



## Glen Ellyn School District 41 2016 Community Survey Comments Overall Satisfaction

### Comments/Suggestions:

-- Things like PBLs and FLES, although nice to have, are really taking a lot from students. They are increasingly more anxious because of high demands and less time for breaks; they have so few minutes in their school day to figure out how to be kids and interact socially with each other.

-- Building maintenance is poor, especially [REDACTED] There is peeling paint on exterior windows and dirty tile in bathrooms.

-- Besides floors being swept, there is no cleaning in classrooms. Windows are nearly impossible to open. Heat is not at a comfortable temperature ( TOO hot)

-- I love the posters at every school entrance that say something like, "every student is someone's everything." That's not it, exactly, but I've noticed this poster at a couple of schools, so I'm hoping it is at every school. It's the reminder to staff that each student is someone's treasured baby, who they are trusting to us. And for parents, it signals to them that they are welcomed and valued in the schools. Good job to whoever thought this up!

-- The elementary Science curriculum needs more support for teachers. STEM is so important, and it's surprising that we only have PBL coaches and not Science Coaches at the elementary level.

-- District 41 met the needs of my children. We are fortunate to live in a safe area with supportive parents who partner with the teachers. I wouldn't say though the district 41 delivered an excellent education, as hindsight is 20/20 vision.

-- Portables have mold.

-- I am very concerned with the constant curricula changes the administration is implementing. This constant change is not best practice for students or teachers.

-- My kid entered GBW completely unprepared to handle the homework requirements as D41 somehow believes that meaningful homework, which provides reinforcement of lessons covered in class, is bad. D41 math and reading scores are shameful. D41 does not

teach writing.

-- Need full day kindergarten

-- VERY POOR JOB IN CHOOSING BUS COMPANY THIS SCHOOL YR HAS ME CONCERNED THAT COST SAVINGS IS ALL THE DISTRICT CARES ABOUT.

-- LOWER OUR TAXES SO WE CAN AFFORD TO STAY

-- Love this survey. Getting our feedback is a great idea!

-- I don't believe these survey results will impact a final decision. I believe the district will do what is best for them and not the community

-- Would like the results of the survey be shared and actions that will be taken as a result.

-- The communication is getting better and surveys like this one, is much appreciated.

-- Promoting Jeff Burke to principal of Ben Franklin has been a fabulous decision. He is so positive, responsive and addresses concerns in a very timely fashion. I have a lot of confidence in him and his ability to make the best decisions for the most people.

-- I commend the district on getting rid of the portable classrooms at Churchill. I also commend the district on their renovation of the playground/recess area at Churchill. I do not like Churchill's handling of my gifted son's curriculum. We had no success getting the principal to act on our requests for a more challenging curriculum for my son; as a result, we had to go straight to the assistant superintendent, who promptly acted on our behalf. THIS SHOULDN'T BE NECESSARY! Also, why is it that special needs students on the lower end of the spectrum are served so readily, while students like my son (on the highest end of the spectrum) are UNDERSERVED so severely? Why does he have to wait until 3rd grade to receive a more challenging curriculum?

-- The school district needs to provide a focus on high-achieving students who could be served by a more robust AEC program.

-- My 4th and 5th graders have been put through the most crazy elementary experience I've ever heard of. Way too much change and uncertainty over the last 5 years (curriculum, testing, multi age, teacher specialization, Spanish, etc. etc.). I feel like my kids have been cheated out of what could have been a great elementary school experience for just a fair one at best.

-- I sub at Hadley and I think there are parts of the building that are in dire need of repair. My kids go to Ben Franklin. I am very happy with the new addition, However, some of the older classrooms are so over crowded, I feel sorry for the teachers and for the kids. I have been very happy with all of the teachers at Ben Franklin, they have provided an outstanding educational experience for both my kids.

-- My child could be pushed far more, but is held back as the district focuses on bringing other kids up to the average. Grades k-3 do not deal with accelerated learners well.

-- There are too many curriculum changes (two new math curricula in the past 6 years; mixed-year classes; literacy/STEM split etc).

-- 1)Kids aren't learning how to be good writers. 2)Hadley is very hit or miss as far as

teacher/class quality 3)Some Hadley teachers inject their own politics into coursework  
4)Can you teach cursive, please? 5)I had to teach my kids long division and "old-school" multiplication. I understand that you teach multiple strategies. But how about including the ones that have worked for a majority of the population for the last 100 years?

-- Opportunities for community input are not sincere. The district uses money that the community gave it to shut down input. If the resources were used for the benefit of the community, there would be less of a need to ask for funding through a referendum.

-- for example, no information included here about enrollment forecasts vs. historical

-- Currently, my son is in pre-school but is receiving speech therapy at Forest Glen. I have been frustrated that he is paired with another child for speech due to lack of availability of speech therapist.

-- Demonstrate some fiscal awareness.

-- A lot of focus is placed on at risk kids. Those on the bottom of normal get bypassed. I think that is bad. I do not see a plan in place to handle this.

-- Our state scores are not good

-- Too many changes in the last 5 years that the quality of educations has suffered greatly. The district will ask for input from the community but never listens to what we have to say. Their minds are already made up and aren't open to suggestions

-- Too many curriculum changes (or no curriculum at all) since my children have been in the district. The two teacher model has not been advantageous to my child. Social and teacher-student relationships are suffering and I do not see any significant growth in my child's academic progress. Oh..and I am a parent of a 4th grader at Ben Franklin who I have been informed will now have another 4th grade teacher who will "rotate" through the students to address large class sizes. This seems like an issue that could have been addressed at the beginning of the school year.

-- We have been very happy with the district.

-- I am consistently disappointed in the care and cleanliness of the school facilities. Deterioration of pipe insulation in classrooms and hallways accessible to children, damaged floor tiles in classrooms, filthy air vents, unclean bathroom stalls, etc.

-- Elementary great. Middle school experience not so much.

-- For children in 7th and 8th grade who are going to private schools, it would be very nice to see an "open house" offered by West so that these children can get a chance to see and be welcomed into the High School. Other private high schools do that and I am not sure but do not believe that West does this. A post card notifying parents of kids going to private schools of an open house would be a very welcome change.

-- Direct mailing would be make information more readily accessible to most community residents

-- Our children are in 1st grade & the one comment I would make about the educational experience is that I feel like the homework workload is way too much. Our children have 30 minutes of math & spelling each night plus 20 minutes of reading. When you add this to

their 7 hour school day plus the recommended WEEKEND work, they are already at a 40 hour week. They are 6 years old. This is crazy. We expect too much of our youngest to fit this mold of a child who doesn't wiggle in their seat, listens 100 percent of the time and powers through 50 minutes of homework each and every night. I think we need to reevaluate the homework portion of our educational system and I think it should be adjusted based upon age. At this stage, my hopes for my children are to enjoy school and enjoy learning and to show that they are progressing throughout the year. I'm not hung up on scores or reading levels or math levels. As long as they are growing and progressing the I think that should be our guide to how successful we are being in educating them. If we continue down this path, i fear that by college they will be 100% burned out on learning.

-- [REDACTED] a wonderful school, great teachers and principal. I feel the office could be more organized and welcoming. The secretaries are not always the friendliest and the office is unorganized with lots of clutter.

-- Bring back public participation at the end of the school board. Erica Nelson and [REDACTED] never really listen to the community. Erica never gives a straight answer to a question and half the time she is lying.

-- We just moved here in the summer and we have young children who are not yet school ages, so we cannot answer the above questions.

-- HAVING HAD TWO CHILDREN WHO WENT THROUGH THE DISTRICT 41 SCHOOLS (BEN FRANKLIN AND HADLEY), WE ARE WELL AWARE OF THE TRADITION OF EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE WE ENJOY HERE IN GLEN ELLYN. NOW, AS EMPTY NESTERS, WE UNDERSTAND THE NECESSITY OF MAINTAINING THAT TRADITION, FIRST THROUGH THE HIRING AND SUPPORT OF EXCELLENT TEACHERS AND STAFF, THEN WITH A FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE USE OF TAXPAYER MONIES TO MAINTAIN AND IMPROVE PHYSICAL PLANTS.

-- My daughter went to Churchill. And the entire time she was there the school fell far below satisfactory and their scores. Every child who went through her group does not know how to spell. They need to bring back the traditional spelling program

-- The schools vary so much in what is accepted in them. Some classrooms at schools were striped of air conditioners which helped to fix the problems of the hot, hot rooms. These rooms are very hot and are not a suitable learning environment for staff or students. Yet other schools were allowed to keep them. I would like to see consistency in the schools and that the problems affecting our schools and kids get resolved.

-- Please remove all portable classrooms. This is a hindrance to education and safety.

-- Not having letter grades, i.e. 90-100 = A, 80-89 = B, etc. in middle school puts our children at a huge disadvantage when they hit high school, when GPA's are paramount in determining future educational opportunities.

-- We can only provide a high-quality education experience when you actually provide the space for experiences.

-- I believe the education curriculum is not advanced enough for kids. My son is in 5th grade. We came to this district when he was in 4th grade. He stated he learned some of what he is getting now in 5th grade in his 3rd grade class in a different district. You need more advanced placement curriculum.



- Constant purchases of new curriculums is confusing and unnerving.
- Having an "accelerated" program starting with 1st graders would be welcome. We moved from an area half way through kindergarten. Our student went from full day kindergarten in an "accelerated" program to 1/2 kindergarten here. She did not learn much for the 5 months she had kindergarten. In first grade she and other "above average" students spend time helping others with their work. I would like her to be with students that need to be challenged more.
- Quality of education significantly decreased when the grade schools adopted multi-grade instruction without parental support. I'm all for improving curriculum, but the annual changes didn't seem well thought out. For example - one of the spelling programs included weekly tests, but would not provide the list of words on the test as it was against the philosophy. PARCC testing has also detracted from educating our students. I empathize with the teachers as the elementary ones often seem confused and just treading water. The Hadley teachers seem much more organized and not as impacted by all the changes.
- The board wants to do what it wants to and doesn't listen to retirees like me.
- The start to the school year at Hadley was extremely disappointing. The NEW Bus Company was a disaster. No excuse. Previous years our driver whom we'd had every year was driving our route for one week every morning and afternoon to practice. This year the new bus company did not receive the routes until the day before school began. That is on District 41!!! Your mistake. Second, the kids not allowed to carry bags at Hadley! Do you know how many binders they carry in addition to their Chrome books? Third, Middle school kids having to be quiet at lunch? What is the purpose of that? They should be able to talk and let loose and relax at lunch. I have a real problem with the kids having to be quiet at lunch. Fourth, why are they limited to 12 or 15 trips to the bathroom a Quarter? Again, that is extremely ridiculous. [REDACTED] I would have in 7th or 8th grade. Are they in Military School or a Public School in the Suburbs? It's no wonder people are leaving to go to Wheaton Christian.
- I think that District 41 is far behind where it should be for educational outcomes given the resources it has.
- I no longer have children in district 41 so I don't know what the schools are doing
- The constant change in curriculum is quite tiresome and there seems to be no consistency with how things are taught. The education that elementary students received in the past was far superior to what they receive now and that is not the fault of the teachers.
- Hadley students arrive at Glenbard West less prepared than their Catholic school counterparts. Hadley is a weak link in the system.
- My children are not yet school age, so it's difficult to answer this question.
- The venting system in the classrooms needs to be replaced. It is either way too hot or way too cold. It makes it hard to teach. I would also recommend air cleaners in every room. We have a lot of kids with major allergies and teachers with major allergies.
- Moved to the area from Texas this summer and do not have any school age children - therefore, no point of reference.

- Need more differentiation for higher level students, not just 98/99% MAP
- Educational experience has been in a steady downward spiral since my kids entered in mid 2000's. Kids are missing the basics of writing and math (e.g. long division). Constant emphasis on but inconsistency with method (e.g. Everyday math, teacher specialization, PBL) has led to huge misses on the basics and results. The money I could spend on facilities goes towards tutors to make up for the gaps at D41.
- People are getting turned off by all of the shenanigans going on with the D41 School Board. Everyone is tired and worn out. It is constant fighting and arguing over dumb stuff. We need to move out of the ice age in terms of thinking about education in this District. People need to get over their personal issues with the District and do what is right for our kids. It is so exhausting, I really don't care anymore and can't wait for my kids to be done with D41 and move on to the positive experience in D87.
- Curriculum should be rolled out on a building block basis similar to FLES. It has been to our students' disadvantage to put a new curriculum in place for math for the older grades.
- Principal Burke has done an AMAZING job. Keep up the great work at Ben Franklin please.
- Please change policies at Hadley so that homework is graded and calculated into the final grade. The students are NOT ready for high school
- Elementary needs more gifted/advanced programs.
- The district continues to focus on the middle and the bottom of the bell curve. Why does the district not focus on the higher end of the bell curve of students? There are many kids who can be stretched who are getting lost.
- We have been extremely pleased with the positive experience with all members of the D41 faculty/staff/administration.
- Please STOP changing directions....in the course of three years District 41 has tried combined classrooms, looping & incorporating different literacy and STEM programs. This experimentation is at the cost of our children's well-being and overall educational experience.
- Just moved end of May 2016 so no opportunity to have an opinion on many of these.
- D41 has undergone too much change over the past 5 years. It is difficult to assess how things are going as they never stay the same. My fifth grade daughter has not had two years in a row where changes in curriculum and/or class structure have remained in tack. Teachers are constantly being asked to roll out new programs and have had little opportunity to master what and how things are taught. Lastly, there has been no mention of the faculty issues requiring students to carry their backpacks with them through out the day. Students have no place to house a book or a sweatshirt rather they have to drag all their items with them to and from school as well as throughout the school day. Students should have a cubby or a desk or locker of some sort to maintain their items for the school year.
- Our school system to be the best in the entire state! Our taxes are out of sight, and our education should reflect it!
- the few times I visited the [REDACTED] I found the staff there

not very friendly, unfortunately. Having another student at Glenbard West, we realize how Hadley does NOT prepare our students well enough to make this transition. Teachers at West even agree but told us this was a decision made by the district. We don't understand what is going on, but the level at Hadley needs to come up a lot in order to prepare our students for high school. The level of homework at Hadley, but also just learning HOW to study (time management, discipline) needs your attention!!

-- Sometimes there has been too much "community input." It seems like the "No" crowd just uses this as an excuse to delay.

-- I would urge the district to not only focus on standardized test score but enhance childrens' civic and cultural education.

-- Overall very good work on most items but could not switch learning methods and programs so much so that teachers can become experts in methods rather than always shifting on the fly and playing catch up. So many institute days and my brothers' kids in the city have more challenging coursework and homework. Curriculum is much more important than facilities.

-- Can you stick to one math and stop changing it on these kids. It shouldn't be this difficult. Make all district 41 school with same math. I should have to look up how to figure out 1st grade math with the way these problems are worded.

-- This is a good survey tool and I think you should this this out twice a year to get community feedback as an ongoing pulse of how the district is doing.

-- I would like to see an accelerated literacy program offered in the District in addition to the math program currently in place. Consideration should be taken to offer an advanced/gifted classroom for each grade as well. This accelerated program should be continued at the junior high level.

-- I'm not experiencing these things so I can't speak to your excellence in these areas.

-- There is transparency for the long-range plan as it relates to the referendum and the financial aspect of the plan and where the money will be spent but I am unclear on what information has been provided on any long-term population need and where the trends are to support the need for extra space and full day-kindergarten.

-- Students are not prepared for the rigor at Glenbard West, I think that should be the top priority over building structures. When students get to West, they are not prepared for the homework amount, level at which they need to work or amount of work involved to succeed, especially now with AP courses freshman year and elimination of a lot of Honors classes.

-- I have 2 daughters that are not school aged yet, but I do hope that full day Kindergarten is offered as soon as possible. I can't believe it's not already! I will support most any measure that makes this possible, though I do not like the idea of a separate ELC.

-- I am a new resident with a 3 year old child. I am concerned about the school district, but have no experience yet.

-- Listen to the tax payers! Cut spending now!

-- Keep it up!

- We have not had a student in a District 41 school since 1983 so I can't answer the question on this page.
- The students need more down time during the school day, more opportunities in their classes to move around, and no to very little homework. We need to allow the teachers to be more creative and not have to teach to test scores. The teachers are fantastic!
- I love the Spanish class that is offered daily at Lincoln beginning in first grade. Exposing our students to languages at younger ages helps to prepare them to be global learners. I would prefer Spanish daily to full day kindergarten district wide.
- My child will enter the school system in a couple years.
- If you want to deliver a high-quality education experience stop running after the newest fad and make sure you concentrate on the basics. At some point you have to decide what's essential and what is not. Seems like a lot of money could be saved if the entire curriculum wasn't thrown out so often.
- Very poor communications platform and community outreach. Never received mail or email...I received this from another community member.
- We have not used the services of district 41 since 2004 so I am not able to answer.
- Haven't really experienced it yet.
- Please be aware that our children are not prepared for Hadley. The students need to spend time on social studies and history.
- Comparing test to other, similar districts, (in spending) our scores are lower.
- Don't know children not elem age since 1999.
- Hadley middle school is not inviting and supportive of parental issues.
- At least we got this survey
- Forest Glen is very welcoming. At Hadley, [REDACTED] is very welcoming, professional and dedicated. I consistently find [REDACTED] to be extremely unhelpful, displaying poor attitudes and overall dragging down the school atmosphere.
- Special Education has a lot of growth to be seen before I could personally say the district is delivering a high-quality educational experience. I am satisfied with General Ed though.
- This is difficult to judge when no longer in the system. Our neighbors do seem to think that this is a good place to have their children.
- You may be asking for community input but, it is not evident that you are abiding by it.
- I fear that District 41 is all about bells and whistles without any fact or content. Lots of experiments on kids who can't write complete sentences or spell for example. I had thought that our buildings were well maintained, but in taking this survey and hearing the last board meeting I now realize that the chances of good maintenance may be slipping away. School

staff are typically welcoming however there are the occasional [REDACTED] who snarly say "what do you want" when speaking to our kids??? (not good role models) And lastly community input is often overly managed and summarized to support whatever initiative that the district is pursuing. Total lack of honesty.

-- While I'm disappointed that the district rolled back the changes that had been implemented, I feel that my kids' teachers are doing a great job this year.

-- Our daughter's first year so I can't give an thorough evaluation of these questions. However we moved to glen Ellyn because of the high reputation of the schools so we're confident in our district.

-- I don't yet have school age children, so can't comment on many of these - but I do feel the district does a good job of providing opportunities for input.

-- Too many changes !

-- [REDACTED] needs to improve !

-- Great teachers.

-- Past experience is that the community input is just lip-service. The district still does what it wants.

-- Since I do not have children in schools in the district, I do not feel that I can answer the above questions. I do believe that the community is invited to participate via surveys. However, if people do not subscribe to the district emails, they may not feel that the district communicates well.

-- I've been ignored on multiple occasions when [REDACTED] for valid reasons. Close to Poor for providing a welcoming environment.

-- There is a lot of tax payer money wasted maintaining the schools. When the portables were used at Lincoln School, the AC was constantly running, even during summer when no school was in session, and especially after hours. When the district was called, the person said that equipment had to be maintained. Really? Why not control the temperature with programmable thermostats, like we have in our homes?

-- I've read that Dr. Gordon totally dismissed the Facilities Task force recommendations. If true, then "providing opportunities for community input" receives less than poor; on a scale of 0 to 10, it would easily rank 0. I believe that our facilities are well maintained. Right now after reading the survey, I am questioning the future of the facilities since the monies needed are being proposed in a referendum. Lastly, I would like to ask you for your definition of a "high-quality educational experience". Please explain your intended meaning and how is it evaluated? To me, I would say that I see and hear that the standardized testing scores are falling and the district seems okay with the lackluster results. I have many concerns on how math, science and literacy are being taught and gather that most traditional methods are no longer acceptable. If we define success as all kids are doing grade level work and scoring upward of 80 percent on standardized tests, then I doubt that D41 kids are meeting my goals. I've heard that classrooms are filled with kids doing grade levels 1 and 2 years behind and teachers spend most of their time with those kids. Other kids' learning suffer. Overall, I'd rank this as less than poor. I expect better results for my investment in D41.

-- More community members need to attend board meetings and to share their opinions

about current initiatives. Almost all comments now are being made by a small group of community members who I believe do not represent the majority of our community. Even if community members cannot attend a meeting they should be encouraged to submit comments to the Board to be included in the meeting minutes.

-- From what I can understand + see, Dist 41 is offering a good education (better than average) for the state + area.

-- Principal at Forest Glen not welcoming at all

-- WOULD WELCOME COMBINING WITH DISTRICT SOUTH OF US TO SAVE MONEY AND THEY HAVE HIGHER SCORES ON THE STATE REPORT. ANOTHER WAY WE MIGHT SAVE MONEY IS GOING TO A UNIT DISTRICT LIKE 200 IN WHEATON.

-- I would like to see improvement in school property outside maintenance. I would like garbage picked up & cans emptied on a regular basis. I would like large areas of mud repaired with seed or sod.

-- I believe that we have a high quality district

-- Dr. Gordon's idea of community input is similar to Saul Alinsky's. He is only interested in input that is mirroring his thoughts.

-- There is bullying at the elementary schools. multiple kids have made this clear to me. My son had a rock thrown at his head by a known bully and he was bleeding. the monitors knew to watch for this bully but did nothing. The school did nothing. Fortunately, his teacher got him to the nurse's office and called us to notify us. I called the principal, and she kept saying strange things about "this poor sweet child" until I finally realized that she was referring to THE BULLY!!!! She had no intention of punishing him, nor any intention of letting my son know that his health and safety is important and he was going to be protected. Instead, she was content to let my son feel like he is worthless because it is acceptable for others to hurt him. What kind of psyche do you think he would grow up with if that's the message he receives?!?! This school district has no common sense among the administrators. I am distraught because I don't feel safe leaving my son at this school.

-- Speaking directly to the issue of providing a high-quality educational experience... As a mother of a 2nd grader, kindergartener, a 4yo, and a 2yo, I find the days in school to be too long and structured. A few things I'd love to see changed... Go back to a home room teacher without specialties until 5th grade. PLEASE consider rolling back this experiment. The children would benefit greatly from having one teacher who has their back throughout the day. One teacher who sees all social and educational issues a kid may be having. One teacher they can truly bond with. Perhaps with less "transition" time not shuffling between classes, kids can have downtime either outside or in their rooms? Cut the homework time. 10 minutes per grade level is recommended- any more is a waste of time. Homework should simply be a reminder of work done during the day. These kids are still young and so impressionable. They are learning so much even when they are not staring down at the work on their desk. If our schools can foster a supportive and non-rushed experience, our children will be so much better for it. Lastly, has D41 ever considered "year round" school? I personally think it would benefit the kids.

-- These 'opportunities for community input' are just propaganda pieces designed to get us to agree to your plans, they are not really soliciting honest feedback. Just like your 'task forces' always are. If I say the district is doing a great job of maintaining facilities, would

you take that as an indication that because things are great, we have no need to do more?

-- Magnifico!

-- The state of the current facilities is what prevents D41 from being a "GREAT" district.

-- I strongly feel that the educational experience for children who receive student services (special education) could be improved.

-- Hadley is not nearly close to teaching at the educational level that it should be. I supplemented their math outside of the school while they were at Hadley. I was majorly disappointed that Hadley did not recommend or promote my kids into the gifted program. Both went on to top 20 at West and went on to graduate with engineering degrees at Ivy League schools. Part of the problem was the lack of space in those programs. Hadley should not be known as a waste of time!

-- I'm disappointed with the continuous curriculum changes made at the Elementary level especially to our current 5th grade class. I'm also disappointed to know that the current curriculum doesn't incorporate our students learning basic skills such as Geography (states/capitals) & most importantly, learning how to write properly. The Hadley staff is appalled to see the incoming writing skills of these younger students. I feel the system has failed them & unfortunately, these students will suffer the consequences.

-- Vague questions

-- welcome environment varies by school. Lincoln principal is not welcoming.

-- I wonder if the educational experience is varied enough to meet the needs of most students, or if it is more tailored to students whose learning style matches traditional classroom strategies. The District ought to allocate more money to special education and related services, including staff training, instead of more bricks and mortar.

-- I beg the district and BOE to stop kicking the can down the road regarding FDK.

-- Thei district never seems to have a well thought out long range plan. Less than two years ago you expanded all of the schools and now you are back to us for more money. It nuts and really makes us not trust the district. The schools themselves seem to be in good shape. I have never heard anyone complain about the buildings. Getting rid of the portables is a nice thing to do if you can afford to do it with dollars saved elsewhere but it is not a must have. Cut some spending, eliminate unnecessary programs, save some money and then get rid of the portables if that is the next thing on your priority list.

-- Welcoming environment varies by school. At some schools I would say great, at others fair. Inconsistency across the schools is a concern of mine - from what we teach to the procedures that are followed. Also there is a lack of continuity from the elementary to middle school. I have high praise for the staff that work with my kids. However, the inconsistency from year to year has to make it difficult for planning.

-- District 41 needs to truly start following it's own philosophy and put children at the heart of decisions. So many things we've done lately don't seem best for children. I know children can adapt, but why do they have to? Why cause unnecessary anxiety for a 2nd grader having to change teachers? Is the longer school day really best for kids or helping teachers with plan time? Why can't that plan time be outside of the school day? Teacher specialization - is it best for teachers or children? Shouldn't elementary teachers integrate all

subjects? On the positive side, adopting a math curriculum and literacy resource is step in the right direction for consistency. We have some great teachers in this district. I would just like to see us get back to a traditional elementary education - the one that they teach in colleges still. The one we are experimenting with now doesn't seem to be making a difference.

-- Thank you to all of the teachers and staff working with my children! You do an amazing job! Thank you to the leadership at Ben Franklin this school year. The change in culture at the school this year has been very positive thanks to Mr. Burke [REDACTED] At a district level, I would like to see the elementary schools truly evaluated. What a mess the day is, especially if you have a child that receives special education services. Were these kids taken into account with the schedule/specialization/Spanish/etc??? I feel that my kids have suffered from the lack of planning when implementing and the pulling out the changes - multiage for example.

-- We do not agree with the 1-5 grading system in middle school; the children should be graded by A-F in preparation of high school. Parents have no idea what is meant by a 3 versus 4 versus 5, and we don't bother to really look at such number grades. All the parents I have spoken with say the same. I would like to see more time given to Spanish class from Kindergarten.

-- There seem to be many meetings/informational sessions open for citizens to attend, but they are not always at times that are convenient. There have been many times when we've felt that communication at Forest Glen School is lacking-and when we have tried to address it we have received defensive responses which is not the type of welcoming environment we had hoped for.

-- new resident - children are not school age yet.

-- Without children in the school system, it is difficult to access the areas above. Adding full day kindergarten & improvements to facilities will enhance educational experience. It seems to me that there has been an increase in opportunities for community input in recent years.

-- Our kids are still in preschool

-- Children are not yet in D41 (2018).

## Comments/Suggestions:

-- The relationship among board members seems to have improved lately, more on the same page. I think we're headed in the right direction.

-- From what I have seen, they mostly argue. I would like them to make decisions with less conflict, and listen to each other instead of proving that he/she is right. A lot of changes are made without PROPER research; curriculum changes so frequently- too frequently. How can the data that we collect even be relevant with so many changes happening each year?

-- I feel previous school boards have not been trustful and had poor fiscal management. I think that the current school board is improving in all areas, but it is too soon to have a committed opinion.



-- I have noticed an improvement with the board on the feeling of bringing negativity to the community/creating opposing teams on everything, but still have my guard up.

-- Mrs. Clark and Mr. Buckholtz continue to make a mockery of Glen Ellyn. They behave like bratty, ill-mannered children, and are a horrible representation of our schools and community. They don't care about or listen to the majority of Glen Ellyn residents, they only care about what their group of crabby cronies has to complain about any given week. Mrs. Clark's constant requests for data are exhausting. She IS CONSTANTLY provided with data, yet continues to ask for the exact same thing she's looking at. She wouldn't know "data" if it slapped her in the face. The meetings are difficult to watch.

-- Two members on the board worry me. Bullying comments have decreased since the spring survey came out, but I am concerned about the future.

-- I do not trust that every school board member supports ALL of our students and their needs and understands all that is entailed in providing quality, outstanding education. The school district currently does an amazing job at supporting the needs of all students, but lately it seems many of these wonderful programs are at risk or in jeopardy. In addition, the way in that certain board and community members conduct themselves in public forums is frankly embarrassing. It is ok to disagree and have different ideas. It is ok to debate, discuss and even compromise. It is not ok to bully, demean and disrespect others in a public forum. This is a lesson we begin teaching our youngest students right from the start and yet certain board members have yet to model these same ideals. I am hopeful that just like with our young students, these appropriate skills can be learned.

-- I feel that certain board members are creating a negativity, and I don't understand why.

-- I trust five of the seven Board members, but not the two who were elected during the last election.

-- Board attitudes to get along appear to have improved since the last survey but still have a lot of room to grow to become a TEAM supporting our district and children.

-- Thank you to those members who aren't afraid to let their voices be heard and stand up for our kids!!!!

-- School board, please, listen. You are supposed to be in favor of education. That means, you will WANT programs that enhance education for the children in our boundaries. This sense that no additional money can be spent on education is harmful. Stop creating false dichotomies (as in, we can have full day kindergarten if we cut....). When I marked "disagree" to the item about satisfaction with the board's financial management, that's what I mean. You need to be advocates for stronger programs and supportive of staff, not ONLY looking to save taxpayer money. One of the main reasons our homes are worth a lot of money in this community, is our strong schools. With the narrow focus on saving money and not wanting to try new and innovative ideas, you are setting us back.

-- I don't have much of an opinion because I don't educate myself enough. There appear to be plenty of opportunities to get more information, I just don't have time to attend.

-- I know what is involved in being a school board member. It is a difficult job in the best of times, because you are dealing with the two most important things in the average family's lives - their money and their kids. Current school board is contentious and seriously divided. Most are good members trying to do the job they were elected to do. Some are not up to that

challenge. They have an agenda that isn't helpful to the district and they seem to lack the confidentiality required of the job.

-- Most members of the current school board do not have the communities best interest at hand. They are trying to move their own agenda.

-- Really? No need to try to explain the answers here. I think there may be 2 trustworthy Board members - Stephanie and Kurt, but they are unfortunately in the minority. I have seen too much in my many years of attending meetings and being involved in the manipulative Boards.

-- Please note my negative comments regarding the school board are only a reflection of Nelson and her cronies. Clark and Buccholz are a great asset to the board and truly care about the students and taxpayers. They are trying to ask the questions that need to be asked and hold the superintendent responsible for his actions, WHICH IS THEIR JOB!

-- Work together. Some board members (whether meaning to deliberately or not) display a posture of disrespect and arrogance. Work together for the students.

-- I couldn't care less what image the board presents. I care about the quality of their work.

-- More communication would be welcome. Email, snail mail or instructions on how to better understand what the District/Superintendent is doing.

-- LOWER OUR TAXES!

-- Get rid of the overpacked schools and pods and I will strongly agree with our district being successful.

-- My responses to the statements regarding the School Board are a result of some members, not the entire board. I did not feel comfortable selecting agree or strongly agree when it does not apply to the entire board.

-- I understand there is an audit of the special education services in the district due to antiquated methodology and a refusal to offer these children the services they need and deserve. This is beyond shameful for such an affluent district. Although my children are not impacted to a great degree, I think it is awful. I am also concerned about the need to for a referendum to take care of general building depreciation - this tells me the budget is not being managed properly.

-- The elected school board appears and I have heard throughout the community that they are not moving forward together in a positive manner and some of the antics are increasing costs in unnecessary areas (past matters, etc)

-- I trust and have confidence in some members of the School Board, but not all. There appears to be a power struggle among members.

-- There are some Board members that are overly politicized and critical of the District in public forums. Their criticisms need to be addressed more appropriately and constructively.

-- I trusted the progressive school board of years past. The new board members are combative, unprofessional, at times rude, and seem unconcerned with education quality as opposed to cutting budgets. For a wealthy community like Glen Ellyn we should be leading the state in education and innovation, not backtracking to save \$\$.

- The school board, aside from Stephanie Clark and Kurt Bucholz, is dysfunctional and ignores the will of the people it was elected to serve.
- A school board divided does not present a positive picture. It seems one board member has a specific agenda. It does not seem productive to spend multiple years on a board with only one major objective in mind.
- I trust a couple of the newer school board members who are transparent and communicate well. I do not trust the longer term school board members who seem to be pushing their own agenda and do not have kids actually in the d41 schools to see the direct impact.
- I haven been so disappointed in the school board since addition of Stephanie Clark and Kurt Bucholz. These two have been incredibly negative and have made me terrified of what our future could be. They want to take us backwards, and they shouldn't be commenting on a public forum as representatives of the district.
- The School Board is making good progress toward being collaborative around a number of important issues. We have passionate board members who are dedicating countless hours to advocate for our students and families. I appreciate their contributions and recognize that all members will not always be in agreement.
- The new math program is a lot of busy work and don't see the value in it.
- I can't answer these things, only been in district for a couple months. I know that the special needs area is weakly represented and I'm disheartened by what other parents are saying.
- School board members have the best of intentions. However, few members have sufficient specialized background or knowledge to independently evaluate curriculum changes, special education services, and administrative hiring decisions.
- The FOIA/Cooper/Email thing hurt. Don't carry water for GEAA. But I have to say that the attempt to keep [REDACTED] from performing his VP duties was disgusting. I lost a lot of respect for the Board. And I would never trust legal counsel's judgement ever again. Board Policy was clear. Illinois statute was clear. It was frankly really sad.
- I do not see the School Board providing oversight to Administration. I do not see Administration listening to the School Board. I do not know how dynamics got this way and if it is characteristic of School Board-Administration relations. If the School Board could affect the Administration, the community would be happier. I
- Oldes son in in Kindergarten...not enough experience to answer accurately.
- We are too new to the district to know.
- The cost for full day kindergarten only seems to include the facilities cost. It fails to recognize that more staff would be needed, which will drive up costs.
- I strongly approved of the direction the board had taken up until 2015, when two new board members (Clark/Buchholz) started an incredibly negative, disruptive campaign to move the district backwards. These new board members have created a dysfunctional climate where it will be difficult to attract and even maintain the high level of talent that has made this district so successful. I also don't trust that Mr. Buccholz, [REDACTED]

██████████ is in a position to make unbiased decisions for the district. Mr. Buccholz has an indisputable conflict of interest and should step down immediately.

-- Hear negative things about special education

-- Total transparency is what we needed to prove this board is a joke! Would be nice if someone held these ██████████ responsible.

-- Very disappointed that when the portables were eliminated the board was not thinking long term. Should have listened to members of the community and the one board member, ██████████ about those additions so they could have added a second floor. In my opinion, I feel that some of the board members are only worried about pleasing the superintendent and not looking out for the best interest of the kids or the tax payers.

-- We should have full day kindergarten and it should be done asap - not in 5 years.

-- Board members have made threatening statements on social media to community members.

-- The switch to a new bus company at the lowest bid was a disaster

-- As residents paying for the schools, it would be nice to have our towns two school districts collapsed into one for efficiency and fairness sake. It would also be very nice to see a School Board exhibit leadership and fiscal responsibility by eliminating our reliance upon debt and referendums for more debt. Why can't this District simply create an operating budget that allows its tax revenue to pay for current operations and a reserve that is used to fund projects.

-- Implementing Multi Age Classrooms was a debacle.

-- Not sure about the current issue of releasing emails and its impact on the school board image

-- It is not that I don't trust the entire school board but that there are a few members that I don't feel act professionally during some of the meetings I have attended. It's disappointing to see people making decisions about our children's education acting like children themselves. It doesn't give the feeling that the board is working together for sake of our children's education. Instead it seems like egos fighting each other.

-- There is way too much infighting and questioning of everything by certain members of the school board. The bickering is very immature. This is a wonderful school district!!!! I hate the blaming of prior school boards and administrations. Please tell them to be professional to one another and be positive as they work towards future goals.

-- Didn't like the bait and switch on the last capital improvements to get rid of the trailers. Ask taxpayers through a referendum before undertaking a big spend. I know too many people leaving Glen Ellyn because of the tax burden and at some point I may have to be one of them.

-- Up to 5 months ago (not sure currently)...a few "select" board and community members have their own axes to grind. I am insulted that they claim to represent me and other taxpayers. They don't. I have witnessed first hand the high quality instruction in the district. Board members with perennial "chips on their shoulders" are disturbing to me as a long-term community member. Their behaviors smack of the highly dysfunctional political environment

in our country. Get on with the business of serving our children! Get the adult agendas off the table! The teachers in this district and the administration deserve to be questioned, yet they also deserve to be recognized for their dedication to children. They are NOT politicians! Resolving this issue is what you OWE this community.

-- The school board is not united and it is obvious. There are some members of the school board that support students and teachers, however, there are 2 board members that do not have student learning a priority. These 2 board members (one male, one female, although I will not name them), have personal agendas and refuse to work with the other board members and superintendent. I am thankful for the board president who, I feel, is trying her best to keep the board moving in a consensus-building way. Thank you to the board members that are volunteering their time to ensure high standards and fully funded actions and priorities for the children of D41. Please, board members: work together and keep students the priority.

-- There is too much infighting on the board. Our taxes are too high as it is, but these proposed changes are needed- someone needs to stop the fiscal spending in other areas.

-- Thank goodness for Clark and Buchholz. They are not in the majority, which is why I answered that the school board does not present a positive image. Erica Nelson, [REDACTED] (Willie Defabio) Joe Bochenski, and Patric Escalante have fought the two of them at every turn. They are the reason that I have a negative image of the board. Erica has fought them having access to information to do their job. That is obstructionism and we should not tolerate that in our community. Erica Nelson is the principal reason that I do not trust the school board.

-- We just moved here in the summer and we have young children who are not yet school ages, so we cannot answer the above questions.

-- To long to implement full day kindergarten. At this point my kids will be out and I will not care about the issue.

-- We are new to the area and would appreciate more frequent updates on school-related items, including full day kindergarten issues

-- You should start buying the homeless around Churchill to provide a larger parking lot and possibly a second option for early childhood development center the rec center on Main Street in Glen Ellyn can be utilized as a school once again

-- There are two members of our school board recently elected whom I do not agree with on many issues and I find it hard to support their ideas and arguments.

-- It would be nice if they would let staff do their jobs. No one on the board is an education expert and the opinion of a small sampling of the teachers does not make one an expert. The relationship of the board is getting better, but it would be nice to see them treat each other with respect. The bullying has seemed to stop, but it is VERY apparent by what I see online- the body language says differently. It would also be nice to have all seven members actually contribute to the conversation individually on all topics. You still have 5 more months of serving the board.

-- Kurt and Stephanie are divisive and do not listen to common sense and reason. I will vote strongly against them in any future election. They are making us all look like fools. The focus needs to be on building a great culture for our teachers to teach in and supporting our children not fighting over holiday break schedules and other nonsense.

-- I understand there is a fair amount of discord among the Board members. I would hope that the fact new members were elected based on concerns over past spending would cause the whole board to rethink past assumptions about all stakeholders' priorities.

-- New to the area, so can't comment on this yet.

-- Certain School Board Members conduct themselves very professionally while others do not on social media and at school board meetings.

-- #3 is a hard question to answer. I trust most of the BOE members. I do not support the newer member's lack of professionalism and conduct at the meetings and on social media. The board is not united currently. I would like to see the members be more respectful not only each other but to administrators and teachers of this district.

-- The only people I trust on the school board are Kurt and Stephanie. Kurt and Stephanie are trying to do what many people want to make our District successful but the rest of the board does not listen to the parents who actually have children in the schools and are touched by all the screw ups they have managed to make.

-- The multi tiered project was a disaster. We knew this years ago and they continued to push for it. Now it is rescinded. My 5th grader was impacted by this terrible decision. I had to get outside tutoring because she learned very little this year.

-- The board does not demand enough of the administration.

-- Inform the board of what their role is. I truly don't think most of them understand what they are supposed to be doing. Can we stop looking backward 5, 10, 20 years? Does anyone on the board have a plan or is it just better to tell the other guy why he's wrong? Better yet, let's blame the current administrators for the mistakes of the past. The board members are stewards of our children's education and I think they need to be reminded of that. Let the administrators and principals deal with the day-to-day issues. The board is a bit of an embarrassment to the community. Too much time spent on nonsensical issues and there is a total lack of leadership. No meeting should last as long as the board meetings regularly last.

-- Liberal spenders (I bet entire school board votes democrat) have got to be stopped. Live with what you receive not and prioritize like a business or household has to do.

-- The school board strikes me as contentious and without good boundaries. I do not trust several current members to behave appropriately and/or keep confidential information.

-- At times I feel personal agendas are negatively influencing board decisions. There seems to be a lack of collaboration among board members for the good of the school community.

-- There are only 2 board members who truly represent the community and ultimately the students. They constantly ask for accountability and question the decisions made by the other board members and the administration, yet they are repeatedly voted against and therefore cannot accomplish the true goals of the community. Thank You!!! Clark and Buchholz for your tireless efforts to hold the BOE accountable for the decisions that affect the students on a daily basis!!

-- Conflict helps groups make better decisions, but the current board seems too divisive.

-- My children are not yet school age, so it's difficult to answer this question.

- I don't trust the board, I don't think some of them have our kids in mind when making decisions. Looks like the personal agenda of those members, is more important than the community goals. Very political.
- conduct at board meetings is too negative, even slanderous at times We need to have a standard of conduct to which we hold the board and those attending to meeting accountable The board is starting to remind me of congress and the divisiveness in the national political scene
- See prior comment.
- We just moved to Glen Ellyn, so some of the responses are difficult to determine at this point.
- The new school board members (Bucholz and Clark) foster a negative and distrustful atmosphere in the school district
- Once Erica Nelson leaves, we are all in trouble. The Board will be comprised of voices that are on the far right of all topics.
- Transparency has been a huge problem for the school board. So-called looping and co-learning were implemented with very little knowledge or input from average citizens. Our children have been guinea pigs for the district to try different teaching philosophies, and our kids have had very little consistency. Ben Franklin has undergone a massive addition project, yet the facilities still aren't adequate for our needs. We have a stage, but it cannot be used for its intended purpose b/c it's used for storage right now. We couldn't accommodate a full day kindergarten or an additional classroom should the population go up.
- I commend all the school board members, especially Erica Nelson, Stephanie Clark and Kurt B for their ongoing commitment to listen to community members and school/parent leaders. The need for change but overall district consistency should be held and worked together as one.
- Not enough public information available
- The squabbling on the board and the "always a no" faction is a problem. It erodes the confidence we have in the district that all perspectives are being considered and the decisions are made based on what is best for the community and not on a hard line political philosophy.
- School Board members represent the whole community. They need to work together to meet goals and objectives.
- I do not believe that the current school board in its current make-up can responsibly manage the funds it receives. Clearly more planning was necessary in the last round of construction given the need for more space even before they were completed, but that planning was not completed. There was a rush to take available funds and spend them. That is extremely disappointing.
- I believe the BOE does an excellent job in most areas. While noble on the surface, the excessive micromanaging of the administration from a minority faction seems to mostly serve egos and not do much to improve the student experience.

- This is our first year in the district so not too sure yet.
- I have a great deal of distrust for one new member of the board. She does not have the children's best interest at heart in sharp contrast with the other board members. She has created a split within our community resulting in a very volatile environment concerning our schools. This has been a distraction from (and has stood in the way of) really great staff, teachers and administrators who are looking out for our children every step of the way.
- Since I am new to the community I cannot honestly answer these questions with out doing my own research.
- Just moved end of May 2016 so no opportunity to have an opinion on many of these.
- The board members need to remember that they where elected by the tax payers not the superintendent. They should be working for the best interest of the students and tax payers NOT the administrations.
- New to the community. Not at a decision point yet.
- I would like to be confident that the school board is doing what is right for the students and families...not sure I can do that.
- Erica Nelson continues to be a level headed forward thinking member of a board that, quite frankly, appears to want to digress contentiously as opposed to progress unified.
- School board members personal agendas often do not represent the voice of the majority. A public school will have a wide range of satisfaction amongst its taxpayers; however, we have school board members who speak only on behalf of a small percentage of unhappy tax payers. Their communication style and closed-mindedness is embarrassing. Their eye-rolling and unhappy non-verbal behavior is distracting and childish at board meetings. It's okay to disagree and have opposing opinions, but you are tasked with working together for the best of our students.
- Honestly, I think prior boards absolutely botched it on the facilities expansion issue. The one person I trust there now is Erica Nelson. I think she was instrumental in getting the elementary expansions done last year (thank god, finally) but I do not have the same confidence in the current board's commitment to finishing the job.
- There is too much personal issues on the board. It seems arguments take place because of spite. It is sad to see
- They're could do a better job at having a positive image in our community.
- two of our board members are a disgrace: buccholz and clark. The others members have been and still are outstanding representatives.
- I do not agree with how buildings and grounds is being operated. Why do we all have new paper towel dispensers? Was that really a NEED? [REDACTED] such a poor job making the dispensers almost unusable in many of the classrooms because of their placement. Also, there is very little communication from buildings and grounds when it comes to our classrooms. I am sure things need to be done a certain way, but for goodness sake, please come forward...visit the buildings...and tell us what you need/want. We all get the same message then.



- I need to learn more re the school board
- There are some board members who have significantly impacted the entire board and district with their continuous ridicule and negativity. Shame on them.
- The district absolutely needs to offer full day kindergarten as soon as possible.
- I have never been to a school board meeting. I hear mixed messages in the community about the school board.
- I am new in the district and am not familiar with the School Board, nor am informed on what the Superintendent has done so far.
- I selected Not sure since I'm not truly educated in the details of how the board is managing in detail and also to how we compare against other communities? Do we spend more, do we spend less and how do we measure if we are efficient with the dollars we spend?
- I am newer to the District 41 community and don't know a great deal about the school board.
- The school board members must remember that it is not their money to spend on whatever they find new and exciting.
- Overall I find that the school board in the past 5 years has been very condescending of the communities perspective if it does not agree with their own agenda. Our experience in grade school has been a roller coaster of curriculum changes; from 4 different math platforms, looping, multi-age and various other approaches. This constant change is not productive and is chaotic to our youngest learners who need consistency but there seems to be a general lack of concern with how that is affecting our children. All of that said, the two exceptions to that are Kurt Buchholz and Stephanie Clark, both since joining the board have forced some tough conversations, asked questions regarding decisions and questioned what is best for our children. While their decisions may not always align with the majority they are willing to challenge the group and are open to honest and candid feedback.
- There does not seem to be respect between board members, staff and the community. After attending a board meeting and streaming some meetings online, I was surprised to see the toxic and disrespectful interaction between members and staff. I expect more from elected leaders.
- The only two on the school board who listen to the community and are fiscally conservative are Stephanie Clark and Kurt Buchholz. Erica Nelson is a disaster who needs to go. [REDACTED] is laughing all the way to the bank.
- It would be nice to receive a decrease in property taxes, instead of paying off the debt and then increasing it over what we are already paying.
- Replace entire school board.
- Past decisions weren't thought -short sighted !
- I observed a board meeting without any prior background knowledge of the board and/or superintendent. I left feeling very uncomfortable. I felt the School Board spent the majority of the meeting arguing with the superintendent rather than working together as a team to do

what is in the best interest of all students. I felt board members have their own personal interests in mind rather than the district as a whole. Board members spent more time discussing finances, teachers salaries, etc. (dollar for dollar), than what's best for students and how each dollar cut will impact students/programming. I would like to see the school board work together with the superintendent professionally and respectfully, and focus more on solutions than the problems.

-- I understand that the School Board has various views and opinions. I also understand that this is a volunteer position with no thanks, so I am grateful for their efforts.

-- Unfamiliar with the School Board's actions sufficient enough to assess beyond this.

-- I don't believe that the School Board is "entrust worthy" but the disagreement and lack of common ground is unsustainable. Individually the members are good people however collectively the conflict is unwelcoming to the community.

-- It's been a rough patch from prior years.

-- I've seen some comments on facebook from board members that are juvenile.

-- Stop giving superintendents such ridiculously high salaries consolidate until dist 89 Sewe on administration cost.

-- The board meetings I attended did not help me understand what the board is doing to advance educational services for our community. there seems to be two groups of board members and one just wants to point out what's wrong without offering any options or solutions. Some board members do not seem to be interested in the well being of the district but advance their own agendas

-- Believe 2 new members have helped!

-- Buchholz and Clark are not team players given their constant passive aggressive questioning of the administration and other board members.

-- I just moved to Glen Ellyn. I'm not really familiar with the School Board yet.

-- From the chatter I see on Facebook and hear among the community, there seems to be a lot of infighting within the School Board. This gives me a negative impression of their ability to successfully make informed and smart decisions.

-- I feel like the school board has an agenda that focuses on a small segment of the population - particularly 1-2 people. I also feel that they are not very progressive or willing to try new thing and give changes enough time to actually be successful.

-- Haven't really experienced it yet.

-- I don't attend meetings or know that much so I'm not qualified to say.

-- I've been gone for the last year -- though in the district now and prior to this, but I am not as up to date as I would want to be to answer this thoughtfully.

-- We need full day kindergarten ! D4 is behind the times here !

-- Some of the Board members are outstanding and positively represent us. The two

individuals elected in the spring of 2015, are unhealthy in their approach to their role. They are not modeling good civic behavior.

-- There is one Board member that I have seen walking through the buildings quite regularly. This is very much appreciated!!! I believe it is very important for Board members to be a part of the school environment as much as possible to make good decisions for all students, staff and community members.

-- I think the election of the two new board members has brought productivity and a sense of balance to discussions.

-- Pension reform is the only way to address long-term fiscal solvency - I don't think the school board touches this though

-- As with most community boards. I feel people get on the board to advance their own agenda, and that seems to be the case here as well.

-- Not sure why full day kindergarten was not addressed a few years ago when the 4 additional classrooms were added.

-- Back to basics. Stop experimenting with our children. Provide reading, writing and arithmetic. Abandon new initiatives unless there is solid evidence that proves the initiative has value. Example PBL! Full Day Kindergarten!

-- Since the last election, the school board discussions have improved. I was encouraged when 2 new board members were sworn in. They ask more questions and spur lots of discussion. Now, unlike before, school board members state their opinions in the public meeting. Kurt and Stephanie are very interested in the details and proof of the administration's claims/proposals; unfortunately D41 administration is not and seldom will not provide what is requested. In general, the other school board members seem to have a motto "go along to get along" and really don't display any of the critical thinking skills that D41 encourages for our kids. Let me name 2 D41 administrators who don't display a positive image to our community: Katie McCluskey and Michelle Gallo. And it is becoming apparent that Dr. Gordon doesn't deliver the high academic excellence and standards that other D41 generations received. He does work for the taxpayer and should answer to us, not just to the board president. See my comments above relating to financial management.

-- I trust certain members of the school board. Clark and Buccholz have an agenda that only caters to their own personal opinion, 'or the good of the district. They still have not learned to be professional, fair board members.

-- The School Board seems divided on some major issues.

-- Special education not up to par. Are they aware of IEP compliance issues ?

-- The school board needs to be more respectful to one another + cooperate to meet the needs of students + not to push their own agendas.

-- Kurt Buchholz has been extremely unprofessional and a bully on the District 41 Parents Facebook page. I have been embarrassed for him and the school board on multiple occasions. He should be providing answers to questions and providing information in a professional manner, not arguing with people on a public forum. As an elected official he should be reprimanded for his actions and put on some sort of probation.

- The current board has become less professional. Meetings are chaotic and ineffective !
- Two of the school board members are disappointingly uncivil. I hope to attend more school board meetings to observe further.
- Room for improvement for our districts success and more responsible financial management.
- It's a disgrace to see the behavior of a few of the members.
- I don't follow the School Board closely enough to be able to give a more precise answer to this.
- Very disappointed in the negative attitudes and comments made by at least 2 of the board members about the dual language program at Churchill, as I find them closed-minded and narrow. I've heard one say [REDACTED] didn't need a dual language program to learn Spanish. I find this ignorant to a world view, the many positive benefits of a dual program and very personally biased. I expect the Board to not let their personal bias enter into decisions of what is good for the community as a whole. Our family and many other families in the community find the dual language program to be the best learning experience to be offered by our district. Friends from other districts are envious that we have such an incredible dual language program. Unfortunately, although I have seen the Board implement positive initiatives for our community, this bias creates some distrust as to whether other issues are tainted by the board members personal prejudice and bias. Thank you.
- Some school board members use social media and other outlets to bully community members and ridicule minority opinions. I am personally embarrassed with what I see from school board members on the D41 parents facebook page. Many comments from Kurt Bucholtz are shameful and it certainly taints the entire board.
- The majority of the school board is doing an excellent job. The "Tea Party" members have been disruptive and do not have the needs of our students in mind.
- Haven't seen much communication from the School Board.
- It seemed the removing portable classrooms at elementary school would have been a good time to expand for full day kindergarten. Seems a bit short sighted to add to these buildings again.
- Submitting options for full-day kindergarten that only include roughly \$30 million projects makes me feel angry about the way our tax dollars are being represented.
- I think there are some people on the school board who have an agenda that is not always in line with a majority of the taxpayers.
- I am highly concerned that finances aren't being managed well by the school board. This is disturbing and needs more oversight. I think that the school board majority devotes too much TRUST in the administration and they bristle when Stephanie Clark and Kurt Buchholz ask questions and want to review supporting documents. I trust that Stephanie and Kurt will ask the hard questions and I watch many of the other board members avoid discussion, or start odd attacks (or roll their eyes) towards a differing point of view. To the board, I say "grow up and be independent thinking adults. Come to the board meetings with ideas and thoughts on the agenda topics. Be prepared to discuss and be open minded to others who disagree with you. Leave your egos at the door and come represent the taxpayers

and parents. Good solutions can be implemented after robust discussion and debate."

-- Did anyone ever research exactly why the Superintendent you hired left Colorado? Their own STATE school board determined that ineffective teaching was the reason the students we unsuccessful (not the opposite)...And who was the Chief? Research people

-- Too much time is devoted to the concerns of two board members who typically oppose board or district initiatives. The focus of the board needs to be on how to provide the best possible education for our students, not quibbling about the details. I am very concerned about the upcoming board elections and how new board members could completely undermine the work of the district and the administration/staff and have a negative impact on our schools.

-- Disagreements are good for any governing body, but it is my perception that some members of the school board are not disagreeing in a productive manner. Finding ways to work together to find common ground across the board is important.

-- Currently there are two BOE members that I do NOT trust (Clark and Bucholz). The other members have our students and our financial interests at heart- Clark and Bucholz seem to only want to turn back the clock and step back in time, leaving our students well behind their peers from similar districts. The attitude displayed at meetings is appalling and embarrassing

-- Board meeting are very hard to watch, primarily due to the conduct of Stephanie Clark and Kurt Buchholz. All of their questions and statements seem to be thinly veiled attempts to discredit and embarrass the school administration, and they ignore and twist data to support their personal agendas. I wish they would start serving the community.

-- Kurt Buchholz is the main reason for a negative image to the community. In board meetings, he berates and insults the other board members, district employees, and even members of the public who are making comments. His behavior is unprofessional and unacceptable. Stephanie Clark and Kurt Buchholz don't seem to understand their roles as board members. They want to manage the operations of school district and control the curriculum and how it is delivered to students, despite the fact that neither have any expertise in education. They consistently try to overstep the boundaries of their responsibilities. I am very concerned that they will take our district backwards to the detriment of our students, particularly if they are successful in taking over the board once their friends run for the next election.

-- My children are long out of District 41, so I do not follow the District news as closely as I should

-- trips to Colorado for what? waste of money

-- Where is the transparency? Have you had an outside public auditor and/or an outside independent consultant look for options. In business, we bring in KPMG or McKinnsey and the results are not to raise our prices or taxes.

-- Overall the school board is working very hard and is a positive force for our District. There are a couple of members, however, who are not serving the interests of the children or the community by making it difficult for the board to do its job.

-- I do appreciate this survey, but I am concerned about financial management. To be fair, I don't have a lot of visibility to the school board.

-- The lack of civility on the board by some members is appalling. I feel they are trying to micro manage the district.

-- A majority of board members have the best interests of the district and the students in mind and are working to make our district the best ever. There are two members who have been obstructionist and have impeded the ability of the board to conduct its business and improve the educational experience of our children.

-- The Board President needs to step down.

-- The school board should have addressed full-day kindergarten earlier than this. I feel that it should have been implemented when they were also reducing the portables at the elementary school. Parents were asking for this years ago and it seems like poor planning.

-- In a recent survey, it was clear a majority of the D41 employees were extremely concerned about the intentions (and behavior) of the new board members. The level of trust for the decisions these new members might make was extremely low. The new board members tossed that criticism aside, claiming the overwhelming distaste for the new members stemmed only from their potential control of future negotiations. My distaste for the new board members and the clientele they have brought into the board room with them has nothing to do with my salary! In fact, it was never a consideration in my responses. Instead my mistrust has everything to do with bullying, marginalizing, inciting trouble, and bringing the highest level of negativity into the district I have witnessed in my 28 years as a resident of Glen Ellyn. I am in total support of watch-dog groups; I believe it is important to trim expenses whenever it is a sound decision without impacting the educational program, hold all of us accountable, and call attention to wasteful spending if/where it exists. But the new board members and their cronies attack without foundation, turn the smallest oversights into the largest of false conspiracies, provoke further and unnecessary dissension within the community, and then bully, bully, bully teachers, administrators, and others who may disagree into stunned silence. Until we bystanders formally, publicly, and vehemently take a stance against the negativity seeping into our district's board room and the tactics this group uses, we are going to suffer, our children are going to suffer, and our home values are going to suffer.

-- Frustrated with the previous board and decisions that were made. Optimistic about changes to the board in most recent school board election.

-- Why do you care what image the school board presents to the community? That's not their job. Their job is the opposite: to represent the community to the administration. If they do that well, then people will be happy and the 'image' is taken care of, automatically. re: financial management: I am not satisfied because you are still pushing mega millions in new spending. At least we finally have 2 board members now that are listening and being conscientious about the spending.

-- I appreciate Kurt and Stephanie asking the hard questions and wanting more information. To date I don't know if D41 has been thriving under all recent changes (multi-age, specialization etc). I think Stephanie has been analyzing data critically and I would like to see the analyses be made even if it doesn't show D41 in good light.

-- Mrs. Clark and Mr. Buckholtz seem to be an odd with the rest of the Board most of the time. They don't seem to want find a balance between their stance and listening to the other members. They get too far into the details of teachers and principals running the schools. Can't the board just manage the admin and the finances and let the programs continue to

work. Board perceptions amongst my friends seems to have improved, but the disrespectful communication still persist.

-- To reiterate my comments above, I'm not super confident in the curriculum and day structure of the elementary schools, and I haven't heard much - any - discussion about these issues.

-- I don't trust the financial management because my taxes keep going up while the quality of the education keeps going down. That is failure, period.

-- No Comentarios.

-- I trust some of the board to do their jobs. A couple of board members seem to want to do everybody else's job. As a group they don't work together, some are rude to others (and to staff).

-- I appologize, but I have not really paid attention to what the school board has done for the district. I do assume they are doing everything well, because I have not heard otherwise. If they were not doing well for the district, the community would be talking. I appreciate all of the time, energy and effort the SB gives for free out of their own lives.

-- One school board member does not present a positive image to our community.

-- Ms. Clark lacks candor with many of her comments. Her actions are most often insincere about our students. I can only imagine what Dr. Gordon and his staff have to deal with outside the board meetings. This must take away from their work to make our students successful. Her lobbying behind the scenes by influencing other parents to complain is deceitful. Her comments on the Forum creates much distrust toward her.

-- I question some of the board's financial decisions.

-- I am not sure if this is the same board but one of the most troubling ideas was to move Hadley. I and many of my friends were confused by this decision because we could not think of one positive reason for that move.

-- I feel that Stephanie Clark has been a positive addition to the school board and value her questions and opinions on school board issues.

-- Relatively new to the area with no kids in the district, so I don't have an opinion on the these questions.

-- My other major concern is the lack of focus on the health/wellness of our students & staff in this district. The students Physical Education time has decreased. This is a mistake. The students lunch time has also decreased. They are rushed to consume their food & don't have enough time to finish. Even more appalling is the food offered for purchase. At Hadley for example, in A La Carte, they sell Cheetos, Doritos & "fake" ice cream options. These items contain harmful ingredients proven to be linked to cancer, hyper activity & headaches. I have made recommendations to the District but unfortunately, they weren't implemented. I was even told that "they were revenue producing products & healthier options wouldn't sell"! Appalling! I also have great concern for the cleaning products permitted in our facilities. I have actually read the ingredients & they are highly toxic. In a district where we offer higher academic achievement, I can't believe we aren't leaders in providing a "greener" healthier environment for staff & students. We need to revamp our catering program & omit toxic products in our schools. The students & staff our inhaling these toxic ingredients for

hours all day. Please district 41, be a leader & revamp these areas of concern.

-- The addition of Clark and Buchholz has provided a much-needed voice of reason to the rose-colored glasses that the District has been wearing for far too long. Change can be tough to swallow, but these two have successfully challenged the status quo in the administration and board policies. The rest of the board would do well to follow their lead.

-- I am trusting the School Board more now with the new members elected.

-- I believe the School Board should be more careful with spending on miscellaneous items purchased for school. Even though these items may be each smaller expenses, cumulatively, over time, they add up. There needs to be more a culture of questioning by personnel; ie is this item really necessary, etc. Households must adhere to personal budgets. Careful spending will lend more respect to School Board members and trust by the community when the requests for Referendums are presented.

-- I put not sure on the last two questions because I am encouraged by the work that Clark and Buchholz are doing but I do not trust the rest of the board. I don't believe the other 5 members of the school board do anything to make the district successful. I am not sure if [REDACTED] is still on the board but he is/was the worst. Erica Nelson is self serving and does not represent the taxpayer but rather represents the interests of the admin.

-- The school board does not seem fiscally responsible or thoughtful regarding long term decisions. The space issue should not be an issue after adding rooms a year ago. If FDK is truly a need, what programs are the BOE willing to cut to fund it? Or perhaps instead of buying new curriculum every few years, they could use some of that money. Those that bring up questions on the board are not shown appropriate respect. Erica Nelson is a bully and she is not open to any thoughts beyond her own.

-- There is too much emphasis on the latest educational trends, e.g., "21st century learning". There are no "21st century kids". Kids still develop at different rates, both intellectually and in emotional maturity. For example, the board that implemented multi-age classrooms, block instruction (Math-science & humanities-english), and bi-lingual education all at time was gratifying their own egos.

-- I trust two members of the school board: Clark and Buchholz. The rest rubber stamp anything that administration wants. And, the administration wants to build their resume and are not inclined to do work in the best interest of this community. Clark and Buchholz challenge the status quo and care about our community.

-- I do not believe the BOE provides a positive image of our district. Attending, listening to and watching the BOE meetings is painful, as I feel like they was trying harder to prove they are right versus truly wanting what is best for the students. Personally, I also do not believe that our BOE should be commenting on topics on social media as individuals.

-- Historically the administration runs ramshod over the school board. In the past five or so years there has finally been a few school board members who stand up to and or challenge the direction of the administration and its poor spending habits. On the current school board there are only two members and occasionally a third member who seem like they represent the majority of the taxpayers in the town. I applaud those two for standing up for us. The schools have done fine. We have always had good schools so throwing money at a non problem is again irresponsible.

-- SOME board members seem to be more interested in causing conflict than in genuinely



serving the needs of the schools. My fear is that their disrespectful attitude toward the administration and staff will result in outstanding educators leaving our community to find a less hostile working environment.

-- I answered "not sure" on several of the School Board questions because I can't say that I agree to these statements for all board members. I would agree with those statements for Kurt Buchholz and Stephanie Clark as I trust them and I believe that they are doing what it takes to make our district successful. They are the only board members who I feel are truly representing me and my kids. Some of the other board members (Erica Nelson in particular) seem more concerned about representing the administration, not the community. I would say that the board seems to be more positive and working together better since [REDACTED] I don't trust Joe Bochenski as he seems to have an issue with women in general with how he addresses his fellow female board members. Patrick Escalante seems very engaged in financial matters, but doesn't seem to care about any other board business and appears totally disengaged at board meetings.

-- Thank you to Stephanie Clark and Kurt Buchholz for finally giving me a voice on the school board! I think the board is headed in a good direction and working together well. It took a little time, but I think there is good discussion and decision making. You need many viewpoints to make the best decisions. Stephanie and Kurt are tempering the voices on the board who seem to only care about advocating for the administration.

-- I would remind the board that differing opinions aren't bad. I'm happy to actually see discussion since Buchholz and Clark joined the board. We don't always have to agree, but we do have to come up with the best decision. Differing voices will get us there. I don't trust all of my board members, hence my answers.

-- School board members must demonstrate cooperative behavior. School board members should be ethical in their approach to their work. Yes, they work for the community tax payers, but their first obligation is to educating our community of students.

-- We pay extraordinary fees in Glen Ellyn. It is unfortunate that there are so many fees added on in each grade at their schools.

-- With the exception of two Board members, the Board seems to be respectful of their fellow Board members and of Administrators & other staff members. These two members seem to react negatively to many of the Administration's initiatives. Other members of the Board are respectful and seem strongly committed to working together to provide high quality education for our students.

-- I don't feel the same way about all school board members so my answer is not the same overall. I trust Kurt Buchholz and Stephanie Clark. I do not have the same level of trust with other board members. Willie DiFabio told the community he didn't plan to run for the board and now I find out he is. Seems deceitful to me. Not a good way to build trust with the other board members. I'm happy the board starting to seriously look at the budget with a five year plan. Improving on fiscal responsibility.

-- Our kids are still in preschool

## Comments/Suggestions:

-- I don't trust him for a second. It is clear he does not communicate with transparency. He wants to pass his own agenda regardless of what teachers or parents say. He does not take the time to see the effects of changes that are made before changing something else. Blended grades, mandatory PBLs, teacher specialization, and Spanish were all things that were added in one year. This model goes against scientific process and stresses everyone out unnecessarily. Superintendent wants to be put on the educational map for being innovative without really knowing what that means. The listening sessions are a joke- the second you say something that he doesn't like, he cuts you off and gets defensive. I have never had an encounter with him where he did not cut me off. It is rude, unprofessional, and counterproductive. Look at all of the requirements that he pushed so hard that now because they have failed, he has backed off. If he had listened to his teachers to begin with, we could have saved a lot of time, energy, money, and stress. Not to mention wasting students time and creating unnecessary stress/ anxiety for students.

-- I believe the superintendent has his own agenda of creating what HE thinks is a great school district. He works toward completing initiatives that he supports, but not what staff supports (ie. PBL's). His demeanor at meetings is not professional and he acts like he is everyone's best friend, but yet doesn't know most of his staff members' names and/or positions.

-- I feel the Superintendent supports the diverse educational needs of all of our students, as well as supports the needs of teachers, principals and staff to help ensure all of our students receive the best possible education.

-- Now in his fourth year in D41...Paul Gordon has proven himself to be an honest and sincere leader. He has worked hard to make D41 great. I admire him and am proud to have him as our superintendent.

-- Our superintendent has excellent energy and great ideas. I do want him to stand up more to the negativity that some board members create. Do not let incorrect statements about our staff or programs go unanswered.

-- I believe that Dr. Gordon is an excellent, positive force for public education in Glen Ellyn.

-- I haven't trusted one superintendent starting with Pi. None earned the respect and trust from this community member. Too much time spent on trying to convince the community to arrive at the pre-determined answer.

-- See comment above

-- The super is unqualified to do the job and is doing what it takes to pad his resume.

-- More communication would be welcome. Email, snail mail or instructions on how to better understand what the District/Superintendent is doing.

-- LOWER OUT TAXES!

-- I see the effort with this survey! Thank you!

-- See my comments on special education. I have friends with students needing these services and the superintendent's attitude and lack of action is appalling. I expect a leader in such an affluent community to be a visionary and to be adopting and promoting cutting edge

educational tools and ideals. I have been here a short time and I am yet to see anything extraordinary to merit the taxes we are paying. We are considering a move to Naperville where the schools are stellar and everything is truly for the benefit of the students and not what looks good on paper.

-- I think our superintendent is trying, but I don't think he is capable.

-- The Assistant Superintendent Karen Carlson helped our son tremendously - I would like to give special kudos to her.

-- I am disappointed at the cancelation of the mixed grade program. I think it was simply appeasing the 'squeaky wheel' by misrepresenting the survey results. I also think the Superintendent has a very difficult job dealing with a dysfunctional school board and is doing the best he can with an awful situation.

-- Dr. Gordon's arrogance on insisting on building a new structure - despite a task force that eliminated that option - shows how out of touch he is with the families in our district.

-- I feel like the students and community have very little access or information from the superintendent. He does not seem to be out in the community much and does not seem to want input from the community.

-- Again, I don't even know the guy, but other parents are not happy with his abilities in regards to special ed.

-- The FOIA/Cooper/Email thing hurt.

-- There is a trust issue unfortunately. Trust was given as a baseline assumption but then broken.

-- Demonstrate fiscal awareness & responsibility. Recognize that everyone's taxes are going through the roof, so take action to be more responsible with other people's money.

-- I appreciate that Dr. Gordon has been put in a difficult position by the new members of the school board, Clark/Buchholz. Dr. Gordon is doing the best that can be expected of him given the dysfunction of the school board.

-- No experience

-- FOIA? Whose side is he on?

-- He has his own agenda and is going to do whatever it takes to get what he wants. I don't find him sincere.

-- I don't like the flip-flopping on curricular matters -- like the grouping of students into multiple grade levels. Not the best idea I have ever heard.

-- As residents paying for the schools, it would be nice to have our town's two school districts collapsed into one for efficiency and fairness sake. It would also be very nice to see a School Board exhibit leadership and fiscal responsibility by eliminating our reliance upon debt and referendums for more debt. Why can't this District simply create an operating budget that allows its tax revenue to pay for current operations and a reserve that is used to fund projects.

-- Cannot respond - never have seen him

-- I don't know at this point. It will take a while to restore trust in the board and administration after the nonsense from a few years ago.

-- Support the Supt, not blindly, but constructively. A few board members have created a very toxic environment that is "seeping down" into the educational environment at the schools. Stop it now for our children's and community's sakes.

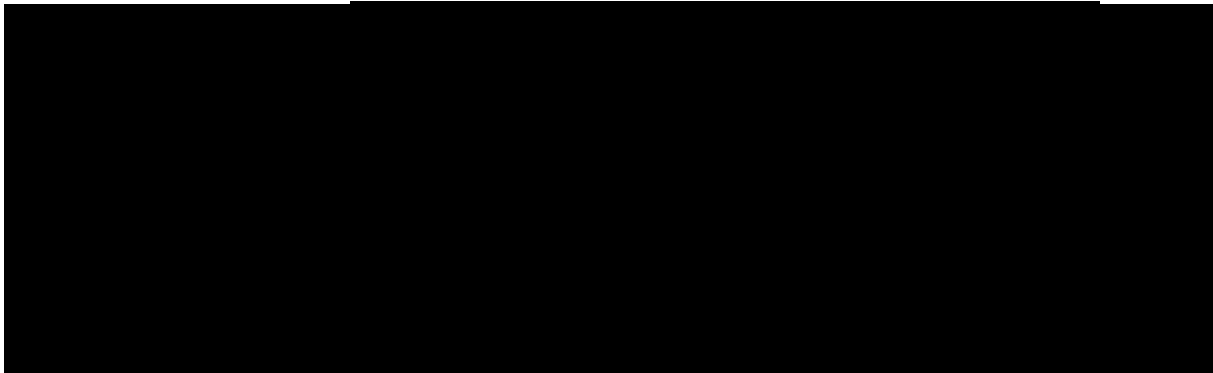
-- As a parent of D41, I have been very happy with the actions of the superintendent. I am very pleased with problem based learning, dual language, and teacher specialization. In my own research, I have found many similar programs to what is occurring in D41, and I think the superintendent has done his homework. I am pleased to see best practice and research in action in D41.

-- Dr. Gordon has lied to the community many times. He does not understand the community and has not earned the trust of the community. The fact that he will not release FOIA information to citizens who are legally asking for it means that he has lost all trust. Dr. Gordon implemented Think Tank and then dismantled it. I do not trust him because when [REDACTED] he did almost nothing until pushed to do so by Clark and Buchholz. People do not trust his cabinet either. Dr. Gordon is not on top of things.

-- We just moved here in the summer and we have young children who are not yet school ages, so we cannot answer the above questions.

-- I feel the superintendent has been the most open and giving details of his thoughts and projects then any other superintendent in the past

-- I think Dr. Gordon is doing what he can within the limits of the school board. He is open to listening . He gives us the opportunity to talk about our concerns, and often we see changes (even if they are slight) after this.



-- Dr. Gordon has a difficult job and has served the community well. He is transparent and direct. I appreciate his judgement and candor.

-- I don't feel comfortable with the last question in number 4 & 5. Dr. Gordon and the board members seem to be intelligent, capable people. I am unhappy with some of the curriculum, furniture and technology spending that has happened and that does reflect on the "trust" answer. I do, however, trust that all of them think they are doing the right things for our learners, I just disagree with their decisions.

-- The superintendent has brought back the idea of an early learning center/new elementary

building even though the facilities task force did not care for that idea.

-- I do not agree with the new food policy, it is much too extreme.

-- We need a new Superintendent who cares about our children and does not have his own agenda.

-- The superintendent should be replaced as soon as possible. He is mismanaging the district, wasting time with PBLs, and poorly preparing our kids for high school. There is no excuse for this performance given the resources and students that the district is working with.

-- The superintendent has helped his employees violate laws and disrespect the taxpayers. Yet, those that broke the law are not help accountable for their actions. There is no trust between him and those in this community.

-- My children are not yet school age, so it's difficult to answer this question.

-- Dr. Gordon inspires his staff to do their best work every day. His philosophy of education and decisionmaking is rooted in sound educational research. He is an incredible asset to the district.

-- We just moved to Glen Ellyn, unable to make a determination

-- I feel very lucky to have him.

-- I commend Dr. Gordon's openness to work with parents to make the school district the best that it can be.

-- The superintendent has the most complex job that one can imagine.

-- I believe the current Superintendent is a detriment to our district and should be replaced immediately.

-- In spite of the negative perception one gleans from the local social media outlets, Dr. Gordon appears to be a competent and trustworthy leader. Certainly, if our experience with [REDACTED] and staff and administration at the two elementary schools that our kids attend is any indication of his leadership, D41 is in good care.

-- I feel the superintendent is always putting our children first.

-- See previous comment...

-- Just moved end of May 2016 so no opportunity to have an opinion on many of these.

-- I have found Mr. Gordon to be approachable as well as a good listener.

-- I know there is a small percentage that are very upset. I often read and hear their comments and laugh as they seem to have a conspiracy theory that Dr. Gordon moved his family here from Colorado to destroy our school district. We are a public school who is providing the best education for the majority of the students -- this is the best a district can do. I absolutely trust our Superintendent, and I do not at all believe that he is here to destroy our district and our children. (Do you see how stupid it sounds that it would be anything different for anyone in this position?)

- I like Dr. Gordon personally, and I think he knows what needs to be done on this facilities expansion issue, but he needs to be more of a force.
- Improving the quality of our education and the improving the learner experience is a must and is not free
- Same as above
- Emails and communication are good but could continue to benchmark against top performance schools and increase math and science coursework that American kids fall So far behind on.
- I have personally met with him on multiple occasions and find him to be generally insincere. He will promise a commitment or that he is opened minded to an approach or opinion but in the end nothing seems to change.
- The guy has a base salary of \$216,918 with a University of Phoenix online degree. Another Superintendent that is laughing all the way to the bank.
- Superintendent salary must be reduced. Eliminate benefits !
- D41 is a small school district and looking at much larger neighboring school districts such as Wheaton Warrenville D200 or Lombard School District, I think D41 should have higher test scores considering the schools population and town income. The Superintendent tends to do a lot more to boost the district reputation.
- Unfamiliar with the Superintendent's actions sufficient enough to assess.
- The administration is top-heavy in expense in 41.
- It is not the superintendent - it is the teachers and admin staff that make the school.
- Haven't really experienced it yet.
- Same as above. I don't know him.
- I've been gone for the last year -- though in the district now and prior to this, but I am not as up to date as I would want to be to answer this thoughtfully.
- Then why do you need a survey? You've going to do whatever you want anyway.
- I cannot answer this question `because I am so disappointed how the teachers union promotes individuals so they work that position for 3 years that is what there retirement is based upon.
- I think Dr. Gordon is taking some good steps to improve areas in our district that need to be improved to be successful. I think he inherited these issues and appreciate the steps being taken to rectify things. Hopefully this continues.
- I don't have sufficient input from the superintendent to have a opinion.
- I have to be honest. I am not too familiar with what the Superintendent has done.

- Fire the superintendent. Not qualified. Does not seem to listen to community and/or school board.
- Dr. Gordon presents himself well, but I always sense that it is all about Dr. Gordon and not the D41 kids or their tax paying parents. Note that he doesn't live in the district and therefore does not share in the burden of his initiatives. What does the district get for \$216k per year? Here are a few suggestions: standardized test score goals of 50% (does this lower the achievement gap?); ending multi-age classrooms; kids who can't write a complete sentence or know their math facts by 5th grade; dual language test scores that can't be measured or analyzed (Katie McCluskey); seldom any critical thinking on how the district can do better; lots of slogans and promotions but little substance; ignoring facts like benefits of FDK are lost by 3rd or 4th grade are inconvenient and therefore not shared widely. Wake up District 41 community - our kids are losers in this era.
- Clark and Bucholz keep trying to make Dr. Gordon's job harder than it needs to be. If we lose Dr. Gordon as a Superintendent, the district will be hard-pressed to find one who does as good a job as he.
- The response due to the school bus issues was lacking.
- I would like to see Dr Gordon make positive and necessary changes to the districts special education program. I feel it would be beneficial for the district to have someone with a special education background working with parents/students to give students the best opportunity to succeed. That person is NOT Michelle Gallo
- I think the superintendent is truly trying to do a good job, but he came in pushing too many changes too quickly.
- I feel like he has a "pet project" that is taking up too much time, money and personnel- it has not been proven that PBL is effective.
- Dr Gordon has done a respectful job since his appointment, however, the district needs to be more attentive to the financial issues and betterment of the educational process.
- Some crazy ideas. 'The way we did it in Colorado' mentality. Doesn't listen to teachers.
- I don't follow the Superintendant closely enough to be able to give a more precise answer to this.
- Submitting options for full-day kindergarten that only include roughly \$30 million projects makes me feel angry about the way our tax dollars are being represented.
- Dr. Gordon is leading the district to mediocrity. His PBL initiative has been counterproductive and expensive. This experiment is not raising kids' intellectual content and often offers propaganda for world saving causes. His administration's relationship with parents, especially with special needs, is abysmal. The prior superintendent's multi-age and specialization is causing all sorts of education wreckage in its wake. Teachers must be overwhelmed with the constant initiatives and demands on how to teach. D41 has taken our money, betrayed our trust and failed our children. Can we trust the school board to re-organize and change the current path?
- Is this in his contract as well? So we have to pay him a nice big bonus because he gets this done at the expense of what a qualified Superintendent should do which is ensure the quality of the education the kids within D41 are given.

-- I worry that all of the negativity that he has to deal with from two board members is detracting from his work to improve our schools.

-- what is so great about Colorado? no cursive????

-- I don't have a lot of visibility to the superintendent. I do wonder if we really need 2 school districts in Glen Ellyn, however. Consolidation can lead to savings, which can be reinvested in operations.

-- The superintendent is not trustworthy. He caused the district to be sued thru his games. I have heard comments that he has made about the people of the district. He should be replaced.

-- Dr. Gordon is not trustworthy. He tries to play the community at every turn and should be replaced.

-- Too many new initiatives and curriculum at once. Since Gordon came there have been so changes with NO proof that they work. Children First is the motto and it's just not happening.

-- Dr. Gordon tries to present a positive image, but he is just spinning everything. I'd rather he listened to us than told us how awesome everything is. If things are not going well, should he be honest or should he 'present a positive image'? Our district was already successful, for many many years. Our test scores are declining, which indicates we are not successful. But I'm sure he thinks he's been successful because he's found ways to spend lots of money which is his measure of success. I don't trust the superintendent because he is pushing the radical, politically driven PBL curriculum on our children as a captive audience. It is disgusting.

-- I don't understand why the Board, esp. Mrs. Clark get so far in the details of the education of the children. I did not vote for the Board to teach my kids, that's the teachers job. Stay out of the details of teaching and just manage the district. You don't speak for me and my circles when I hear on the video "I've heard from many parents." Jesz, just give it a rest on that comment.

-- I was disheartened when Dr Gordon told me in a laughing manner that the days of kindergarteners playing house was long gone and never to return... I hope I'm wrong, but my impression was that the scores were more important than the welfare of the kids. Wow, it makes me sad to write that...

-- I think the Super TRIES to present a positive image, but mostly he comes across as forcing it. Not genuine. If you want the parents to be happy, give them more flexibility to direct their child's development, instead of mandating all kinds of bizarre changes to the education process that are unproven. My child is not a guinea pig. Just teach them math and reading at a young age for a solid foundation, and more science as they get older. And no, 'climate change advocacy' is not science, it's political training. How about teaching them physics, chemistry, biology, engineering, so they can invent products and processes that solve clean energy needs, instead of teaching them to be lobbyists for government imposed restrictions on our freedom, and constant shaming of anyone who thinks differently than the radicals in charge of D41?

-- Dr. Gordon is doing a superb job. Certain community members make unreasonable requests that waste district staff's time and energy, yet, he still provides professional



continuously.

-- This is difficult because other than district mailings and the superintendent's frequent newspaper columns, I don't have first-hand info to make an informed decision. I should be more proactive in participation.

-- I marked "unsure" per the areas of concern listed in question #4.

-- There have been some incidents that he has used to pit colleagues and/or community members against each other. He has blindly trusted his cabinet in the past when he should be questioning their decisions. Community member input should be taken more seriously.

-- The superintendent is only able to do so much with a school board riddled with infighting and obstructionist politics. Residents and parents would like to see what he could do with some of the ideas and plans he has presented, but members of the board continually get in the way. The two entities should be always working together in the interest of the kids and the community.

-- I am not sure if some of the programs are more wants than needs. I am not sure if so many curriculum changes are necessary to be successful. I am happy the School Board pulled back on the concepts of multi-age.

-- I am glad that he undid multi age but I am not a fan of specialization and will hold judgment until I see that he rids the district of having second graders have two teachers. It did not work well for my child. The school day is too long for younger children. They increased the length of day without any parent input.

-- Read sometime back that he took a group to observe at his former district in Colorado. As big as the Chicago area is, he couldn't find a similar program around here? Did so many people have to go? He must think he is running a district in Hinsdale, or a feeder for New Trier.

-- The dude is here to build his resume.

-- Dr. Gordon brings a much needed "fresh" perspective to our district. He wants to bring innovative ideas and teaching techniques to our district to ensure our students are getting the best education possible. I feel that several of our BOE members and community members are overly critical of his approach.

-- The new superintendent seems to be a decent guy but if he is behind this spending and these referendums then it is difficult to trust that he knows what he is doing and where his money comes from.

-- The superintendent is doing a great job. The board needs to make sure they stay out of his way so he can actually focus on doing his job rather than being distracted every time they say "jump".

-- I applaud the superintendent for undoing multiage. That is a step in the right direction to make this district successful. However, the jury is still out for me as the elementary day is a disorganized mess and I would like to know what he is going to do with that. The superintendent is very positive, but that doesn't make for a positive image. He comes off as disingenuous. Everything isn't perfect all of the time. I would appreciate some honesty, even if it's not what I want to hear.

- The Superintendent needs to work on being honest, not just telling people what he thinks that they want to hear. It works against him and he comes off as very political. He has made some tough decisions which should be recognized, so thank you for that.
- Thank you to Dr. Gordon for recommending the audit for special education. This is a big reason as to why I don't trust the district or Dr. Gordon. It has been years of struggles. So we are finally going in the right direction. Dr. Gordon needs to be evaluating his administration and the work that they do. Michelle Gallo lacks leadership and communication skills. To be blunt she is running the special education department into the ground.
- The Superintendent seems eager to do what is best but I am surprised at the amount of negative feedback we have heard about him. Many parents of children who are elementary ages (which is our situation too) feel that he could be more willing to hear their thoughts on how much work is thrown at these kids at such a young age. Many of them are still very young and need more play time. There seems to be room for striking a better balance of work/play time, particularly in the younger grades. He has made several comments to the public that are off-putting, things like "gone are the days of play kitchens in Kindergarten." Seems like he is not very open to the idea of giving kids more time to be kids in a school setting, which is unfortunate.
- When I have attended public meetings at which Superintendent Gordon has spoken, I have been impressed with his commitment to the District's children and its goal of providing high quality education for our children. He is very approachable and seems genuinely interested in the community's input.
- I'm happy to see Dr. Gordon is developing a long range plan under the direction of the board. We finally will have a way to hold the district accountable.
- Our kids are still in preschool

## Comments/Suggestions:

- Communication from the district as a whole is improving via email. However, the communication from Student Services Director of CSO is not satisfactory. Staff members hear about procedures and policies at different times and often get different messages. The director often tells staff one message and then later states she never gave the message. The training for our new IEP system in Skyward has been very unsatisfactory. It appears that even the director doesn't know all the nuances of Skyward and how to navigate the program effectively.
- We seem to be at a crossroad between the innovative D41 educational model and the structured new curriculum/assessments with emphasis on all classrooms doing the same thing. Many more district structures, systems, supports, and professional development are in place to implement Math & Literacy curricula versus inquiry, problem-based learning, and innovative teaching practices for our 21st century learners.
- We have some great programming in district 41 that surrounding areas do not. As much as I like Glen Ellyn, what keeps my family here are educational opportunities we cannot find in neighboring districts (specifically language programs. My kids are not in dual language, but they do get Spanish everyday, and that is SO important to us for their future

education and job prospects.)

-- Too many changes in one year: Pera evaluation, Interventions removed which places more stress on the classroom teacher, "push-in" model which is chaotic, new literacy and writing which removes all teacher skills and creativity as to what works for kids, new math program, technology goal, new science unit....

-- Inadequate facilities are just about all that prevents me from being very satisfied.

-- We weren't broken, but the Superintendent changed our district to specialization, reduced specials, lengthened the day, and added spanish. And now we are broken. Go back to the way it was!

-- I am not sure what direction we are headed in. I hope that it will be in the direction that support's children's learning, over and above supporting the negative, suspicious, stingy, xenophobic voices in our community.

-- As a senior citizen, my role has changed. I do not have children or grandchildren in the district, so my primary concern is more focused on the finance side of the equation. As a life-long advocate for free, public education, I am very concerned with some of the antics of the board minority, and the seeming lack of focus on the real issues. I applaud the efforts of the board members who understand their roles and work both for the kids and the community.

-- The volume of communication is fine. It's the content that is usually biased and reflects hidden agendas and half-truths. It's more of a PR machine than trying to create a real dialogue with the community.

-- trust the teachers to do what is right for the kids. By allowing them to master their curricula, you will give them the opportunity to become creative and better teachers which benefits everyone.

-- This survey asks whether I have school age kids but does not provide a way for me to tell you that i have school age kids IN HIGH SCHOOL who have completed D41. That is important information you don't collect.

-- I BELIEVE IT IS TAKING THE DISTRICT FAR TOO LONG TO DECIDE ON AN ACTION PLAN TO ESTABLISH FULL DAY KINDERGARTEN. I'M VERY FRUSTRATED THAT THE DISTRICT IS FALLING BEHIND WITH THIS INITIATIVE AS COMPARED TO THE MAJORITY OF COMPARABLE IL DISTRICTS.

-- Stop the unnecessary spending increases and special programs. Go back to basic schooling. Education and healthcare are the only sectors of the economy with rapid price increases. Yet, results are generally declining. Spending more doesn't correlate with better results.

-- I am very satisfied with the reputation and performance of the students, but I feel I am in the dark when it comes to District communication.

-- Again, need full day kindergarten. We are falling behind by not offering this.

-- AGAIN THE BUS COMPANY CHOICE TO SAVE MONEY SCARES ME. NO ONE DID THE DUE DILIGENCE TO SEE IF THIS COMPANY WAS AT LEAST DECENT.

## -- LOWER OUT TAXES!

-- satisfied because of the teachers only - the Board is constantly trying to sneak things past the public.

-- We spent too much time focusing on multiage and pal initiatives and did not even have a curriculum. Now we have a curriculum, but it does not seem to have been well vetted or tested. Classroom sizes continue to increase. And we are completely demotivating high achievers and hard workers with our grading scale that is not in step with what will be expected in high school. But at least we have gotten our food and snacks under control at parties and social events. Seriously - what are the priorities here?

-- Special Ed services are poor. The director of student services/special ed should be replaced immediately. Ms. Gallo is unprofessional, rude, condescending, and purports to know things she clearly doesn't have any background in. She does not put kids first and does not represent D41 in a positive way.

-- I commend the district on getting rid of the portable classrooms at Churchill. I also commend the district on their renovation of the playground/recess area at Churchill. I do not like Churchill's handling of my gifted son's curriculum. We had no success getting the principal to act on our requests for a more challenging curriculum for my son; as a result, we had to go straight to the assistant superintendent, who promptly acted on our behalf. THIS SHOULDN'T BE NECESSARY! Also, why is it that special needs students on the lower end of the spectrum are served so readily, while students like my son (on the highest end of the spectrum) are UNDERSERVED so severely? Why does he have to wait until 3rd grade to receive a more challenging curriculum?

-- Again, I think the conservative wing of the school board that is trying to cut budgets at the expense of education is undermining the successfulness of the district. I can't wait to vote in the next election.

-- Appropriate supportive services are sorely lacking in District 41! Under trained staff, lack of supportive curriculum, etc.

-- Again, I don't even know the guy, but other parents are not happy with his abilities in regards to special ed.

-- We used to be very satisfied with the district, but over the past few years our opinion has measurably changed.

-- The curriculum at Hadley needs an overhaul. The work is too easy except for maybe some of gifted literacy. Gifted math is especially disappointing. Gifted should equal excellerated and it doesn't in D41. At Hadley, the kids are put with the grade ahead of them, but the material covered isn't done quickly it's covered in a regular pace. It's a shame. Both of my kids were horribly academically bored at Hadley. I know there is other growing that needs to happen during these years, but a child should feel challenged intellectually. It's a missed opportunity for intellectual growth at a time when they need to be engaged.

-- Fix Hadley. And I'm not talking about the infrastructure.

-- When we entrust the District with our children, a trust issue is not acceptable.

-- Again, not having all day Kindergarten considering the revenue intake is a glaring problem.

- only thing I need to be very satisfied would be full day kindergarten for the 2017-2018 school year.
- Appears that there is way too much administrative costs within the District.
- Very pleased with our experiences at Ben Franklin and Lincoln Elementary Schools. Hadley is fine, but I don't believe they do the best job possible preparing kids for the jump to high school. Homework is very light all three years. Throughout eighth grade, there should be a much tougher curriculum and more prep. The jump to High School is exponential and some kids as simply not prepared.
- District 41 has amazing teachers and administration, however I cannot rate my satisfaction with the district as "Very Satisfied" because of the direction that the school board has taken since the 2015 elections. The newest members, Clark and Buchholz, seem to be set on taking the district backwards.
- More focus on special ed and gifted
- This is the first time that I've received info about district 41 on the future plans of the district. I am pleased with this opportunity.
- Could be better for what our taxes are.
- Too many changes within the last 5 years and the kids have suffered because of this. Tired of all these "cutting edge" ideas that are tried for awhile and then tossed to the side because they don't work. Had the district had slowed down and listened to members in the community none of this would of happened but than again the district does what it wants and look how that has ended up.
- Taken too long to address the full day kindergarten but glad there seems to be some movement. Please solve this for 2017.
- Safety of students is not a priority here
- Judgments are hard because everything is relative to your past experience. I believe our district is probably in the top 10% of districts nationwide, but our family moved here from a district that might be in the top 1%. So I can't help but look at this district and feel some disappointment, because I know what is possible. Overall, I feel pretty neutral about District 41. I don't think it's a bad district, but also not one I'd brag about.
- Just moved to District 41
- New to District
- I have concerns about over testing (PARCC), classroom size (29-30), and yearly curriculum change (looping, Eureka math.)
- Focus on inclusion of minorities into the lessons, curriculum, community, etc. Racial, ethnic, and religious minorities are greatly underrepresented in the district. Train the staff in religious tolerance and sensitivity. Educate them about other faiths and minorities.
- Stop controlling school parties! Let parents choose whether to celebrate with cookies and treats. That is not the district's job.

-- As residents paying for the schools, it would be nice to have our towns two school districts collapsed into one for efficiency and fairness sake. It would also be very nice to see a School Board exhibit leadership and fiscal responsibility by eliminating our reliance upon debt and referendums for more debt. Why can't this District imply create an operating budget that allows its tax revenue to pay for current operations and a reserve that is used to fund projects.

-- We have been satisfied with the vast majority of teachers. Please don't make the District a costly guinea pig for implementing unproven new fangled learning experiments to try and make the District look cutting edge in Education and thus improve the resumes of the Administrators who want to promote their careers.

-- I am concern with the school district's direction as they tend to spend money toward research and evaluation, but then the changes do not work, e.g., stem teaching with merging grades together in elementary school. If the system is working, it should not be changed. Other examples are spelling (words your way) and math (jumping around topics). Also the report card grading system. All of these curriculums failed.

-- Get rid of common core! It's more confusing for our students, and us as parents. The poor teachers have to relearn and teach themselves the new math before teaching the kids. Insane & stupid if you all me!

-- or all the above categories, I am new to the community and do not have children in the schools

-- I am satisfied so far with my child's experience in District 41 but that is more of a function of her teacher and the staff directly involved on a day to day basis with her learning. The facilities need improvement.

-- Thank you for creating an appropriate learning environment and meaningful learning opportunities for my children! Let's hope the community supports building for our future with the passing of the referendum. I do think it would be useful to know what the consequences may be of not passing a referendum. What will happen if we cannot remove the portables at Hadley? What is the annual cost to repair and maintain those portables? Can we still provide a secure entry at Churchill?

-- I am stringly opposed to spending another \$30 million to build a facility for all day kindergarten My property taxes have almost tripled in last 15 years and that is one of the major reasons I cannot sel my home and downsize now that we are empty nesters . We have many many friends that have relocated because of the property tax situation While I agree that all day kindergarten is a positive step, somehow the funding needs to be derived from something other than property taxes.

-- Dr. Gordon does not know what he is doing. He is over his head. He supports the worst teachers and harrasses any of those who do not agree with him. this needs to change

-- We just moved here in the summer and we have young children who are not yet school ages, so we cannot answer the above questions.

-- MORE COMMUNICATION IS ALWAYS BETTER.

-- I pay an exorbitant amount of taxes I expect a better education from this school district then we have been given.

-- Bottom line - things are really good in our schools and we should be thankful. We don't need country club schools

-- Mixing grades was a mistake. Not having a grading scale similar to the high schools is a mistake. Years ago, thinking about moving 5th graders to Hadley was a mistake. Spending 30 million to offer full day kindergarten is a mistake.

-- I am lucky - yet cursed to work in the community I live in. I often find myself defending what we do because all people hear about is what they read in the newspaper or read on a facebook page. I know there is no control over what people say, but it would be nice to see a more civil tone by board members taken in the community. All D41 staff work hard with only the success of kids in mind. That is not said enough.

-- The curriculum seems to be remedial for kids at certain age. I am not sure if we are "teaching up" in other words working to bring slow learners to process or assimilate language issues. I would prefer you get students to excel and ask them to stretch their knowledge base or offer advanced courses to more than a select few.

-- I think everybody knows that the Buses timing and management could use some help. At the moment it feels like its some new school just learning the challenges of having buses. The driver is changing almost every week, and the timings are not very consistent. It was lot of issue at the beginning of the term.

-- Communication seems fragmented and sometimes uses templates. This request seems very broad. It also has projects for some certain schools but not others. It would be nice if the other schools would benefit as well.

-- I feel the district needs to be more committed to curriculum choices and allow enough time to be able to measure effectiveness. Constant change seems to be a negative feature of this district. I believe that feature places undo stress on the children and the staff, and ultimately the financial status of the district.

-- Need an accelerated program for those students who test into it starting with 1st grade.

-- I'm Very Satisfied with Hadley. I was very dissatisfied with Forest Glen.

-- When you start reducing the taxes, I will give the District a favorable grade. Until then, the Board is a failure.

-- If I did not want my children to go to Glenbard West I would move. If I could afford to send my kids to private school I would. I loved District 41 a long time ago. It has changed and not what it used to be. It is too bad that the children no longer come first and the board does not care about the outcome of the children.

-- I am proud and happy to be living in this district. It sounds like you have worked hard and have everything together. Keep it up. And thanks for involving everyone!

-- Stop looking at buildings as easy band aids to the educational problems. A good administration would be able to get much better results (educational outcomes) with the resources you have. Until the district starts doing this I don't trust them with more money.

-- I'm satisfied with schools, no need to blow the money you are asking for.

- Teachers are excellent.
- The commencement of the Common Core appears to have caught teachers and staff off guard and three years in we are just starting to streamline curriculum. It seems to me that a staged roll-out of the core starting in kindergarten would have been wiser.
- The district does not have a clear long term goal; they continue to spend money on the "latest and greatest" with no accountability for what changing things every few years does to the students. If there were a facilities long term plan, you would not even be asking these questions...the additions that were literally just completed would have accomplished your goals or you would have made a clear plan before even beginning construction.
- I've heard great things from my neighbors about our schools, but my children are not yet school age and so I don't have a personal opinion yet.
- We don't need a new school. Only support improvements to current schools within the district current taxing authority We aren't getting an influx of new students so just need to maintain what we have
- Would love more individual feedback from teachers on students progress, especially in the younger grades
- Hadley is a dead zone. No preparation for high school.
- you guys are doing a great job.
- Full-day kindergarten is a must to keep pace with peer communities that young families are looking to move to. At worst, the investment to make full-day kindergarten happen will raise the property values of homeowners, regardless of whether they have children in the system or not. One of the first questions I get asked by friends looking to move to the suburbs from the city is "does GE have full-day K?" Whether the detractors believe it or not, it is driving decision making of future home-buyers.
- There should be consistency with communications throughout all the schools. Some school send out timely and pertinent information and others do not send out anything or it is lacking details and timelines.
- I'm not a fan of your grading system. It is as if the teachers make up the rules as they go to make everyone feel "included". For example, a grading scale of 95-100 is a "5" per the teacher's instructions. However, when a student gets a 100% on a work paper or quiz, they are given a grade of 4 just because "we don't give out 5s" for that particular class or task. What a way to immediately send the message to our children that working extra hard is not going to get you any further in life than working kind of hard. That is a big problem with our society today. People no longer want to work hard. And with examples like this, I see why.
- Satisfied with school level employees (teachers, principals, etc). Completely unsatisfied with administration at district level (Superintendent, school board)
- You have overcrowded our classrooms!! I am so dissatisfied with how things have been going. You changed our math program again and my kid is suffering from it. There are many more children paying the price for the board decisions. There is no extra help being offered for the middle of the road students but you guys offer more for the "gifted" children or for the ESL students! If I had to spend more time in this school district I would put my



kids in private education. Making my kid take Spanish when she can't pass math is ridiculous!!! My friends in Bartlett schools have help before or after for math. I should have Spanish as an option and if she is failing math she doesn't need to be wasting time in Spanish. I moved here for the schools and justify my ever growing tax bill as a reflection of that. Not anymore

-- Hadley has been a great experience for my child. There are some teachers that could be better, but overall it has been positive.

-- I will be even more satisfied if we can get a lot of these improvements/funding for them approved and start these projects immediately. I would like to see all issues currently listed for Hadley completed by the time my current first grader starts there. I would also like improvements made at Forest Glen while my kids have time to enjoy them.

-- In spite of the challenges that the Superintendent and parts of the Board are creating by a lack of planning when it comes to facilities, our kids are getting a great education in this district. It continues to be a draw to our community. We need to make sure we don't lose site of that fact. That said, a detriment of our community is how high our taxes are. Your graphic on the average taxes is misleading. You should show it based on the portion of taxes related to the D-41 schools only. You don't have any say for the other portion of the taxes. Just like I and many of my fellow community members do everyday, each of our taxing bodies, county, schools, village, etc. need to find ways to continue to give great service while using less money. This survey does not even convey that as an option.

-- Keep up the great work! D41 is a gift to our community and has exceeded our expectations.

-- I already completed this survey, separately

-- Chaos, no follow through, constantly changing curriculum, unprepared, few resources, little training, a bureaucratic nightmare.

-- More opportunities for gifted learning, at younger ages.

-- Just moved end of May 2016 so no opportunity to have an opinion on many of these.

-- Communications need to be more detailed. The daily e-blast and Board Notes sent out from District 87 are perfect. Would expect, and need, more of the same from D41.

-- Good schools are critical to our families and communities. While good schools drive property values and make our community desirable, the high taxes have the opposite effect and depress our home values. Something needs to be done to decrease our taxes while maintaining our high standards of education. Not an easy task, I understand, but other local communities (Wheaton, Downers, Hinsdale, Elmhurst, etc seem to achieve this).

-- I feel strongly that these question should've been asked prior to opening up the elementary schools for construction to remove the portables. The cost to add additional classroom space at that time would've been less than now having to restart construction projects. That represents poor planning and management of funds which does little to garner support and trust within the community.

-- My only comment is that I wish the district could do more to dismiss the perception of Churchill as a "less than" school. There needs to be education amongst realtors who present Churchill as an "apartment" school, which I guess for some reason means the children are

less parented and able to be educated. (I obviously disagree with this.) PTA presidents need to not talk negatively about Churchill. My children have received an AMAZING education at Churchill. I understand this is not a new issue in Glen Ellyn, but the district should be concerned that you have a school that is talked negatively about and I would love to see some change. It just makes me sick to think that these kids and parents who want to be accepted and included have a town that looks down on them because they make a little less money than them.

-- For these last two questions: We are very happy with academic standards, performance, teachers, etc. On the other hand, the District's inability to get the job done on facilities expansion is inexcusable.

-- We have to improve our schools...soon it will be too late and we will have to tear them all down and start over.

-- I generally think D41 changes too often. it is really difficult for teachers and families to keep up with the number of curriculum changes. I had 3 kids go through Ben Franklin and Hadley. The pace of change accelerated then and I think it's on an even quicker pace now. My opinion is that Hadley needs the most work. it needs a culture of excellence.

-- The district does not address our needy students. It is almost impossible to get help for students who are below the 30% for MAP. Who is helping those students? What is the plan? These are the #1 issues we talk about every single year when it comes to data, but NOBODY HAS A PLAN. We just keep talking about it year after year: "We have low achieving students...identify them...NOW WHAT????? The next year it's the same thing over again. There seems to be more effort placed on identifying the unwanted need for paper towel dispensers, limiting garbage cans in classrooms, and making sure teachers can use GOOGLE APPs than addressing how we can help students achieve!

-- my CHILDREN ARE STILL IN PRESCHOOL, BUT IM HOPING THAT FULL DAY KINDERGARDEN WILL BE AN OPTION SOON.

-- My dissatisfaction is because of the waste within the district - the way they rotate through new curriculum programs in just a matter of months - without giving any program time to really be effective. The district is becoming too test oriented and rigid. They have lost the vision that they are educating little humans and fallen into the popular trap of pushing curriculum.

-- I noticed on the Illinois report card about teacher attendance. Close to 36% of the teachers were absent for over 10 days or more in 2015-2016. The kids can not learn if the teachers are not in school. It also increases costs for substitute teachers. My team of over 100 employees has less than 1% absent more than 8 days.

-- Keep up the good work and always look for opportunities of continuous improvement going forward

-- We talk about neighborhood schools but it seems like most students are driven by their parents. If this is true we can consolidate to gain efficiencies in larger settings. Secondly, based on the total dollars identified in this survey it looks like we could on a periodic but regular basis build replacement schools rather than renovate. Trying to renovate old facilities doesn't gain the type of space that is needed today for educational purposes. For example column structure dictates effective room sizes and shapes.

-- Children need more opportunity to express their creativity, move freely, and explore. Too

much emphasis on traditional academics with worksheet after worksheet. Too much time on computer programs. Not enough time for play based learning.

-- It seems like new learning ideas are constantly being implemented and it does not appear as if the students are ready for the rigors of higher learning,

-- Quality of teacher and education is excellent. The superintendent/school boards have spent frivolously in the past and that appears to be changing with current board.

-- I moved to Glen Ellyn based on the rating of the school district. However, limitations of the building will soon start to impact the school rates and academic performance of the students if the community doesn't get ahead of the issues with the facilities.

-- Overall I am disappointed with the experience we have had with our current 5th grader and the constant change our child has experienced at the hands of the school board and the decision to make various changes from year to year. We have gone through looping, multi-age, different curriculums for math and literacy, spanish culture, A/B week; these kids move around more in a day to include all of their "specials" and I continue to lack understanding on how they get their core curriculum accomplished with the constant interruptions they experience throughout a given school day. I only hope that our younger children that are in D41 have a better experience in their journey through grade school.

-- Children are not in the school system yet but sincerely hope Full-Day Kindergarten will be an option in 2018-2019 school year and beyond. Considering moving to be in different school district that offers Full-Day.

-- I'm satisfied with the education my kids receive, but not with the outrageous compensation packages (including lifetime pensions) administrators and teachers receive. Time to move to a 401K type of plan like the rest of us.

-- Glen Ellyn needs to make the improvements to our schools to ensure we continue to be a great place to live and raise a family. This means making an investment in our schools. Residents need to remember this is a super small tax increase that will benefit our village long term and help maintain our property values.

-- I am very satisfied with the K-5, but not with Hadley, they need to up their standards to better ready students for Glenbard West.

-- On the communications bit, I get an average of 2-3 emails a day between the different entities for one kindergarten student. I am less likely to read emails when I get bombarded with them.

-- For the amount of tax, we are severy behind like kind suburbs for progressive programs, interactive learning, and understanding overall learning styles.

-- No tax increase.Live within your means.

-- I feel communication from the school level often comes the night before or the day of. That is not very helpful. I feel the district is not headed in the greatest direction. I know the special education department is faced with a lot of challenges at this time. As a special educator myself, this is so disappointing to me. the District administration appears to want to put up many barriers for these students and their families. It's very disappointing to me.

-- I do not agree with the problem based learning of bringing businesses into the school for

students to present to. We should be bringing in more learning opportunities from Fermi Lab and other science and math based organizations to train our teachers. Each school should have a full time paid computer teacher, not an aide. Someone who has a computer education background.

-- Not sure, have not had children in the district in the last 16 years.

-- No common core information.

-- Too much money is spent on non-essentials and fads. Stick with things that work and are cost effective. Cut down on the size of the educational bureaucracy. Consolidate districts -- individual fiefdoms cost too much.

-- Satisfied in that maintain top rating which stabilizes community neighborhoods and community at large.

-- Satisfied to Very satisfied, we have excellent facility and staff at all of the schools and they make a positive difference in our children's lives.

-- I do not like the fiscal direction of the school board. Too many arguments and decisions are being made over a few dollars, damaging relationships and creating a distrustful atmosphere. While we need to be fiscally responsible, value and quality of the educational experience must also be maintained. Where is the balance?

-- I will be very satisfied, when district 41 has full day kindergarten.

-- I like all the effort for stakeholder feedback. This is very important. I personally am unsure of what d41's short and long term goals are in terms of education.

-- We seem behind on today's educational philosophy. Specifically regarding homework.

-- Change direction to frequently.

-- Hadley is still not run well. Removing Watch Dogs and now 3rd Thursdays in Hadley was a bad idea for parent involvement.

-- My child was bullied. My friends child too.

-- The teachers and principles are great and I feel they are truly invested in our kids and helping them become better learners, despite the constraints they face with our educational system with an emphasis on testing and teaching to the test.

-- Haven't really experienced it yet.

-- There were big curriculum changes this year and a lengthening of the school year last year, and at Forest Glen I felt that there was very little explanation given for either. How did the school choose the new curriculum, and why? Also - starting in 2nd grade the students have two different teachers, which is pointless. The teachers think they are too young for that and nobody is in favor of it, so why do we have it that way?

-- Special education services and best practice continue to be an issue.

-- So disappointed in teachers union we are more fed up with the collective bargaining.

-- I would like to see the district take on full day kindergarten. Also I would like them to expand the dual language program to all elementary schools in the district and possibly expand it to pre k so that foreign language learning is more available at all levels.

-- Further information needs to be forthcoming so we may evaluate and make decisions more confidently. This exercise is a good beginning.

-- I am not sure what the hold up is, but it seems this full day Kindergarten thing has been talked about forever, and no progress has been made. I find that unfortunate, and I hope D41 isn't doing that with other important issues. I must also admit I have a 1st grader, so I am new to the district. I would like to say I am very happy with our principal at Churchill. The kids like him. He keeps the parents informed. There was an emergency situation last year, and I think he and his staff handled it very well. I see him at school events, and I can tell he is dedicated to what he does. Principal K is great.

-- It would have been nice to have been offering full day kindergarten already.

-- Generally satisfied as all three of my children are well educated and two have been very successful at Glenbard West and College. However, I believe the costs (taxes) are too high and we need to take this opportunity to lower the taxes with retirement of the current debt.

-- There are unlimited lost opportunities to educate our kids. Let's get parents talking to teachers and straighten out this mess. The district should focus on reading, writing and math. They should weave in US History before 4th grade and they should expose kids to true literature as examples of excellent writing. As to the district administration, let go of all the expensive experiments, technology and coaches. There are too many kids being left behind while the district continues to seek out the expensive methods and lowering achievement goals. Follow my recommendations first, then talk about long range facility planning. New facilities or technology aren't the answers to raising academic achievement.

-- Please end the PARC testing, and related unnecessary testing that only serves to evaluate how well the school is doing. It puts too much pressure on the students, gives the impression that education is not the focus of administration - but rather their ranking and salaries.

-- I don't have kids at Hadley, but something needs to be done to improve the reputation in the community.

-- Overall I am happy with our schools but I don't always feel decisions are made in the best interest of a student, especially ones with special needs

-- Unable to provide enough input due to my child being too young to attend school right now.

-- It is my hope that G.E. School District hires and retains only the finest teachers.

-- I look forward to seeing the momentum forward coming out of the strategic plan - specifically how we can be an example of serving low-income students exceptionally well.

-- Please remember to treat our teachers with respect regarding salary, benefits, and workload (expectations). We want to keep excellent teachers in D41, so please pay them according to the time they put in. Also, more meetings and excessive trainings/professional development doesn't make teachers great, nor does it help them serve our students better. I think 4 nights of conferences is too much for them in a short window of time, and that 15

minutes with 2 different teachers at the same time for dual language program students is not enough when 20 with 1 teacher seems just right. Thank you.

-- I am most interested in the education rather than the facilities, redo rather than rebuild and direct \$ to best teachers and support services.

-- The teachers and staff are excellent. The administration and board inspire very little confidence. There seems to be too much attention spent furthering career goals at the expense of actually accomplishing concrete achievements.

-- The teaching staff is dedicated to teaching our children in a holistic way without forced initiatives.

-- The whole no food for kids parties is crazy. Poor kids suffer due to one kids allergy.

-- Wonderful teachers and staff, but a lot of discourse with all the initiatives all at once. Too much, too fast. People are worn out trying to keep up.

-- I don't follow the district closely enough to be able to give a more precise answer to this.

-- I love Lincoln, the staff, prin, vp. Love the community of parents and kids. Happy with the education.

-- Our community is overwhelmingly dissatisfied with property taxes. We talk about it all the time. I cannot imagine any referendum passing without significant communication regarding cost control initiatives. I saw some great projects in this survey, but I cannot indicate support for any of them without knowing the district is being financially responsible, holistically.

-- I think the Special Ed department is lacking. I don't think everyone is on the same page when it comes to determining what is best for the kids.

-- Some of these items for referendum should be handled in the annual budget. I support any undertaking to expand cafeteria, nurse, special needs offices AND FULL DAY KINDERGARTEN IN THE CHILD's own neighborhood!

-- We need all day kindergarten.

-- Removing all of the portables at the grade schools was the right move.

-- If one does a cost benefit analysis, then the score is "very unsatisfied" with the district. We moved to Glen Ellyn with the trust that public education would be available and move our children towards high academic excellence. Sadly, we are seeing a new curriculum every or every other year. This is a true reflection of the mismanagement of the district and the overpaid staff/administration who relish experimenting with kids and not teaching them any foundational knowledge. I am very disappointed in this district.

-- Our three children attended D/41 schools. Elementary school was good; Hadley was a mess. I taught at Glenbard West, and I can't say I was ever impressed with the students who came from Hadley. That said, D/41 administration does not seem immune from wanting to run schools like companies and to buying in to the education-flavor-of-the-day (currently, STEM).

-- No more space on schools needed !

- Please decrease taxes, this is an excellent survey. I found it to be informative and well constructed. Thanks for asking.
- I do not believe that students/parents are prepared for the rigor they experience in high school. There are ebs and flows within the education direction, I have been in District 41 for 19 years with 3 children. I do not feel they are being prepared for their future as they could be.
- grading system? meets? exceeds? does not meet? wehat kind of grades are those?
- Good but not great. Too focussed on the test results and not on building a well rounded child.
- Education is great. I would have said satisfied and maybe should be because the survey is being asked. It makes we wonder about the financial management of our district though if the board truly wants to do all of this
- They are headed in the right direction by pursuing a full day kindergarten and improving the facilities.
- I'm surprised that my first grader gets homework in multiple subjects, that more screen time is recommended (I suppose it's meant to replace less-educational screen time), and that kindergarteners need to have academic advancement. I want my kids to have time to play, to contribute to the life of our family through chores, and to form strong bonds with each other. I guess my educational philosophy is a bit different from the district's, & I know they have to support students with more & less involved families.
- The superintendent should be replaced. The Board President should step down. Only then would there be a chance for trusting the district be a possibility.
- The district needs new leadership and a board that would actually represent the constituents.
- The last referendum supported extra help in math and reading. That has not happened in years. Now all interventions are on the teacher. Rigorous curriculum is leaving more kids behind than ever. Students who would benefit from reading support are falling through the cracks. Push in model does not provide needed services. Also, why do special ed kids receive more time from overloaded reading aides than gen ed? They have 3-4 adults for 6 kids while gen ed has 1 teacher for 25 students. New curriculum demands stamina and independence that primary kids just don't have.
- I think full day kindergarten is a must!
- I am not satisfied with D41 communications because I have seen multiple examples of dishonesty in them. For example, we were first promised that adding Spanish would not cut into time for other academics. But last August, Dr. Gordon's announcement about the longer school day admitted it would no longer cut into time for other academics. He was subtly admitting that he and President Nelson had been lying.
- My children's experiences with the teachers and students have been positive. But the amount of property taxes we pay is a big negative.
- I enjoy Mr. Gordan's positive attitude. He is a good leader and I liked the one time I did

Speak to him. Very approachable and friendly. Hope he sticks around a long time. We need vision like his.

-- I expected better than this when I moved here. Now I can't even sell my house to get out, and I can't afford private school. You can solve this problem but what you are doing is actually making it worse!

-- We can do much better by embracing and offering full day kindergarten, and upgrading our buildings.

-- SINCE I DON'T HAVE CHILDREN IN DISTRICT MY KNOWLEDGE OF IT IS MORE LIMITED

-- Because my children are no longer attending District 41 schools, I have not been involved in school community decisions, nor do I know how the administration and school board are viewed by the community. I do feel that the district 41 boundaries are too broad, considering the enrollment numbers. When will redistricting happen?

-- The new principal at Ben Franklin is outstanding.

-- I think you try. You solicit community input, you seem to have active parents.

-- Full day kindergarten needs to happen.

-- If you do not have children and/or are retired, you become disconnected from the school system. There needs to be a way for individuals who do not have children to obtain some benefit from over 70% of their taxes paid being directed toward schools. COD offers adult learning programs. What programs do our primary and high schools offer for households that do not have children?

-- K through 5th grade was a good experience for my eldest child. K through 4th grade was a good experience for my youngest but went downhill for his 5th grade. He had a teacher who did not provide a positive environment for learning. Hadley missed the mark greatly for both of my children. First, there should be letter grades. It is such a disservice to these children because high school expects more of them. For my eldest child, who liked school, the lack of teaching/education didn't hurt him but he experienced bullying. My youngest child, coming off of a bad 5th grade experience, was hurt by the lack of teaching/education. Hadley just seems to push these kids along and not set higher expectations for them. There should be some fusion between Hadley and the high schools. If I had to do it over I would avoid Hadley and send my children to the parochial school for 6th, 7th and 8th.

-- I am generally satisfied with the district, however I think that improvements can be made in several areas -- greatly improve special education services, eliminate teacher specialization for earlier grades (only keep 4-5 or 5), lower student/teacher ratio, find a way to make the schedule less confusing (A/B weeks).

-- We've had a very positive experience with D41 overall. My 'satisfied' rating is based on years of positive experience with teaching staff. I do hope that the bus contract & supplier arrangement is reviewed (and the performance of the district employee/s responsible for it). This year has been an absolute fiasco. Never before had I felt that the district had put my child's safety at risk until then.

-- Need more options for gifted students starting in kindergarten. Math program very tedious and time consuming. Don't see the need for kids to draw dots to solve simple math



problems. Math has become more complicated than it needs to be. Communication from teachers and school in general could be improved.

-- I do not think that Autistic kids should be mainstreamed as long as the parents want them to be. It is not good for the child and certainly is not good for the class as a whole.

-- I'm unsatisfied with the district due to the comments I've listed in the above questions. I sincerely hope we see some changes but again, unfortunately, I feel the district has done a great disservice to our current 5th grade class in particular & any changes will be too late to assist them. On a positive note, I couldn't be more thrilled to have Jeff Burke as our new Principle at Ben Franklin. Jeff is a huge advocate for our students & always available for suggestions, very accessible and genuinely cares about the parents and students at our school.

-- The district is heading in the right direction because of Clark and Buchholz who have finally decided to represent the stakeholder and not the wishes of Nelson and the admin.

-- Having grown up in this community, it is very sad to see how D41 has changed for the worse. I had hoped my children would receive the excellent education I did, but they are not even coming close to that. Jumping on the latest trend in teaching is dramatically having negative impact on our children's education. I am forced to pay for year long tutoring just to fill the gaps (and there are many) in their education.

-- Glad my kids are out of D41. Sounds like it is hard for parents to keep up, let alone the kids.

-- The District should resolve the space/facilities issues ASAP. Stop falling victim to the outspoken few who keep calling for more studies and surveys. The District has been talking about "righting" the facilities issue for 10+ years now.

-- Communication is ok but it seems more like propaganda.

-- I believe that D41 is at a turning point. We will either continue to implement innovative teaching techniques and curriculum and become a premier district OR we will chose to remain as we are and be mediocre at best. The district can only rest on its laurels for so long before the "gig" will be up.

-- In answer to #7 above, I do believe that the district is heading in the wrong direction if it is coming back to us taxpayers for more money. In general the schools have always done a good job in the village but they used to do so for a lot less of our tax dollars and now they want even more rather than letting our taxes go down and giving us some well deserved relief.

-- Now that we have some new board members with fresh perspective I think the district is heading in a better direction. There is still work to be done. We need long range plan that looks at facilities, programs, etc. Also, please, please evaluate specialization. Is it developmentally appropriate? What about the teachers who do not specialize? Does any school around us do this? My child's MAP scores continue to go down. What is being done to address this? In the end, I believe that many of the people working directly with students in our district have my kids best interest at heart. However, I don't know if the people high up on the food chain always do. At least, those who made the decisions in the past didn't. Take Think Tank for example. The admin wanted it, teachers had concerns with it. It's pretty much been dismantled. I'm hopeful that we are improving in that area and realizing we haven't made the best decisions.

-- I question my satisfaction because I would like to have the board take a serious look at the budget and our taxes. We cannot continue down this road with the current ever increasing tax rate in the town. We need to budget within our means.

-- Please look at: - A long range plan for facilities. Critical before moving forward. - The elementary school day - the length of the day, specialization, etc... - Special Education - this is a top concern in D41 right now. Thank you for conducting the audit. Please take the results seriously. You need to determine what your mission is. You are bringing students back into the district. Can you meet their needs? This shouldn't be about saving money. Can we meet the needs of all students - those with ADHD, Autism, learning disabilities, etc.... Our staff in relationship to special education should be applauded. We need to make improvements ASAP so that we don't lose them.

-- It would be helpful to understand what [REDACTED] I don't think my child has ever even had a conversation [REDACTED] but [REDACTED] [REDACTED] claims they know all the children very well. The things [REDACTED] said were done for students were not done. There is not clear information on sports and activities at Hadley and in advance - if a child misses an announcement at school, they are at a loss. The district needs to be careful about objectivity in activities and programs that are run by the PTA. These are great programs, but the PTA does run into the issue of mothers that have known each other for a long time and whose children are friends versus those that may be new to the district or PTA and objectivity in running the programs and selecting students can be compromised such as the musicals where individuals with experience in the subject matter could be making selections. School district meeting times and events should keep in mind working parents.

-- We only have experience with Forest Glen. So far we are happy with the amount of progress our child has shown since starting school in the main classroom, but there seems to be a lot of room for growth when it comes to how the school communicates with parents in general. They seem to trust the kids to bring home details for events when we feel that is unrealistic for kids so young. A good example would be that there was an end of school [REDACTED] last year. Many parents thought that this open house was [REDACTED] when in fact it was a year end musical performance.

About 5 flyers went home announcing this open house and not once was a performance mentioned. We learned about the performance the day of, from other parents who had older children and had gone through the same experience in recent years. When we brought this up to administration we were surprised to receive a negative response-we were told that info went home multiple times and basically were left to feel like it was our fault for being out of the loop. This is one example, but there have been many times when we have felt that instead of learning from these types of situations and offering more clarity they prefer to leave things as is. It is also clear that there have been a few behavioral issues with a few students in class and the children come home telling us parents stories, but the school has made no effort of get in front of that and alert parents that there may some students with behavior plans in place. We are also concerned about the lack of special education or educational support in place if needed-we understand that that is up for discussion right now and are anxious to learn more at future sessions that may be held.

-- Generally satisfied, just very alarmed that we are contemplating very large bond issues just because previous bond issues paid off and we are now "debt free"

-- I am very satisfied with the direction in which the District is moving... adding full day kindergarten and upgrading facilities especially in a way that is cost effective, as they now anticipate doing, will be important steps that I feel our District needs to take to further

improve the quality of education for our students.

-- Our kids are still in preschool

-- Over the years the district has made several poor decisions without regard to the input from the community or its own employees.

-- Our child has not attended District 41 yet. Too young.