

Huron School District American Rescue Plan Stakeholder Survey Results

July/August 2021

1. What are the most pressing needs currently facing students and schools in Huron?

Finding a new normal

Mental health

Availability of programs for those that are more advanced. Lots of help for those falling behind already.

Resource inequalities, access to mental health services.

Counseling/mental health assistance/options.

Training for teachers

Mental health and moving forward academically

Getting back to full school activities so these kids can reach thier potential.

Filling in gaps from issued curriculum and gifted programs

Student teacher ratio in lower elementary schools. The smaller the classroom sizes , the less students fall through the cracks.

Lack of stability in their homes and with adults, mental health not prioritized in schools

Access to computers, ipads, wi-fi not only at school but also at home for middle and high school. Computer equipment and classroom online programs that work.

Parents not caring about the teachers

The lack of appreciation to teachers (they need pay, support, autonomy and to feel valued as professionals), the cuts to the SPED budget (kids are not getting the help they need despite IEPs and 504s) and teacher/student mental health (COVID was hard on everyone but teachers/healthcare workers took the brunt of this) What are we doing to make sure they are supported, so they can support our kids? We need so much more behavioral help in schools. The stories my kids tell me about classmates behaviors in class is appalling.

For whatever reason the behavioral classroom was cut from the Huron Middle School. Behavioral issues are a HUGE deal in the Huron Community.

More teachers that are bilingual

So many students need someone to talk to when they're ready to talk. Having more counselors available to fill the need as it's happening.

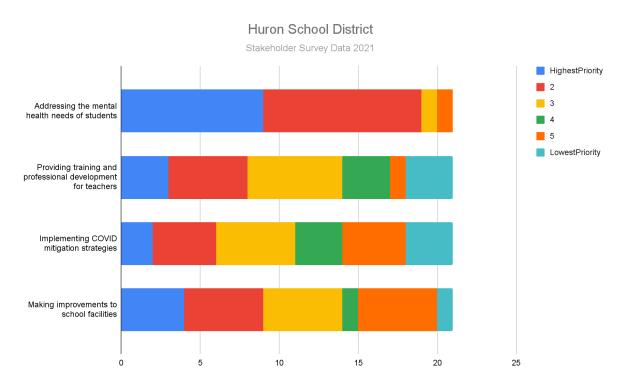
Aid with school work.

Getting back to normal

Getting the kids caught up that did distance-learning last year as they definitely were not given the same

level as instruction as a students that were doing in person learning. I would also like more mental health services available to kids in the school district that don't require months-long waiting periods before they're able to be seen by a mental health professional. I also think it would be a great idea to make tutors more widely available on an as needed basis for kids that maybe just need a little bit extra help. I'm specifically thinking of middle school and high school.

Bullying



2. Within the purposes of the ARP / ESSER outlined above, how would you priority your spending?

3. If you have specific strategies in mind for any of the items listed in the question above, please provide details.

Teaching mental wellness. Help kids not get left out especially middle school age/ grade school.

I would like to see the schools have the space and resources to help students with their mental health. Especially in the younger grades having a space where student can go and calm down or regroup is very important.

Masks when someone is sick and no excuse they should go home if thier temp is 100°

1-2 counselors at schools with a secretary to help build programs and have time to reach all students

Maintain a smaller classroom size, or more Para support.

We need more guidance counselors! The elementary schools have way too many students for 1 counselor and 1 principal. Teachers need more help. They can't be everything for everyone.

We already have most of what is needed for COVID mitigation...use it. Look into quality ventilation systems in all the buildings. This will decrease not only COVID spread but all other airborne/droplet

transmissible illnesses as well.

behavioral classrooms. There are some kids that simply need to be seperated from the good behavior kids that actually want to LEARN.

More counselors

As I look through the school supply list it's asking kids to continue to bring Clorox wipes and Kleenex which I think is a bit ridiculous considering the millions of dollars the school district is receiving. Let's provide that stuff so the families don't have to worry about the added expense. Personally it's not a big deal for us to provide those things for our kids, but I think for some families it is. I know it's a small detail, but definitely something that could be looked at. As the Delta variant is spreading rapidly, I would like to see masks be required for students and teachers and it be enforced that they are worn correctly. Easier said than done I know, but we need to be smart about this and do everything we can to try and avoid another school shut down.

4. What other ideas do you have for moving education forward, following the pandemic, and for spending these federal dollars in ways that align with the purposes described above? Please describe in detail.

Free school lunches for all students

School based mental wellness programs.

I think that some of the older students should be asked these sqme questions. You would probably get some really good ideas.

The pandemic highlighted the resource inequalities in our district. Many families did/do not have access to devices or internet at home. Moving forward I think that it is important to use our resources to help bridge the gap for those students. I think that the district did the best they could but I feel we can do even better, moving forward.

None

If possible to continue, the free lunch for all children has been a huge help for the families in our community

Get back to the teaching that this district is known for. Avoid Critical race theory teaching and continue zero tolerance on bullying (and actual implement it for middle school even if a parent doesn't believe thier child acts that way).

Based on tests scores, students have extra math or reading classes per quarter based on standards behind in. ELL students need extra pull out classes to get caught up with translators to build connections

Build more classrooms on Buchanan so there is more room to spread out and we don't have to use classrooms as storage.

Change teacher SLOs. Why are we assessing teacher's on their proficiencies by using NWEA. NWEA itself says their test should not be used to assess teachers. Let's start to focus on the things that matter to these students. Focus on teaching to state standards, not to the NWEA test. Give classrooms funds or supplies for STEM/STEAM activities when students are completed with tasks early. And also, why not ASK the teachers what they want? Most of them are parents as well and probably have some ideas!

I would like to see more elementary school kids participating in after school programs, not necessarily to learn academic skills, but to learn social skills and life skills. The free lunch program during the summer was an amazing opportunity. Maybe there would be some way to give kids healthy snacks to take home

after school, or on Fridays to eat over the weekend.

For high school students, I would like to see more opportunities to learn about different types of jobs either through in-person presentations from members of the community or through Zoom with people in larger communities, local fieldtrips, or job shadowing. It is hard for these kids to know what they want to do after high school when they dont know what their interests or options are.

I have seen that the Huron District will bend over backwards for ESL, Title and SPED. What about Gifted and Advanced students? These students have just as much legal right to their educational needs as those mentioned prior. With this amount of money, why not start a program for Gifted and Advanced. Stop telling parents there is no money for these students. (which makes no sense considering these students have legal rights just like the disadvantaged).

teacher salaries (increase them), increase the SPED budget(the hackjob to this budget in 2020 was terrible), more teachers (classroom sizes are big and para help is needed for behavior concerns)

same as above

Bonuses for all school staff

More counselors to make sure every student has access to someone to talk to when they need it. Also, small group sessions to talk with kids about how the pandemic has effected their lives and family. Some lost loved ones and others are still dealing with side effects. Make a plan for positive goals to improve mental health for everyone.

More help with for the kids who have a hard time working in a classroom setting.

Teaching kids more life skills

I think continuing to provide free school lunches for all kids in the district would be a wonderful benefit.

It was very helpful to parents when meals were free for a kids.