

Resource Alignment Initiative Community Sessions

Location

- Sunset Elementary School, 1920 41st Avenue, San Francisco, CA

Date and Time

- April 6, 2024, 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM

Themes

School Experience

- Concerns about the emotional well-being and social adjustment of K-8 students, especially those facing potential disruptions or changes in their educational environment.
- Addressing inequities within the educational system and promoting a sense of inclusion for all students, regardless of background or learning needs.
- Considerations of the financial strain that changes in the educational system may place on families who have chosen to stay in a particular area for the K-8 experience.
- Ensuring consistency and fulfillment of promises made to students and parents regarding their educational experience, particularly in terms of holistic learning and community support.
- Emphasizing the importance of quality teaching, manageable class sizes, and specialized support services for students with diverse learning needs, including autism programs and language pathways.
- Prioritizing a safe and supportive learning environment for students, including considerations of physical safety, positive school culture, and strong relationships with teachers and staff.
- Recognizing the importance of fostering connections between families, staff, and the broader community to support students' social skills, emotional well-being, and academic success.
- Maintaining high academic standards and ensuring that students have access to relevant, updated curricula and additional programs that support their learning and growth.
- Retaining successful schools as models for educational excellence and community engagement.
- Addressing logistical concerns such as school size, transportation, aftercare programs, and curriculum alignment to streamline the educational experience for students and families.

Ideal Outcomes

- Ensuring equity while maintaining high academic standards.
- Effectively managing resources for the long-term viability of schools, including enrollment capacity, building conditions, and operating costs.
- Recruiting and retaining qualified teachers while reducing burnout through fair wages and supportive school cultures.
- Giving families choice and access to diverse programs.
- Fostering positive school cultures and climates that support social and emotional development and enhance the overall school experience.
- Utilizing school spaces effectively and efficiently to maximize operating savings and ensure optimal learning environments.
- Considering temporary relocation of school communities during building repairs to minimize disruptions and maintain healthy, sustainable environments.
- Ensuring active participation of all community members, including families, in decision-making processes to create inclusive and responsive school communities.

Concerns

- Involving parents/guardians and communities in decision-making processes and providing opportunities for feedback on assessments and results.
- Ensuring a seamless educational experience from transitional kindergarten (TK) through K-8 to maintain stability for students and families.
- Balancing the pursuit of equity with maintaining high academic standards and excellence in all schools, without penalizing high-performing schools.
- Prioritizing safety and ensuring adequate facilities for learning, including external reviews of building conditions.
- Recognizing the importance of language pathways and cultural representation for minority communities within SFUSD.
- Considering the impact of changes over time and advocating for longer transition periods to minimize disruption.
- Addressing concerns about equitable distribution of resources and ensuring that all schools receive adequate support and care.
- Considering the impact of changes on teaching staff and advocating for maintaining school bodies inclusive of teachers and staff.
- Addressing concerns about potential school closures, segregation, and access to quality schools based on proximity.
- Advocating for cultural competency and representation within the school system to better serve diverse communities.
- Ensure resources are allocated in a way that prioritizes students' needs and avoids leaving behind those with greater needs.

Missing Criteria

- Addressing the voices and needs of teachers and staff members, including training, support, and satisfaction with their roles.
- Maintaining and expanding programs and structures to keep families within the SFUSD, including enrichment programs, aftercare options, and open dialogue with parents.
- Ensuring access to social-emotional resources and the adoption of Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) to support inclusion and diversity within the student body.
- Prioritizing diversity in terms of age, gender, race, and experience among students, teachers, and staff members.
- Addressing concerns about potential disruptions, reassignments, and the downstream effects of school closures or program changes.
- Prioritizing equity in access to special education services and ensuring that schools with onsite special education programs are maintained.
- Advocating for high-quality instruction and enrichment programs, including STEM initiatives and robotics labs, to attract and retain students within the SFUSD.
- Tracking data related to learning disabilities, socioeconomic status (SES), and immigration status to address equity concerns.
- Advocating for gradual changes and ongoing dialogue with all school communities to ensure that diverse perspectives and needs inform decisions.
- Addressing concerns about budget gaps, teacher salaries, and the need for resources, including support for classroom supplies and aftercare programs.

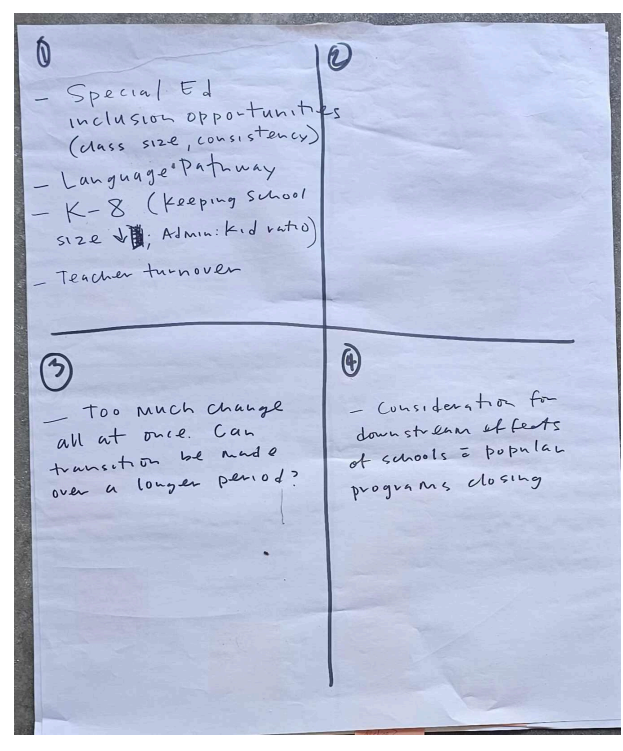
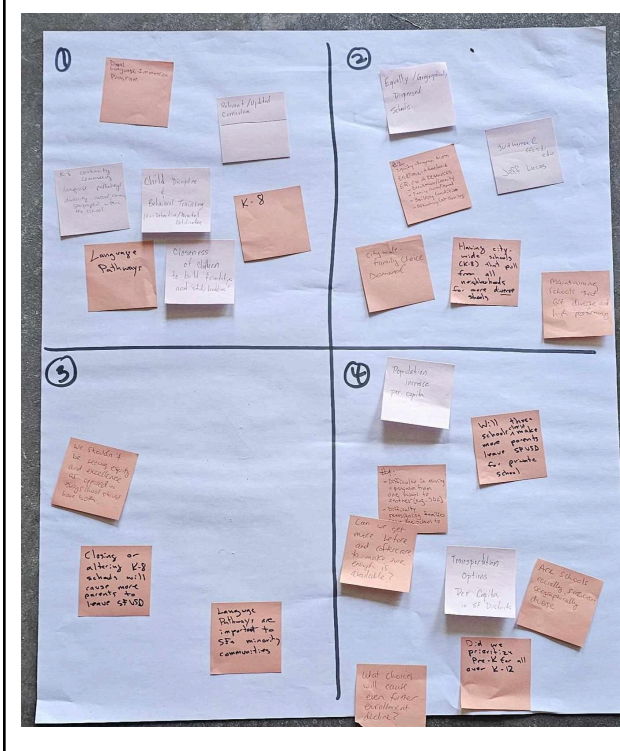
Parking Lot

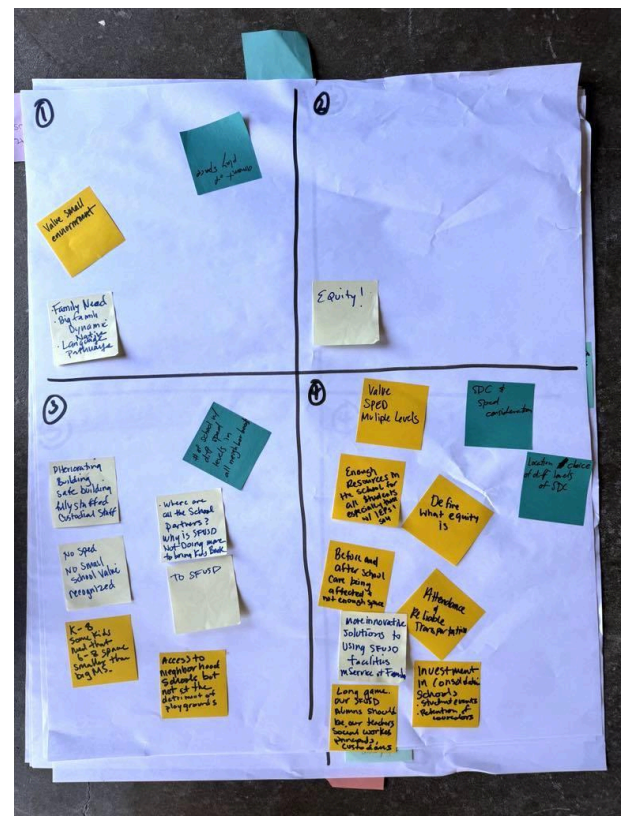
- Concerns about the allocation of funds, particularly regarding the percentage spent on the Central Office compared to similar school districts.
- How the decision-making process and choices made will affect future enrollment and strategies to retain families within the District.
- Concerns about the magnitude of the budget crisis and the potential need to close or merge schools to address the budget gap.
- Queries about where to access information about the condition of schools, particularly distinguishing between those in good versus poor condition.
- Suggestions to maintain high enrollment by providing families with choices and incentives to remain within the district, such as citywide K-8 schools and language immersion pathways.
- Acknowledgment and gratitude for the opportunity to provide input and engage in the decision-making process, and appreciation for the efforts of district officials and staff facilitating the meetings.

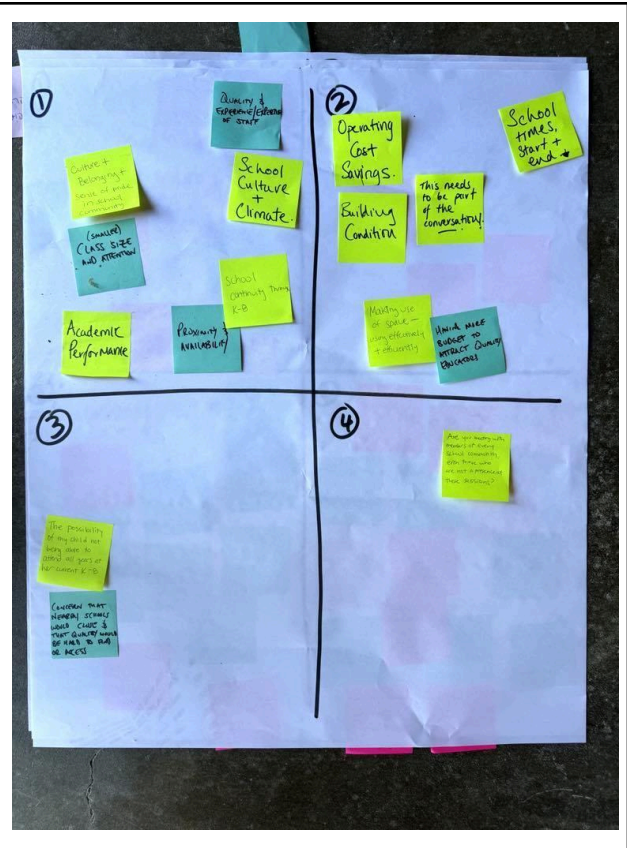
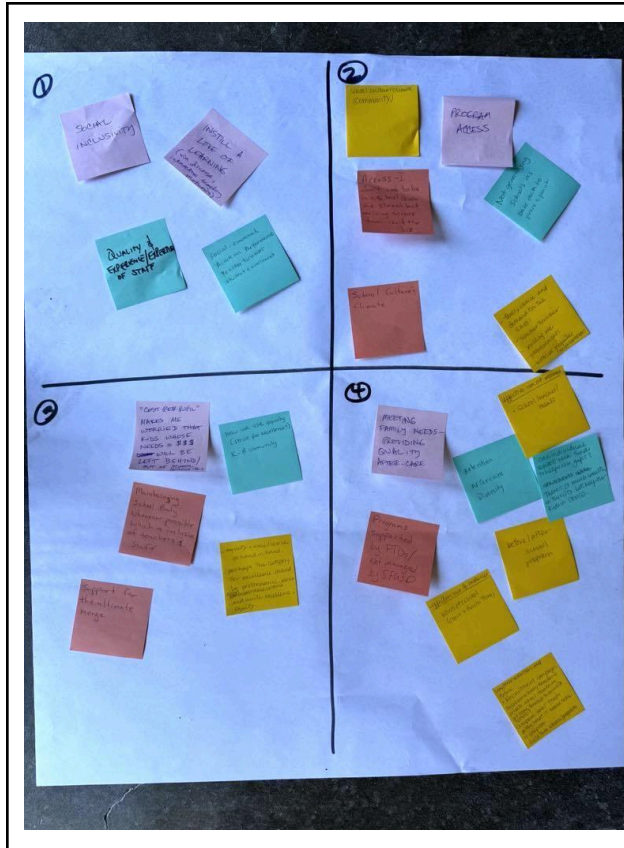
The following are the written comments that were used to create the key themes above



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SFUSD

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①

Safe environment: family supports

- safety (physical control)

- engaged and consistent teacher + staff

for school buses and after care off the lot!

Strong relationship w/ teachers

Language access

Disability

②

School needs

School culture + climate

Socio-emotional development

③

Cultural Competency Representation

Proximity

3 Segregation

What happens to the teaching and staff?

I don't understand why all districts schools aren't receiving the same resources and care. Why is this happening?

④

What does this mean for teacher salary? Please pay them more and handle raises! Why doesn't this have to be an average with the classrooms? This should be solved by the schools!

Participant Notes		
My Questions	My Suggestions	My Appreciations
Where do we get information about which schools are in good vs. poor condition? FAI ↳ answered by Phil!		Thank you to Phil Kim and Superintendent Wayne plus the staff at SFUSD who made these meetings possible and allowed us to speak our mind

Participant Notes		
My Questions	My Suggestions	My Appreciations
What percent is spent on central office in other similar school districts?	Try to keep enrollment high - keep families in the district by giving families choice + reasons to want to be in the district, specifically: - citywide K-8 schools - K-8 language immersion programs	I know this is such difficult work. Thank you for having these opportunities to give input!
- How will this process + the choices made affect future enrollment? How can we stay the bleeding and keep families in the district, versus being further and further enrollment decline?		
- How will these choices affect teacher retention and satisfaction?		
- How big is the budget crisis and how many schools will need to be closed/merged to close the budget gap?		