

Family Forum and Resource Fair (Uptown)

5/19/2018

If you had three wishes for Newport News Public Schools, what would they be?
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. More improvement, I have a daughter who is good in school2. Better lunches3. Play basketball in elementary
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. A kitchen at school2. More activities, less sitting, more playgrounds3. Spanish classes
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. More books in Spanish2. Change playgrounds3. More toys for kids
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. More PEEP activities for families and students2. More Spanish books to take home3. Teacher comments in Spanish
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. No more school break-ins, more security2. Resources for parents who depend on school transportation3. Money for better and safer playgrounds
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. More SOL preparation for parents to help their kids at home2. Transportation if we miss the bus3. Neighborhood school, not have to travel all the way to Hidenwood for school
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Keep my daughter at the same school for IEP2. For Newport News to have their own online learning site3. To send food for those that don't have a lot of food
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Bring back half day Wednesdays, school is too long2. Have a longer lunch (kids don't have enough time to go through the line and then eat)3. Schools need to be A-days and B-days (all schools- AADA) Have too many classes on the same day
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. More free activities for the kids, more affordable activities, because some activities aren't affordable for single parent households2. Have more resources for kids when they are doing homework, like tutoring, to be more successful
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. More funding for lunch2. More teacher help (ratio)3. Better communication with parents4. Sports programs for Lee Hall ES
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. More money for teachers2. More assistance for education payment3. More diverse afterschool and extracurricular activities
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. More pay for teachers2. More options for advanced students because they don't believe that the TAG test fits for all students3. More programs (AVIB)

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4. More information about college earlier
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No more bullying 2. Stop being nasty 3. Better food options (not expired)
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Change menu/ presentation of food needs to be better, check and see how many people are throwing away food 2. More parent teacher interactions 3. More homework (Richneck, kindergarten)
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No stealing 2. NNPS's curriculum is not consistent 3. Vocational programs (public and alternative schools)
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Make schools more equal 2. Should go to the Hampton museum, different things to go to instead of the same field trips
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Better lunches 2. More recess time in Middle School, even a short walk and talk during instruction 3. All year school- better retention of information from school break 4. Get rid of SOL

What is your best learning experience in Newport News Public Schools?

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Diversity of classes, Passage middle school office staff is incredible
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mrs. Oliver at Epes communicates well, provides information as far as daughters strengths and weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Learning math and taking economics and personal finance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Being issued Chrome Books to do classwork/homework, test at home
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Guidance counselor helping students build self-esteem
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Art classes that allow children to express themselves
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Teachers allow the parents to test the teachers on issues
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Class Dojo and communicating with us
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The different classes that teachers teach
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A teacher took time and extra effort to make the students have a good learning experience in the classroom. They went to Virginia Symphony at Ferguson, Virginia Living Museum, Virginia Air & Space, invited parents in for student day, and had us eat lunch with our children in the classroom.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A.V.I.B. teacher helped me out when I was pregnant in high school. Even though lots of people were telling me to drop out, he encouraged me to stay in school and finish.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ I went to a private school for a while and switched to public school and it was so much better. They had so many more things we could do and not just have to go to college, but I could learn how about more hands on skills.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ I really appreciate NNPS education system. The kids are likely going to school, because their teacher and environment is really nice. The friendly environment

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makes them want to be there and cause a good education.
▪ The teachers at Palmer are very caring and understanding. The Start Program was a great experience.
▪ I like the morning snack at Greenwood. It is a great experience, especially for kids not able to provide breakfast.
▪ My kids love the field trips, but I wish they went to more different locations, but they do love the field trips.
▪ I love that my daughter learns though play at school. It really reinforces what the teacher teaches.

Tell me a story about your community...

▪ Neighbors look out for each other, helping each other, good communication and we have a diverse neighborhood. We have good and smart property manager who works with the Virginia Coop.
▪ My community is falling apart. We need more activities to keep us busy. My kids don't feel safe, I don't feel safe.
▪ We had a girl in crisis. She was suicidal, and the police were called. They helped her get counseling and did a very good job following up.
▪ When I want to play basketball, I have to go to a different complex, because it is not safe here. It is very dangerous. We have a beef with some of the other people in our neighborhood and don't want to end up fighting or getting shot. One child got caught in the crossfire while getting off the bus.
▪ I don't have many community activities, so I don't have a story. Only a bunch of kids hanging out on the street.
▪ The story takes place about 20 years ago, but it could still happen in today's communities. When I grew up on Talifero Rd, we had a neighbor by the name of Mrs. Talifero who took the initiative to do something positive for the children on the street. She organized a center in a small house on the street. Monday- Friday we did variety hands on arts and crafts. She also had physical recreation and the center gave free lunch and hayrides. I think this was great because someone thought about us as children. It has been a lasting and positive memory I have taken into adulthood. I suppose it means, we as a community don't have to wait for the "city" to do things for us. We can get together as neighbors and make a positive impact on ourselves, children, and community on our own.
▪ I move around a lot and my children miss school, because we rely on public transportation. One child goes to one school, because he has special need, and my other child another. Now they are telling me that we have an attendance problem and I am going to have to go to court.
▪ I would like for my child's teacher to build a community of better communication. Share about what they do and learn with parents through pictures or in the community in the agendas, especially for ECC.
▪ It is somewhat dangerous, a lot of shootings and dangerous people.

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5/19/2018

<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Community buildings are ok and I feel safe in my community
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ There was a tornado during a parks and rec day and they were sitting in the stairs. A huge tree fell on a neighbor house and I can remember thinking this is the end! But it wasn't.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ The police presence is a little overzealous at times.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ I live in a safe community. My daughter had an incident and a neighbor sent the home with a note and phone number to contact them and let me know the details, because she cared about her.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ I like my community, but littering has become a huge problem.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ We don't have any playgrounds within walking distance and need more places for kids to play.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Passage MS communication is top notch. There have been threats to students and school made on social media and the parents were kept in the loop about issues as they happen rather than after they happen. The students still went to school.