

## What is your relationship to San José Unified?

- Community Member – 40.0%
- Parent/Guardian/Family Member – 35.0%
- Teacher/Staff – 12.5%
- Other – 12.5%

## What's one thing you'd like to know about San José Unified?

Why don't the teachers get paid more?

What is the current status of arts education programs in the district? Are there any major disparities in particular schools?

How are children of color doing?

How are we going to make the opportunities at the schools, at the various grade levels, come up to par with the industry that surrounds us?

How do all the on-site solar panels offset energy costs of the district? How much capacity (kWH) is installed on SJUSD sites?

What is SJUSD doing to recruit families and spread the good word about its schools and programs?

What plans does SJUSD have to empower teachers to become innovative educators of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century?

How will it fix decrepit buildings and continue with quality teachers?

Can I consider myself a member of the community if I neither live nor work in San José?

What is included in San José Unified's Safe Routes to School program and how effective is the program?

How are students afforded opportunities to attend programs with outside organizations such as Rotary?

Why hasn't SJUSD brought back the Save School Sports event, as well as the SJUSD Foundation?

How strong is your commitment to immigrant children?

How is SJUSD dealing with transgender issues at the elementary level?

How can we create a true learning atmosphere and ensure that every student is given the opportunity to rise to their potential?

How much are the teachers paid as a starting wage and at 10 years?

## What's one thing you'd like to know about San José Unified? (cont'd)

Can the district measure specific costs and benefits of charter schools and offer reports on each charter school's performance?

How many of those students reading below grade level are recent immigrants?

What is the district doing to support continuation high schools like Broadway?

If we know that participating in Arts and Performing Arts Education equalizes academic performance of low-income students when comparing the performance of high-income and low-income schools, why are we constantly cutting arts budgets?

Schools like Gunderson with a 94% graduation rate are only graduating 32% of students college-ready. How do you plan to address this?

How can we communicate to the voters that public education makes the whole community smarter?

How do we break the misguided trust that the Board of Ed has towards SJUSD staff?

How are sports funded for equity, not equality?

What programs does SJUSD have that address our young students on a social-emotional level?

What is the security protocol for possible school shooters and other emergencies? Do you have trained staff to handle these situations? Can there be some uniform communication to the parents of the district that show you are concerned for the safety of our kids and your staff?

How much money does SJUSD spend in direct fees to legal team, personnel preparing for and attending, IEP's, Mediation, Due Process, settlements for FAPE disputes, and NPS or out of district placements?

What authority does the Board of Education have regarding approval of the LCAP, funding priorities, etc.? It seems that all the board does is sign off on decisions already made by district administration.

Why are my property taxes so high, and yet the teacher:student ratio is also so high?

## Where should San José Unified focus its energy and resources?

- Improving outcomes for targeted student subgroups – 26%
- Attracting and supporting high-quality staff – 23%
- Engaging with parents and families – 17%
- Building partnerships to expand opportunities – 17%
- Other – 14%

## What's one thing you would change about San José Unified and our schools?

Pay the teachers more.

I'd love a State of the District address posted online for parents and shown at sites that highlights just how SJUSD is innovating and progressing and its future goals.

The district should focus on ensuring our Latino students will come to understand the importance of an education so they will stay in school, graduate, and progress in their evolution as productive citizens.

I would like to see Family Resource Centers at more elementary schools.

Increase per pupil funding, shrink class sizes, and build more schools to accommodate.

Better services to students with special needs and learning differences.

Provide the same opportunities for the students at all of the schools.

Give the kids less homework, more time in the classroom, and even more break time to recharge during the day.

More openness and community involvement

Introduce mindfulness training at the beginning of parent, teacher, and student assemblies/meetings.

Lack of teacher autonomy

Become a learning organization at the administrative level

Inadequate pay for teachers

Change the corrosive attitude that seems to take root in the lower grades that learning and doing well academically is not something to admire and emulate.

More videos to reach families and disseminate information about district information.

Connect schools with significant PTA resources with those that don't have the same level of parent and financial resources — kind of like a sister school program.

Also, have higher SES schools (PTA) mentor lower SES schools in helping to cultivate effective leadership from the ground up.

More stability in the Special Education department

More innovation and resources in Title I schools = EQUITY

## What's one thing you would change about San José Unified? (cont'd)

Safe campuses across the district

I would love to see a foreign language added to the elementary curriculum.

Create an atmosphere of transparency, and build trust with staff and the community as a whole.

Smaller class sizes in Grades 1, 2 & 3

Easy access to data across all levels and departments

As taxpayers, we have a right to know how and where the dollars are being spent.

Maker spaces at every middle school

Given the high cost of living in this area, especially housing costs, I wish teacher salaries were higher.

I would like to see more community involvement with surrounding neighbors.

Really strong first tier supports, smaller class size, integrated co-teaching, commitment to all children with disabilities remaining in neighborhood schools

## Overall, how would you rate your level of engagement with San José Unified?

- Very satisfied – 3%
- Satisfied – 56%
- Not so satisfied – 31%
- Unsatisfied – 10%

## Is there anything else you'd like to say?

I wish more of my neighbors appreciated the fantastic schools and district we have here.

I don't have children or grandchildren in the system, but I know that public education needs our support.

Our public education system is antiquated and designed to serve a 19th century student body. Serious reforms are required to make teachers, administrators, and students more effective and successful.

I was an SJUSD teacher for 8 years and wanted the next challenge. I tried everything I could in SJUSD but couldn't find a place to grow. Redesign 2.0 was cancelled abruptly, Model & Mentor Teacher programs never got off the ground, and AP positions weren't open. SJUSD isn't a place that tries to develop its own talent, which is a waste.

## Is there anything else you'd like to say? (cont'd)

I live downtown and my neighbors and friends all think SJUSD has terrible schools. They're wrong, and perhaps not a small bit racist in those presumptions, but the district doesn't do much to dissuade them. There are charter school advocates knocking our doors every enrollment period, but never SJUSD folks. Where's the positive PR for our local schools?

I'm very concerned about the politicization of my children's education. I wouldn't mind this if there were some instruction on conservative principles as well. I was brought up in a politically neutral school with teachers on both sides who taught us to think and make an argument.

Engaged parents and neighborhoods drive a sense of community. Lets offer up school sites for great public events like mini-festivals, highlight student art and music, and provide community events with companies sponsoring great events for neighborhoods.

Looking forward to having more voices on the school board who value public school teachers!

I would just like to have the best person in place to make sure the youth of today have a fighting chance at a good quality education system that will help them advance and succeed going forward. I also hope that the school system will allow students to take advantage of outside programs offered by non-profits.

How about trying a year-round school instead of a summer break?

SJUSD needs to bring back creative programs/classes like arts, theatre, band, cooking, etc.

I believe in this district, and we need new and fresh faces/leadership to keep schools moving forward!

It will be interesting to hear how you and others contemplate educational and community vision and leadership, without the standard "edu-words" that get bandied about.

*These kids are counting on you to elevate their voice. They need you to stand for them! Stand up and be loud!*