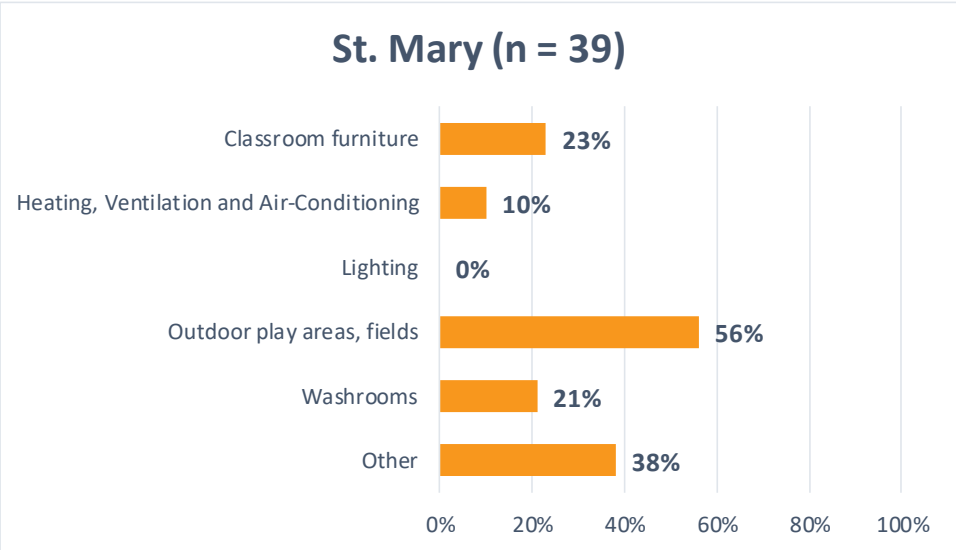


St. Mark: 'Other' comments:

N/A - our school has newly renovated facilities

St. Mary:

Overall, the majority of the respondents from St. Mary felt *satisfied or very satisfied* with the school's facilities (67%). A breakdown of what building components should be invested in is below.

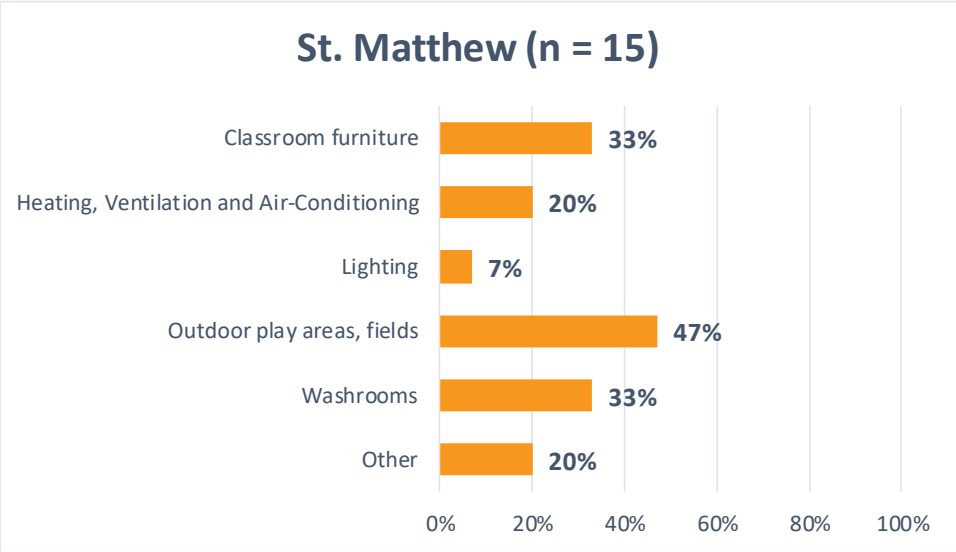


St. Mary: 'Other' comments:

Adjustable fence/gates around school property similar to other schools in the area to deter individuals that don't have school facility. Such as during school outdoor activities (recess and lunch)
At maximum with portables - should consider building an addition to accommodate more classrooms given the recent EFI Expansion approval.
Computers
Diagnose safety components around how the overpopulation due to French immersion is impacting traffic, safety in the parking lot, inclusiveness of all kids in school activities, etc.
Extra building...no portables
Heating for the external rooms
none
Portables
Portables equipped with student locker or alternative
School is less than 10 y.o. and already 6 portables. Growth was severely underestimated, something needs to be done
Sports, computers
Technology-Google Chrome Books
Too many portables
Too many portables
We need more classrooms an less portables. My daughter has been 2 yrs in a row in a portable. I believe a classroom with locker will help her be more organized.

St. Matthew:

Overall, the majority of the respondents from St. Matthew felt *satisfied or very satisfied* with the school's facilities (80%). A breakdown of what building components should be invested in is below.



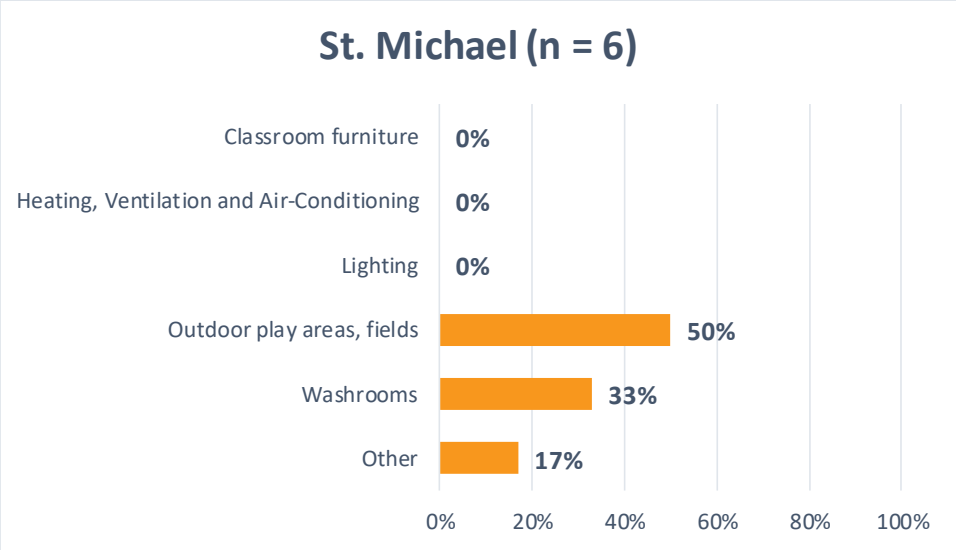
St. Matthew: 'Other' comments:

Computer lab
Lockers

Tech in the classrooms

St. Michael:

Overall, the majority of the respondents from St. Michael felt *satisfied or very satisfied* with the school's facilities (67%). A breakdown of what building components should be invested in is below.

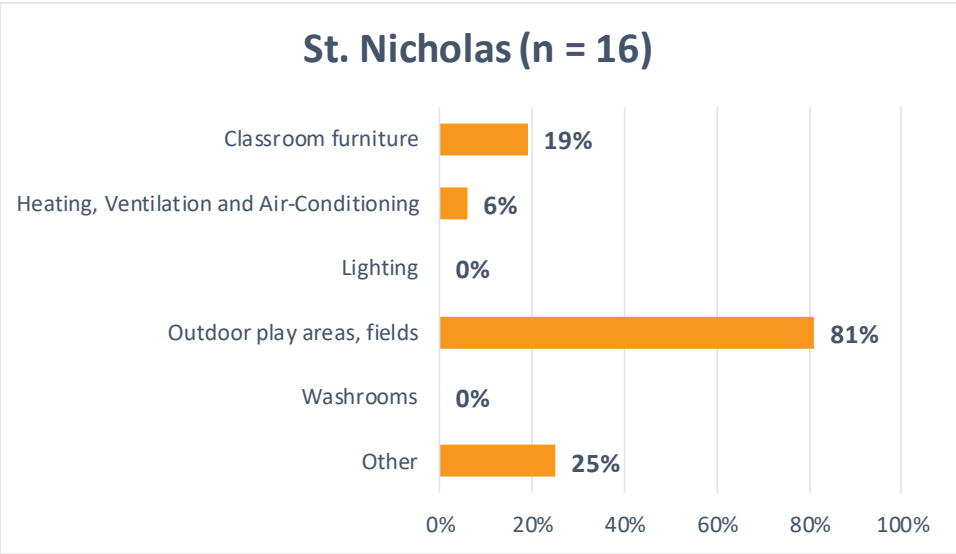


St. Michael: 'Other' comments:

none.

St. Nicholas:

Overall, the majority of the respondents from St. Nicholas felt *satisfied or very satisfied* with the school's facilities (81%). A breakdown of what building components should be invested in is below.

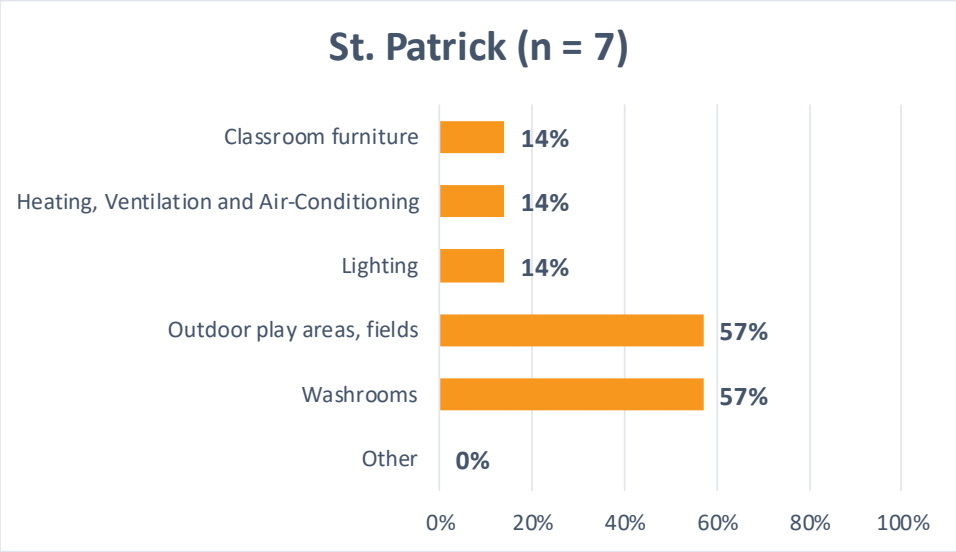


St. Nicholas: 'Other' comments:

None.. It s a new school
Sensory room or a padded room for children with challenging behaviours
Technology
This is a brand new school so facilities are excellent however I think the school would benefit from some trees planted in the yard.

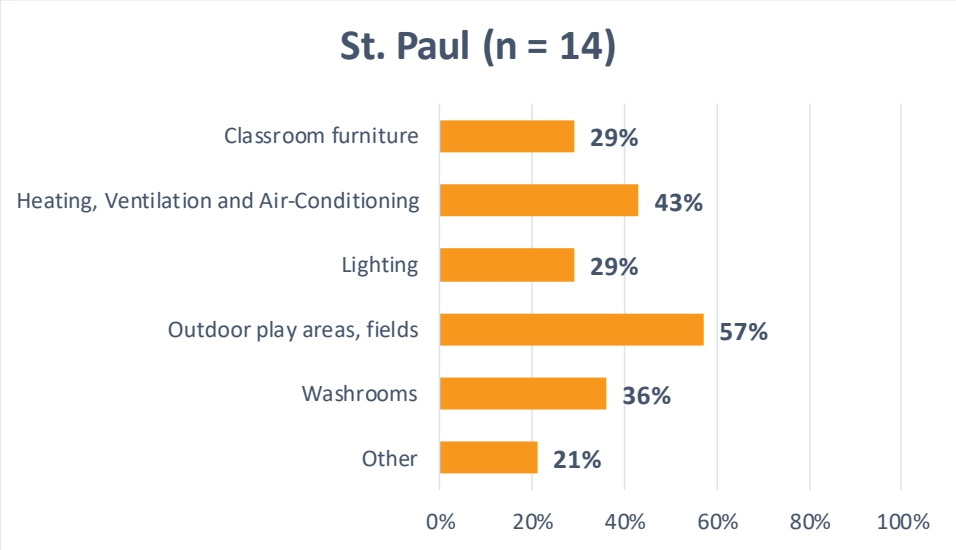
St. Patrick:

Overall, the majority of the respondents from St. Patrick felt *satisfied or very satisfied* with the school's facilities (63%). A breakdown of what building components should be invested in is below.



St. Paul:

Overall, the majority of the respondents from St. Paul felt *satisfied or very satisfied* with the school's facilities (67%). A breakdown of what building components should be invested in is below.



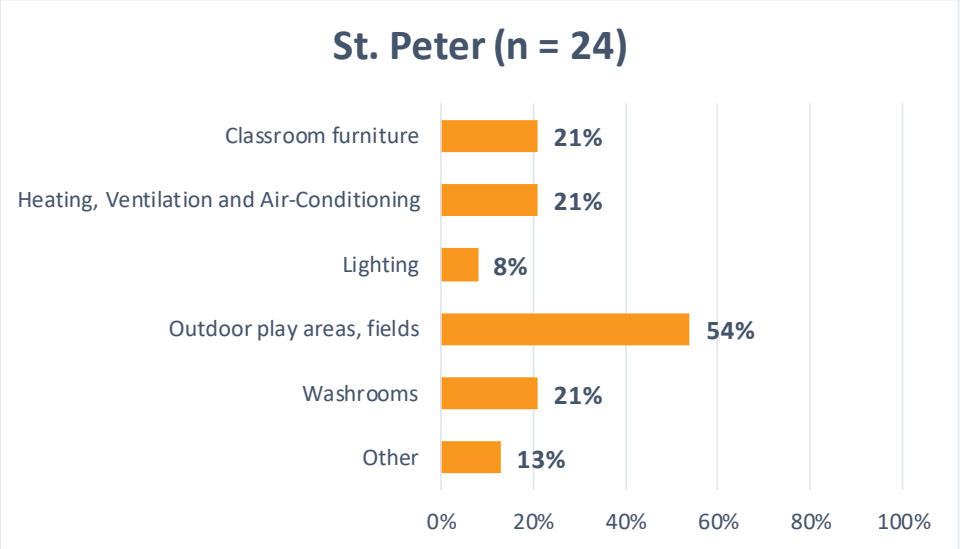
St. Paul: 'Other' comments:

Parking

Parking lot

St. Peter:

Overall, the majority of the respondents from St. Peter felt *satisfied or very satisfied* with the school's facilities (81%). A breakdown of what building components should be invested in is below.



St. Peter: 'Other' comments:

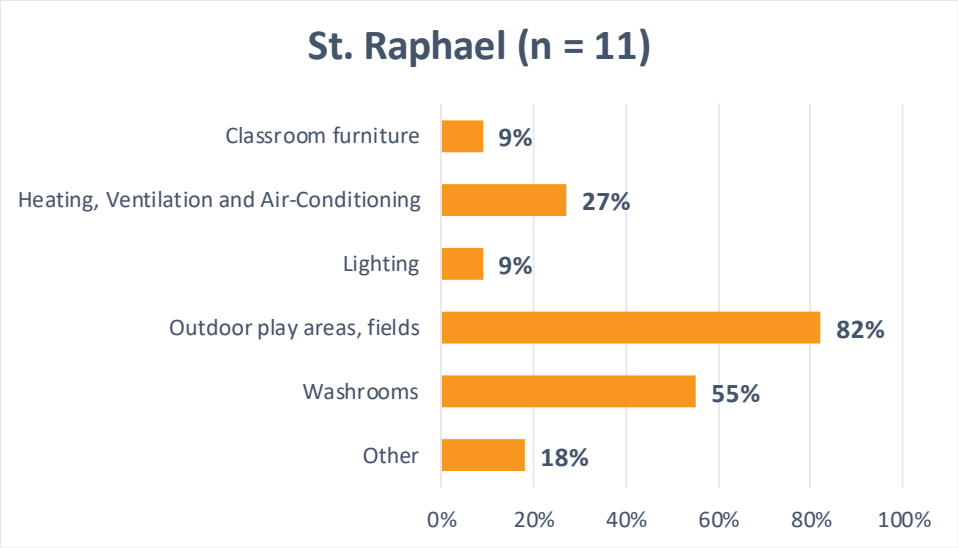
Add a back area fence for safety

Adding another gym. More often than not, it seems that phys. ed is cancelled because they gym is in use for a school-wide event or something else that's going on.

Parking

St. Raphael:

Overall, 27% of the respondents from St. Raphael felt *satisfied or very satisfied* with the school's facilities. A breakdown of what building components should be invested in is below.



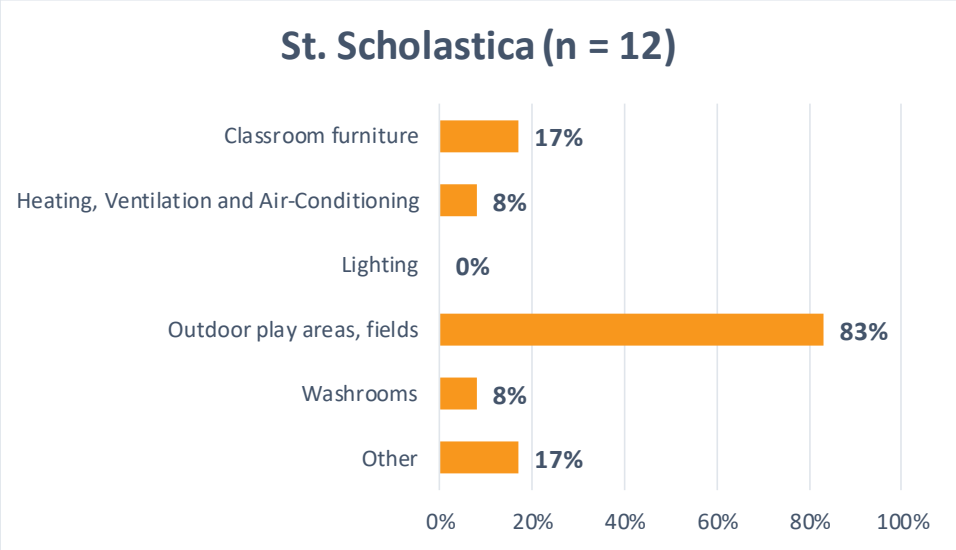
St. Raphael: 'Other' comments:

St Raphael needs to have more options for the kids at recess. It's just a concrete pad, repainting of the games on the tarmac would be nice, perhaps split days on which grades can go over to the grassy area to kick a soccer ball or just run around and play. Kids are coming home

St Raphael needs to have more options for the kids at recess. It's just a concrete pad, repainting of the games on the tarmac would be nice, perhaps split days on which grades can go over to the grassy area to kick a soccer ball or just run around and play. Kids are coming home full of energy to burn...perhaps having more options and activities outside at recess will keep the kids focused on just having fun and keeping them out of trouble.

St. Scholastica:

Overall, the majority of the respondents from St. Scholastica felt *satisfied or very satisfied* with the school's facilities (93%). A breakdown of what building components should be invested in is below.



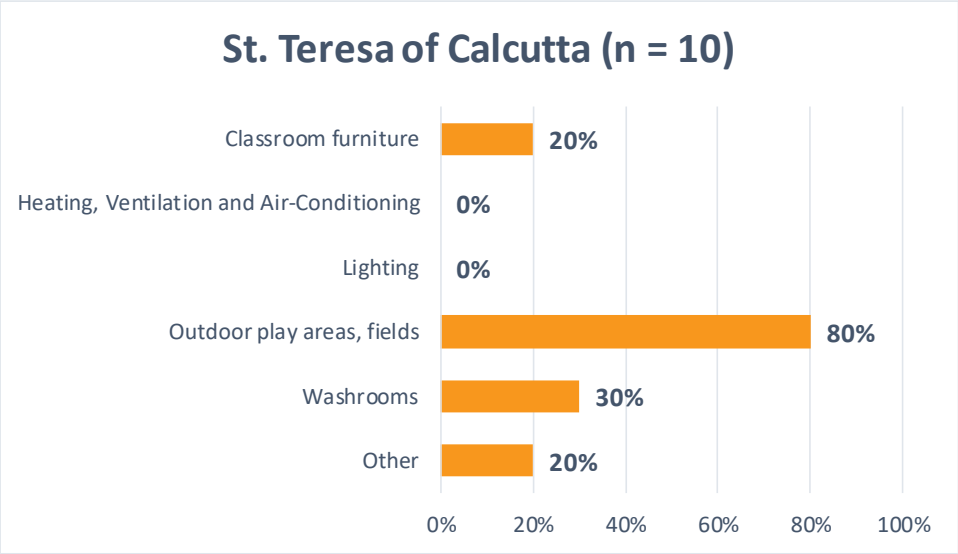
St. Scholastica: 'Other' comments:

Additional electrics like laptops, document cameras..etc

None at this time since it is a new school. But student population is forecasted to significantly grow so new school construction need to be fast tracked

St. Teresa of Calcutta:

Overall, the majority of the respondents from St. Teresa of Calcutta felt *satisfied or very satisfied* with the school's facilities (91%). A breakdown of what building components should be invested in is below.



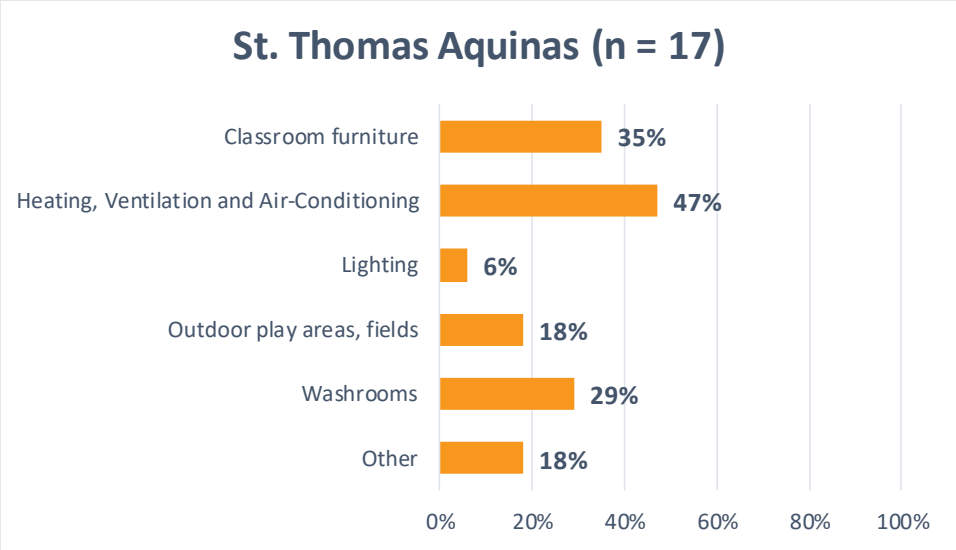
St. Teresa of Calcutta: 'Other' comments:

Based on the few times that I've visited the school I think it is very well kept and I didn't see any issues with regards to the school facilities.

Based on the few times that I've visited the school I think it is very well kept and I didn't see any issues with regards to the school facilities.

St. Thomas Aquinas:

Overall, the majority of the respondents from St. Thomas Aquinas felt *satisfied or very satisfied* with the school's facilities (96%). A breakdown of what building components should be invested in is below.

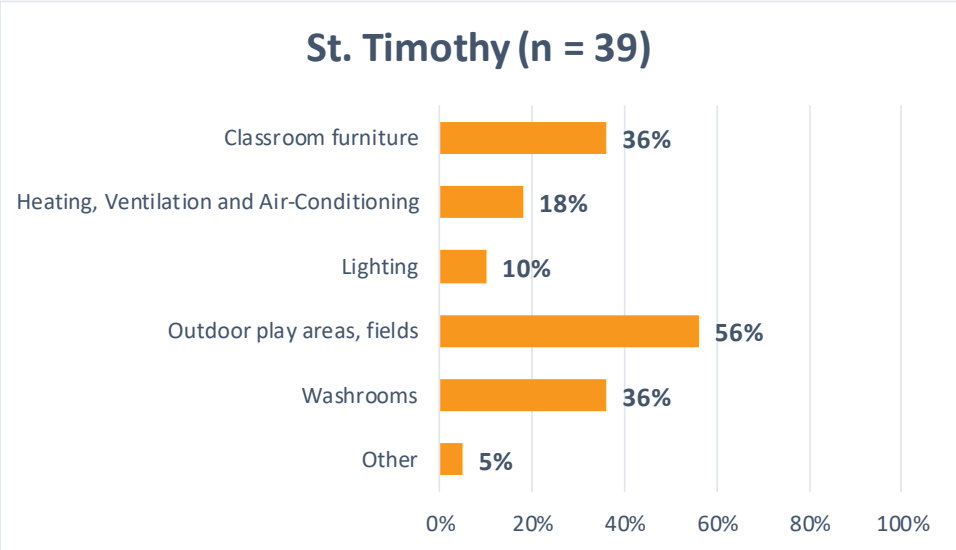


St. Thomas Aquinas: 'Other' comments:

none
The school is newer, but washrooms should be cleaner.
Wifi Accessibility - Many Classrooms do not have good enough wifi to look on google classroom or complete assignments during work periods

St. Timothy:

Overall, the majority of the respondents from St. Timothy felt *satisfied or very satisfied* with the school's facilities (83%). A breakdown of what building components should be invested in is below.

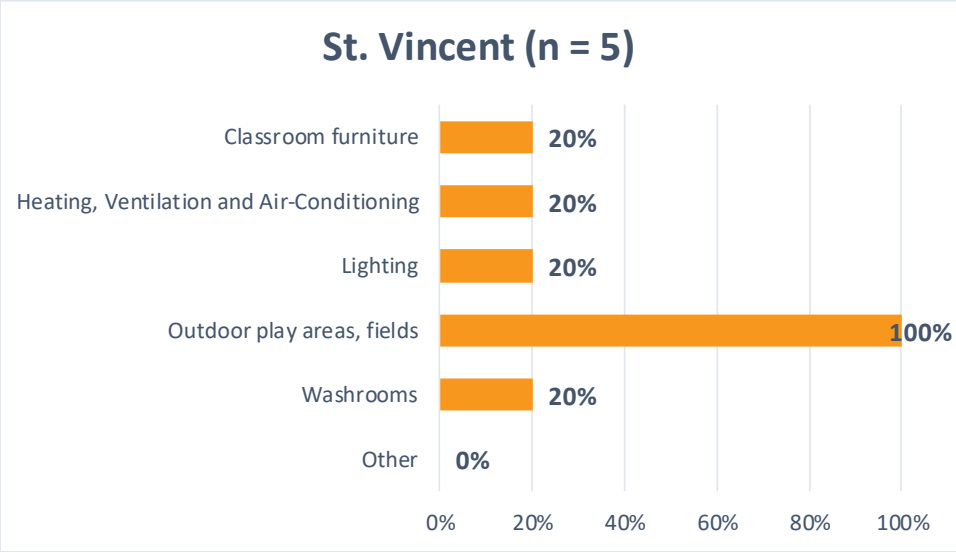


St. Timothy: 'Other' comments:

Parking lot size increase
Windows - drafty

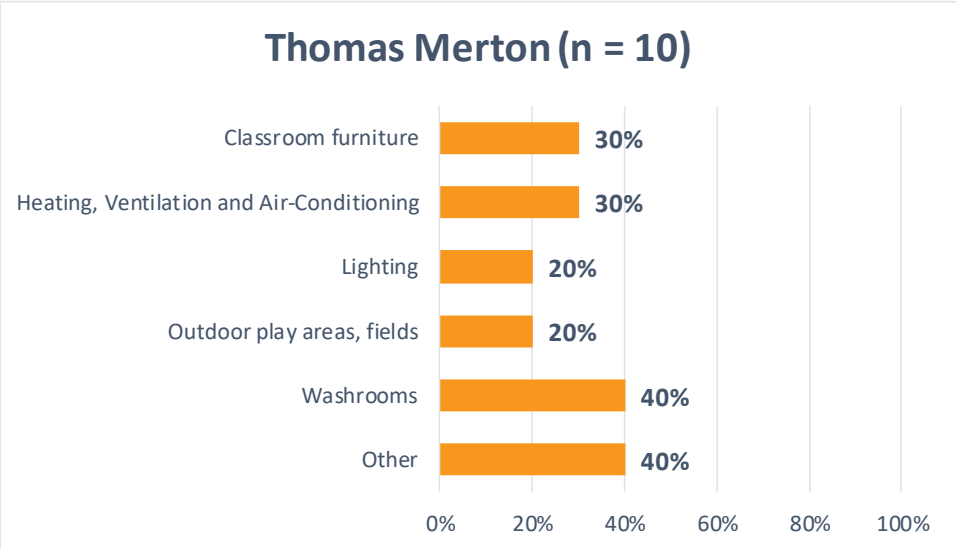
St. Vincent:

Overall, the majority of the respondents from St. Vincent felt *satisfied or very satisfied* with the school's facilities (60%). A breakdown of what building components should be invested in is below.



Thomas Merton:

Overall, none of the respondents from Thomas Merton felt *satisfied or very satisfied* with the school's facilities (0%). A breakdown of what building components should be invested in is below.



Thomas Merton: 'Other' comments:

new spaces coming soon

Roof needs repairs. We have had water not dripping but running down from the ceiling on the inside of the building.

Space to meet with students at the various Tmc locations.
Transportation

Appendix B

All additional comments for Q3: Faith Initiatives: (n = 76)
1. Seek an alternative to the current online game Prodigy in grade 2 classes. Wizards, sorcery and killing monsters - is this Christian based?
1. Seek an alternative to the current online game Prodigy in grade 2 classes. Wizards, sorcery and killing monsters - is this Christian based?
A brief description of each of the above initiatives would be more helpful for the next survey.
A good religion program based on the Catechism of the Catholic Church.
attending church
Awareness of other faiths and similarities to our own. The government can't invite millions of immigrants and we remain narrow minded. Secondly, have Culture Celebration Days- we have Catholics from India, China, South America, etc. Kids must be aware.
Bible study
By the way , I do not agree with Prist or adults going on retreats with students.
Celebrating faith based holiday
Class trips
Ensuring the Spiritual Leadership is evident, encouraged and supported with above activities to continue the Faith Formation of all players involved in our education system.
Everybody is equal. Diversity and Inclusion
Faith day...their should be one each semester for staff and a separate one each semester for students separated by groups
Faith initiatives can be toned down. It's a little over the top.
Faith should be strengthened at home with educating in facts at school.
FYI: We take our children to church every Sunday so I would like the faith initiatives to be an extension of that not a replacement for church for those that do not attend.
Getting physical Bibles (or digital equivalents) into the hands of kids and having them read it first hand, and service projects to the less fortunate that are hands on through partnerships with local non-profits and service clubs
go back to the old Health and Physical Education curriculum.
Guest speakers of Social Justice and those who are actively working with the marginalized in our society.
Hold an Annual Christmas Concert
I am not Catholic so none of this matters to me
I believe faith is personal..children should be allowed to investigate, learn and determine what their path of faith will be. The ""staff retreat"" option scares me..I should NOT have to use my tax dollars to support STAFF's faith choices. Especially since they are not putting my child's critical LEARNING priorities above petty strike choices.
I wish we could remove all faith initiatives and focus on what I believe are more important elements such as language, literacy, physical education, etc. Meditation and mindfulness are great, I wish it was devoid of religion, however. Our child attends a Catholic school because the facilities are nicer than the local public school, not because of the religion.

I would like to see the kids do prayer (say grace) before meals this stopped after grade 1 not sure why
In her current school? No thank you!
Inclusive messaging and mental health teachings
Informed classroom teachers
Initiatives in the school . While student and staff retreats are great - they can be cost prohibitive for some. Peer mentors can also help as teenagers relate well to their peers.s.
Initiatives that give back to the community
-just like the biblical scripture in the New Testament says to watch your life and doctrine closely and persevere in them so that you may save both yourself and your hearers"", in the same way the school and in the classroom and what is taught and discussed in class including English class, all classes, needs to reflect Christian values.
Learning about all faiths and accepting different points of view.
Less faith initiatives
meaningful faith day away from the school building
Meditation
More community service. Visiting elderly folk to bridge intergenerational gap
Need new photo copiers.
No gender ideology in Catholic schools.
No yoga please. For some reason it has found its way in school for or if my children and I would like our kids to focus on Catholic ways of meditation. There are so many beautiful meditations especially by St Faustina and some of the other saints. Let's use those instead please.
None
None
None
None
None
None of the above
None of the above, just a waste of the budget
None. Focus on core curriculum (math, language, physical health and sciences).
None: focus on education they can actually use in the real world
Only mental health support is needed, the faith aspect is not relevant
Parish involvement in school initiatives. The parishes should be encouraged to contribute through school councils, fundraising, and school and classroom activities. Students at every panel would benefit from personal interactions with the leaders of our parishes.
Please bring teachers teaching in their speciality. Teachers some time lose focus and waste half the period of science for calendar, language of the day, weird animal of the day and other useless stuff and at the end whole units are not explained and they get it on the exam
Practicing faith
Praying the Rosary, knowing the parts of the Mass, prayers and responses and their meanings, Sacrements, developing life long Faith and continuing the Catholic faith
Preparation courses for first communion could be stronger.
programmed bible verses reading

Public speakers to discuss how to treat others with respect - there is a real bullying issue at St. Mary and I believe students would benefit from a speaker then can connect with and perhaps learn from to help build a better faith community in line with our Catholic values.
Relatable kindness/empathy programs vs literal bible
Religion teachers with good formation that help the student to grow in the catholic faith.
retreats to help less fortunate - putting catholic faith / behaviour into action. Real life experiences to engage and help develop gratitude and empathy.
rosary
Rosary, confession
Senior grade overnight trips to support bonding and independence while making life long memories.
Social Responsibility , get the kids involved in helping other not only giving donations they need participation
Staff retreats might help staff to connect with one another and build faith through community.
Staff to exemplify Catholic Values through their everyday interaction with children.
Stewardship of Creation - environmental awareness
Stop the brainwashing [word removed]
Sufficient at our school
Teachers who live their faith and incorporate it into their lessons - not just in religion class.
They only need a little religion as they must focus on school work. Too much competition to get into good schools, they need to learn how to study/write/math, etc...
Too many masses and such wheee the kids sit for hours crisps legged in the gymnasium. That is not how I see religion and faith. I prefer a program that is more suitable for their ages and maybe involves them a bit more in terms of leadership and creativity.
Too many masses and such wheee the kids sit for hours crisps legged in the gymnasium. That is not how I see religion and faith. I prefer a program that is more suitable for their ages and maybe involves them a bit more in terms of leadership and creativity.
Too many portables. Not enough gym or outdoor area
Try having staff actually go to mass
Waste of time
We're growing so much it's becoming an issue to even have a proper mass. I know many of our students aren't practicing Catholics, but our teachers are and as a catholic educator I feel like no real solution has been put into place.
x

Appendix C

All additional comments for Q4: Special Education: (n = 117)
Access to AP schools
additional facilities that allow them a safe space to stretch out and exercise.
Additional resources for ESL
ADHD awareness and assistance could physically benefit all children
All above points are important and should be expanded although not all can be done at once
ALL Teachers to have to dedicate mandatory hours with respect to running/organizing extracurricular activities with students (ie. athletics, leadership clubs, etc.)
Allow parents to use their benefits to pay for private in school support such as OT's, speech therapists, etc. Allow private support workers into the schools which will free up board funded support workers for other students. It's free to the board and has the potential to save significant funds while providing better resources.
As construction is going on , hopefully parallel or after School can Invest in a better indoor play area and a better dedicated 'Study Area' where students can stay after school or breaks to discuss group projects etc. Also more laptops and computers for technology classes.
Ask teachers to help find cost cutting measures and waste to fund the above.
Athletics and recreation
Books and hands on learning tools and experiences. Where are the options to support neurotypical children. Where are the options fir es
bring back separate learning environments for the ""special learners""
Bullying prevention
Buy text books. There are only 10 text books for a class of 24 kids. They have to take turns using the text books. Can we not provide each child with their own text book so they can learn?
Chaplain services are critical for teens, given how high suicide rates are for teenagers, having a Chaplain available at any time during the school day is key
Class sizes, upgrade and make technology available to all students.
Classrooms are out of control and it is hard to believe the teachers can plot through the curriculum given the fact that they have students in their class who are out of control or even abusive. The presence of those types of children in the classroom means the rest of the students suffer.
Classrooms are out of control and it is hard to believe the teachers can plot through the curriculum given the fact that they have students in their class who are out of control or even abusive. The presence of those types of children in the classroom means the rest of the students suffer.
Come up with programs that teach actual life skills like cooking, meditation, diet etc and put them into practice at school.
Consider funding for an enhanced program for those students who are exceptionally bright 92/3-97th percentile on the general ability index to meet these students learning needs as well as they are currently overlooked
continue to provide supports for English Language Learners through dedicated ESL staff
Decrease class sizes

decrease the number of consultants and itinerants-teachers need more school based support. Consultants/itinerant (Special Ed) are not very helpful with the day to day interactions of a classroom with multiple special needs students
Decreased non student costs. No more non-merit based cost of living increases when the teacher did not generate learning outcomes above the standard.
Diversity and Inclusion programs or activities
Early intervention is key to assist students experiencing difficulty before they get to junior grades. Classroom support is greatly needed as there are too many competing needs for staff
Early intervention strategies to help with the vaping crisis.
Early proactive intervention/ ea support is key. Release time for teachers to be trained in specific learning strategies for students with exceptionalities ie autism, Down syndrome, cerebral palsy , etc.
Early proactive intervention/ ea support is key. Release time for teachers to be trained in specific learning strategies for students with exceptionalities ie autism, Down syndrome, cerebral palsy , etc.
Educate staff on educating students with special needs.
Ensure classroom safety for all students, have plans to minimize violent student outbursts like having appropriate supports to deal with theses situations while maintaining a calm environment for the other learners.
ESL support
ESL teacher support
Every one of the above is so important, it was impossible to exclude any.
-every student should have their own locker and not have to share, The students do not wear boots in the winter because they have nowhere to put them.
Everything is based on a small majority of special needs students (which is obviously very important) but we need to also focus on the students that will go on into the working world and/or university how to get a competitive edge and learn life skills how to cope.
Focus more on programs such as science and technology as these are lacking in our current school curriculum.
Focus on mindfulness and antibullying initiatives
French immersion
French immersion resources
Full inclusion is not working with the current model. Children not working at grade level or with high needs and behaviors should be in classes that specifically support their needs.
Funding Thomas Merton & Help promote/market Thomas Merton's various programs to help the students who require our programming.
get a SR football team
Get some good cameras in halls and outside
Gifted programming at secondary level
Have Prefects. Gives the Grade 8's a sense of responsibility, it is something for them to add to college applications and you get added supervision for outside play.
Having access to early involvement in organized groups for the children. i.e. music programs, sports. As well as expanding the music programs to be more than guitar, choir, dance. Allowing the kids to be more involved in the school in more ways to build on the community and capturing kids that do not fit into the mainstream programs.
here too your survery is flawed; you shoudl have a I Don't Know box

I have been very disappointed with the wait times for one of my child's speech assessment which took more than 2 years. Are school system has shifted to paying teachers very high salaires but the students have limited resources. I have had my child privately asssessed and he is 2 years behind in lanugage. THe only suggestion that I received since Kindergarten is that he needs to read. If you want to pay your teachers a 6 figure salary, then we need to have a higher quality school system with children who are given the resources to learn but not slip through the cracks.
I know that Spec Ed is being cut. It's atrocious and I hope through this survey you will be able to highlight to the public and the government the importance of special education funding.
I think it's wonderful that there are many resources currently available for special/behavioural needs but I'm saddened by the lack of resources for children who are not. We would like to see more resources provided for all children specifically to help with self regulation, organization and focus as well as more deck options like standing desks and peddle chairs as well as in school tutoring.
I would like to see more funds allocated for the creation of classes and programs to help children with special needs or not a grade level outside of the regular classroom. This would ensure they have the attention they require while at the same time decreasing disruption in the regular classroom.
I'm not part of this area so I have no experience or knowledge
Implement effective anti-bullying measures. Have tangible consequences for bullies instead of further victimizing bullied children. Focus of inclusivity especially if the teacher notices bullying in the classroom.
Implement effective anti-bullying measures. Have tangible consequences for bullies instead of further victimizing bullied children. Focus of inclusivity especially if the teacher notices bullying in the classroom.
Improve the relationship between gifted and non-gifted classrooms at St. Andrew both in personal relationships and in the resources allocated being balanced rather than heavily weighted to gifted students.
Improving playground facilities to encourage outdoor play - particularly for boys as our experience has been that physical play and sport has been targeted as 'unsafe' and purposefully suppressed as part of the school's policy which we believe is not healthy from both a physical AND mental point of view - particularly for boys. As a recent example we have discovered that outdoor basketball play has been banned because it is perceived as 'unsafe' which is ridiculous.
Increase one on one involvement of EA in classrooms with multiple needs in one class
Increase the number of life-skills focused options (for students who want it). Not only for learners who are listed with disabilities. Truth is, not every one learns the same way. This option will benefit a variety of learners.
Increase the number of settlement workers supporting newcomer families
Increase the numbers of extra activities at home to improve theirs life in professional environment.
Investigate alternative support strategies fir students with behavioural needs BCBA's are not effective in my opinion.
It is essential that Human Resources are allocated based on needs at a given school. Ongoing training and support for dealing with extreme behaviour and mental health of students and staff.
Janitor cleaning facilities better, washrooms especially
Library resources
Literacy programs in the summer
Lower teacher student ratio

Mire support for early reading interventions such as LLI. Better training for teacher on problem solving based math and guided reading instruction. Worksheets and daily five does not teach our students us to be literate problem solvers. My children are in grade 4 and 2 and have never received guided reading instruction. Both children reading level stayed the same for much of grade one until I paid a private tutor to do basic guided reading with them once per week. As a result they moved 5 reading levels in 2 months. Parents should not have to pay to have a private (Hdsb) teacher provide this instruction it should be done in class in small groups.
More EA support would be very beneficial. Currently we have many spec ed students who are under-served in terms of EA support.
More occupational therapy intervention and assessment
More sports for all students. Not just for the 'elite athletes'.
More staff qualified teachers and more students activities clubs and athletics through the year. Sports on the field during break time to be more healthy, active and to combat vaping.
more staffing for cleaner schools
More teachers. Smaller class size
N/A
N/A
Na
Na
No further investment needed
No gender ideology in Catholic school in any form. Only catholic teachers and catholic workers in after school programs.
None of the above
None. Our province can't afford it
Not Applicable.
Not familiar with current programs
Nothing! You are all over priced!
Or allow parents volunteers
Or allow parents volunteers
Programs and support for the ""forgotten students""- students who attend school regularly, achieve 60-70%- but little to no supports to help them achieve 80's
Provide more specialized teachers for our most vulnerable students
Provide with more extra curriculum sports activities
Reading the above laundry list makes me more aware of how much the government has downloaded to schools. A school used to be a place where regular kids went to get a decent education. They now seem to have been turned into special ed centers, mental health facilities, etc. Most of the choices above speak to the same thing..help dealing with ""challenging"" or ""troubled"" kids. It's the same issue...so have an option for dedicated resources who can manage or facilitate resolution for any and all of the above.
Reduction of all staff. If reduction of staff is not possible simple salary reductions can easily pay for more staff. If every teacher took a 2 percent pay cut that money could easily pay for more teachers and a better teacher to child ratio. I don't get a raise every year and I don't think the teachers should either
Resources for remediation/resource rooms where students who are disruptive to other students' learning can congregate
Resources/focus to support teaching skill/materials which increase student engagement

Seminars and one on one coaching to improve organizational skills, time management and focus in class
Sensory Equipment- One on one therapy with specialists such as SLP and OT's
Smaller class sizes so all students can benefit from more attention and learning from the teachers.
Staff training on integrating technology into assessment and classroom activities delivered by teachers (not IT)
Support a growing population of English Language Learners through increased school based staffing
Support and education for teachers on various special education conditions that they need to support in their rooms.
Support children that are capable and show promise, progress and achieve their highest potential. Greater communication with parents from teachers.
Support children with Reflex disabilities. Wiggle seats, audio therapy etc. Get a Occupational Therapist to come in and do an assessment of the classroom to suggest items or special accommodations that will help the children struggling with STNR reflex disabilities to feel more comfortable in their environment. My son is very smart but due to his STNR deficiency I have had to supply physical devices to the school on my own dollar. Luckily I can afford to do so but these types of accomodations are not taken with out skeptical views of teachers. Perhaps educate the teachers on these types of problems and realize that not all children can thrive or learn sitting at a desk with auditory distractions around them. Some need to have absolute quite to absorb the lesson. Others may need to not be sitting while taking a test as it is a huge distraction. More needs to be done in this area to increase awareness of these types of disorders.
Support more literacy based programs upon transition from FDK to Gr.1
Support needed for equity and inclusion in general- relating to students sense of belonging
Support staff for homework to be completed at school with one on one of required. Time for homework to be done at school even if that requires school day to be extended. t
Support students that need extra help in everyday subjects, like Math and Reading.
TAKE OUT THE CONTRACTORS AND REPLACE WITH BOARD EMPLOYEES, CUSTODIANS
Technology and professional development should be availability to All students and not only for a group of ""gifted"" students. This separation is creating injustice and feeling of not belonging and not being important by student who are not in the gifted program.
Technology in the classroom. Lacking at our lady
The ability to identify and provide programming for the gifted and the challenged - so they aren't grouped together. When we spend too much time trying to focus on one group, another group will inevitably suffer.
The importance of increasing support for extreme behavior, trauma, and mental health is essential
The teachers should come to school to teach
There are a number of bullying issues at the school that are being overlooked or not being handled appropriate as we do not have appropriate cyc coverage or appropriate training for teachers. Literacy was also cut this year, grade one classes not being provided with razz kids or leveled reading programs is completely unacceptable. The fundamentals of education should be provided before anything else is even considered
We live in an age where our children are under more stress than when I was in school from a social aspect. I believe that with the development on social media in some cases can have a negative impact on our children. Mental Health/ Social Work would be at the top of my list.

Sometimes it isn't enough for a parent to talk to a child about the effect social media has. Sometime they need to hear it from a third party for it to sink in.
We need more help in the classrooms but if the government can't afford that then we need to start focusing on the core reasons as to why there is an increase in students who require additional assistance.
Why are all of these options about adding staff rather than using it effectively and efficiently
Why does this list have lines for all professional groups, but psychology is only mentioned through wait times?This demonstrates a certain ignorance of the board regarding the competences of psychology staff, which is troubling; Psychologists are the most skilled professionals to provide mental health interventions and are the only professional staff group who can diagnose mental health disorders, and they are Mental Health Workers as per SMHO

Appendix D

All additional comments for Q5: Parental Involvement: (n = 96)3
More parent teacher interviews better info during the ones we have
A better description of the ways parents can get involved. I know there is a parent council, but there isn't any descriptions of what each role entails.
Administration and Teaching Staff need more coaching on how to DIFFUSE bullying. In many cases, admin and staff make situations worse as they are not appropriate equipped to navigate through student conflicts and find appropriate resolutions. The same problematic behaviors continue to persist in the schoolyard and int he classroom.
Allow parents to volunteer in the classrooms ie. with reading or any other activities that could help the teacher and provide additional support. St Raphael does not allow parents to volunteer in the classrooms. Parents can volunteer for class trips, pizza day, lunch supervision but not in the class.
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Allow students to fail and place that blame squarely where it belongs. On the parents.
Allow teachers to communicate with parents more readily (ie not just via agenda). Improve communication with parents via regular updates and occasional homework. Encourage parent participation in classroom assignments and work.
clear expectations for each event-perhaps carousel with each item noted above so parents can select what they need.
Consultation with parents prior to unilateral decisions being made that impact our children. Seems like things are done with a lack of transparency which erodes trust and shuts down parent involvement and communication.
Easy tools to communicate with parents to post work/information on regular basis.
Email notifications have been great.
Emails
Emails
Emails from the board are great, thank you for them.
Encourage more family, school and church cohesion. Our school doesn't even do a Christmas concert yet the public school down the road does.
Encourage parents to volunteer with programs that help kids at risk of falling behind. Reading groups...numeracy groups etc.
Encouraging parent volunteerism
Focus on getting the teachers working. As a single parent it's hard to find affordable Care for my daughter
For parent Council meetings or HCDSB meetings to be shared days and time well in advance.
Free parenting workshops on different topics (building self-esteem, resilience, how to manage difficult conversations)
Get parents involved in their child's education. Parents only get to know kids are struggling with a unit after the assessment.
Grade 1 requirements to kindergarten parents to understand what the expectations are for students once they move into grade 1

Have night sessions in central locations like Milton. Most have been in Oakville which seems south skewed.
Have staff increase communication with parents, so are no surprises.
have teachers provide communication with students/parents through google classroom or classdojo
Have teachers teach and parents patent. Parents are not home teachers. Focus on quality teachers
Hosting community evenings to increase parent engagement
I don't know what faith formation means
I wish we actually seen something - there is increasing bullying at Assumption - nothing is being done
Improve and facilitate ways for teachers to keep parent informed through a consistent school format or AP
Improved communication between teachers, student and parents
Increased number of meetings between parents and staff.
Indigenous education evening parent learning sessions
Information sessions on the use of board approved online portals (i.e. D2L)
Instagram
Invite parents to course selection fair. Inform parents of the rules of the school, especially when your child enters gr.9. Attendance policies were unclear aside from using the app to report absences. Students aren't clear of whether they need to check in at the office depending on the type of absence. The parking lot drop off/pick up rules were never explained to parents and the situation is frustrating.
It is very difficult to communicate with teachers since they use apps such as remind which do not allow the parent to leave messages. I find some teachers that intentionally do not want parents to communicate through electronic apps since it is additional work for them, however, the last time I checked, the school day is less than 7 hours. They don't even work a full 40 hour week.
It should be mandatory that teachers use apps or social media to communicate with parents re:homeworks, upcoming tests etc even higher grades not just primary !
Legislate 2 hours of school-driven community service per family per year
Listen to the parents supporting children with mental health concerns
More communication from teachers
More Indigenous education throughout the board specifically in classrooms is a must
more teacher/parent communication
Need proper improvement details of children
No gender ideology in catholic school. Most parents are against that
None of these will work. Let's be real. We all have full time careers and don't want or cannot come home to have a night time information session. I think having a parent requirement of mandatory time to support the school (hours within) reason would ensure that we are all involved. Liken it to the mandatory volunteer hours that high school students have to do. They don't like it and it takes away from time on other things that they would rather be doing but because it is mandatory for graduation it is taken seriously.
Not sure if this is relevant or pertaining to this question, but removing the attendance app in secondary schools.
Nothing!
Ongoing communication with parents via telephone

Ongoing regular communication with parents. When I have contacted the Administration in the past, responses seem canned and non personal. More active communication to parents.
on-line skype meetings so more parents can attend
Online webinars
Open communication with teachers
open houses that are inclusive and welcoming so that all families regardless of their comfort level with english- will be comfortable coming to.
Open houses, meet and greet with staff events, a PD or PA day that involves staff interacting and reflecting with a broad representation of parents in a seminar setting that allows for new ideas, critical analysis of systems and projects and more; more fundraisers that are hands on
Parent volunteers in the classroom
Personalized communication to parents via phone/letter
Please discontinue parent information night sessions. They are useless. It is virtually impossible to have a meaningful conversation about your child in the timeframes alotted for discussion. It is much more impactful in my view to focus on web based communication and have parents initiate one on one dialog when necessary.
Prepare students for High School, continuous use of Blueprint program, amend math program to allow them to succeed in math in High school and beyond
provide evening or weekend opportunities for single or working parents to participate
Provide opportunities for information to reach parents in paper form rather than online. A monthly news letter would be helpful outlining events happening in the school. Advanced notice for parents to attend events at school would also be helpful.
-provide parents with the emails of the teachers of the students classes
Providing online lessons via HCDSB portal (not social media) for JK-8 teachers to provide learning alternatives for students not attending classes onsite for whatever reason (ex. episodic sick day, snow day, labour disruption, extra learning/complementary resources/key takeaways from onsite lessons)
Questions about what is working for your child and what needs work? Questions about struggles your child is having (social, educational, homework).
Recommended resources via school website on tips to coach at home for organizational , time management and focus in class.
Regarding ongoing communication. Constant use of the Remind App by the teachers really helps us, parents, to get informed of what the kids are doing at school, what they're currently learning, any homework, exams, or upcoming activities that my kids need to do or prepare. It also helps to know that we can message my kids teachers anytime. I don't see the purpose of my kids Agenda book anymore. We may take it out, we can save money, we can save trees.
Regular (daytime) outreach sessions at Merton sites
Regular communication from school and teacher
Regular communications from
Regular emails
school activities or homework that involves parents/families
Some classrooms have Facebook pages or other social media to let parents see what's going on in the class but our class does not. It is frustrating to not have any idea what is happening in the classroom.

Some classrooms have Facebook pages or other social media to let parents see what's going on in the class but our class does not. It is frustrating to not have any idea what is happening in the classroom.
Specific communication with the parents when their children need extra help.
Sports for the entire family.
Standerize the teacher electronic communication with parent ANS STOP / DISCONTINUE USING the horible pulse app
STEM Nights for families
Support Indigenous learning for parents and families
Teacher communication
Teachers and parents being able to email vs phone calls would Allow for more communication.
Teachers to give students homework this will allow the parents to know what is being taught in school.
The surveys are a great way the board is already including our feedback, so thank you for at least this resource. Increase the number of masses said at schools as a way to bring both families together in school and build up their faith.
Training for staff on best email practises... Emails are not letters, concise and to the point please
Updates/info in the parent weekly newsletter that gets emailed out. The resources [name removed] provides are very useful. Provide childcare at any events, like the uniform consultation, in which you'd like parents to attend. More people would show up if children were allowed to come and were looked after.
Use of emails to connect with the parents
Virtual meetings with digital attendance options
Volunteer at school time.
Volunteer in the classroom
Volunteer opportunities for parents in the school and/or classroom. D2L classroom site that captures student achievement and provides feedback to parents with tips on how they can partner up and be part of the learning. This would be recommended as a replacement of the report card system that doesn't allow this level of rich communication.
We have initiated a Parent Council newsletter.
webinars
Webinars, Blogs
Website doesnt work because parents are too busy to go check another website. Emails or info nights on multiple days (choice!) are good thanks
Weekend sessions
Weekly homework for the lower grades to do together with parents... on paper, not online
Yes. In addition to class opportunities to get to know other parents in the same classes as your child. A lot of parents have had experiences with tutors -it would be nice to have a resource that provides this information.

Appendix E

All additional comments for Q6 (Information Technology): (n = 118)
2 way communication with teachers
3 laptops each class is not enough when we don't have textbooks and our kids must bring electronics to school. Please have more then one charger to charge the laptops aswell, they are always dead. If you don't have enough computers for all kids then textbooks should be handed out.
Access to Raz accounts for all students not limited to just a few accounts per school
All computers should have French keyboards automatically installed too.
ALL!
Also access to workshops -perhaps a Girls and coding workshop or STEM related.
App for communication with parents
Apps like razkids and dream works
Assistive devices for kids that need it. Less IT in lower grades.
Basic coding for elementary age kids
Better wifi access at schools
blocking all social media sites popular that are popular -incl. vpn blocking-
Books.
Cameras and printers for classrooms for teachers to use in classroom activities.
Classroom access is very limited.
Classroom mounted and set up media resources so they are not constantly being moved or in inconvenient locations -projector blocking student views as it is on a cart etc-
CODING, Green screen, more STEM type programs. Kids came from a school where they were doing coding and using the green screen in grade 1. This school doesn't have any of that.
CODING, Green screen, more STEM type programs. Kids came from a school where they were doing coding and using the green screen in grade 1. This school doesn't have any of that.
Communication apps/websites for parents and teachers to communicate. Example:remind app
Compare effectiveness of IT support personnel with *external* and well-established benchmarks *NOT* internal customer satisfaction surveys...
Computer lab not being offered or access to computers as a grade 1 class is currently being housed within the computer lab. This should not be the alternate to a classroom. Older class should have been displaced to a portable so a computer lab was not.
Consistency in programs/apps available across divisions with easy access t/o board that is updated regularly centrally. Updated reporting system with fewer bugs. Other boards use these.
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Current digital tools in the classrooms are sufficient.
Currently, we are using laptops that are being held by wires.
Digital Communication between parents and teachers
digitize the old textbooks, keep some around for kids whose parents don't want to access online
Early intro to coding and programming
Educate kids about internet and social media security and risks
education to the children about online issues i.e bullying, crime, etc..
Elearning course such as LinkedIn learning license for entire school to have access to

Electronic whiteboards to save work to their folders
Encourage the use of online communication/messaging between parents and teachers. Currently my child's teacher does not welcome communication via internet/email...only written.
Engage learners to use technology to solve problems -homework struggles, social troubles, cooking-.
especially in the portables - constant issues with wifi, no interactive smart-board, etc.
Extra curricular activities like chess on recess time. Online education programs.
General computers skills taught in all classes to improve computer skills
General computers skills taught in all classes to improve computer skills
Getting more variety of apps on tablets!
Given all kids have phones/iPADs/laptop computers what is needed is for teachers to allow all kids to use this technology for the purposes of learning and growing
Greater filters for research for websites like youtube, google
have parents involved robotics, mathematics, physics and computer programing
Hour of code course.
I don't know
I don't really care about IT.
I don't think children need more technology
I know some kids already have cellphones, but if we could just explain to some parents who let their kids have phone at an early age to get rid of their kids phones and that it's just distraction to kids, and explain that they can easily contact the teachers -through Remind App- if urgently needed, or call the school, or maybe create a chat from the school website in case the parents can't call the school, then I believe the kids will stay more focus of what our kids need to learn. If they're in high school, I would understand that having phone may be necessity, but in elementary I don't think so..
I would like more books in the hands of students
Information sessions on safety when using the internet
Internet awareness and social media risks
internet safety for kids. Teach them how to be safe as well as the parents
-Internet safety, regulations and controls put in place to protect students from inappropriate websites
Investment in electronic filing systems for special education professional staff that are in compliance with PHIPA and MFIPPA
IT reaction time/support
IT should block inappropriate websites- i.e. porm
JV portables don't always have reliable internet
keeping the current technology working and fixed in a timely manner so students and staff can use it on a regular basis
kids get enough IT at home
Learning to code programs
Less focus on tech and more on outdoor experiential learning. Studies show how crucial this is for childrens development. Seems there is an imbalanced approach where tech is placed above all else.
Less screen time not more in elementary schools would be beneficial
Less use of screen time.

Makerspace rooms with ozobots, dot and dash, robotics,
Many of our laptops and ipads are now eight years old which is considered quite old in the IT world; several classrooms still do not have smartboards due to budget constraints.
modern equipment - look into leasing modern equipment
More communication with parents via social media apps for classroom etc.
More communication with parents via social media apps for classroom etc.
more IT coding, programming and into courses to grades 2 and 3
More laptops and tablets for the school that work!
More online student/parent/teacher.. communication
More smart boards
More technology focused courses/lessons.
Most of chrome books provided are not working or in short supply and desktops are too slow. They need to be updated as my kids usually fall behind when computer work is needed. Also log in issues, the computer does not identify the student on school devices do every time she needs to make s new password to log in
mounted projectors instead of carts
New computer
No extra investment in IT required at this time
No gender ideology in catholic schools as most parents are so against this harmful ideology. Principles should represent parents opinion, not the other one ,and if principle is allowing to teach this stuff in his school that means she or he is not 1 catholic and not 1 beliver in God.
no issues
NONE - save your money
None. I feel far too many resources are spent on technology. In many cases, teachers lack the training to effectively use technology and it becomes more of a distraction. I would prefer to see resources dedicated to other classroom supports, including special education.
None. What we have is sufficient
None...please focus on math and science the way it has always been taught. Gadgets don't make kids learn more than the traditional way.
Opportunity for coding camps/classes
Our school has very little IT related programs/opportunities and the only access happens when the child bring their own devise but then children are not monitored properly as there is no firewall in place to monitor what content children are searching
Professional Support for Students- see comments
provide computers, only if the school board is going to force use of computers for classes. ie, assignments that have to be on an app/program
Reduce screens not increase them.
REDUCE the amount of screen time -SMARTboard, iPads- children have during the school day.
Reduced push by some teachers for my children to open and activate social media accounts -ex. Instagram- in order to be part of the grade's learning/lesson experience.
Replacement of dated iPad tech which doesn't allow for harnessing the power for our students to use in uploading their work in our blended or virtual environments.
retire old desktops and build multiple modern computer labs for classes to access
Smart boards - provide more
Social Media awareness

Social media education and cyber security education for the students.
Social media literacy / training
Software updates.
St Dominic computers need replacing!!!!
Standardized collaboration tools for parent and educator communications.
Start implementing use of google education services like google classroom which are free...
support and training -i get too much fake email-
Supports for Assistive Tech
Tablets for teachers to take photos and share with families
Teach kids programming if they are interested.
Teacher/parents online communication. Twitter, Whatsaap, etc.
Teachers integrating use of technology in the classroom
teachers should have their own wifi login for security
Teaching all kids how to protect themselves online. How to protect their data. How to protect and manage their digital footprint.
Teaching the students the benefits and consequences of social media. Learning money management through spreadsheet programs.
The IT department itself -more IT workers!-
This is a fine line - too much is not helping our kids.
To be honest, I think far too much emphasis is being placed on technology in the elementary schools. Fundamental academic and social skills are needed, not the distractions and dangers of the digital world. School should be a sanctuary and far too often I think teachers put kids in front of computers under the guise of exposing students to current, digital learning but the learning itself is underwhelming.
Training
Training for digital tools to enhance parent communication
training for teachers re: how to effectively integrate technology in a meaningful/value-added way
Updated Classroom iPads or Tablets for students to use in class. There are currently not enough available with the expectation that students bring their own - this is not feasible for all students.
Use of spatial technology -GIS- at earlier grades -at least grade 9 if not earlier in grade school-.
we should have more cameras to monitor the safety and security of students and staff.
Wifi access is not safe as it cannot be monitored and wifi access is also been shown with research to cause harm to humans. i vote for no wifi in elementary schools

Appendix F

All additional comments for Q7: (n = 300)
- Being able to purchase consumables from the Dollar store|- Less coloured printed materials at workshops |- All workshops in our own school libraries or gyms so do not need to pay rental fees |- Webinar style workshops
- cut HCDSB upper management |- HCDSB is top heavy
Hi sitting at fundraising initiatives more effectively not looking to cut thing.
- incent teachers to find cost initiatives ie teacher of the month or small prizes for ideas implemented|- cut budgets for external guest speakers |- rent out gym and facilities |- reassess boundaries to balance student loads and eliminate need for portables|- keep Catholic and public schools separate but see if you can consolidate admin functions ie procurement, contract negotiations, etc|- reduce PA days|
Maybe have all school roof tops equipped with solar panels. Also encourage further social activities that incorporate more fundraising?
Perhaps cut costs of non-essential things like food at meetings or rentals for when superintendents or principals meet together. Perhaps find a way to connect with a technology company to offer discounts to families who wish to purchase chrome books or another useful device and then they can bring their own device to school thus limiting the need to purchase and upgrade board equipment. I understand that not all families can do this but those who can will and then there is less tech to buy for the others. This will help to provide more access to tech and save money.
- Utilities- invest in sustainable energy. |-Double dippers with retirees. |-Lots of technology and equipment doesn't get used efficiently which is very wasteful (some kind of tech inventory at the end of each school year) to account for the true needs/wants of the divisions of each school. Also to share best practices with the various uses/organization of the devices with ALL teachers so that we can reflect and update best practices. |-Continue with less during school mandatory PD where teachers are away from their classes and a supply is needed $$ |
*****eliminate EQAO testing and focus on keeping class sizes REASONABLE*****|-please stand up to the ministry and help them to understand that there is very little need for e-learning courses, students need to learn from teachers, |-also please acknowledge that post secondary institutions do not give equal weight to courses taken online|-provide the resources that teachers and students need
|- centralized purchasing process with suppliers in order to drive the per unit cost for markers, pencils, iPads, iPad chargers, paper for volume discounts. |- survey/review by school which healthy snack programs are actually needed by school community (food costs and garbage disposal costs) vs online info for parents and links|- mandatory online training into the first PA Day for all staff to uphold the Board wide fragrance free policy to reduce staff illnesses and injuries that can lead to Workers compensation claims which add to insurance costs|- dimmers in classrooms -light level
> Return to a half day kindergarten with only a teacher. ||>Cut Itinerate teachers (we have a lot of resources and people in house).||> Limit laminating (each person has XX amount).||>Take donations of art supplies etc. from businesses in the area, possibly parents too.|

1. Decrease the number of consultants and itinerants. Speaking from a teacher's perspective with multiple special needs students in my classroom....they aren't helpful. Put them in a school as a SERT so they can help teachers and Educational Assistants with day to day programming.
Accessing large corporations to make donations through partnerships with schools.
All your staff is overpaid, considering you do not work a full 40 hour work week and only work 9.2 months of the year. To make a 6 figure salary in the private sector, you will need to work a minimum 60 hour week and in some cases, extensive travel. Just recently, I enrolled my children in a tutoring program and found that their curriculum is filling in the gaps that they have been not receiving at their school. Both of my children in grade 1 watched episodes of ""The Magic School Bus"" during class, , so why are we paying these teachers close to 100K to put on television shows?
Allow private support workers into schools that are paid for using the parents benefit plan.|Create special classrooms for spec Ed students with resources they need and the professionals present to provide suitable care and education. Rather than spreading a few EA's in multiple classrooms for shorter periods, put more EA's in a single room with more spec Ed students. Treat spec Ed as a specialized health requirement in a specialized setting as you would with any other specialized medical care.|Shorten the school year by 4 weeks, remove PA days during year and have them in these 4 weeks.
Allow students from different schools on same bus from the same or adjacent stops (consolidate) if bus stops at one of the schools first
Although I ticked off investing in outdoor play areas and fields I don't believe any money needs to be spent. What I really want is for the children to USE the outdoor spaces at recess. The ""walk and talk"" recess on the blacktop only is not helping their growth and development. Let them run, let them get their energy out and use the fields. |As a parent I would rather do laundry on muddy clothes rather than have a child that can't learn properly because they haven't had adequate physical activity at recess! Give them a chance to focus on their learning by being as active as they want on break
Amid the strikes, this budget review is very frustrating. The board/budget must provide a fair/equitable/safe education for all. The teachers are facilitators in this service to students, which we, as a community of tax payers will gladly pay for, assuming the money is spent properly. However, if the well has run dry, is it possible the current budget is set out to provide for the teachers more than the education of students? When the board compromises in budget decisions, is it teachers or students who are affected? Lower the pay grid and save our education system. Serve the students!
Any pilot projects or new initiatives with technology. Funding is better spent in professional support for students such as CYC groups, mental health initiatives, EA support to meet students academic goals, speech therapy and early intervention for math/literacy.
Are so many consultants at the board level really necessary? Would the money spend on these positions be better used with in class supports?
As best as you can please support our kids by offering as many supports in the classroom. Kids need caring adults and various differentiated opportunities to succeed. Would love to see RAZ kids offered to primary kids in HCDSB. I had to pay for my own copy. Would love to see dream box or other math supports offered - again I paid for my own. I just believe if students have access to these in public board the catholic board should also have these resources.
At Holy Trinity, the heat could be a little lower. Many students complain that it's too hot in various parts of the school. I honestly can't think of a way to save money. I feel the school needs money in the music department badly, and maybe less on all the sports team and buy out days.

At this time no, but I must reiterate ongoing Indigenous Education is a must, especially in a Catholic board it is our time to produce on the calls to reconcile and I would really like to see that happening in my children's school. We have a responsibility to do more and we should. I understand some may feel we are not at fault BUT we are ALL responsible.
-Being proactive and Building schools big enough to accommodate students and reducing portable classes|- Introducing more online courses|-
Better run more modern ways to raise money for the school. The box of cards is outdated and a hard sell. Use more foods that sell easily (chocolate, popcorn, pies, cupcakes, apples, gift cards) Raise money on ""dress down ""days. Each child donates $2 to dress down for the day. ||The fundraising is really sad compared to other schools.
Big picture, but elimination of EQAO
Board of Trustees do a review of what the school is using their fundraising dollars for. |St. Mary's does a large amount of fundraising. However not in agreement of what the funds go towards. E.g Reseeding the grass or decorative urns or statues. I would prefer to have these funds go towards the classroom not for the school's overall aesthetics.
board-wide fundraisers
Budget on cafeteria food. Most kids don't eat cafeteria food. They all go out for lunch.
Build a new board office with sufficient meeting space to eliminate costs for renting facilities in the community for bigger PD and other events
Campaign to ensure all Catholics (with or without school aged children) are directing their tax dollars to Catholic Education - not the public default.
-Can schools not being used in the summer months be rented more frequently by outside groups? ||-Better use of P.A. days. Outside of the mandatory four days maybe the remainder be saved for inclement weather and if not used during the winter months be used at the end of the school year?||-Earlier school day start would be very beneficial at St. joan of Arc. Currently the 8:45 start is an odd time, can this not be 8:15 or 8:25 and dismiss at 3pm? Parents are already in the after school care program but avoiding the morning YMCA.||-More funding for capital improvements/accessibility.
Can you advocate that new school construction should have the intent of being net zero energy buildings? The cost may go up for construction due to the need for solar panels but this will significantly reduce ongoing electricity costs. Even a goal of generating say 70% to 80% of the electricity would be a great goal. Most of the schools I assume has enough flat roof area.
Cancel EQAO testing.
Cap teachers salaries and wage increases. Decrease sick days each teacher is allowed |Cut back on teachers positions . Increase class sizes to accommodate this cutback. |Change policy of short term leave . Cutback positions within the school board, get rid of higher paid positions and blend positions responsibilities to other paid roles. Decrease amount of PA days to increase student learning. Stop having strategically planned four day long weekends and call them PA days prior to a holiday. One week Christmas holiday period. Stop being spoiled and appreciate your high salary of 10 mths work
Cap the salaries of all staff|Reduce sick time and allow no carry over of sick days.
Changing boundary lines for NOD - North of Dundas for Secondary. You are currently busing students to Loyola instead of having Holy Trinity be the catchment area school. Loyola is approximately 5km from the subdivision and Holy Trinity is 3.6km from the subdivision. Thus you could change the boundary and eliminate bussing for 90% of students (obviously some is necessary for Special Education) which would in turn save money.

Complete a boundary review and utilize all classrooms instead of overfilling one school with portables. |
Construction projects are grossly over paid. As a contractor I have witnessed many school boards throw away money as a result of closed bidder lists and requiring potential bidders to be members of trade specific organizations that provide no added benefit. if the boards would take a closer look into the cost of construction projects I am certain you would find all of the resources you require .
Consultants- as rarely see them anyhow
Count on parents support instead of paying high fees to consultants. Many parents would be willing to help someway with their professional skills.. Most of parents want to keep sending their kids to catholic school and will help given the chance and organized opportunity. Reinforce commitment from parents.
Curriculum Budget
Cut all computer labs in every school. Then apply for federal government grants to pilot as a board a completely paperless and device-driven board, with every secondary student required to bring in a tablet or laptop (OR to purchase one through the school). Subsidies will be provided to students through money raised at various board charities in order for them to be able to afford a device, or given one outright.
Cut down on number of trustees. There are too many, and frankly are overpaid.
Cut EQAO it's a total waste of time and money. Stop using paper. Switch to an electronic system. Why are you printing for class selection when it's on the blueprint!? Force every teacher to use google classroom
Cut funding to French programs. Segregation of|Special needs students.
Cut gifted testing |Cut French immersion or at least the transportation costs |French immersion classes should be combined into split grades in junior and intermediate when the numbers drop |
Cut off the catering and free food for meetings I can't believe this is still allowed. ||Do a better review of how many secretaries and executive assistants that some areas have there are so many it just appears unnecessary. |
Cut salaries
Cut salaries
Decrease unnecessary spending|-lower expense accounts for senior exec members|-no more catered lunches for workshops and retreats for staff ||Balance out salaries to increase supports|-there is no reason why board exec members need to make so much. If the salaries were reviewed then the board could hire more essential members to actually be in the schools helping our kids. We need more EA's and CYC's on the front line. Having them at the school 2 days per week is not effective.
Develop an after school homework club perhaps overseen by CYC or teacher assistants and perhaps where older children can gather volunteer hours by helping younger children with their homework. I'd pay for this after school care. Think of all the money private tutoring is collecting from your students. For example my child is in early french immersion (grade 2) and I'd love it if an older child could help her with her reading for my husband and I are only English speaking. Again I think parents would pay for the service and have comfort knowing they remain in a familiar & safe environment
Difficult to say, schools seem pretty lean already. Good luck.
Don't give anyone but classroom teachers a raise. They are the only ones fighting for my child

Don't lose sight of the general benefit and safety of the kids at St. Mary. Recent focus has been on French immersion expansion, without thinking on the location capacity. Surrounding streets and parking lots have become a dangerous hazard for the kids and families who walk to and from school every day, are you waiting for an accident to happen to take action? Please don't!
Don't waste money on expanding a French program and trucking students from outside boundaries to any school, which them takes spots from students within their own boundaries. Zero faith in the lunatic trustees at the Catholic board. They are clearly out to lunch.
Efficient facilities, in term of automatic lamps, etc
EFI is an optional program. Transportation to an optional program is not mandatory. Eliminating such transportation could save significant amount of money that can be used more equitably. Either provide transportation to all optional programs or none.
e-learning|fewer PA days |true evaluation of benefit plans offered to educators that are not in line with general population
electricity conservation and solar panels, conserve paper monitor student printing closely
Electronic access / licences to textbooks as they become expensive to replace by hard copy (limited ability to order more for lost ones that are never recovered)||E-books licenses for audio/IEP students in mainstream classes to avoid copyright and incurring costs for family/student
Eliminate assistants for secretaries
Eliminate bussing to St Paul's, having mass and liturgy in the school gym just as effective!
Eliminate desktop computers in the classroom and provide dedicated, personal laptops. More and more often we are working online, and do so in areas other than just the classroom I.e., office or home.
Eliminate Junior Kindergarten.
Eliminate or advocate for the elimination of all EQAO grade assessments. The monies saved can in turn be put into much needed school supports as identified above.
Eliminate the board of trustees and half the management at the board
Enable competitions, charity programs
Encourage staff to conserve electricity (schools rarely turn off computers at the end of the day), discourage wasteful printing (hard copy attendance sheets are printed for each teacher for each week, regardless of whether they use the online system and paper copies of attendance reports are placed in our mailboxes daily, even though they can be sent out electronically)
End the use of Itinerant teachers. Has this program been assessed as to whether classroom teachers take advantage of this? Has the transfer of skills and expertise been measured - have Itinerants successfully made an impact on student learning? I witnessed first-hand an Itinerant teacher arriving at school and sitting in the school library all day with no teacher interaction at all. Teacher absences cost the school board an exorbitant amount of money - find ways to discourage absences by addressing the root cause of their absences.
Enhance partnerships with community around use of school spaces for rent|Leverage Universities and online courses for gifted and reallocate funds to supporting special needs
Ensure that the early French immersion program is not expanded.
Evaluate current funding/design of pension and benefit plans for unionized teachers. This plan is extremely rich vs. any other employee (public or private sectors) in Ontario.
Executive accounts with Microsoft and or apple
Extremely disappointed in educational services these days. Teachers seem to strike every other year for more pay so I don't know how you find savings in such a toxic union environment. I guess services for children need to suffer while the teachers eat cake. Bravo.

Facilities and maintenance. Out sourcing companies with competitive rates for maintenance work similar to what was done for custodial staffing. Using high school construction classes more effectively to outsource some maintenance projects within family of schools (i.e. shelving, portable staircases, garden projects, etc.)
Fewer board members and administrators
Fewer initiaves related to identity politics and other undertakings that accentuate our differences instead of our similarities.
Fire all the teachers!
Focus funds on special ed, core facilities and math and language programs. My lowest priority would be faith based programs.
For the spirit days instead of signing in each time, just put the total number of days and have people pay in lump sum. Bring back the barbeque instead of having the food trucks there.
GET A SR FOOTBALL TEAM
Get rid of EQAO
Get rid of EQAO! Spend the money of the students!||It is NOT a reliable source to evaluate student/teacher benchmarks!
Get rid of the sex ed pedo program |
Go paperless for everyday tasks and meetings. Save on paper costs and copier repairs
Go paperless!! So many notices are sent home by paper, we live in a world where digital announcements are acceptable. Why not save some $$
Go paperless, multiple sheets at the beginning of the year go to the parents for review. Plus permission slips throughout the year. Can this not be done on line? Or 1 sheet with list of permissions?|
Have energy saving lighting which turns on/off or dims according to the current natural lighting. The school entrances are too tight.
have more and frequent fundraisers dedicated to the school ||
Have older teachers retire and replace them with teachers who are eager to work with students to progress their learning. There are some that are not engaging their students and sometimes tell the children they don't want to be there. The more senior teachers are making more money and some are past retirement. The younger teachers need the experience, are more willing to work with the kids and their payroll is lower than someone with 20+ years more seniority.||Replace JK and SK teachers with ECE teachers.||Amalgamate some of the older/less populated schools to reduce duplicity.
Have our provincial government consult educators as to where these savings and/or efficiencies can come from rather than the bean counters who have no business making decisions about our children's education. Bargain a responsible contract with our children's educators.
Have schools set up in a manner that serve the ""Customer/Students"", in a more beneficial and practical way. While I agree that challenged students should have equal opportunities as other students, have them attend schools that truly offer these kids growth opportunities. Having some of these students attend a standard ""High School"", curriculum is doing nothing more in a lot of instances that just providing ""Day Care"". There seems to be little to no value in having these students attend classes that they have absolutely zero chance in passing or getting anything out of attending? Waste of t
Having a parent teacher council that's responsible for raising a dependent funds for the school outside of traditional pizza days etc. There's so many areas of opportunity within the community that the school board is not tapping into. Not everything has to be government funded. Having a

cross between Catholic school private school might be most beneficial to all parties. Pay a little to get a lot
Having an understanding of what the priorities are by school would be good information to have. Are there some schools that just require too much maintenance because of age/capacity? ||Some elementary schools have lower enrolment - do we need to re-look at this and look at some consolidation?
Having worked in a high school for the first half of my career, I feel that I am in appropriate position to comment on how there is a lot of time and money wasted in the elementary years. So many resources put into those 10 years to teach the basics of literacy and numeracy when it can be done so much more simply and cheaply. Often, a significant number of students don't have those basics after those 10 years....entering high school unable to do their multiplication tables and/or write a decent paragraph. There should be rotary in elementary. Ex. Same teacher for grade 4, 5 and 6 math.
Hire a Lean Six Sigma team to look at admin processes and do a full review to find efficiencies.
Hold teachers accountable for the striking [word removed] and get rid of them. Thousands of new teachers are available at a lower wage. ||Lower salaries to conform with a calendar year of teaching. Pay according to season then layoff. ... $80 per hour with the summer off = joke
hold strong on reducing teacher benefits and compensation. Set a later retirement date such as 60 or 622, irrespective of years of experience. 99% of employees do not have the luxury of using years of experience to set a retirement date.
Hold teachers accountable. Many teachers at St. Thomas Aquinas are woefully unprepared for teaching and are completely incompetent and unprofessional (for example, they do not come to work, arrive late to class, spend their time on their phones, spend only 10 minutes teaching, do not explain concepts clearly, call students names and berate them in front of the class, etc. etc.). As a result of abysmal 'teaching', many students suffer and require additional supports that professional teachers should be able to provide.
I actually am shocked that this survey is going out. Figure out the labour unrest and take the savings from this and apply to next year's budget. I am interested on where i apply for the rebate for my education tax I am paying and not receiving service for (strike days when I have to arrange child care outside of my work). ||This is terrible and needs to be resolved.
I am hoping you can get rid of our uniform supplier |
I am not sure of the value of the consultants - perhaps finding some way to look at the work they do and the value of that work.
I believe inclusion as it is currently implemented needs to be revisited. Often there is an EA with one identified student for the day. There is little to no integration with the other students so the goal of inclusion isn't being accomplished and money could be spent more efficiently. All SERTS should be required to work with students (1-3 periods daily) . This could be accomplished by reducing the amount of paperwork they are expected to do or shifting their mindset that their paperwork is like classroom teachers' report cards and largely done outside of the instructional day.
I believe services for those students with developmental and behavioural issues should be dealt with outside of the school and by professionals. There should be outside programs and services and those children should get better and more attention. Trying to integrate them into the normal classroom setting is not working and devoting even more resources for these few is costly and takes from the services and funds that could be allotted to the majority.
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I believe that tenders should go out for building repair and maintenance. Also, I think privatizing custodial staff/caretakers is something that should have been done YEARS ago! I don't understand how caretakers should be making so much money where in the private sector all cleaning is done through cleaning contractors from a third party.
I do believe the school administrators and board staff do an amazing job with the resources they are given to give our kids the best in our facilities and education.
I don't think we should waste money on redecorating the school simply because we want to change the colour of the flooring. Let's not spend money on things that aren't broken.
I don't feel like I have a good understanding of the system to make suggestions. |The use of solar panels on rooftops and LED eco lighting. Sell the energy back to corporations. Can low income area classrooms be sponsored by larger corporations? Partnering with banks for special programming.
I don't have enough information to make suggestions at this time.
I have concerns about the expansion of the EFI program as the first few cohorts move into the intermediate grades.| |While the class size cap of 23 students in the primary grades seem to be working, there are some issues with continuing the cap in junior and intermediate grades. ||Student numbers dwindle in the junior grades, from students leaving the program. This drives up the class size averages in mainstream classes. ||It's is unsustainable and presents an equity issue if our board allows intermediate FI classes of 15 students and mainstream classes of 35+ students.
I have heard from many teachers that there is an opportunity to leverage a procurement process for supplies and having Argos managed.
I suggest reducing the number of times staff (including administrators) are called off site for meetings. Costs incurred such as mileage and supply teacher costs can be prevented. Oftentimes these meetings can be via conference call or email.
I think that having more fundraising or donation actions would be good. I wasn't aware about the board's budget and that helps me understand better how to contribute.
I think that the Board of trustees needs to evaluate the importance of arts and start finding more funding for them and fund sports less. the sports are important, but theres no reason things like the arts should be hurting. the arts help people thrive and develop as people.
I think the board has to limit new initiatives in order to reduce staff in-services and supply needs and to properly give them time to become proficient with one resource/method. I also feel we should use video conferencing to reduce travel costs and increase technological proficiency in teachers. Savings could come from reducing catering fees, in particular for senior board staff. The board also has to take a closer look at SACs. There is a big problem with superintendents approving very small class sizes or excessive spending based on personal relationships rather than facts. |
I think the board should look at all areas to find savings and efficiencies. Look closely at the board staff and trustees and find ways to save money there and not just cut costs within the schools themselves. Costs should be cut from the top not the bottom.
I think the schools could do more fundraising. Such as selling products that the school could benefit from as a fundraiser such as wrapping paper, greeting cards, chocolate bars...etc whatever is available these days as a school fundraiser. The Halloween dance a thon is the main fundraising event and it always seems rushed to donate when we finally get the info and maybe if told what the money is spend on more parents would give generously.

I think we need to use our resources wisely. Special education is important and having resources available to everyone is key.
i would have to see where all the money goes to know how to save of make it more efficient. I could very well save money and/or be more efficient.
I would need a better understanding of a schools budget to suggest cost cuts
I would say invest in Special Education, especially in services for Autism. These should include more access to SPL, and possible behavioural and OT. Special education department should have a quicker process for psycho-educational assessments. Teachers in special education should be trained to work with students with Autism. More feedback to the parents for students with learning delays. Teachers should be reporting to parents progress where there are needs and not waiting for reporting time. Teachers should have an open communication with parents to allow practice at home.
Identify the salary range for each teaching position.|Increase the teachers pay annually until it reaches the maximum.|Cap teachers annual increments to the maximum in the range.
If this is a valid request- Encourage/inform that parents can elect where to have their tax dollars go for neighborhood schools (i.e. public vs. Catholic schools). Provide info on how parents can do this easily.
If you didn't pay the teachers so much, their would be more then enough money to spend on the students :)
If you need to cut it should be from the top not the bottom. Get rid of EQAO! It is a waste of time and money. The time wasted on this test and the stress it causes our children is unnecessary. Taking funds from the schools and staff will not help our children only hurt them. Give them the tools they need. My kids schools are run very well from what I can see. I have heard from other parents in other areas and they are not as lucky.
If you really care about the long term health of the education system, there should be serious consideration given to combining the public and catholic public boards.
I'm sorry I really can't think of any program, personnel or facilities item that can be reduced. We need more support and programs for students who struggle academically and with mental health. |
Implement Preventative Measures to avoid spending unnecessary money.|Dialogue with students and teachers to learn what they would like or need to make Assumption a better learning environment before spending/wasting money on things that don't matter to the community.
Implement projects, review processes and invest in technology to drastically reduce paper.
In general, as a parent I would like to see more money spent on improved programming and curriculum, such as STEAM and less money directed to Board Administration
Increase revenues by building more revenue generating facilities (gyms, open spaces for clubs, libraries, etc) like the HABER CENTER.
Inflated Senior Staff Salaries (Superintendents/HR Executives do not need $20K/yr raises)
Instead of buying more computers, IPads, laptops, and ""educational games"" which reduce attention spans as well as encourage staring at screens (bad for the eyes)... ||I would suggest less screen time at school, and instead integrating lessons with some outdoor time, there is much to be learned about the seasons, temperatures, nature and its cycles by going for walks on the nearby trails.||A school garden on the property in which all can participate would be a great learning tool of how things grow, the children could have something to look forward to and see the results as well.
It appears that a lot of money has been spent recently on painting the walls of the school that did not require painting - yet, there is not enough money to buy much needed textbooks for students.

We are providing students with textbooks that are falling apart and missing pages - while this is embarrassing, it is also highly unacceptable. Perhaps re-prioritizing expense initiatives would be a worthwhile exercise.
It has come to my attention that the Trustee's Association has encouraged the Ford government to lift the cap on class sizes. They MUST take back this suggestion.
Keep all PD days at the school, rather than gathering all staff at a central location and paying for a guest speaker. The most beneficial PD comes from teachers having time to collaborate with others and use their time in their own school, co-planning with colleagues.
Less French immersion programs
Less Principal retreats. The principals are called out of schools far too often. Also don't close Notre Dame to turn it into a new board office.
Let JK be taught by ECEs and decouple from SK which can continue to be taught by teachers.
Let the expensive full-time staff who quit/transfer/retire be replaced with only seasonal contract workers.
Lights need to be turned off when there is nobody in the room in order to safe electricity.|All lights do not need to be on in the classroom at all times as electricity bill will be higher.
Limit French immersion programs
Limit Retreats for upper management and staff (admins)|Reduce board member salaries who are over 150K|Limit Release days for staff and resource staff|Limit colour paper and photocopies|App communication for teachers and parents |Paper towels can be replaced by tea towels and washing program|Limited catered teaching staff and board staff members|No driving allowances|
Limit spending money on things like events and one time things, and spend more on improving the quality of daily life in the schools, like ac, heating, learning equipment like textbooks, and lighting
Lobby the provincial government to increase the GSN grant. |Do all schools in the HCDSB outsource custodial services? Is it less cost-effective to use board employees as is done in the TDSB? If yes, perhaps we need to change the method of delivery within the HCDSB? Thereby saving funds.
Look at board level staffing - are there any redundancies? How are resources being used? Are there any 'freebies' given out at meetings (coffee, snacks - staff can bring their own). If rooms/space is rented out for meetings etc. are those meetings run efficiently so that less $ needs to be allocated to renting space for the meeting. Just a few ideas!
Look at boundary review for OLV disperse those students to neighbouring elementary schools and use OLV to house incoming grade 9/10 students until new high school is built.
Look carefully at the portfolios of your superintendents-5 positions for school services and not sure what those portfolios encompass and if it is redundant, or if there could be a consolidation of positions from the senior management position.
Make more family nights with the students organizing them like soccer , basketball nights and movie nights for families and students. This will create revenue for the school. Keep students fit and engaged and promote their planning, organization and leadership skills.|More clubs are needed with effective planning and be promoted a head with sufficient time.
Making sure equipment and resources are used until end of life an not replaced for non-essential purposes (i.e. aesthetics)|Use Board facilities instead of outside facilities as much as possible for all Board/school related functions
mental health education for staff, parents and students, please do not offer paid extra curriculars at lunch time (computer programming, science, art or guitar) as it puts a financial strain on parents

or separates the haves versus have nots. Try to do some intramural or clubs if teachers are willing to volunteer and if not that's ok. Teacher do work so hard and we always appreciate them.
Merge with Halton board ðŸ¤·â€ â™€ï¸
Merge with the public system. It doesn't make sense to have separate publicly-funded education systems. ||Offer well-thought-out online learning options to supplement, not replace classroom learning at all levels.
minimize printing|use only refillable white board markers|only provide parking for staff/visitors, not students|switch all sports to intramurals to reduce transportation cost|
More access to a computer for younger students to use on a daily baizes with more STEM programs and learning
More access to technology that actually works
More accountability on spending with public funds .
more direct support for classroom support...special education, ESL, reading programs.|
More effective use of support staff? Ex. Tech staff - ensure all equipment is ready to go with consistent apps/ programs across divisions in board in summer for September rather than troubleshooting on an ongoing basis t/o year- better use of time/$. Promoting use of volunteers in community to read with students.
More effective use of support staff? Ex. Tech staff - ensure all equipment is ready to go with consistent apps/ programs across divisions in board in summer for September rather than troubleshooting on an ongoing basis t/o year- better use of time/$. Promoting use of volunteers in community to read with students.
More focus on physical activity - programs, extra circulars, intramurals, keeping kids active at recess and decreasing bullying/focus on kindness vs IT and school aesthetics
More funding for special needs . Teachers make enough already .
More security / protection for students from bullying with the classroom and outside of the classroom. More focus on patrolling drug use and sexual assults during school hours and and at on or near school premises. More education on how to treat and respect another and to educate males on how to conduct themselves with girls (instead of promoting sex, which has happened recently in a school assembly).
More themed Fundraising data. casual day- themes- with student participation
Motion sensor lighting that is activated before and after school when the building is still accessible but not being fully utilized... empty but still lit spaces.
My daughter is required to take the bus, but quite honestly the busing system is old and useless. The buses are constantly late or not running at all when kids need to take them, such as during exams. This leads to a huge safety issue as they are walking a long distance to get to school/home. ||Instead of this 'bus' system, which doesn't work, get rid of the bus all together!! Give kids that are far from the school the ability to have an Uber allowance/account so that they can take an Uber to school when needed, and not need to worry about these horrible bus drivers.
My other child goes to private school which you gave no option for. Your survey is also flawed as I had to answer the same question(s) a few times
My son is in grade 1 and uses an agenda which has the same 4 words every single day. I believe eliminating the agenda in this grade would help save money and help green initiatives. I also have a son in JK and between the 2 classes we get an abundance of paper sent home daily, whether be school work, letters, etc. Implementing a school app or some sort of online platform to communicate, sign forms, etc would be far more effective and again better for the environment

My son is in grade 5 and for the past 2 years, he has to share a math textbook. There are times where he can't finish his homework because there's no not enough textbooks and another child had to bring the math textbook home so he wasn't able to.
My son is in JK, not sure where there needs to be savings or efficiencies at this time.
No
No
no
No idea about savings. We need to invest more more in education and technology.
No overseas trips for Trustees i.e.) Israel
No, but I have a question; why don't all teachers have at least one class to teach? Why does the Ontario government cut from education, then complain about the city's violence. Put more phucking money into education, jerks!
None of this matters when the teachers are on strike. Get teachers back to work!
Nope.
not at moment
not at the moment.
Not at this time
Not at this time. Thank you.
not sure if this would cause savings but I feel that if the classrooms were smaller, the kids would have more hands on learning which then in turn cause less needed resources as they get older since they would have the skills and knowledge to help them. I find that kids in high school are struggling because they did not have those learning skills when they were younger because the teachers did not care enough and just passed them.
Notebooks, stationery contributed by parents with more economical means. Increased school funding initiatives and clearly promoted: ge FUndraser to get additional CYC staffing next year... we would contribute much more,|
Occasionally there are bulk purchases made by consultants, resources that are purchased for every school even though some schools already have the items in their library collections. That is unnecessary duplication. Before consultants make these purchases, it might be worthwhile for them to canvas the schools to find out which ones already own the resources.
Offer extra curricular activities such as sports, art, other lenguaje with a fee that help the school |As I parent I rather to paid and have my kids on other activities with their classmates than in different locations with other kids.|Remove Viceprincipal positions no need for them|
Offer more incentives for parents to take on more volunteer roles within the school. Helping out in classrooms, learning plans, educational days, field trips or liturgies. |Partnering with business or other school to do join events for fundraising or programs for children.
One degree less of heating
Online and e-learning activities/courses can assist to reduce costs.|Support more online textbooks-instead of hardcopy.||Rental Facility -Not sure of liability however, using the school space for other activities e.g.,youth programs toastmasters, theatre, choirs, yoga..||Create a public summer pass for use of the track (e.g., for running clubs, other active members, seniors etc)||Charge an annual fee for recreational and rep sports teams for use for games and practices.||Rent parking lot in summer for car storage for local car dealers. ||Review best practices of other boards.
Online courses are not bad. They are the future of learning. Adapt to current day and the ways in which different people learn. This will enable different approaches and efficiencies for different

people. The one size fits all mentality limits teachers ability to create flexible working and learning environments. Also if you want to create real efficiencies performance manage teachers. There are some great ones but the terrible ones cause disenfranchisement from parents and children as there is no recourse or if there is it takes too long as they are just moved to other schools.
Ontario government should make EQAO random testing in the province rather then spending millions on a full assessment of every student.|Ontario education system needs to spend more not less, the province has a revenue problem not a bloat in spending.
Opportunities for board level lunch options, that way there may be additional buying power for additional dollars to the boards and schools. Not leaving the options to the individual schools.
Our school is at its capacity. I think the board needs to stop allowing students to attend our board unless they are coming from our feeder schools. There is a loss of control in uniform, absences, students skipping assessments and no penalties or consequences.
Our school is in desperate need of playground equipment. Soccer nets and outdoor playground equipment. |We need to burn excess energy so when they are in the classroom they will be more focused on work. Our school's Outdoor facilities is a disaster. The elimination of soccer and basket balls this year it ridiculous.
PA Days during March Break!
Pathways teachers are not vital. Their main function is helping guide grade 8's into high school with course selection, which previously was part of the grade 8 program. I think this role is unnecessary and should be brought back to the grade 8 teacher, whom parents rely on to answer their questions anyway (not the Pathway consultant).
Perhaps on transportation costs for older students. I may think it could be reduced in one area. Also perhaps another savings could come from more in house fundraisers from our individual schools for education. I know we do a very good job at this point yet if we created a strategy for more major fund raising events for education.|Perhaps School Concerts utilizing our students talents or plays or even a board wide function for education funding..|If every school dedicated one special major event it may have a good impact on savings.|
Perhaps some spending can be monitored more closely ie. gas and mileage, meeting expenses such as food and beverages, conference costs
Petition the town for a bus system. Georgetown should have one. This eliminates transportation costs. |Contract out IT services. |
Phase out EFI
Please continue to invest in Early French Immersion programs, to be a full staffed program, versus just a pilot. Canada is a bilingual country and supporting French is key to the success of the kids and the country.
Please stop wasting the budget on useless expenditures for example faith initiatives. The downfall of being at a Catholic High-school is the fact that a lot of time and resources are wasted. Those kind of expenditures are not helpful at all to the students.
Please try to reduce the amount of paper and use more paperless systems.
policies and enforcement of electronics used consistently throughout the classroom/school/board and P and VP supporting policy - increasing efficient teaching in the classroom.|Internet wifi that is reliable and consistent in schools so school devices can be used.|Consistent platforms (remind, google sheets etc) are consistent from class to class and elementary to secondary school. Software licensing cost reductions. Teachers are supported to learn these platforms.|
Private sponsorships|Federal Programs|Self founding initiatives|In training young professionals|Volunteering initiatives

Providing less stationary and copy books to student and replace with more support sessions for students struggling in math or language.
Pursue testing of knowledge of current teacher and review assignments. A teacher who has a degree on physical education cannot / should not teach math! |Align knowledge with needs.
Put more of the budget back into student resources. 80% of the provincial budget going to salaries and pensions is disgraceful and immoral.
Really tough question. One of my first thoughts is transportation. Particularly in new areas of dense development where the majority of families live within reasonable distance of the school (recognizing some transportation is provided because of proximity to major road arteries).
Reassign Itinerant Teachers back to classrooms as well as Itinerant EA's back to support staff.|Teacher absences cost the board an exorbitant amount of money. Provide them with support to mentally handle working with the students.
Reduce amount of board trustees
Reduce consultants at board level, monitor spending (ie supplies) to ensure they are actually used for students and not stock piled or spent on useless items
Reduce funding to unneeded inclusion programs.
Reduce paper newsletters and encourage parents to follow twitter posts and ""school messenger"" e-newsletters
Reduce pay for teachers to focus on children's education tools and playground equipment
Reduce printing/paper|Reduce colour printing by admin staff|Boundary review to reduce unnecessary transportations
Reduce spending on football.
Reduce the amount of paper by having it all on computers. |Have students contribute to this question.
Reduce the number of consultants and itinerates so that the money can be used for the special education students which are the higher priority. (I do not work in special Ed.) Many times when I am at an in-service the Itinerates are sitting there and doing nothing constructive. I see no purpose for many of their positions. When Spec. Ed. parents are stressed out and need assistance for their child.
Reduce the number of consultants, and put that money to towards supporting the students with more Educational Assistants and support staff(speech therapists etc.). ||
reduce the number of superintendents- classroom teachers are far more valuable to our students than too much administration
Reducing teacher salaries and benefits.
Removing library techs in high schools. Especially when there is limited circulation.
Rent out our turf fields for soccer games. Burlington is very short on fields. If they put a dime on them..though I know expensive it would pay back 10 fold by renting it all year for soccer!!
Renting schools at night to Community centers. You can copy Toronto School Board renting programs.|Kids will can pay for sports session, dances, etc, reducing the average of students with alcohols, drugs, smoking addictions.|Parents can go to zumba classes, golf, photograph, etc.classes. ||These renting programs is a success in Toronto. Also, they rent the schools for March break camps and Summer camps. Teenagers are happy to volunteer and get points for their highschool. |Burlington camps are so expensive right now. |
Retirement packages to make it more desirable for teachers to retire and not take up space/room. Get them out and get the younger, more energetic teachers an opportunity. They are less costly

starting at the lowest pay scale, less room for injuries/modified duties and less vacation time. Much more cost effective.
Review external programs (Ministry Initiatives) that are used to improve student achievement and see the number of students that are directly impacted through these initiatives. Survey stakeholders and gather feedback on whether they see a need for continued support through the program and whether it is having a direct impact on Achieving, Believing and Belonging. If stakeholders are not able to articulate a direct need for this type of external support, data should be gathered on ways to best support students that shows a more imediate impact on the learning environment.
Revise Youth International Languages program to fee based.
Sadly, I don't. I feel as though school boards are underfunded and so finding efficiencies is a difficult task. ||Please instead write to the government urging them to reverse their cuts and share how these cuts will affect the students in HCDSB. Now is the time to demand that the government protect our children and their futures. Follow the lead of other school boards who have already done this.
Salaries
Salaries of teachers are clearly out of control and every parent is aware of this and is sick and tired of the lies. Most parents are afraid to speak out against the teachers in fear that their children will suffer because of it. Millions of dollars can easily be saved simply by reducing all of the perks like paid sick days for all school staff as well as the pensions. Under the mcguinty and Wynn governments the teachers salaries have grown over 200 percent!!!! Get back to work!!!
Savings- less photocopies. Online is great, so is having course packs set up and efficiently printed for students as opposed to photocopies here and there made on a daily basis. This would also benefit the teachers.
Savings? You have to be kidding right? With the taxes I pay I would think of upping our game rather than diminishing it. If I had my back against the wall I would take away nothing because our kids are already scraping by as it is. Sorry.
School Council fundraising dollars could be spent on in school purchases such as tech or leveled reading programs. If money is maintained within the council budget and not almalgamated into the school budget there would be better oversight on where money is being spent. This is how it is handled in the public board. Huge cost savings here for the board as the money would come from the parents and it would be allocated directly to items that are directly requested by parents.
School fundraising events, donations from private sector (sponsors)
School should arrange sessions for students about how to cope with stress and pressures.
Schools are excellent empty spaces at night, why not use this places to train, education or serve the local community. Such as language courses, professional courses, using the gym to practice sports and competitions, chapel open on weekends for all family to pray. Oakville currently has only two adult center school and the big waiting list. There are many teenagers with nothing to do productive at night, and those school could be place to take interesting and current courses such animations design, robotics, drawing, paintings and learning music or playing instruments. Not for free!
Security guards that are at the high schools, get rid of them.||I see the one at the adult learning centre, sitting around ALL the time, watching her computer. What a waste of money.
Seems a lot if trust and discretion is placed in principals hands. Difficult for parents to voice concerns and move agendas with principal who is not open to other opinions. Parents feel there is no point in reaching out as we know our opinions will not be given any real weight. Time and Time

again we've been shown it is futile to try to be heard or influence outcomes. Parent committee and individual families have been faced with closed ears and a lot of empty talk about communication, trust and transparency.... just because you say the words doesn't mean you live them. Very frustrating.
Shared Google Drives for resources + an increase in accessibility and baseline materials for teachers to use and modify based on Ontario curriculum. A reduction in textbook materials/traditional materials that can be replaced with online versions.
Since the last time this survey was conducted, I do believe there has been a variety of reductions in Staffing at the itinerant level in the curriculum area. This was one of my recommendations at that time. An alternate means to increase revenue is to close small community schools and build larger more efficient schools in the South Burlington neighbourhood that I know is controversial
Small donations from the families for the class.. Fundraising events..
Sorry, no. We need more money. Many students are not being optimally served. ||The circle graphs use provided were very surprising. I am shocked by the disparity between boards.
Spend money wisely by not wasting it on projects that are trendy and costly. Spend the money where it needs to go, into textbooks, theatre arts programs and arts in general. It's been ignored for far too long.
Spend where you can impact more kids and don't consider opening programs like the French immersion that will only impact a few students. Revise if you require 59 spend more than 2% in board staff.
Spending money on unneeded renovations. e.g. fixing things that already are good.
St.Raphael school outdoor play area is beyond disappointing. Not to mention even if it is nice weather if there is a funeral happening at the church the kids can't go outside or are crammed into a small space because they have to share their yard for parking with the church. This is insane! Why can't the teachers walk to kids to the field on the other side of the church?! Why are our kids playing on concrete with NO shade so close to four lanes of busy traffic, there is no noise or pollution filters by natural elements! This is beyond unacceptable and a reason I may be withdrawing my kids
Start with dismantling the union, create fair employment competition, eradicate the absolute nonsense of these rolling strikes. Maybe force teachers to spend P.A. days in the real world to see how wages are earned and hope they'll be grateful for the positions they hold
Stop giving free school to non tax payers, someone who comes to Canada as a visitor or in a student visa or any kind of temporary visa should not have access to Canadian schools without paying. Instead of strikes charge foreign students the corresponding fees that are hurting our children. And stop making fun of teachers fighting for political reasons and not real ones. Accountability on each board should be the Norm. We are tired of strikes that don't go anywhere. Government is right we don't want more debt thanks to school boards Miss-using the funds
-stop moving programs from school to school every other year i.e. french|- limit the french expansion |-invest in technology, HCDSB is soo far behind and is not preparing students to 21st century workforce or post secondary|-offer in school enhanced plans IEPs for bright students (modelled from PEEL dsb) who don't qualify for the gifted program; these students can often design projects for fundraising and/or community outreach |-invest in an online platform like google suites so that students can use technology for projects and home communication- reduce paper costs
Stop producing the school board calendar that is distributed to all students at the beginning of each school year. It is not necessary- families do not use them, they get put into the recycling bin. Parents can access all the information on your board website- it is a complete waste of

money.|Changing the HCDSB logo a few years back was also a complete waste of money. Keep the logo as is for the next 100 years.... put the money back into the classrooms.|Decrease the number of itinerants in the special education department- put them at schools to work directly with kids and teachers
Stop sanctioning Ipads/tablets. Good teachers are more important. Online maths games are just that-games, not education. Secondly, buy more notebooks and pencils/stationery; teachers should not have to do this. Student work (elementary)coming home is crumpled and badly kept bits of paper. These do not engender pride, neatness of presentation, discipline to keep your papers in order- all important office skills. Thirdly, re-introduce calisthenics as essential. Daily/regular stretching is an important healthy habit. Fourthly, ban breakfast carts. Granola bars/corn syrup is unhealthy.
Stop spending large amounts of money on kindergarten playgrounds that are perfectly FINE. $10K would have bought a lot of computers that JK-8 could use.
Stop striking so our kids education are not being effecfed.
Stop striking. It's probably a tough job but you don't have to be teachers...chose something else if it's that tough. The benefits are amazing compared to many other professions. ||So on to savings...my suggestion is try and generate REVENUE. Rent out your sports fields to senior leagues, rent out your spaces in the evening to social clubs or hold fitness classes in the gyms..use the school space on weekends for revenue-generating activities.||For parents...please hold the used clothing sale more than once a year when many of us cannot attend...please..
Stop taking from schools. We need more supports. We are running Kindergarten classes understaffed because teachers and ECE's are covering each other's breaks and EA breaks. We have insufficient EA's for the number of students that require support. Students are on wait lists for years for special education services and testing. Look outside of schools for efficiencies.
Stop with the savings, money needs to be spent on the school. |You except the children to do a lot of online learning including assignments in the classroom yet you don't have enough devices in a classroom. |I don't think it's fair of the school/school board to think that my child should do school work on their ipod or iphone.
Strategic sustainability initiatives can save money/create quantifiable efficiencies–solar panels as part of roof replacement capital projects (economic/environmental impacts), increased facility rentals for community groups (social/economic impacts), take advantage of natural classroom light with more plants for air quality and consider solar-powered countertop fans for air circulation even in winter, install motion sensor light switches when renovating, install more power bars/strips for tech and non-tech plug-in devices to reduce stand-by power usage.
students to sell items around school or outside of school (ex. cookies, etc.), have more sport tournaments to raise money.
Superintendent salaries.
Take a look at the Assumption Renewal project - a year late - spend terrible
Take a pay decrease. Quit your whining and deliver better results.
Teachers are overpaid. More online courses.
Teacher's salaries and the ability to FIRE USELESS TEACHERS!!!!
Thanks for all you do!
The amount of staff at the board seems excessive. If the staff at the board level is needed then they would be in schools more offering resources and support to teachers and staff.
The board & trustees should not be taking wage increases at this time. More effort should go towards savings within administration

The board seems to be getting increasingly top heavy in areas outside of curriculum delivery. Does the board office need so many research and communications officers on staff? Why are staffing levels outside of curriculum seemingly on the rise when the need is elsewhere?
The face of education has changed exponentially in the last ten years. Children are suffering from challenges that are out of our control. We see violence and disruption in learning everyday. The supports we have are vital to the class room and it's success. It is time to ensure that the people who lovingly and willingly return to work everyday are financially compensated for their efforts. Food and shelter are necessities for life This board needs to realize that basic needs of our educational assistant are not being met. Make this an honorable vocation something to be proud of ðŸ™ ðŸ »
There seems to be too much focus and efforts put towards the Frech Immersion program. I feel like my children's education in the English stream will suffer as a result. ||Save money? How about at the board level...what is the trustee to teacher/student ratio.|
This is a hard question to answer as I don't know what the Board has control over vs. the province dictating. I think EQAO is a giant waste of time and money but I know that is provincially mandated. Less paper might save some money - try to automate forms (e.g., all forms at the beginning of the school year) to require less printing (paper/ink cost).
This may or may not save money but as an occasional teacher I am disturbed by the recycling programs in the schools. Sometimes bags are changed with minimal amounts in them. Kids are not trained or encouraged in many cases to get it right and in cases staff rooms are just as negligent. The region should develop a program or schools should try to improve the efficiency of the green Nd blue bins. I also see near empty high school buses sometime especially around exam time. Could longer routes be made to be more cost effective? Look at ESL teachers' schedules and student needs more closely.
This would be a meeting to share what is the drilled down items in place.
Trim resource staff at the board level (RT's). Reintegrate these folks back into the classroom. Eliminate special principal positions at the board, reintegrate these folks back into the classroom. Those folks at the board level who do not want to reintegrate to the classroom can retire. ||Please manage the number of board positions responsibly. One does not have to look too far (example PDSB) to see what can happen when a board becomes overly top heavy. Every dollar invested in a board position, removes front line positions where they are needed most.
Try to hire newer teachers, eliminate raises for anything other than merit, give pay increases when students perform above standards, and get to a point where 95% of funding (not revenue, funding) is paid for direct student instruction.
Unfortunately I don't have much to offer. Compared to when I was in school (many years ago). I believe the way things are running today has vastly improved. ||With so much information at our finger tip. Maybe look at revamping the library system. I'm not saying do away with the library. Perhaps by freeing up valuable floor space by creating a more virtual system where all books are available online to studies, and can access from home or the classroom at anytime of the day.||All though there's always room for improvement. I think the HCDSB is doing a fantastic job.||Thanks.||
Unfortunately, no. Thank you for asking.||If you would like to contact me about the answers submitted in this form|Have a great day!|
Upgrade holy rosary burlington play ground.
Utilization of public transportation for high school students where provided by the municipality instead of using school buses. |Alternate school year calendar.|Focus on in school faith initiatives instead of silly events like Walk with Jesus.

We could do fundraising activities like Christmas fairs, etc. Need more parent involvement and support.
We have two children in HS, one in JK.|I am disappointed that our public education system charges HS students (parents) $60 per semester for the ability to choose and submit courses.|Do we have a public system or not? Are we not paying enough tax each year to sufficiently support the system? |Why are parents expected to buy classroom supplies for elementary students? What is going on at the boards? Are you not being paid enough to be able to find efficiencies in the system instead of soliciting advice from parents? I encourage you to tell the minister to properly fund education.
We need after school clubs (robotics, electrical systems, physics) computer programing. We can have parents involved in these after school activities. Our students can actually do high level mathematics and programing starting at the age of 10. At the age of 14 they can enroll in free MIT courses online. I feel that the school system is very antiquated and the world is passing by the students. I would ask the parents and have them step up, I would love to provide 4hrs a week as a parent and provide real world experience. We can provide sponsorship and funding.
We need to put more resources in schools with front line workers who are in direct contact with students and less at the Board office level with consultants, itinerants, assistant superintendents, superintendents, etc.
We pay so much taxes already and the school shouldn't be looking money somewhere else.|But what I see is ,that schools are organizing so many events to get some money and this is so annoying and a big shame for Canada.|When I was in school the only time the school was asking for money was for students trips.
We understand the difficult conversations between the school board and the provincial government and we back up your interest to protect resources towards education. I'm thinking that additional opportunities for fundraising within the legal frame of the school could help to close the budget gaps and I assume parents will support additional efforts. Just an idea but it my help to maintain our schools open the entire year. Thank you
Wondering about the role of the consultants. This year we have not seen them much or heard from them. Are they still in the schools?
Work collaboratively with the government to allow regulated professionals outside of HCDSB (ABA therapists, speech therapists and other therapists) to support students with special needs. This will reduce long wait lists for psych assessments and more importantly provide necessary and critical support for children with special needs. Once funding is available through the Ontario Autism Program, parents should be able to use their child's allocated budgets to bring in therapists in the classroom to work alongside teachers and education assistants to support an inclusive environment.
work to get rid of portables.... Portables are a symptom of over-crowding.||- keep class sizes under control,.
Work towards reducing board admin cost
Would not assume to know.
Yes, the exorbitant salaries many of our superintendents, itinerants, and principals etc are receiving. Not to mention the amount of retired principals that were hired during the work to rule to cover admin.
Yes, with the number of Trustees.
Yes. DO NOT bus the whole school to the parish church for end of year mass. TOTAL waste of money.||Buy more ipads or computers with that money.||Have the priest go to the school for mass.

Yes...my son still hasn't seen a speech therapist (SK) which is ridiculous. I think there needs to be better identification of children who needs these services before they are no longer qualified strictly based on age or grade even if they need it.
Yes||stop the boundary review to assess the French immersion program. It is unnecessary, addresses only a minority of our overall school population and the board is not equipped to have a larger French immersion program. A significant amount of time and money could be saved here. ||
You are letting the average students fall through the cracks. If they take a little more time than some kids, they get glossed over and forgotten.|Focus on teaching. Focus on reaching the children. |And stop pretending that giving a letter grade with no explanation on a report card is aimed at sticking it to the government. The only people that is harming are the students.
You are taking away from kids! Invest and not take away! This is really a bad question.||Give kids the tools to succeed from day one and you will have efficiencies through smarter kids and good human beings when they grow up.||And please stop with the online courses and iPads - kids need hands on education and face to face interaction and team building.
You could change the computer lab into a study/work space for students so they won't only have the library to be in.
You need to do a deep dive of cost allocations in non-value add areas and redeploy to areas of resourcing where you have marginalized support for over the years. If you cannot find any, merge with Public school system.