

### ***Student Focus Group***

#### **Three themes for supporting their success in school:**

- Time for and respect for students' personal health, safety and comfort (bathroom, snacks, lunch, breaks); Flexibility (for attendance and schedules)
- Support from teachers (taking their time; recognizing that they need help and giving help before they ask)
- "Hands on" classes (too much paper). Every student reported that "doing projects" was more engaging than completing assignments "on paper."

### ***Teacher Focus Group***

#### **Three themes for supporting student success in school:**

- Multiple opportunities for students (teachers mentioned gardens, sports, coding and gaming along with providing dedicated music, art or physical education teachers).
- Support for students with social emotional needs, including students with disruptive behaviors (teachers mentioned mentoring, counseling, reduced adult/student ratios through additional specialists and/or reduced class size).
- Support for families to be sure basic needs are addressed (teachers mentioned connecting families to resources, providing adequate nutrition, assuring students get rest, less screen time).

### ***Latino Family Focus Group***

#### **Three themes for supporting student success in school:**

- Provide for student safety. Parents expressed concerns about safety for all students on our campuses and on busses. Both increased communication with parents and increased safety protocols would assist in assuring parents that their students are safe.
- Provide for a wide range of experiences. Parents and students mentioned that students were engaged and successful in learning activities such as makerspaces, welding, "real world experiences" and projects. Additional opportunities (soccer at middle school or a "Life Skills" class were mentioned as needs).
- Caring adults who get to know students and families better and communicate with parents. Parents mentioned that problems have occurred when their students were not known well and students have thrived when they have adults who truly care about their children.

### ***Fifth Grade Survey***

#### **Three themes for supporting student success in school:**

- Improved facilities (54%). Additional playground structures and equipment was mentioned most, but students also asked for bathroom improvements water fountain improvements and other school site facility needs.
- More "experiences" (38%) Students listed wide range of ideas for engaging learning activities and play. Longer recess with more "wall balls," footballs and "let us play tag!" were common suggestions for improvement. There were also a significant number of surveys that suggested more animals at school, including the installation of a "petting zoo or farm" and "if just 10 teachers would bring their pets to school, the school would be better."
- Help with social emotional needs (9%) included support to address "bullying" and "more kids getting along."

***After over 30 one on one meetings with parents and kids who have struggled in our schools, one overwhelming barrier emerged: ANXIETY.***