

Listening to Our Community: Participant Feedback Summary

McClure MS | March 24, 2026



What Is Going Well

Summary:

Participants highlighted committed educators, inclusive school cultures, growing parent engagement, and renewed energy around leadership and instructional practices.

Key points raised by participants:

- Teachers are passionate, well-trained, and deeply committed to students
- Strong relationships between teachers, staff, students, and families
- Increased parent engagement and collaboration with teaching teams
- Culturally responsive teaching and equity-focused practices
- Positive momentum and optimism related to new district leadership
- Advanced math opportunities and K–8 models viewed positively
- PTA support helps lower barriers for family connection and enrichment

Example quotes (from posters):

- *“Teachers are engaged well-trained & trying to do well.”*
- *“My kids love to come to school.”*
- *“Feeling energy and excitement with Ben.”*

What Is Not Going Well

Summary:

Families raised concerns about inconsistency, lack of transparency, staffing and class size pressures, and gaps between stated equity goals and lived student experience.

Key points raised by families:

- Lack of follow-through on equity and inclusion commitments
- Highly Capable services are inconsistent and often unavailable in neighborhood schools
- Loss of acceleration options (e.g., walk-to-math) and uneven rigor
- Class sizes are too large, especially in middle schools
- Staffing ratios and special education supports do not meet student needs
- Overuse of technology displacing instruction and play
- District communication is perceived as opaque, reactive, and confusing

Example quotes (from posters):

- *“Lack of follow-through on equity.”*
- *“Not enough play-based learning.”*
- *“Constant change (volatility) — parent whiplash.”*
- *“Make budget process transparent and easy to understand.”*

Ideas for Improvement

Summary:

Participants identified concrete opportunities to improve transparency, resource allocation, engagement, and systems that better support schools and families.

Key points raised by families:

- Increase transparency in budgeting and decision-making
- Allocate more funding directly to schools based on community needs
- Improve district websites and communication platforms
- Expand differentiation and acceleration for all students
- Strengthen authentic community engagement, especially for multilingual families
- Simplify systems so families feel welcomed, informed, and supported

Example quotes (from posters):

- *“Make the website easier to navigate / understand.”*
- *“Engage families earlier in planning, not after decisions are made.”*