



Feedback received in PTSA Workshop 3/14/2016

Note: Comment grouping were made at the workshop by the parents.

What does the school do well?

Vote count	Comment(s)
11	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The school has a complete 7-year study plan from middle school to high school. A public school with private school quality.
10	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Preparing kids for college
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dedicated parents that are involved
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Great introduction and orientation for new students; buddy system
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gives students a high level of autonomy (vs regular middle / high school)
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fosters very positive small school style learning environment
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The school has a good academic support system for students.
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Integrated curriculum
0	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Connecting between kids from different age/class groups
0	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provides a wide variety of activities with both teacher and parent support.
0	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Environment of inclusion for all students
0	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gather / Find families that put academic excellence as priority for their kids

What could the school do better?

Vote count	Comment(s)
7	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reduce arts and Spanish for the last 2 high school years and provide more electives
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bring more internships to students at junior and senior level
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide better variety of electives
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Uniform grading and homework policy
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Create a better Spanish program• Spanish learning environment needs improvement
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Opportunities for international cooperation
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Communicating our resources to all families, staffs and new students
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Continuous improvement of curriculum
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Enrich the international programs
0	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• I still would like to see more selection of courses for the students to choose from.
0	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Create more compassionate environment
0	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Student feedback at the end of year for each class
0	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Balance school / life
0	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Better communication between teachers and parents
0	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Evolving mission statement based on the future



What should the school be focused on?

Vote count	Comment(s)
10	Build student confidence
9	Fun, engaging teachers who help the kids evolve in seeing school as “learning is fun” yet still challenging
5	Improve Spanish curriculum
5	International learning / I.B.
5	Improve STEM focus
3	The whole student; Academics, emotional support, community
2	Preparing students through liberal arts curriculum to meet challenges of both college and beyond.
2	The school should focus on promoting social-emotional health for the students
1	Teaching life skills
1	School / life balance
1	Guiding students and families about “how unique” we are
0	More collaboration with other Lake Washington high schools
0	Rigorous course is makes hard to get good GPA. Need to focus on whole school.
0	Educate leaders, role models and proper learning plan
0	Best interest of student
(no count)	Producing well rounded young adults

What qualities do we need in a principal?

Vote count	Comment(s)
11	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ability to open-minded in alternate / different ways of learning /teaching• Focus on the whole child, social / emotional aspects• Focus on the individually of child’s learning style
8	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Open and approachable by the students, staff, and parents.• Communicator
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Respect ICS Culture and understand the high expectations on the high quality of curriculum. Also leadership and good communicator.
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Very strong leadership; pragmatic leader. Build consensus and visions for school.
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Recognize that ICS is a challenging school
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Integrity, engagement
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ability to work with two very different schools (ICS and CS) with very different philosophies• Listen first• Be involved and present for all children
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• More involved and caring to student.
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ability to drive change through agreement
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• First name basis with students
0	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Adopt the community vision, embrace, and enhance



(count missing)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Commitment and listens to community (may have been grouped with another similar comment)
0	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Communicates / disseminates in across all levels; decisive in action
0	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Compassionate
0	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Patient

What should the principal and the PTSA work on together?

Vote count	Comment(s)
11	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hire quality teachers
9	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develop a more equitable grading system compared to other schools
7	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fund extra clubs / curriculum activities
7	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Embrace the school constructs• Work with teachers ways to communicate better with parents• Work on new ways parents can be more involved.
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Foster teacher empathy for student stresses; A safe environment
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• PTSA and Principal should work on revamping Spanish curriculum
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Get more parents involved.
0	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Communications – The principal and the PTSA need to understand each other's priorities
0	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Making sure voices are heard and understood; questions / concerns

Any other thoughts?

Vote count	Comment(s)
10	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Need to resolve the issues with our Spanish program
7	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Organization of school year on one calendar for PTSA, School activities, and LWSD dates at beginning of year.
7	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Recognize that ICS needs to adapt to the changing global and technology face of the world. Liberal arts +++
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Make less pressure on our kids with more compassionate teachers
0	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Art for the first 5 years and last 2 should be optional, class available for college prep or ART