



ST. MICHAEL - ALBERTVILLE SCHOOLS

EXCELLENCE IS OUR TRADITION

May 19, 2025

To: STMA School Board Members

From: Dr. Ann-Marie Foucault, Superintendent

Re: Superintendent Student Forum - Trimester 3, FY2025

Background

At STMA, we are deeply committed to putting students first and honoring their voices. Our students provide valuable insights that help inform decisions and shape the culture and direction of our schools.

The Superintendent Student Forum was created to amplify student voice and provide district leaders and the School Board with a direct lens into the experiences of our learners. Through these forums, we gain a clearer understanding of what students are seeing, hearing, and feeling across our schools.

Process

During trimester three, small groups of students from each of our eight schools, grades K-12, participated in the forum. A consistent format was followed at each building. Click [here](#) to see the agenda and a sample of the questions students were asked.

Student Responses

Memorable Moments of the School Year

Students enthusiastically shared highlights from their year, often smiling as they recalled positive experiences and meaningful connections. Common themes included:

- Concerts and field trips
- Recess and dress-up days
- Meeting teachers and making new friends
- Assemblies and Pepfests
- Knights Honor Lounge and eating outside
- Middle School: sports, Exploratory Day, Activity Nights, WEB events, Responsive Hour
- Knights Academy: Legacy 2 Inspire, Yearbook, Physics Fair, Talent Show
- Elementary: gingerbread houses, basketball tournaments, Immigrant Activity

What Type of Work Excites You?

Students expressed a strong preference for hands-on, creative, and choice-based learning. Specific



activities included:

- “Game of Life”
- Academic games (e.g., Kahoot, Bookit)
- Science labs and experiments
- Craft projects and art
- Group/partner work and collaboration
- Field trips and competitions
- Timed math tests and choice time

If You Could Change One Thing About Your School, What Would It Be?

Students offered thoughtful suggestions, showing both creativity and a keen awareness of their daily experiences:

Elementary Schools

- More art, gym, computer lab, and recess
- Additional playground equipment (spongy surfaces, trampolines)
- More lunch options and opportunities for seconds
- Add anatomy as a subject

Middle Schools

- New Smart Boards and larger lockers
- More activity nights and indoor recess options
- Recess equipment and later school start times
- Lunch earlier for 8th grade
- Cell phone use and study hall options
- More choice in Responsive Hour

High School/Knights Academy/WINGS

- Updated Smart Boards and engaging course offerings
- Real-world learning (resumes, taxes, job applications)
- More guidance on AI use
- Time to complete end-of-trimester surveys
- Changes to PE make-up policy
- Free access to student events (i.e. sports)
- Consistency in test corrections



How Would You Rate Your School?

Most students rated their schools with four or five stars (5 being the highest), indicating strong overall satisfaction with their school experience.

Do You Feel Safe at School?

Nearly all students reported feeling safe at school. Every student said they have at least one trusted adult they can go to—highlighting the strength of relationships and support within our buildings.

Student Quotes

- “I would rate this school 1,000 stars!” - AP student
- “Teachers are caring.” - BW student
- “All teachers are really nice.” - FE student
- “Mr. Lahr is a very caring and helpful person. He is like water, not fire.” - STME student
- “My teachers are kind and chill.” - ME student
- “My teachers always put a smile on my face.” - MW student
- “My teacher makes me feel valued and is like a second mom to me.” - HS student
- “Teachers are very nice and the hours are good.” - KA student