Recent high school graduate survey

The purpose of this survey is to get input from recent graduates of Berkshire County's public high schools about their high school experience. Your responses will help in the county's long term educational planning efforts. Please respond to the survey no later than April 30. Also please make sure to complete the whole survey, which should take 7-10 minutes (19 questions). Thank you!

1. Are you a graduate of a public high school in Berkshire County, MA?
   - yes
   - no

Graduation year

2. What year did you graduate from high school?
   - 2019
   - 2018
   - 2017
   - 2016
   - 2015
   - none of the above

Residence and high school

3. What city/town did you live in when you graduated from high school?

4. From which public high school in Berkshire County did you graduate?

Current status
5. What are you doing now? (check all that apply)

- enrolled in two-year private college
- enrolled in two-year public college
- enrolled in four-year private college
- enrolled in four-year public college
- enrolled in other post-secondary education/training program
- enrolled in graduate school
- graduated from two-year college
- graduated from four-year college
- military
- working part-time
- working full-time
- looking for work
- taking a gap year
- other (please specify)

6. What were the THREE greatest strengths of your high school? (check up to three responses)

- challenging classes
- courses that inspired me
- engaging instruction
- career focused programs
- dual enrollment (taking college classes for credit during high school)
- staff who cared about me
- Other (please specify)
7. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements regarding YOUR ENGAGEMENT IN SCHOOL?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>Strongly agree</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Strongly disagree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>My teachers cared about my academic success.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Students at my school got along well with each other.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adults working at my school treated all students respectfully, regardless of a students’ race, color, national origin, ancestry, religious creed, sex, disability, sexual orientation, or gender identity.</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Safety and belonging

8. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements regarding SAFETY AND BELONGING?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>Strongly agree</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Strongly disagree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I felt as though I belonged to my school community.</td>
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<tr>
<td>I felt safe at my school.</td>
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<tr>
<td>I had at least one friend who I could count on to support me.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Learning environment

9. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements regarding your HIGH SCHOOL’S LEARNING ENVIRONMENT?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>Strongly agree</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Strongly disagree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>My teachers set high expectations for my work.</td>
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<tr>
<td>The things I learned in high school were relevant (important) to me in my future.</td>
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<tr>
<td>My teachers provided me with the opportunity to work with my peers to solve critical problems.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Satisfaction level
10. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>Strongly agree</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Strongly disagree</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>My high school offered a wide enough variety of CLASSES to keep me interested.</td>
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<tr>
<td>My high school offered a wide enough variety of ACTIVITIES AND CLUBS to keep me interested.</td>
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<tr>
<td>There was at least one adult in the school I could confide in.</td>
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<tr>
<td>I developed critical thinking skills in high school.</td>
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<tr>
<td>I was challenged by my classes.</td>
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<tr>
<td>I received enough help from my school with the college application process.</td>
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<tr>
<td>My high school provided me with useful information about jobs and careers.</td>
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<tr>
<td>My high school prepared me for success in the next step of my life.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

11. How helpful were the following career exploration and immersion activities during high school in guiding you about career options for your future?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Very helpful</th>
<th>Somewhat helpful</th>
<th>Not helpful</th>
<th>Not applicable - did not participate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>career exploration classes</td>
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<tr>
<td>vocational/technical classes</td>
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<tr>
<td>visits to local employers</td>
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<tr>
<td>job shadowing</td>
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<tr>
<td>career fair(s)</td>
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<tr>
<td>youth leadership program(s)</td>
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<tr>
<td>internship(s)</td>
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<tr>
<td>mock interviews</td>
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<tr>
<td>completing career interest inventories/surveys</td>
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<tr>
<td>career speakers</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Grading schools

12. How would you grade your high school, other public high schools in Berkshire County (on average), and public high schools nationally?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A - excellent</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>C</th>
<th>D</th>
<th>E</th>
<th>F - failing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>your high school</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>other public high schools in Berkshire County</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>public high schools nationally</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

13. Do you wish you could have attended another high school rather than the one you attended?

- [ ] yes
- [ ] no

If yes, explain why you wish you had attended a different school?

Readiness skills

14. What THREE READINESS SKILLS do you feel high school graduates need most to succeed in the future? (check up to three boxes)

- [ ] problem solving
- [ ] critical thinking
- [ ] service orientation
- [ ] collaboration/coordination
- [ ] judgment/decision making
- [ ] creativity
- [ ] resiliency/perseverance
- [ ] leadership
- [ ] responsibility
- [ ] adaptability
- [ ] communication
- [ ] cultural awareness
- [ ] goal-focused
- [ ] self-directed
- [ ] entrepreneurial

Other (please specify)

Academic competencies
15. What THREE ACADEMIC COMPETENCIES do you feel high school graduates need most to succeed in the future? (check up to three boxes)

- literacy (reading)
- writing
- mathematics
- science
- technology
- Other (please specify)

- media literacy
- practical life skills
- global knowledge
- content knowledge
- learning strategies
- career and/or technical skills
- history
- foreign language

Things I would change

16. Knowing what you know now, choose up to THREE things about your high school that you wish you could have changed. (check up to three boxes)

- more variety of classes
- smaller class size
- larger class size
- more attention from guidance counselor
- more diverse student population
- extra help with school work
- more career-related activities
- more advanced placement classes
- more challenging classes
- more project based learning
- more welcoming school environment
- more diversity among teachers and staff
- wouldn't want to change anything

Other (please specify)

Race/ethnicity
17. What is your race/ethnicity?

- [ ] African American
- [ ] White
- [ ] Asian
- [ ] Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander
- [ ] Hispanic
- [ ] Multi-race, non-Hispanic
- [ ] Native American
- [ ] Prefer not to answer
- [ ] Other (please specify)

Focus groups

18. Would you be willing to participate in a 45 minute virtual focus group (via Zoom) sometime in the next few weeks to talk more about your high school experience? You would receive a $25 gift card. You will need a computer or tablet and reliable internet access to participate.

- [ ] yes
- [ ] no

19. If you would like to participate in the focus group, please provide your contact information.

- [ ] Full Name
- [ ] Email Address
- [ ] Cell Phone Number