

**NORWALK CATHOLIC SCHOOL
SETTING OUR DIRECTION DINNERS
COMPILATION OF ALL RESPONSES
OCTOBER 8, 9, 11, & 15, 2017**

WHAT WE VALUE AT NCS

10/8/17

Stewardship	Family	Supportive	Caring	Lasting Friendship
Welcoming	Faith	Patience	Hope	Teachers
Fellowship	Traditions	Going the extra mile	Unity	Community Service
Sacrifice	Volunteerism	Faith filled leadership	Passion	Values
Pride	Accomplishments			

10/9/17

Parents	Support	Camaraderie	Longevity	Faith
Tradition	Friendship	Compassion	Respect	Respect
Enthusiasm	New Ideas	New teachers	Authenticity	Extended Family

10/11/17

Weekly Mass	Legacy	Traditions	Kindness	Service
Volunteerism	Support	Camaraderie	Opportunity	Academics
Athletics	Prayer	Well-Rounded	Holistic	Faith Development
Music	God	Dedication		

10/15/17

Embracing Faith		Professionalism	Awesome	Dedication
Commitment		Caring Community	Nurturing	Peer Support
Sportsmanship		Tradition	Camaraderie	Faith Foundation
Family		Service		

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE PEOPLE

10/8/17

PAST

Vision/ Dreamers
Hard work
Sacrifice
Perseverance
Faith
Courage

FUTURE

Same as Past

10/9/17

PAST

Caring
Risk takers
Visionary
Resourceful
Generous
Perseverance/Persistent
Determination
Hardworking
Faith filled
Excellence

FUTURE

Same as Past

10/11/17

PAST

Commitment
Drive
Visionary
Perseverance
Sacrifice
Dreamers
Executed
Follow through
Ahead of their time
Strong work ethic
Driven by Faith

FUTURE

Same as Past

10/15/17

PAST

Commitment
Vision
Perseverance
Faith
Sacrifice
Leadership
Willingness to change
Took a risk
Ties that bind
Refused to take "no"
Didn't turn into a war
Lived for Faith not Self

FUTURE

Same as Past

IDENTIFY THE FUTURE YOU ENVISION (SMALL GROUP BRAINSTORMING)

10/8/17

TABLE 1

Computer training/coding
Computer focused staff
Robotics
Maintain Music and Arts
Retain all teachers
Keeping Young Teachers
Teachers Salary/Scale not just base
Apologetics/Defending your Faith
Role of Faith
Sacraments Back in School
Admissions
Attracting Families
Retention
Jobs in Area
Scholarship opportunities
Paths other than college
Job shadows
Job skills
Life skills (money, credit, bills, on time)
Problem Solving Skills
Debate

TABLE 2

Use excel spreadsheets or software instead of TI calculators
Local job shadowing (long term 2-3 weeks); start in 7/8th grades for day or two build to longer as they get older
Career exploration courses
Focus on stream prep courses
World current events cultures
More competitive salary and benefits
Ala cart benefit plans
Add Mandarin Chinese as Language Choice

TABLE 3

Paperless
Streamlined administration and Communication
Trailblazers in technology
After school access to technology
Enrichment courses
Mandatory lifeskills/ adult-life guidance
Strategic plan for corporate partnership (back office, etc.)
Competitive teacher salaries compensation package
Modern Facilities (bathrooms)
Enhanced art program and facilities

Maintaining "Specials" with certified teachers (kudos Spanish!)
Enhanced before and after care
Anti-bullying-forefront (younger/consequences)
Multi-age family groups

TABLE 4

Post high school preparedness
College readiness
Work force readiness
Accountability
Technology Focus; Staff utilization of technology;
One on One
Foreign language focus
Teacher Retention
Filling teaching positions based on expertise and qualifications
Attracting alumni for positions
Class size; Distribution of teachers and aides

TABLE 5

More involved in STREAM
Basic life skills (hands on, checkbook, finances, interviewing skills, etc...)
Funding source for technology/

- technology work force practicality
- Excel, etc. programming, practical applications, hands on activities math and science

Identify future trends
Competitive pay and benefits, continuing education for teachers.
Construct uniform communication model between parent and teacher
Uniforms in high school (standard) currently too lax
Enhance the gifted program, college credit plus, identification gifted with young and follow through
More volunteerism

TABLE 6

Meet needs of all children; one on one; early intervention
Support parents
School intervention
Career Shadowing – earlier; local business
Life skills -Budget; Fill out form; Shop for Groceries
Pass on Catholic Faith and Values -explain
Priorities –Faith first; -enjoy the simple things in life
Retain teachers – environment; compensation
Buildings- connect SP campuses

Ensure children's future with positive direction; skilled trade, more guidance counselor direction
Language barrier with Spanish speaking parents/ children

Electronic school communications with parents & teachers
Attract more students-How? Word of mouth of current parents

IDENTIFY THE FUTURE YOU ENVISION (SMALL GROUP BRAINSTORMING)

10/9/17

TABLE 1

Technology

- Every student has a laptop/tablet
- Access to education programs to utilize the technology we do have

Curriculum

- updated textbooks
- updated resources
- College Credit Plus (physically go) or keep classes online to avoid pushing them to grow up or avoid "ghost town" at school
- On-Site college credential program
- Offer more academics that other schools don't offer
- give them more exposure for life ahead
- Block scheduling

All are Welcome

- Accountability – we are a community and need to support each other
- Staff member for grant writing to allow students with more needs to attend NCS
- Grants for classroom needs
- Communicating the resources available to parents and staff
- Reach out to the community

TABLE 2

Preserve and Promote

- success stories relayed by kids/parents
- too much \$\$\$
- scholarships
- return on investment
- more public info
- More accessibility
- info statistics
- Clubhouse promotion and education
- Pool
- Promote bi-lingual education
- Volunteers

Preserve:

- birthday cards to kids

- more involved
- good place to go
- good education
- parent meeting
- athletics
- incentives
- grandparents day
- family days

Start with the younger kids give them free admission to athletic events so that they can get experience

Religious Identity

- Ways to develop Disciples of Christ...?
- community service
- integration of students/parents
- promote communication
- more information for parents
- Email communication
- Social Media updates
 - -website updates more specific info
 - -mass announcements and info
- Hard to Navigate new things

Technology

- 2017 PTO raising money -- good job!
- need more technology training

Focus on Academics

Educators

- retain teachers; good pay skills; competitive wages
- promote morals and faith
- "Do it All"
- enthusiastic
- work together

Forward thinkers

Broader Spectrum

Student Involvements:

- leadership roles/groups
- volunteers
- family groups

Big/Little Mentor Programs

Educate Kids

- trade skills
- life skills

TABLE 3

Most effective way to pass on the faith
 Sunday Mass Connection (esp. PSR)
 Catholic Parent Mass with Children, 2 Masses per year minimum
 Double the Endowment; Sustainability
 Catholic/ Non-Catholic Families (inclusion)
 Increased enrollment
 Technology based
 Increased special needs services
 No/low tuition
 Lower class size (20:1 ratio)
 Publicize pay scale
 Competitive wages
 Special Ed. Support
 Service to Community
 Facility Needs
 Marketing Outreach
 Transportation

TABLE 4

Technology would grow, cutting edge
 Textbooks wouldn't be needed, costs would be in computer
 Kids still need hands-on learning; social beings so interacting is needed
 Keeping up technology for any child to get into the field they want (engineering, support fields)
 Ask Alumni if we did prepare them for their field.
 SPH might pave the way for internships with business field
 Are there more ideas to expand, such as Robotics, STEM, (more ways to grow fields)
 Kids may have an interest, but child does not have the time needed. (Competition is heavy "hefty")
 Hours needed.
 Many lack financial background even though they may have technology
 Working on teams, groups, so that they learn how to work in the real world. (Give presentations)
 Getting more people to own the dream we have (Stakeholders.)
 To attract more to come because of what we offer
 So why don't alum send kids here? (so important to ask them why?)

Promote the good we do need to be out there. To toot our horn!
 We have students out there doing so well. They juggled so well in high school, that college was easy!

TABLE 5

Competitive wages
 Computer teacher via integrating the new technology (HS and Elem)
 Future consolidation of area struggling Catholic Schools
 Maintain smaller class sizes
 Expand Special needs program
 Facility room for band
 Tuition assistance should equal doing service hours
 Feedback system/survey recent SPH grads with what prepared for and not
 Increase STREAM
 Basic Life skills: finances, paying bills
 Better Communication with apps-school app.
 On site security personnel

TABLE 6

Energy Costs Alternative Idea Solar
 Keep Tuition affordable whether it be thru sponsorship/fundraising...
 Curriculum updates...keep current like STREAM, theology, arts
 Looking at HS curriculums for college, trade schools
 -Do we support EHOVE??
 Is there a program that would help students?
 Identify their career path/college choices earlier on during HS. Expand on career day
 Teacher salary increases and how do we get that.
 Teacher retention. \$\$ Improvement in professional development
 Bathroom in preschool classroom because of ratio student/teacher
 Identify volunteer opportunities
 Expand on gifted/special needs, speech
 Bring back every Friday pizza burgers/ chocolate cake, salad and dressing
 Different levels and types of art, technology, graphic arts, visual arts, music

IDENTIFY THE FUTURE YOU ENVISION (SMALL GROUP BRAINSTORMING)

10/11/17

TABLE 1

NCS open and thriving
Enrollment growth
Keep specials (band, art, sports, ...)
Strong foundation in faith
Marketing to all Christians
Enrichment activities/special interests
More job exploration throughout years
Emphasis on life skills, work ethics
Educating parents/classroom/curriculum
Don't be too sheltered/teach tolerance
Current/relevant with technology both students and teachers

TABLE 2

Communication/Admin-staff-families
Compensation is competitive
Increased participation of families at school
Increased participation of families at Mass
Maintaining critical thinking skills
Maintaining low cost tuition
Strengthen Catholic Identity/Support vocations
Create career awareness OPP's
Foster strong relationships with area industry/business
Enhanced life skills curriculum
Broaden marketing/outreach

- Potential new students

Increase enrollment
Maintaining quality facilities

TABLE 3

Push and Improve Academics

- More enrichment at elementary
- Not necessarily "Gifted" programs
- More continuous improvement on intervention

Find ways for working parents to be involved
Push out of our circles

- Welcome more
- Continue and build navigators
- More bingo nights, turkey trots, etc.
- More robotics/ STEM or STREAM for girls

Not just college prep (trades!)
Experiential learning
Maintain the fun

- Keep engaging/ Lifeskills!

Encourage partnering between parents and teachers

Discipline/ Focus on the majority not just the one problem
More guidance counselors
Critical thinking/creativity
Teach how to respectfully disagree
Employability skills
Continue emphasis on Arts

TABLE 4

Increase enrollment
Cont. education
Teacher qualifications
Teacher retention

- Quality
- Recruit teachers
- Money
- Benefits -retirement

Web site interactive

- User friendly
- Tuition, fees, activities, clubhouse fees
- Paper free forms

Facilities -Restrooms ECC and Elementary
Transportation – School; Extra activities
Retention of Students from ECC to Elementary
Financial Aid available thru the state
Training Staff to report bullying both physical and emotionally
Empower teachers to stand up for ALL students
New family orientation

TABLE 5

Maintain tuition
Payscale for teachers
Technology funding source
Technology computer teacher
Consistent communication in ALL buildings (google calendars, websites)
STEM/STREAM
College credit classes online
Basic life skills- checkbook, car...social media responsibility
Collaborative with local businesses (hands on learning)
Increase local enrollment (more ideas)
Change name of Open House (bring friend-get something)

TABLE 6

Too far to really envision jobs - look at 10 years
 Online college courses versus traditional classroom setting

Technological equipment

- Ron rocks!
- Teacher training for using tech. Modernize
- Tuition reimbursement for P.D.

Offer "intro" to next level

Vocational possibilities

Salaries increase

Champions of Education; Stronger role

Change curriculum to fit future needs; what will needed job skills be??

The Arts

Reorganize class periods and have rotating "life skill" problem-solving class

IDENTIFY THE FUTURE YOU ENVISION (SMALL GROUP BRAINSTORMING)

10/15/17

TABLE 1

Practical preparation

- Real world thinking
- Exposure to career opportunities
- Guidance to parents

Retaining teachers

Tuition assistance

Benefits

Tuition reimbursement for teacher

More freedom in the curriculum

Teacher engagement

"Why are you here?"

"What can we do?"

More ability to work with students with disabilities

Faith formation versus the Real World (social media, drugs, etc)

Faith retention (attending church)

Change in tuition for non-catholics

Other programs set for non- Catholic families

All are welcomed fund

Market SHOP more

Ex. in 2016 so many families saved \$ on their tuition

- Known in area for tech among bus.
- Teachers prepared for tech

Serve students with special needs
 Career days- excused absences for shadow experiences, matched with prof. & trades

More exposure to skilled trade and alternative career paths

Career guidance to help students discern career path

Maintain normality (communication and social skills) for kids immersed in tech

Testing vs. classroom tasks/projects/ assessments
 Learning styles (different experiences and teaching styles)

Continue to balance cognitive development with spiritual and emotional development

Incentives to recruit/retain quality teachers

Rural community (bringing prof. to area)

College job fairs; relationships with BGSU professors

Start from the ground up- by casting wide net throughout Firelands area to bring in new students/families

Draw = caring teachers (everyday, not fake)

Welcomed as new family

Navigator program

Seats filled, lower cost

Get teachers involved to strengthen their roots here

Recruit and retain students of alum

Divide- Why NCS vs. Norwalk City Schools

Never felt like outsider-picked us after attending 3 open houses; felt most at home here!

TABLE 2

Willing to keep up with changes (ed&bus)

- Curriculum
- Industry trends (local and state)

Affiliations

- Colleges (Catholic college?)
- Businesses
- HS internships (exposure before college investment)

Post secondary credits

- Teachers certified to teach for college credit
- Virtual classroom vs straight online

Distinguish ourselves with tech

TABLE 3

Better collaboration with graduating class of feeder schools/ Natural transition
 Marketing of Catholic identity
 Appeal to the kids
 Identity beyond Confirmation
 Student testimonials/ Make them available to kids
 Targeted marketing to potential students
 Work better with neighboring parishes (30min. radius)
 Staff sharing innovations
 Adding courses to curriculum
 Creative scheduling
 Networking with other Catholic schools
 Catholicism beyond Confirmation
 Have to provide quality
 Wider range of transportation
 Market what we have
 Stay progressive/adaptable with equipment and facilities
 Chromebooks for students
 Stay competitive technologically
 Survey recent graduates/college kids
 Feedback on how to improve
 Better preparation for college courses/technology
 Apply feedback
 Encourage people to come back and stay involved
 Focus on sharing strengths

TABLE 4

Tech in the curriculum (expand); engineering/health care lab
 NCS app-connect
 Facilities
 Volunteer maintenance/ Engage
 Vocational school connection
 Practical experience for them
 Tuition credits
 Finances- biggest risk factor

- Endowment not large enough
- Supportive alumni
- More estate planning directly towards school
- Approach/resource other Catholic school how they fundraise
- Campaign to raise funds
- Annual fundraiser-direct fundraiser with specific needs

Transportation (busing)
 Confusion over FFF/church collection/FCEDO

- Where does it go?
- Awareness needed

Teacher pay- extreme dedication/underpaid/No pay scales/ separate rules
 Another IT/computer teacher necessary; (Ron in charge of it all can't do it all)
 How to attract teachers?
 Need finances to be cutting edge
 technology/curriculum
 Attract families?
 How to impress
 Welcome non-Catholics attract

TABLE 5

Way to retain young qualified teachers
 Reward system for teachers/staff doing incredible job
 Local businesses to help offset costs for staff
 Create shadowing program with local business
 Improve HS science program
 Need technology teacher
 Tablet for each student in JH/HS
 Curriculum for students not college bound
 Feedback from students for direction/information to improve curriculum
 Keep the kids Catholic

TABLE 6

Retreats at every grade level
 Religious vocation awareness wall
 Expanded onsite opportunity for post-secondary (college courses)
 World Youth Day

- Better fundraising
- More advertising

Service projects at all grade levels
 Life skills class
 Stronger math program
 Phys ed self -defense class
 Out of town and state experiences
 Marketing by offering shadowing days for older students in local Catholic schools
 Local perks for teachers
 Incentive fund for teachers due to student success
 Low or no tuition for our teachers' children
 Student loan assistance for new teachers
 Classes to teach kids how to study
 Make sure what we teach translates to real world application
 High school uniforms

TABLE 7

Teachers

- Retain and attract without maximum compensation
- Recruit and retain based on motivation and mission

Facilities

- Improvements eg: A/C in the gym
- Technology eg: tablets for note taking

Content:

- College prep vs college credit

- math? business
 - Professional experience/shadowing
- Mentors/teachers/coaches choosing with unbiased view and Catholic identity
- “Same people” volunteer and assist
- Participating parishes...engage more than financially
- Faith identity of mentors/teachers
- Christian vs Catholic vs Other
- Impact of social media on students/teachers and faith
- Parents /students Mass/parish participation

PARTICIPANT INDIVIDUAL RESPONSE FORMS -- QUESTIONS WITH ANSWERS

1. When you consider the next decade, what ideal, value, belief do you hold most important for the school:

10/8/17

- The students education and keeping our teachers up on the new advancements
- Keeping kids grounded through service, relationships, etc.
- Catholic Faith- sacraments in school, service for others
- Graduates who maintain their Catholic faith
- Putting all the ideas down so that our school will be the best and meeting great people
- Identity- Are we a "private "school or a "Catholic" school? If Catholic, then ALL should be accountable to those values, teachers and coaches included.
- Be kind to others
- Relationships
- Mission statement says it all. Need to integrate initiatives ideas, and other tings to continue with a successful model.
- Preparing our children for the "real world careers"
- Faith based learning
- Teaching basic life skills
- Passing on the faith that they realize it's the most important to get to Heaven- otherwise their life is a failure
- Faith
- Our faith should continue to resonate throughout
- Passing on the faith
- Passing on our Catholic faith for today's world
- Maintain the Catholic faith
- Responsibility for self, and for taking care of others
- Keeping families that want to be a part of our Catholic family, whether they can afford it, or not
- Producing good citizens that will be our communities leaders
- To continue we must all participate
- Continuing strong faith education
- Family
- Caring dedicated environment
- Faith continuation
- Catholic Education- stands for faith in Jesus
- Catholic Faith, accountability, preparedness
- Sense of community, knowledge, faith
- Integrity
- Faith, relationships, strong academics
- Faith, preparing students for life after school here
- Preparing them for the future
- Faith development in our children
- Excellent education
- Excellence in education, faith, and helping each student reach their full potential
- Preparing the children for college to succeed in life
- Preparing our children through education to succeed in life
- Prepare our students for real life. Give them the foundation of faith that they will live out life with
- Strive to be the best not just equal/equivalent but above
- Well rounded development of our students, religion, STREAM, life skills, etc.

- Strong faith formation for the students
- Religion and academic excellence
- Faith
- We are different by design “Pass on the Catholic Faith!”
- Faith filled volunteerism and inclusion of all
- Keeping up with the educational needs of our students
- Need for sustainability
- Continue to persevere and have faith
- Faith in God- that he will guide us to success

10/9/17

- That it continues to exist at a level of excellence
- Stay true to our identity but grow with the needs of the students
- Relationships with God, and parents/teacher/students
- To promote Jesus in their lives and “walk the talk”
- A strong school to bring enrollment up
- Our Catholic Faith
- Faith formation
- Vigilance to ensure that we continue to care for and pass along the gift that we have in our school
- Keeping Catholic Identity strong; keeping the curriculum current but still relevant keeping our teachers current with educational opportunities in their subject area
- Developing community
- We are a family
- Sustainability; continued focus on teaching kids and work hard
- Execution of Top 1-3 ideas
- Keep it faith based
- Authenticity, Faithfulness to God’s calling
- Keeping our school up to date/ competitive while continuing to embrace the Catholic Faith
- Faith will lead us/ strong education excellence is made up of many things- some we have now, some we will strive for
- Commitment
- We care about others- want to serve and make a difference in the world
- Faith , the bedrock of our past. If it is not steeped in our staff, it will not be steeped in our students
- Sustainability
- Securing our future by increasing the income stream that comes from endowment
- Hold true to your mission all 3 points
- That NCS needs to be here for the largest number of kids possible
- Focus on most critical priorities... can’t do a little bit of everything. Do fewer most important things really well!
- Faith, Respect, Family
- The success/enrollment of the school
- Excellence/ tradition
- Stay the course
- To foster a Catholic community through education and involvement
- Family
- Continued faith formation
- Change is constant- Keep up with it
- Tradition-continue what we’ve been doing since 1923
- Planning

- Faith based Education is paramount for our community
- Keep the tuition affordable while increase salaries
- Commitment
- Maintain enrollment because of faith/religious values and beliefs
- Development
- That they provide excellent education along with faith that builds the students love for Christ, this will create people who will give their all in all they do
- Keep the Faith. We do a fabulous job of this and I want it to continue
- Continuing to grow in faith and Christian values
- Passing on the Faith
- The faith is our religion
- Maintaining Catholic faith and education
- Continued Focus on tradition and community service
- Stay connected
- Catholic Identity- value based education
- Faith

10/11/17

- Commitment, strong faith base
- That it will still be here for generations to come
- Recruiting/retaining great quality teachers; marketing to Christians in the area – could we speak @ other local churches
- Maintain the Catholic identity in all aspects of School
- Being a Catholic/Christian voice for our community
- Teaching at a young age the importance of faith
- Faith
- Teach to love and serve others & make a difference in the world
- That NCS can survive – continue to operate
- Faith Formation, collaboration & the parish
- Growth
- Religious beliefs, compassion
- Developing men & women for God & others; to help children learn to think critically & independently, solve problems, create & innovate; to strengthen our community by teaching kindness, responsibility, commitment
- Commitment to Excellence
- Strong faith, rigorous academics, welcoming all
- Flexibility while still keeping core values
- Be living proof of God's love thru everyday life.
- That we are helping to push (I hate this word) out well-rounded individuals that will be good employees, employers, volunteers, husbands, wives, children, etc.
- Commitment to excellence
- The concept of involving family & schools in faith matters
- Catholic leadership
- The vitality of all the young parents who have ideas concerning the future of NCS
- Faith-filled and family oriented
- Foundation of faith
- Service, empathy to others
- Faith, education
- The pride and spirit of the School

- Catholic education is very important in today's society
- That we hold the Christian tradition
- All work together & grow
- Tradition
- Preparing students for their future – whether higher level job vs. Mom/Dad
- Great education that a student can apply after high school
- That our teachers and administration stay dedicated and committed to students
- Catholic faith, small school setting
- Commitment from teachers and students
- To continue to keep communication open and listen to the ideas and try to implement
- Engage our students to hold fast to tenants of Catholic faith; not be afraid to continue preaching that faith
- We continue to develop well-rounded, moral, and academically prepared students who will be ready for their next chapter.

10/15/17

- Keeping Catholic beliefs in the school
- Vision for 20, 50, 100 years from now ; how to thrive in an era of turmoil
- Keeping the Catholic faith integrated in daily life
- Establishing a solid Catholic faith foundation
- Preserving its Catholic identity
- Authentic Catholic identity; not just identifying as Catholics
- Continued advancement of the Catholic faith
- Catholic identity
- Teacher recruitment, retention, and reward at the end of every school year; each student should do an assessment of the teacher; ask about how they felt in the classroom, valued; respected? etc... To reflect Catholic values as well as actual teaching abilities; any teacher doing their job should welcome student surveys.
- Retaining Catholic identity; great teachers
- Keeping kids Catholic
- The children need to be able to defend their faith when they go to college
- Commitment and dedication
- Retaining/recruiting top notch teachers
- Education and Catholic support
- Respect
- Sense of faith and family
- Recruitment and retention of staff and students
- Maintaining a faith based education in our community
- Retaining quality teachers and always improving year to year as a school
- Tradition of faith and family
- We must continue "Catholic Education"
- Keeping us Catholic
- Doing a great job now must continue the same success
- Faith and education
- Community; faith; stewardship
- Faith filled students with common sense life skills to combat today's crazy society.
- Put God first in everything
- All are welcome; faith based education
- Tradition, faith formation, growing with the times.
- To best prepare my child for success in today's world

- Have the best education in a close knit community and you will always be relevant.
- To continue being a Catholic school and not a private school; the school needs to uphold the traditions and beliefs of the Catholic faith.
- The attention to the changing world and still protecting the future.
- Adapt to change: strike a balance with how much technology should be in education.
- Strong Catholic values
- Positive faith formation with a quality education.
- Moving forward with change
- That the core beliefs of past generations are the same ones needed for future generations
- Putting our students first
- The ideal that by being Catholic you are part of something much larger than yourself
- We are a Catholic school not a private school; emphasis on Catholic teachings is a necessity
- That students retain their Catholic faith once they leave our schools and enter society.
- Serving more students with special needs and keeping our Catholic faith; our students/children once they graduate, although I don't know how we can do anything about this at school. It's a life lesson.
- Continue to educate and encourage at a high level
- Faith
- Faith, family, do not be afraid of change, keep the tradition.
- Continue Catholic ideals
- Unique Catholic identity; keeping up with world changes
- Catholic identity and graduate practicing long term Catholics
- Community-maintaining/improving the school's sense of community.

2. Tonight the most significant insight I gained was:

10/8/17

- That everyone wants the school (teachers, students, facilities) to be the best it can be
- That we all want basically the same thing, and are willing to sacrifice time and talents, etc. for the school
- Everyone is on the same page- all want what is best for the future
- The dedication of the young parents showing up
- All the sharing
- We need to increase teacher pay and benefits
- To think about what's next... once things are maxed out 2031!!
- Need for direction
- The investment that parents parishioners and others have for Norwalk Catholic School
- Parents feel the same- pay teachers more-prepare our kids for adulthood-technology is key
- The reality that our teachers earn less than public schools and could be a great challenge when our teachers retire
- The parents really care about the future of St. Paul's
- That everyone was involved and all had similar goals
- That there are so many parents that want the school to continue to be successful
- People care- we can
- Everyone wants to see our school succeed and believes in our mission and staff
- The value of FCEDO and how it is maintained and kept to succeed
- Teacher salaries and the difference between us and public school
- Together we can make a difference
- The importance of retaining our best teachers
- Share beliefs in the school

- The supportive society that is St. Paul
- Teacher recognition is lacking
- The history
- How many people share the same values/opinions
- Our past history has shown us the path to “2031”
- Community
- That many people care for one school and want it to succeed
- Sense of unity and collaborative vision
- Hearing other ideas about how to improve schools (especially from parents with older children)
- Willingness of parents for their ideas to improve our schools
- Learning that most people feel the teachers are under paid
- Need for capital campaign
- How much people love this place
- How important the children are in this school and the faith and academics
- How hard it is to tell the future. Let’s be sure to give our children the Guidance to succeed in their adulthood.
- The passion of parents to help make NCS great
- Eye opener about costs; good brainstorming regarding opportunities.
- It was a good reinforcement of ideals and information
- Ability to learn history and share ideas
- How much inline all groups were on the different needs of our school
- Exchange of ideas!!
- Allowing history to repeat and learn from this history
- The need for the next generation of leaders to step up
- The importance of finding others to pass the torch onto our leaders “legacy “ families are almost at the end of this watch
- Most everyone has the same ideas and concerns
- Everyone is working toward the same goal- to educate our children to be good people

10/9/17

- The dedication of those involved
- How many people are willing to support the school
- Depth of support
- We need to lead as a team
- That I am part of the growth
- There are many people that care about St. Paul
- Everyone has a common vision
- Being heard
- Satisfaction that so many care so much
- That when you are invited to a meeting with the 2 Sue’s you have to work
- The need for more intentional and targeted communication
- The full history of Catholic schools in Norwalk and the ideas from all who were present
- The school differentiation which is not marketed but should be
- Have to continue to ask questions about what the future is going to be and how do we effectively address the future.
- Telling my own “why” story to other parents- Why choose NCS?
- That there are many like-minded people in the NCS family
- How many people value NCS/SPH
- The solid foundation that was set in 1830

- We have to do this together- all aboard
- I must teach them how to work in a group, on a team, because it is their life
- Where we/ St. Paul is today in the journey and all of the opportunities to improve
- There are a lot of ideas on how to improve the school. Hopefully we can act on them
- The lack of communication with new parents
- That people outside our community are unaware of even basic information about our school
- So many great ideas
- We are in good hands- many people care and are working hard to have NCS here in the future
- Listening to the timeline
- We are all interested in what technology our children need for the future. How will it impact their lives?
- Young and older had the same thoughts
- Dedication, devotion of majority people involved
- The amount of commitment the parents/parishioners had for the school
- There are many with the same concerns; new ideas
- What is needed in high school years
- Belief in the school and future of the kids
- We need to keep working to stay “different by design”
- Commitment of attendees
- Caring individuals, meshing of personalities
- How everyone’s insights were pretty much all the same
- A lot of people see things the same way
- History of the school
- We will be heard and move in a positive direction
- Where we have come from, our ability to move forward and the passion of our administration to move forward
- How many of us want to see the same things for our schools/children and families
- Where we truly sit compared to other schools
- Positive feelings about the schools
- Need for parent involvement (increase)
- The importance of our schools continued growth
- How many people love and value this school
- Importance of endowment to school
- The motivation and inspiration of getting involved in promoting the Catholic education
- That there are people everywhere who want to work together for our kiddos

10/11/17

- We have committed, amazing people in this school that will continue to make NCS and amazing school
- That every group had the same ideas only expressed in a different way
- That there’s more going on at our school than we know about---how do we communicate all these great things to our parents? The teachers were great contributors tonight.
- The history of the Catholic schools in the area.
- Hearing the great ideas from others at my table and around the room.
- How important the school is to all parents
- More young people care than I thought about our future.
- So many people care about our schools.
- Understanding the importance in the future
- Keeping an eye on the future – seldom do I think about that here at NCS
- Vision of the arts/trades/music/life skills
- History of the school/legacy

- The insight of how important St. Paul's is
- We are part of something bigger – it reaches back to 1830 & God willing & with our resolve & sacrifice stretches as far into the future as the communities we serve; it's our watch
- So many of the suggestions are things that we think we already do, but apparently don't do well enough
- To see how many people care about this school and the importance to continue the work of those who got us here.
- Many of us have the same worries however the same hopes & dreams
- Nice to see that there were many similar thoughts among the groups
- I need to do a better Job @ my job.
- There are numerous people with similar ideas & it comes down to implementation
- The commitment of young parents
- The need to market the great qualities of our schools to people who are not necessarily involved with the schools
- Our schools, teachers are committed to studentsThe dedication of all who attended
- Recognizing how many individuals care for NCS, who are willing to work together
- How committed others are to my child's success. It's remarkable & Inspires me to want to find my way in...to have a purpose in alignment with this school's future.
- History of the School
- Sense of faith
- Seeing everyone that wants to be involved
- Everyone wants best for this place
- Everyone wants to see our school strive
- Hearing all the ideas
- Everyone communicating & our thoughts being similar
- The opportunities that H.S. students have for online course – is t beneficial?
- How good the school is doing now
- Everyone agreed at some point on technology, life skills need to be taught, teacher salaries
- There is so much potential to growth and make the school and Catholic faith stronger
- There is a need and people are willing to help
- Many people have the same vision for our school
- That a lot of us have the same wonderful ideas for NCS future
- Just how committed folks of all ages are to this school and its future
- History, I was really impressed w/ the timeline. I had never seen it presented like that.

10/15/17

- The consistency of thoughts for the future
- The investment we all have as families for the same goals
- The eagerness of our community to help and provide ideas for our school
- The cost involved in educating a student
- We have a lot of generous, supportive people in Norwalk Catholic Schools
- We are in need of a lot of things, all of which cost money. What is most important?
- The need for clarity on function, resources of: FCEDO, FFF, Parish Subsidy to school, payment to Diocese.
- Keeping our kids Catholic
- How all the groups seem to be saying/wanting the same things for the future
- There are a lot of people who care
- The need to hear (survey) what students think about their educational experience
- Learning all the things that people put that put their dedications into this school; amazing! Can't wait to see where it takes us.
- The amount of involvement from alumni, parents, graduates across the ages.

- Caring and support from parents
- Commitment across all generations; seeds of willingness to set forward planted
- The history of the school
- The number of people with similar beliefs about the success of our school
- How passionate this community really is about this school
- How many people share the same care and concerns for the parish and schools
- Listening to the “old” people
- The value of a Catholic education
- There are more people that want to step up and ensure the future of our children and school
- There are more opportunities for tuition assistance than I realized
- The history of Catholic Education in our area in regards to our responsibility to continue the tradition
- Future leaders of Norwalk Catholic School, will they be as committed?
- Being involved in vision for future
- We have a lot of people/families that care about this school
- My worries are not just my own! Shared by many and many want to be involved in shaping the future
- All aspects of operating a school
- There are a lot of wonderful people who believe in the future of this school
- How much more we need to do as a parent to instill the value of this great school
- Thinking and reflecting on St. Paul’s school after our kids are gone
- Community
- Teacher quality is a concern for most
- Community
- How important it is to see what we are doing now and plan for the future
- How great it is to be a part of Norwalk Catholic Schools
- That there are a lot of concerns from the community, but leadership is hearing the concern and planning to fix it
- We have to find a way to keep the next generation Catholic
- How many dedicated individuals there are who are invested in the positive growth of Norwalk Catholic Schools
- The work, faith and dedication that made SP and NCS what it is today (NCS timeline)
- How welcoming and accepting the St. Paul community is
- Theme of ideas was so close for groups; we know what we want to see and see administration/school listening to all
- How energized young people are in our future
- Problems of other Parishes to connect with St. Paul
- How much in tune we all are
- Need for community enrichment of faith at work
- Idea of reaching out to surrounding Catholic schools and creating a partnership so that kids already feel part of the community

3. It's my opinion that the most important areas (projects, needs) for the school are:

10/8/17

- Real job experiences-try to get kids in with a job interest for a week. Maybe two a year.
- Cutting edge technology while maintain a respect for personal interactions and relationships. Arts- we need to further develop our art programs. Anti-bullying focus- start this with younger students.
- Everyone is on the same page-all want what is best for the future
- The dedication of young parents showing up!
- Faith. Planning for the future. Planning to help all students grow
- More revenue to recruit and retain teachers, establish Catholic "all are welcome" throughout entire school
- Life skills, interpersonal skills
- Retention of faculty, maintenance of campus, protection of students
- Technology is significant, being able to have stable finances to support operations and expense of other initiatives (teacher salaries, building improvements, etc. is very important)
- Job shadowing- starting in JH. New technology and new jobs- where is our world going, what do we do to prepare our kids for future jobs. Teach Chinese-not German. Teach software, not use of TI calculators- people don't use these at work anymore.
- Competitive salary/benefits for teachers, STREAM- teaching technology while also teaching social skills and basic life skills like budgets.
- Faithfulness to the faith, technology for the future, practical preparation for the future
- Teachers! We need to keep our teachers and the new ones coming in
- Maintaining and recruiting teachers, bringing in more students from the surrounding communities, finances
- Teacher salaries- long term sustainability- a funding plan.
- STAFF salaries- I know you're not surprised, maintain academic excellence, retain and recruit students.
- Increase enrollment, keep staff and teachers, prepare all students for real life skills
- Technology, career and life focus, connecting with the community, firm faith foundation that has been challenged
- Teacher's salaries- retaining good staff
- Admission, retention, career readiness
- Retention of students
- Technology, life/work skills, college preparedness
- Technology and guidance
- Attracting and retaining good teachers, teach to all levels (gifted as well)
- Attract/retain the best teachers and clubhouse staff
- Preparing students for life skills- careers and generous adults (stewardship)
- Technology, faith, relationships, volunteerism, prepare for life after school
- STREAM and college prep courses, compensation for teachers
- Continued focus on the overall development and education of our children
- Promote high morals, retain teachers, academic rigor
- Teacher compensation and retention. Attracting and retaining students
- Always up to date STREAM learning more extracurricular activities
- Teacher wages-benefits improvement, technology (sustainable funding for) STREAM, mandatory basic life skills (checkbook, budgeting, etc.)
- Technology as it applies to real world applications, boosting and retaining enrollment.
- Broader curriculum, technology attracting/retaining more families: inside and outside of Norwalk
- To get more enrolled, maybe busing, or getting other Catholic Schools to bring kids here that go to schools that stop at 6th grade
- Preparing our children to succeed
- Better compensation and retaining (attracting) teachers
- Brainstorming, small group, glad/happy doing strategic planning to be prepared

- Keeping relevant technologies in use, keeping teachers up to date with technology and methods of teaching, retain teachers
- Continued faith formation, life skills training/job shadowing opportunities, teacher retention/compensation
- Facilities- teacher/staff competitive compensation packages, Technologies enrichment opportunities.
- Teacher retention (wages, benefits) relevant topics (German?) Community involvement, job shadowing.
- Communication/ cooperation/consistency
- Technological resources and education on these resources, teacher recruitment and retention, language, music, arts.
- Teacher pay benefits, adjusting curriculum to real world student/ young adult needs
- Career exploration for our students staff retention
- Keeping up with the changing world and providing what the students need
- To teach modern technology but also to teach life lessons- budgeting, communication and to be happy in one's life. Happiness comes from within it is not bought with money

10/9/17

- Increased technology, college prep, special needs
- Catholic identity, curriculum
- Technology, Faith
- Continue to maintain/improve the quality of a child's experience at St. Paul's
- finances/salaries
- As a staff member: growth in the area of special needs, a clear salary schedule and retaining new teacher
- Keeping great teachers
- Employee compensation, communication tools (targeted and useful), Change in curriculum to teach financial life skills and communication skills
- Teachers salary, reaching/talking with possible families, promoting our success
- Sustainability, increased enrollment, technology, prepared students
- Modify process for how students learn creative, more project and team based education beyond and including STEM
- Keep up with technology, instill (continue) faith based principles
- Affordability (maintain), excellent teaching staff retention, communication/technology
- Review curriculum and continue to update technology. Encourage outreach to the community (educate others about our strengths)
- Maintain cost of tuition/offer more assistance, promote trades and life skills for our kids (EHOVE connection), Attract and offer competitive wages for our teachers, coaches, etc.
- To grow the endowment, increase enrollment, continue the solid faith foundation
- Financial enhancement, teacher retention, technology
- Not just technology, but also hands on. They need instruction to be personal, and life giving
- Developing and communicating strategic plan to cover the next 10 years for NCS
- Curriculum enhancement, teacher salary, professional development
- Better pay=Better teachers=better education, better commitment= better involvement=better service, better communication= better understanding=better education
- Double the endowment, to maintain the strong Catholic faith commitment of our administration
- Widening the view finder to develop a full scale curriculum for students...inclusive of mandated course work, contemporary sciences, tech, engineering curriculum, feedback loop from graduates and businesses as to what students need to be prepared for tomorrow's jobs.
- Help to maintain tuition-maybe a "sponsor" program to help families in need, stay updated in curriculum
- Teacher compensations, upgrades to the buildings, special need services for the students
- Basic economic classes-budgets-banking skills-life skills, improved technology skills
- Technology advancement
- Keeping up with modern technologies without forgetting the tradition

- To grow with technology while retaining good and dedicated teachers and staff with competitive wages
- Teacher wages and importance of technology in the schools
- Community awareness about NCS
- Increased teachers' salaries, technology, life skills for students
- Being responsive to the community needs and opportunities, being affordable and being a good value, commitment of so many toward living wages for staff
- Technology based education, enrollment increase- marketing/transportation, facility facelifts of older building components
- Tuition low, salary increase, prepare kids for college, trade schools, help in preparing them, STREAM, technology but hands on opportunities, service, activities, academics
- Wages-every staff member should know where they are on a pay scale, technology-it doesn't do any good to have it if no one can use it.
- Competitive wages, introduce technology earlier in school, reinforced life skills
- Wages for staff, technology and development training in this area
- Technology, improvement in sciences to prep for college curriculum, marketing our school for student retention and growth
- Restroom in the preschool rooms
- Integrated curriculum, teacher salaries, continued parental, community involvement
- Increase enrollment/ decrease classroom size
- Technology education
- Technology, paying our teachers well, making sure students are ready for college or life after high school
- Integration of technology at a young age
- Extra teachers and technology
- Increase in enrollment
- Smaller class sizes and special need services, also marketing the mission. Most people in Norwalk do not know the best parts of NCS

10/11/17

- Retaining and Recruiting great- good quality teachers who care and are involved and hands on
- Keeping tuition low; increase teachers' salaries; widen our school enrollment to make it available to all Christian students
- Endowment -- Educating parents on how it works/why it's important; Faith Formation – encouraging families to participate & attend mass; Retention/recruitment of quality teachers
- Recruiting & maintaining high quality teachers – compensation, benefits, & education for teachers; increasing enrollment by marketing to all Christians, "All are welcome."
- Attracting and retaining quality administrators and teachers goes a long way toward attracting & retaining families
- Quality teacher retention; inclusion of all faiths; technology
- Educating about trades; increasing the # of guidance counselors; finding financial resources to do the above and to retain teachers
- Retain students – involve people – establish good funding methods
- Being able to prepare students for the future – college/career/life skills
- Retaining families and their children by meeting their needs... academics 1st and relaying to parents the importance of a Catholic education
- Communication. Ownership.
- Life Skills; technology; funding
- Enrollment
- Curriculum; financial aid for families; technology w/ the PD or staff to give the skills offered by the promise of tech; gifted/RTI/differentiated instruction w/ systematic support to serve all of our kids as individuals
- Teachers' compensation; classroom/real world collaboration; college credit inside the classroom

- Resources/ materials/ technology that are current; open communication/ sharing information w/parents; increasing enrollment
- Marketing to Christians; life skills; ability/time/encouragement to play
- Growth while maintaining focus
- Communication, marketing, educating parents
- Developing well rounded students with the skills needed for real life
- Technology; excellent teachers
- More equitable compensation for our faculty
- Education, family values, Catholic upbringing
- Preparation & life skills; making the school financially stable to continue meeting needs; and achieving our mission statement
- Life skills for our students; training hearts & minds through committed families; exposure to faith opportunities
- Pour into our people... your teachers. Has anyone considered team builders/or organizational development for them? They are the backbone of our children's experience & they deserve to be challenged & lifted...not academically...but culturally.
- Arts/music; hands-on learning; communication among students
- Tuition assistance for future enrollment
- Staying with the times for students; helping teachers; maintaining up-to-date facilities
- Marketing to everyone; teacher salaries; we have to get PSR students in our schools
- Technology; Keeping enrollment up; life skills; teachers' salaries
- Computer skills; college enrichment
- Teacher pay scale & consistent communication in all building from teachers
- Administration & teachers being qualified for their positions and holding them accountable for their jobs
- Hands-on classes
- Technology improvements; offering life skills; more focus on trades-not just college; to be qualified for your position
- Committed teachers including salary and benefits; Technology is always up to date with the ever changing world; basic life skills for students
- Student retention; staff retention; good teachers
- Continuing education for all; being qualified for the job you are doing; life skills
- To improve academics and retain the qualified dedicated teachers we have; to continue to move forward with technology
- Teacher & Staff salaries, continuing education, make sure they are qualified; life skills & STEM programs need to excel; engage the opportunities in the community (ie business)
- Technology across the board. We have to stay a step ahead rather than 2 steps behind

10/15/17

- Teacher retention; teacher pay/benefits; keeping up with technology
- Math; technology; focus on high performers
- Improved technology access; teacher recruitment (ahead of planned retirements); access to vocational training
- Improving the school's ability to instill in students the importance of the Catholic faith and how to "live" it after graduation
- Faithful and faith filled Catholic leadership; Better preparation of students for life after High School (College and vocations)
- School nurse; up to date technology and the system (wireless) to use it; Salaries for teachers that are competitive in the market
- Quality teachers with first pay scales

- Teacher recruitment, retention, and reward; technology; social pragmatic skills; Catholic identity
- Technology; teacher salaries, retaining great teachers
- Science and technology
- Making sure the students know Jesus and understand the gift of their Catholic faith
- Technology, obtaining and retaining quality teachers and faculty with a Catholic identity
- Technology; holding the same values and accountability for all “staff” ie. coaches, etc...(Catholic Identity)
- Teacher retention/faith maintenance; financial independence
- Encourage and implement individual strengths; more guidance and info. on what students strengths are: college/work? Shadowing
- Increase technology that is curriculum driven not just technology for the sake of technology; real world experience, 1 month or less of high school internship (shadowing, a week at 4 different positions); build hands on labs; engineering, health care etc... students spend one day a week in these labs.
- Technology and fund raising
- Advancement of technology; funding of sources and resources; transportation and other means to increase enrollment
- Practical education; pushing our kids to the right direction after graduation
- Continued involvement of the whole community to raise money for quality teachers and employees of the schools
- Keeping good teachers; increase technology
- Teacher salaries to keep qualified teachers; college prep courses; study skills class should be offered
- Finances; Catholic values
- Growing the faith; preparing our children to live in this world; new teacher recruitment
- Career development; no child should go to college with an undecided major, either they know what they want to do and go, or they explore 2 year/vocational/trade school options; remove the shame from these other options, there is good money to be made in these careers and our kids should know this!
- Keep asking the questions! Parents, teachers, and parishioners should be involved ongoing; if the schools aren't changing with the times, they won't succeed; it's easier to keep it good vs. try to fix the bad.
- Welcoming new students/families; teacher retention/preparation; preparation of graduates for the real world
- Preparing students for the real world after high school
- All are welcome – continue to reach out, develop programs to attract more students/families; getting students ready for the future (jobs, college, etc...)
- Grow/enhance curriculum and college prep; attract and retain good teachers
- The college/business connection (college classes and shadowing); retention and recruitment of great teachers
- We have excellent teachers in this school, however there are some teachers at the JH/HS level who are not teaching adequately to the students due to being older or lacking knowledge of the content or do not give 100%; there needs to be more monitoring and evaluating of these teachers
- Technology teacher; service projects started at younger ages; career days/shadow days
- Best teachers and best technology
- Inclusion
- A school with expanded curriculum in science and technology
- Recruiting good teachers and retaining teachers
- Embracing our Catholic identity and growing our faith as a community so that we are driven to pass it on to the next generation
- Invest in more technology for the students; reaching out to other communities to show them the benefits of belonging to Norwalk Catholic Schools
- Development of critical thinking skills and being able to form an intelligent opinion
- Catholic identity; keep kids Catholic post confirmation; collaborate with surrounding Catholic parishes to ensure their kids will be able to get to and from school

- Teacher retention/recruitment/compensation; technology-add teacher, stay cutting edge, keep in perspective; special needs students, better serve all students; faith retention
- Improved science program; focusing on social/emotional needs of students is just as important, if not more than academics; getting/maintaining competitive pay and benefits for the teachers as well as all other staff
- Continuing to make sure that each individual student is catered to; making sure that people outside of the community feel welcomed; better preparing students for college/work force
- Outreach to keep enrollment steady; teacher retention/quality pay; technology advances to prepare students
- Retain good teachers
- Technology and having students share their experience through modern technology
- Technology; communication; expertise
- Increased participation in living out Catholic faith daily; lives focuses on God/faith not self; Job shadowing to teach communication and build fostering relationships
- Need to help students not just parents see why Catholic education is important; appeal to the students especially in JH/HS because they are likely making the decision

4. The best part of tonight's meeting was:

10/8/17

- The great ideas for improvement and enhancement for our schools. Also the interaction with everyone
- Open discussion it was great and felt very comfortable
- Participation of all food- good meal
- Community, sharing a meal and sharing ideas
- Meeting great people
- The people who care
- To gain a better understanding of what and why Norwalk Catholic Schools are so important
- Sharing of ideas
- Input from so many different individuals. That is vitally important for future successes
- Listening to what others had to say. Hearing that we do a lot of things well
- Learning the opportunities for the school and others
- Meeting new people from different stages of life
- Working with the group
- Group discussion
- All aspects were enjoyable. Thank you for putting this together.
- The camaraderie at the tables. Seeing and hearing these young folks
- The camaraderie we were discussing freely and no ideas were shot down
- The group participation
- Sharing ideas and learning from parents with older kids
- Exploring together, sharing ideas with a group
- Fellowship
- Ability to discuss difficult issues
- Communication amongst everyone
- Group sessions
- The group ideas/opinions, dinner too!
- Brainstorming/ visions for the students
- Hearing from families at all stages of the education community
- Working as a group
- Gaining a continued understanding of the importance of school and community

- Meeting new people and sharing ideas
- Open conversations and ideas that all felt were important
- Getting to know everyone and their thoughts on the school
- Introductions- people and brainstorming sessions
- Discussing in small groups to help direct the future of our schools
- Communicating with other parents, sharing same concerns/dreams
- Being able to help determine what some of the future needs are
- Fellowship we all want the same for our children
- Everyone's ideas were valued- stress of "it's our watch"
- Brainstorming, small group glad/happy doing strategic planning to be prepared
- Sharing ideas, and hearing the ideas of others, meeting other dedicated parents and past parents
- Sharing of so many wonderful ideas and experiences; meeting other dedicated parents
- Ideas, History and Fellowship
- Everyone's input and willingness to share ideas. Food was good also
- Expression of ideas
- History of the schools and education on endowment
- Hearing everyone's ideas from brainstorming
- Fellowship spending time with others who care about wherever school is headed
- Fellowship and sharing
- To talk with others about the success of our school

10/9/17

- Interacting with others
- Sharing ideas
- Small group discussion
- Seeing our school is sound for the future. For our children to become leaders in our community
- Hearing other's ideas to help maintain/improve our school
- Table discussion
- Making sure everyone knows that they are not alone in their care and effort to keep NCS great.
- Sharing so many important, bright ideas!
- Hearing the groups share their ideas
- Knowing the school is not just sitting idle, but moving forward and seeking others opinions
- The interaction and overall attendance in support of ensuring Catholic education stays vibrant in Norwalk
- Brainstorming
- Table discussions
- Camaraderie! But really- feeling a part of something special
- The collaboration and the discussions that came about while working toward a common goal
- Introductions from everyone, table discussions and presenting all ideas.
- Fellowship and sharing
- Meeting new people- putting names to faces. Hearing the positive good feelings about our school
- Awesome food, people I got to know, and share with
- Connections with leadership, faculty, and peers parents
- Table discussions learned a lot about all the things people want to see for the school.
- The brainstorming and so many of the same ideas coming up
- The sharing at the table, though the history was especially moving
- The teaming
- Hearing others input
- Seeing everyone's visions
- Hearing everyone's ideas and how we all said the same things
- Good conversation points and food

- Involvement of everybody present at the dinner
- Being able to share ideas in an open format
- Hearing all of the small group ideas for future success
- The working together as groups
- Everything! Great learning experience!
- Being heard
- Hearing the input from all groups
- Open sharing of information, history or our Catholic Education; wide cross section of individuals in attendance
- Everyone's vision
- The exchange of ideas
- Sharing of videos
- Hearing each other's ideas/seeing how much our community cares about our school
- Idea sharing at the end
- Hearing all the positives looking at where we have been, where we are, and where we will go
- Dinner
- Sharing of ideas
- Getting insight from people who are new to our school
- Hearing other's opinions
- Seeing what others think
- Group sharing
- Getting to talk to different stakeholders

10/11/17

- Interacting with other parents; learning about things that I might have not known about
- Table discussions
- Interesting to hear from the teachers
- Being in a group setting with other proud supporters of Catholic education
- It was forward-thinking
- Brainstorming with other parents
- Sharing ideas w/people I didn't know before; hearing the history
- Camaraderie
- Dinner/Sue Riley
- Meeting new people, future parents
- Meeting new parents- seeing that others share my ideas
- Getting to hear all the opinions of the other parents
- Brainstorming together; putting together our next watch (&call to action); history
- Meeting new people
- Hearing ideas from different stakeholders
- Hearing that many of us have the same goals in mind
- Seeing others ideas
- Camaraderie
- Shared opinions
- Community
- The sharing of ideas
- The future looks to be in well hands!!
- The energy of the room
- Listening to the history of the school and looking forward to the future
- Connecting with others' who care
- Hearing ideas of others

- Meeting new families
- Being able to speak with everyone. Doesn't happen often; how busy everyone is
- Group session; lots of great ideas
- Hearing other people's thoughts
- Hearing the ideas
- Communication
- Everyone's support for the good of everyone involved
- All f the ideas
- I enjoyed the discussions, small groups
- That you are wanting EVERYONE to be involved
- Parent Involvement
- Listening to the history of our school
- Being able to present our ideas and know that NCS is interested in improving even though it is a great place
- Seeing that there is a new generation poised to take the reins!
- Was interacting with the various stakeholders – parent, alum, staff, Governing Board. Usually it is only one group at a time.

10/15/17

- Format was great and excellent group brainstorming
- Meeting new friends
- The ability to learn from each generation of NCS people
- Meeting other parents outside of school
- Sharing ideas
- Sharing and having conversation with others for the planning of the future!
- Hearing all of the input from parents of students I teach
- Being together to brainstorm
- Brainstorming with others
- Discussing the goals, beliefs, values with all the different people, parents, alums, and teachers
- Dinner and company
- Meeting and hearing the other opinions of the parents
- Seeing our faith and community come together to plan a future for our future generations
- Sharing of thoughts and ideas; fellowship; knowing our future is in good hands.
- Group input, feedback
- Meeting and sharing ideas with others; seeing other viewpoints of what was important to them
- The overwhelming sense of community and partnership
- Building collaboration to advance the school; reinforce the need for the school to succeed
- Group discussion
- Group discussion; and involvement
- The many different views and opinions, but all with the same results
- Listening to the ideas that each table talked about
- Doing the SWAT and sharing of ideas
- Meeting other people that came and are committed—the ties that bind
- Hearing about the level of commitment (from those in charge)
- Seeing the attendance and the willingness for others to be a part of the solution
- Being inspired
- My thoughts and ideas are shared by others
- Hearing others ideas and feeling part of a community
- Being able to brainstorm and share openly with other parents; enjoyed the comradery
- Knowing we are mostly on the same page

- The ability to share as a large group and meet new people
- The discussion at the tables and how much we see in common for the future
- The people at our table
- Working together
- The sharing of ideas
- Brainstorming with likeminded individuals
- Sharing
- Seeing the commitment of so many people in our community
- The ability to collaborate and have an intelligent discussion on how to solve problems
- Structure and family setting
- Interacting with others; listening to their ideas and sharing mine
- Hearing from everyone, new families and “old” families
- Hearing how much people love and are proud of our community
- Sharing a faith filled evening with a supportive and energized group of people who all have the same goals for our school
- The involvement of the generations!
- The group discussion
- Ideas
- sharing of ideas
- Seeing the ideas for the school’s future and the commitment to NCS at all generations

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

10/8/17

- No cell phone usage
- I’m a little concerned about cell phone policy- I think letting kids keep a cell phone on their desk is pretty ridiculous and a big distraction. Please rethink this. A kid can make it all day without a cell phone. I promise!
- Wonderful start to gaining insight to our direction
- Three cheers for our leadership who give of themselves to better our school and parish
- Pray we are able to make some tangible changes and show parents the results of their feedback
- Need to help people own our schools from the minute they walk in the door
- Job well done! Good luck with the other meeting
- Thank you
- Great Food
- I think this is a great school
- Great evening and opportunity to be part of the future
- Would like to have “progress” summary of next steps; continue communication and dialogue, More opportunities to get involved and be a part
- Great school this will help us become more competitive These items will help with recruitment, funds, enrollment and will invest in future. All attainable and within our reach!
- I would like to better understand endowment
- Thank you- you were right the 3 hours went very fast
- Keep up the Good work
- This was an interesting evening. Thank you for the invitation

10/9/17

- We need to get our fund raising under control 6 fundraisers in last 2 weeks- why should you have to tell a little child- sorry we can't do this right now. Money only goes so far.
- These should be held more often (every year or two) nice to hear all sides (admin., teachers, parents, etc.)
- I think we need to make commercials of tonight and advertise it to all of those who didn't attend
- enrollment/informational forms to be typable online. Saves so much time! Thank you- NCS is a wonderful place!
- Record the sharing part (maybe it was) for future discussions on Governing board, FCEDO, etc. Great meeting!
- It moved and went so quickly. It was invigorating.
- I'd like to help if possible.
- Have fun
- As I heard our group speak of increasing enrollment, while not increasing tuition, raising salaries, reducing class sizes, etc. it became apparent that the only way to do this was through endowment
- Thank you for all the hard work put into this meeting and the future of NCS. If I can help in any way- please call - Cheryl Gfell
- Congratulations to the staff organizing the event
- Start right away while eating that way you don't run out of time while people are giving their ideas/speaking to the group
- Well done on the event!
- Now we need to follow thru with these visions after studying and seeing the best way to apply them to our school.
- This was a good idea to get the input from the community
- Thank you
- I am very upset about "all are welcome" i know a family first hand that reached out to the board via email 4 years ago about sending their autistic daughter to NCS. This family did not receive ONE email back How is that welcoming??
- This was very interesting. I hope we will be able to continue the excellence of our school
- Dinner was good, well organized. Appreciate all the time that you take in promoting Catholic Education
- Coming from a public school, I have felt the caring and faith centered atmosphere everyday in the Catholic school. It is something you can't replace, but many people don't understand it's value!

10/11/17

- Great night. Great feedback. Interesting perspectives.
- Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to participate.
- This was an enlightening evening. Very thought provoking – parents/staff have great ideas and concerns. We need to find productive ways to address them.
- Thanks for including us, giving us a voice in the future of our school.
- Well planned and executed --- a great springboard for the next 15 years!
- Meeting new people
- Hearing ideas from different stakeholders
- Thanks for putting these events together. Well done.
- We have great leadership!! Hope to keep it up!!
- Thank you for the opportunity!
- I feel everyone is trying to maintain our enrollment; buildings are maintained well.
- Food was excellent!
- Staged group leaders was somewhat different than usual & awkward

10/15/17

- How do we get it done?
- Too much focus on special needs, not enough focus on advance placement and gifted programs; public schools are very well founded for special needs; the opportunity cost for us hurts everyone to benefit a few.
- Continued education for teachers and staff on special needs; service projects for all grade levels (parent driven via the PTO?)
- Real coffee please
- Thanks, I didn't have to cook! Seriously, I am honored to have my opinion and experience valued.
- After the sharing of brainstorming, we should've had another round of concrete ideas to focus on under the ideas that were brought up.
- To merge the public school and Catholic school, could invite the HS students to each other's games and share the student section there.
- I love this school and am very excited to see where these meetings will take us in the future
- Good event thanks for inviting
- Reach out more to newly young alumni; pass the torch; recruit more volunteers; encourage them to commit, feel invested in their school
- The different generational points of view were inspiring; the thought of bringing us all together was an incredibly great idea
- Today was a good start in talking about the value of a Catholic education
- Enjoyed learning about the history of our schools and are excited to take turn as watchmen
- This was a wonderful meeting! Keep the momentum going by giving updates on how projects from the meeting are coming
- As an employer it is very scary trying to find "good employees" between drugs and lack of commitment to employment/life goals
- Thank you!
- Thank you!
- Thank you! Well organized and planned; greatly appreciate you asking for our input!
- Feedback; let us know what the Governing Board is doing with the ideas mentioned
- Just as they give the students college visit days here there also needs to be job shadowing days given to the students so they can take a day to explore career options and not be marked absent.
- Increase of teacher pay is a priority; foundation to keeping quality programs
- Career/college preparedness was mentioned a lot; one way to have juniors/seniors look more at what they want to do is by having them do informational interviews with recently graduated students.
- Emphasis that we are a Catholic school; any school can prep for college, St. Paul can prep for Catholic religion, vocation, family life both now and in the future.
- I've talked enough
- I had a great experience at St. Paul and I want to make sure that everyone has an equal opportunity to succeed and enjoy their time here whether they participate in sports or not, each student is a part of this special community.
- Thanks for holding these events. They are vital to the strategic planning for the future of NCS.
- The meal was great
- Grow student participation and family attendance at weekend liturgies