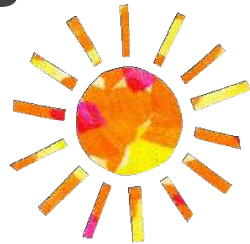


SPS Grade 6

Simsbury Public Schools

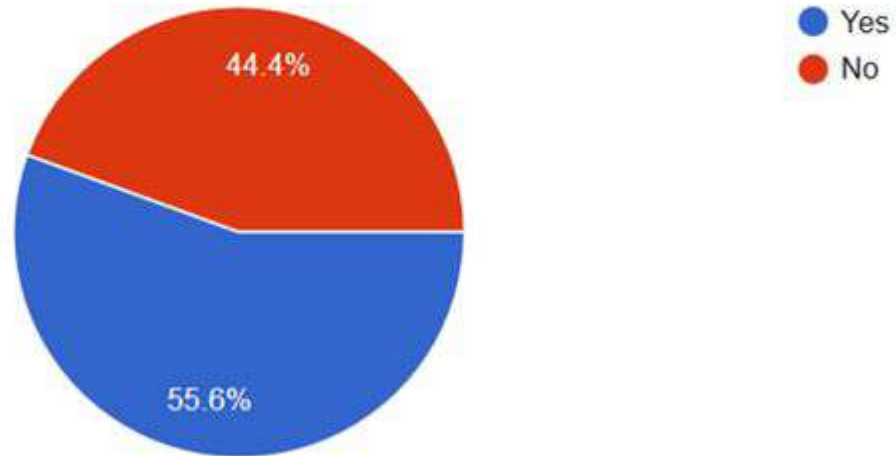


Where should grade 6 students be located?

Community Survey

3. Would you support a 6th grade addition to Henry James Memorial School?

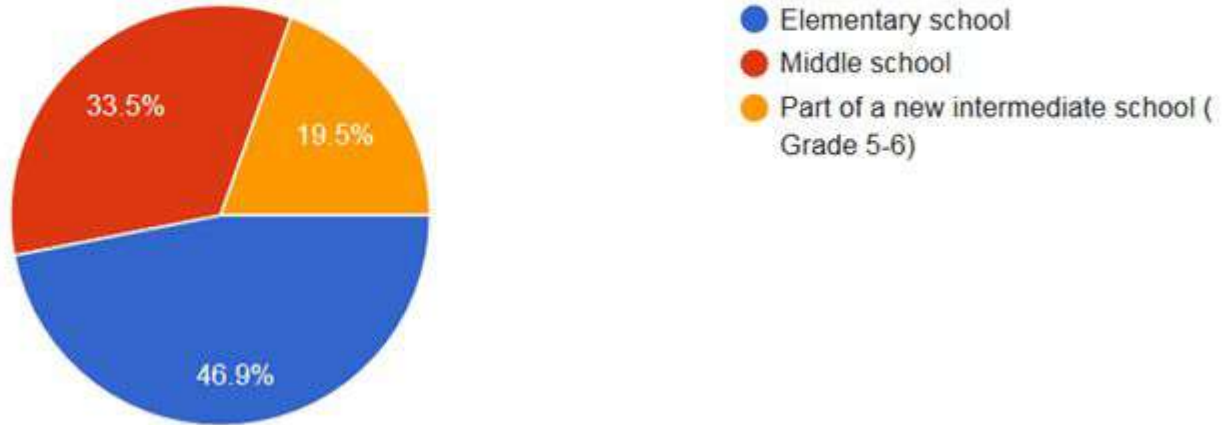
1,078 responses



Community Survey

7. Where do you believe the most effective location is for Grade 6?

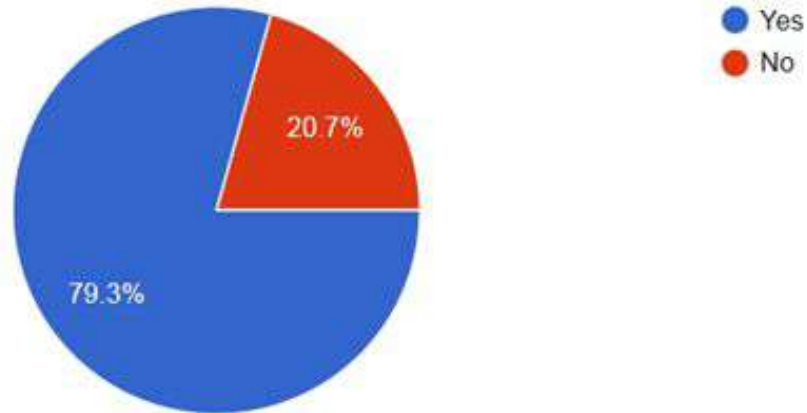
1,080 responses



Staff Survey Data ~ 2019

3. Would you support a 6th grade addition to Henry James Memorial School?

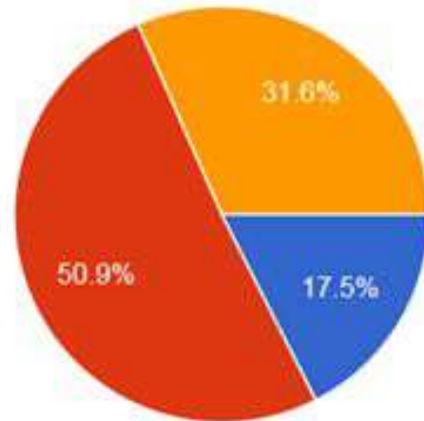
237 responses



Staff Survey Data ~ 2019

7. Where do you believe the most effective location is for Grade 6?

234 responses



- Elementary school
- Middle school
- Part of a new intermediate school (Grade 5-6)

Conversation Focus

SPS Grade 6 Teachers

- Educational Needs
- Developmental Needs
- Social Emotional Needs
- Transition Needs



Educational Needs Addressed - Grade 6 to HJMS (6-8)

— — —

- CT ELA/Math Standards are 6-8, appropriate combination of grades to work collaboratively on content delivered
- Align content with middle level philosophy and resources where teachers can specialize in specific subjects
- Grade 6 Teachers can collaborate, plan projects and learning, and integrate skills/content across disciplines
- Schedule Opportunities (teaching specific subjects) - Team-based Structures
- Potential Opportunities for World Languages (choices), experiences in Technology Engineering, Family Consumer Sciences, Access to Health and Wellness courses
- New architecture will support current 21st century skills & learning needs

Developmental Needs Addressed - Grade 6 to HJMS (6-8)

— — —

- “Tweens” need to grow and be challenged - have choices that align with interests
- Challenge to program for adolescents in K-6 structure (assemblies, after school clubs, school-wide activities, etc.)
- This is a very unique age - need support aligned with their specific needs
- Time to expand opportunities for making friends and new learning with subjects not available in elementary school
- This age group needs more times to be independent - gain more responsibility at this age
- These students need to have more choices than what is available in elementary schools
- So many opportunities for extracurricular choices

Social Emotional Needs Addressed - Grade 6 to HJMS (6-8)

- 6th grade is a unique year as they develop, they are very different than they were in grade 5 (hormonal changes)
- The kids that have gone to HJ and return to visit, say that they should be in the middle school - can be on the Honor Roll!
- Three (3) years at the middle school allows them to create “meaningful” relationships/connections, new friends
- New traditions can be established for 6th graders and for the 8th graders at the end of three years
- Seven (7) years in one school is ‘just too long’
- School Counseling structure can be available for students in grade 6

Transition Needs Addressed - Grade 6 to HJMS (6-8)

— — —

- Students of this age have changed over the years and it is time for them at this age/grade to be in a different environment than the school they have been in since Kindergarten
- Students have to transition at least once, either after 5th or 6th
- Parents want to be involved (conferences)
- The resources and materials available in the Library Media Center are much more age appropriate for students
- Auditorium for performances in music / theater

Frequently Asked Questions

- Transition
- Recess
- Leadership Opportunities
- Addressing Unique Behavioral Issues
- Operational Concerns:
 - Staffing
 - Schedule
 - Bus Routes
 - Budget



SPS Elementary Demographics

School	Current Enrollment	2024-2025 K-6 Projections	2024-2025 K-5 Projections	Classrooms Emptied
Central School	376	417	361	3
Latimer Lane School	445	548	467	4
Squadron Line School	601	694	609	4
Tariffville School	247	233	206	2
Tootin' Hills School	369	424	346	3 / 4



Given consideration to the following:

- ***SPS 2019 Facilities Survey Results***
- ***Focus Groups with Grade 6 Teachers***
- ***Educational Advantages***
- ***Developmental Needs***
- ***Social/emotional Needs***
- ***Transitional Focus***
- ***Demographic Projections***

There is strong support that our 6th grade students should be located at HJMS to receive their education.

Simsbury Public Schools

Comments / Discussion

