# 2023 Community Conversation Discussion

October 2023 School Board Leadership Development

Why We Hosted a Community Conversation

➔ Keep a **continuous dialogue and feedback** loop with the community.

➔ Define **areas of growth and improvement** that can be implemented alongside district vision, mission and overall priorities.

➔ Continue to **build trust** and an environment with **open lines of communication.**

➔ Continue to **collect longitudinal data** and also review against PDK poll of local public school ratings*.

*https://pdkpoll.org/2022-pdk-poll-results/
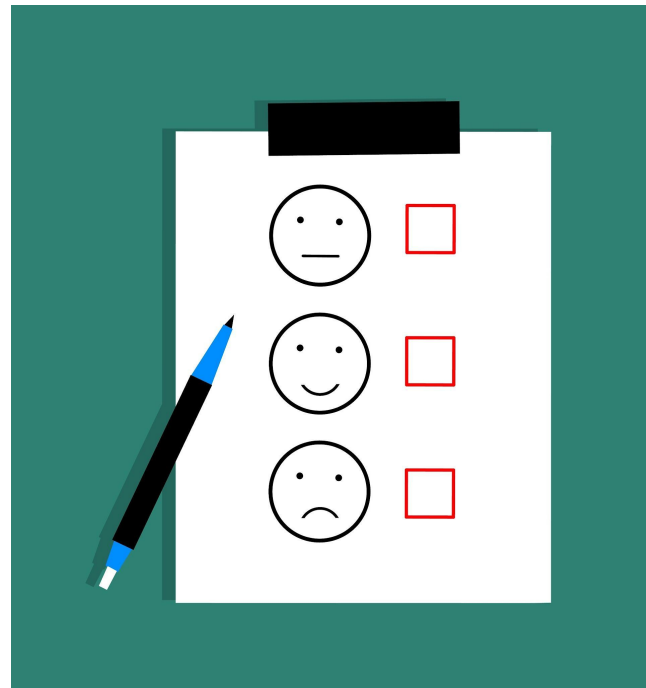
Survey History

The District had planned to conduct surveys in 2019, 2020, 2021 and then periodically in future years.

- 2021, survey conducted
- 2020, COVID-19 pandemic impacted the ability to administer a survey
- 2019, survey conducted

Differences in statistical survey vs. conversation

Longitudinal review opportunities & general conversation feedback

When	Focus	Format	Audience	Lead & Results
May 5 - May 12, 2021	General district performance, tax tolerance - pre-levy (second), continue to build trust and gain alignment on district future	~400 Phone calls

One community forum held during this period in person not related but supported in person dialogue | Taxpayers (included those with/without children in the district) | Baker Tilly

Results |
| **June 25 - July 1, 2019** | General district performance, tax tolerance - pre-levy (first try), new leadership and need for trust and gain alignment on district future | ~422 Phone calls | Taxpayers (included those with/without children in the district) | Baker Tilly

Results |

Summary Data Recap

Original Board Presentation Link

Info that has been added or shared since this was presented
- Education Forward newsletter share
- E-newsletter (buildings & district) share
- PDK 2022 results published
- District website summary page

Results - Community Breakdown Reminder

Q1 | **In what grade is your youngest child?**

Answered: 894
Not answered: 53

Grade	Participants % (#)
Pre-K (under 5)	13% (120)
K- 2nd Grade	20% (183)
3rd - 5th Grade	21% (190)
6th - 7th Grade	10% (91)
8th Grade	6% (56)
9th Grade	5% (46)
10th -12th Grade	14% (129)
Do not have a child in school, District...	9% (79)

Participants % (#)

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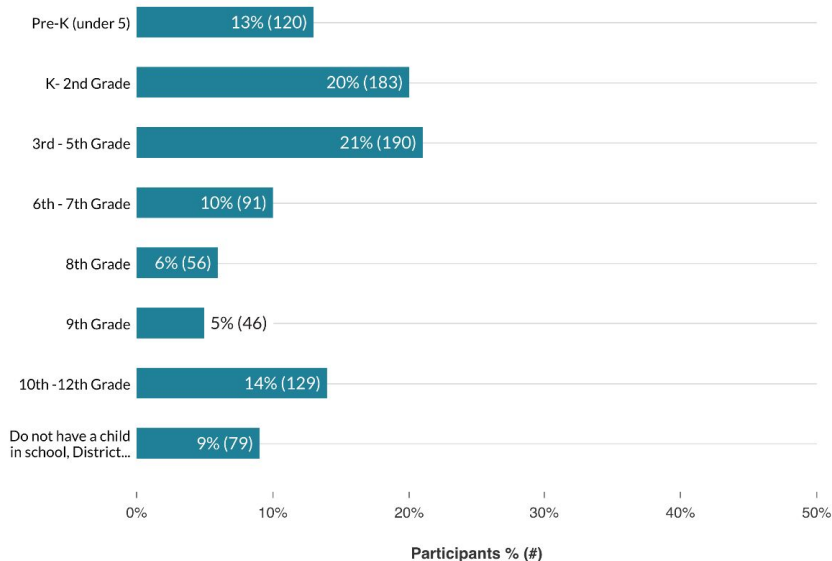
Summary High Points - Overall Performance

Shakopee Public Schools Grade (Year Over Year)

2023		2021		2019	
Grade	**%**	**Grade**	**%**	**Grade**	**%**
A	25	A	14	A	13
B	47	B	34	B	44
C	19	C	13	C	18
D	4	D	5	D	5
F	1	F	3	F	6
NA	4	NA	31	NA	14

Universal Key

Green Shading: Current figure is **higher** than previous year

Orange Shading: Current figure is **lower** than previous year

Summary High Points - Nationwide Comparison

How do the grades given locally for *Shakopee Public Schools* compare to the grades given to *schools across the nation* in the annual <u>Phi Delta Kappan</u> survey?

2023	Shakopee		2022	PDK (National)
Grade	**%**		**Grade**	**%**
A/B	72		A/B	54
C/D/F	24		C/D/F	45

<u>Universal Key</u>

Green Shading: Current figure is **higher** than previous year

Orange Shading: Current figure is **lower** than previous year

Summary High Points - Vision & Priorities

What grade would you give the district for *Financial Management*?

2023		2021		2019	
Grade	**%**	**Grade**	**%**	**Grade**	**%**
A	13	A	5	A	5
B	28	B	12	B	16
C	20	C	16	C	20
D	7	D	17	D	17
F	5	F	12	F	22
NA	27	NA	38	NA	20

Universal Key

Green Shading: Current figure is **higher** than previous year

Orange Shading: Current figure is **lower** than previous year

Summary High Points - Governance

What grade would you give the performance of the *Superintendent*?

2023			2021			2019	
Grade	**%**		**Grade**	**%**		**Grade**	**%**
A	22		A	10		A	15
B	31		B	20		B	26
C	13		C	6		C	12
D	6		D	2		D	2
F	4		F	2		F	2
NA	25		NA	60		NA	43

Universal Key

Green Shading: Current figure is **higher** than previous year

Orange Shading: Current figure is **lower** than previous year

Summary High Points - Governance

What grade would you give the performance of the *School Board*?

2023			2021			2019	
Grade	**%**		**Grade**	**%**		**Grade**	**%**
A	18		A	7		A	9
B	32		B	16		B	20
C	17		C	14		C	24
D	6		D	10		D	9
F	4		F	7		F	16
NA	24		NA	46		NA	22

Universal Key

Green Shading: Current figure is **higher** than previous year

Orange Shading: Current figure is **lower** than previous year

Discussion Topics

Top General Themes

School Board Discussion: Were there any general themes that you'd like to comment on? Some you felt were missing or comments about those that stuck out to you?

Top Themes by Relevance

School Board Discussion: How do these themes align with the Board's *Vision & Priorities*? Any additional comments that coincide with earlier updates to that file? General comments and observations?

1 Teaching quality

Teaching quality is an important factor in providing quality education to students. Quality teachers are essential for providing a supportive learning environment, engaging students in their learning, and helping them to reach their full potential. Quality teaching also involves having a variety of classes that fit the needs of different learning styles, providing resources for students to succeed, and having teachers who are dedicated to their students. Quality teaching is essential for providing students with the best educational experience possible.

Show thoughts

2 Support staff

Support staff is an essential part of any school system, as they provide the necessary resources and assistance to ensure that students are able to learn and grow in a safe and supportive environment. Support staff can include counselors, social workers, psychologists, and other professionals who are dedicated to helping students succeed. They provide guidance and support to students, as well as helping to create a positive learning environment. Support staff also helps to ensure that students have access to the resources they need to succeed, such as technology, textbooks, and other materials. Without the support of these professionals, students would not be able to reach their full potential.

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3 Facilities

The Facilities category is important because it provides the physical environment in which students learn. Quality facilities can help create a safe and comfortable learning environment, as well as provide access to the necessary resources and technology for students to succeed. Facilities can also help create a sense of community and connection between students, teachers, and staff.

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4 Diversity

Diversity is an important aspect of education, as it allows students to learn from different perspectives and experiences. It also helps to create an inclusive environment where all students feel respected and valued. Diversity in the classroom can also help to foster understanding and empathy, as students learn to appreciate and understand different cultures and backgrounds. Finally, diversity can help to create a more equitable learning environment, as students of all backgrounds can access the same resources and opportunities.

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5 Relationships

Relationships are an important part of the educational experience, as they provide a supportive environment for learning. Teachers are the main interface between students and the school district, and they are responsible for creating a safe and nurturing environment for students to learn. Relationships between staff and students are essential for students to feel safe and supported, and for teachers to understand the best way to teach the class. Quality relationships between staff and students can also help to build a sense of community and provide students with the opportunity to develop important social skills.

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Top Areas of Focus - Most Engagement & Conversation

School Board Discussion: How do these focal areas align with the Board's V*ision & Priorities*. Any additional comments that coincide with earlier updates to that file? General comments and observations?

Areas of focus that received the most engagement from the Community

- **Valuing teachers and staff** the most, as they are the backbone of the district and interact with students daily.
- Appreciating the **diversity** of Shakopee's student body, the character curriculum and the Academies model at the High School.
- Emphasizing the **importance of safety** and respect between teachers, students and parents/guardians.
- Identifying ways to **support additional staff**, further reducing class sizes and providing additional pay for teachers.

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Common Ground & Differences
Topics Identified - Opportunity for Community Engagement

School Board Discussion: Do you have additional comments or feedback on areas that have been identified to stay connected to differing viewpoints?

Real World Learning and the Academies of Shakopee/Valuing Diversity

(125/110 respondents on each side)

- Leads: Academies of Shakopee Steering Committee & Industry Councils

Supporting Staff/ Valuing Diversity

(81/39 respondents on each side)

- Leads: Talent Engagement Work Group, Teachers of Color Work Group, GYO Grant Team, Equity Team
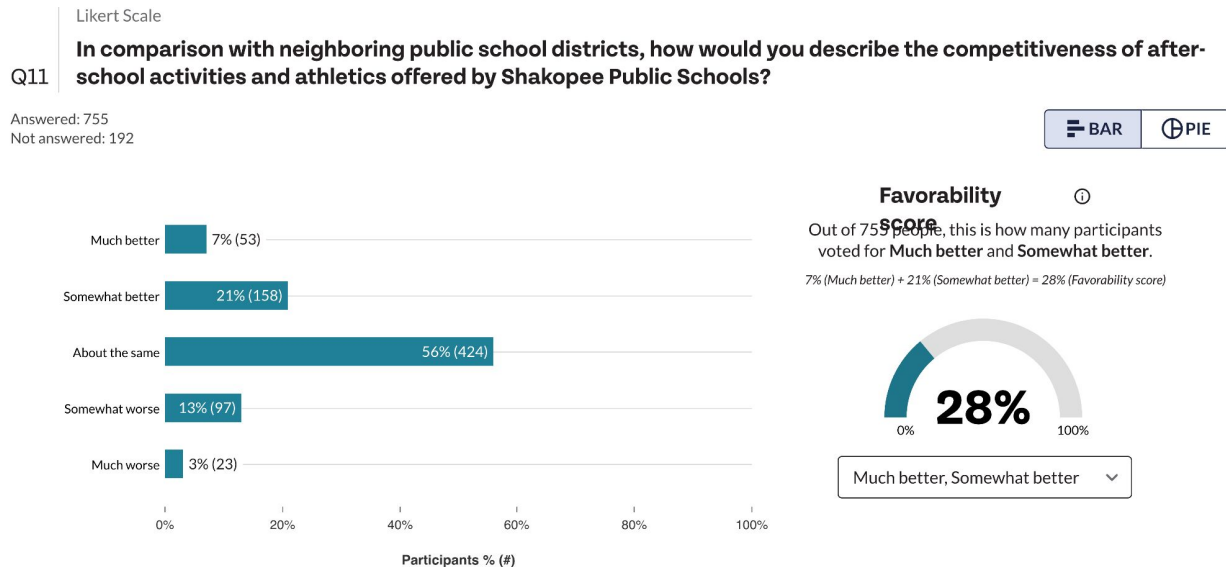
Educating Kids/Supporting Kids

(145/145 respondents on each side)

- Leads: Instructional Leadership Team, Systems & Structures Team,
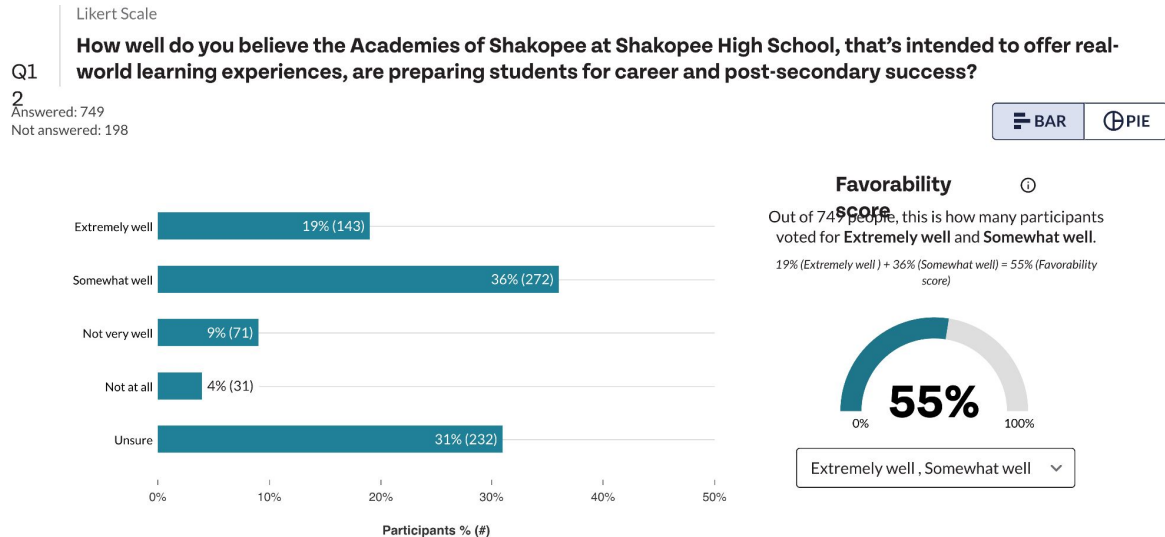 Crisis & Safety Steering Committee

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Plan Going Forward

NEW: Competitiveness of after-school activities and sports

Likert Scale

Q11 **In comparison with neighboring public school districts, how would you describe the competitiveness of after-school activities and athletics offered by Shakopee Public Schools?**

Answered: 755
Not answered: 192

BAR | PIE

Much better	7% (53)
Somewhat better	21% (158)
About the same	56% (424)
Somewhat worse	13% (97)
Much worse	3% (23)

Participants % (#)

Favorability score ⓘ

Out of 755 people, this is how many participants voted for **Much better** and **Somewhat better**.

7% (Much better) + 21% (Somewhat better) = 28% (Favorability score)

28%
0%   100%

Much better, Somewhat better ▾

Follow Up In Progress:

- Andy Brown and Matt Hanson will review with a stakeholder team
- Continue to identify ways to better communicate offerings in addition to consistently reviewing options
- Quarterly Athletics & Activities Board presentations

Academies of Shakopee

Q12

How well do you believe the Academies of Shakopee at Shakopee High School, that's intended to offer real-world learning experiences, are preparing students for career and post-secondary success?

Answered: 749
Not answered: 198

[BAR] [PIE]

Extremely well — 19% (143)
Somewhat well — 36% (272)
Not very well — 9% (71)
Not at all — 4% (31)
Unsure — 31% (232)

Participants % (#)

Favorability score ⓘ

Out of 749 people, this is how many participants voted for **Extremely well** and **Somewhat well**.

19% (Extremely well) + 36% (Somewhat well) = 55% (Favorability score)

55%
0%   100%

Extremely well , Somewhat well ⌄

Follow Up In Progress:

- Review during Nov 2023 Academies of Shakopee Steering Committee
- Jeff Smith will represent the School Board
- Opportunity to incorporate feedback into plans

2021 Comparison:

55% said the Academies of Shakopee provided real-world learning experiences and prepare students extremely well/well compared to 47% in 2021.

A relatively comparable percentage felt preparedness was not very well or not at all preparing students from the 2021 to 2023.

The percentage of respondents that were unsure went down 10% from the previous survey period.

How does awareness of district and school news correlate to grade level?

Follow Up In Progress:

- Continued Communications collaboration with building leaders, CFLs, Welcome Center and various other stakeholders and business partners
- Addition of new communication tools

In what grade is your youngest child?

How aware do you consider yourself when it comes to school programs, events and overall district news.	Pre-K (under 5)	K- 2nd Grade	3rd - 5th Grade	6th - 7th Grade	8th Grade	9th Grade	10th -12th Grade	Do not have a child in school, District...	Total
Very aware	4.1% (30)	8.0% (58)	9.5% (69)	3.6% (26)	1.7% (12)	1.7% (12)	6.2% (45)	3.9% (28)	38.6% (280)
Somewhat aware	6.8% (49)	11.2% (81)	12.4% (90)	5.9% (43)	4.1% (30)	2.9% (21)	7.2% (52)	3.4% (25)	53.9% (391)
Somewhat unaware	1.4% (10)	1.4% (10)	1.0% (7)	0.8% (6)	0.8% (6)	0.7% (5)	1.4% (10)	<5*	7.4% (54)
Very unaware	<5*	<5*	<5*	<5*	<5*	<5*	<5*	<5*	<5*
Total	12.3% (89)	20.6% (149)	22.9% (166)	10.3% (75)	6.6% (48)	5.2% (38)	14.8% (107)	7.3% (53)	100.0% (725)

Additional Action Items in Progress

- Shared with leadership and building administrators. Will continue to make improvements in critical areas such as:
    - Student learning and assessment for learning
    - Instructional leadership and overall quality of education
    - District leadership and focus
    - School board alignment and engagement
    - Equity
    - Community relations and partnerships
    - Communications, relationship opportunities and touchpoints
    - Financial stability and performance
    - Impact within the community
- Incorporated into systems and structures. Will continue to incorporate into school year efforts.

In-Progress: Will define next engagement cycle method, date, goal, etc.