

Total Comment Responses not regarding a specific question (optional)

Facility expenses could also be reduced with a four day school and work week. That will recruit & retain great teachers. DO NOT offer less pay, keep the pay the same (and raise it) as before. Teachers work 50+ hours for the district as it is. Additional resources? Not unless it's updating dated material that is insensitive and inappropriate (like the AP Euro books). Teachers need better pay most of all. They are drowning in bills. Do not reduce building admin; Reduce learning coaches

This survey was poorly constructed and very difficult to follow. I understand it is difficult to survey on these type of topics, but it was not an intuitive experience.

What was all the Covid money spent on? Is there any left, or can still be applied for, that could be use to solve for some of these objectives?

I hold a PhD and I can't understand some of the language in this survey (e.g., "The Lawrence Board of Education contracted with consultant RSP & Associates to provide futures planning data and analysis and facilitate a community engagement process, including a Futures Planning Committee, to discuss community values and develop budget priority recommendations for the board"). Please use plain language. E.g., see <https://centerforplainlanguage.org> (with whom I am not affiliated).

The superintendent should be required to live in the school district to deepen his/her knowledge of the community and thus its families

You apparently don't listen. Teach the 3Rs. Drop the woke shit.

I'm glad you are trying to improve salaries for staff. Teaching is getting more challenging and teachers should be compensated for it, especially if you want to continue to have quality teachers.

The district needs to realize that equity should extend to its virtual school students too and stop treating them like second class students. LVS students should have better technology than the B&M students, not worse. The district needs to understand that they don't know what they don't know and actually involve LVS faculty in discussions of changes.

Why would you be asking a survey question about enrollment don't we have numbers?

Schools are already being ran severely understaffed with classified help, if you cut these positions any lower some of the 'suits' will need to step in and do some physical work.

I think the public education system is broken b/c it is ran by the government. I think teachers are unhappy with restrictions on how to teach. I think enrollment will decrease b/c parents see education decreasing compared to what we experienced as a child. Schools should be studying private schools and taking low hanging fruit and implementing those into public schools and gradually take on more of a private school education approach.

These survey questions are not written well. I am looking at one now that my interpretation of the question and wording could mean literal opposite things and completely change my answer.

Please raise my taxes to make the buckets bigger.

How can this whole survey be focused on what the community will be ok with the district cutting? Why is there no mention of the other end of the equation? Raise my taxes to pay for great schools please.

Increase in enrollment due to open enrollment policies signed by Laura Kelly starting in the 2024-2025 school year.

Reducing cost of facilities without closing schools. Centennial could be sold. District administration can function in a less expensive space. These are just examples. Energy efficiency and less waste in facilities. Consider district administration reduction. NOT in school administration

SEL, CRT, and Anti-Racism are unbelievably destructive ideas that have proven to be abject failures that will bring nothing positive to our children or our community. These concepts are being propagated through teachers colleges and our kids are being indoctrinated in preparation for continuing their subversion at the higher education levels.

Again, I stress that we should sell the building the ESC is in. Reduce THAT staff - upper admin. Move them into other spaces the district owns. Sell that property. Keep in mind we will need to build more schools in a few years when the Panasonic factory opens east of town. So we don't want to sell properties on the east side of town right now.

These questions are difficult to understand. I trust that someone who understands population demographics has input on whether future enrollment will increase or decrease. I'm not qualified to answer that question.

I do not know how facility condition assessments would be used.

Student count will go up and down, but the long-term pattern will be stable. District Administration reduction. NO building administration reductions.

Centering Equity graphic on Background Information tab was very hard to read.

The "Which option do you most support" question is confusing. Eg: I chose Don't Consider for B: Reduce Early Childhood Services. If I then choose that for the "most support" questions, does that mean I support that they DO Reduce or that I support that they do NOT Reduce since I marked "Don't Consider"? Since this was unclear, I did not answer those questions.

In the spirit of equity and inclusion, the tab including Background Information includes graphics with very small font. Consider running this survey, and all related text, through an accessibility tool.

We have already increased class sizes & added multigrade & at the K-1 level, it is awful. The range of student needs is vast and it's unrealistic to think you can achieve equitable outcomes when a teacher is put in that situation. It's time for the district administration to make big sacrifices too. Sell the district building and move into spaces within the schools, engage with staff and students directly. Our kids should not be the main ones making sacrifices, upper admin needs to too.

Best Practices for School closures should include but not limited to ensuring students from closed schools are placed in schools where class sizes don't increase. Where there is ADDITIONAL support, counseling, training, ect, for years to come. Transportation provided for kids from closed schools to new schools. & the district actively facilitates helping schools create a new school culture to ensure the smoothest transition for ALL students and staff affected by consolidation.

I don't believe administrative staffing at the building should be considered. As a teacher in the district, I would give up an increase in salary if we could give paras a livable wage and pay subs more. It's hard to get a sub in this district. I believe those 2 things would really help the schools AND morale.

I strongly support teachers and public schools. I'm also concerned because my student is not getting a quality education and the school she attends (LMCMS) appears to be in constant, serious crisis. I empathize with the school board and admin. in the tough choices they are faced with. The proposal to close schools last year was rushed and disrespectful to the community. USD 497 must recognize the damage that caused to the trust between USD 497 and the community.

Consider adding middle & high school dances & charging a little more to get in & for concessions to raise money. Covid reminded us how important social interaction is to students. Maybe charge for another choir concert at the high school level and use that money to help fund the high school art department which seems very underfunded. As a parent I believe all of the fine arts should be funded adequately. Maybe bring in some professional soloists to a choir concert & charge at that concert.
