

Priority Ranking

In a Fall 2017 survey, family and staff members were asked in an open-ended question to list their top five priorities Mill Valley should focus on in the next five years. An analysis of these narrative responses allows us to rank priorities. The first chart shows the priorities from families; the second chart shows the priorities of staff. Below is the process used to analyze results:

- STEP 1:** Read a random sample of responses across all priorities to generate list of 5-10 overarching themes.
- STEP 2:** Generate a list of key words and phrases for each theme identified (see key words in table below).
- STEP 3:** Search all free response data for key words and phrases tied to each theme.
- STEP 4:** Count how many free responses correspond to each priority, and weight response based on priority ranking (1-5).

Because these priorities are based on survey data alone, it's important to consider school-, district-, and community-level context in conjunction with the findings when determining next steps.

Family

Priority	Results	Key Words
1 Social Emotional Learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priority weighted score*: 1,683 • 490 total responses • 128 of those responses ranked #1 	social emotional learning, SEL, self management, social, character, empathy, emotional, resilience, kindness, integrity, life skill(s), emotionally, socially, whole child, good human, moral, social responsibility, sensitivity, 21st century skills, social awareness, mindfulness, growth mindset, grit, relationships
2 Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priority weighted score: 643 • 200 total responses • 44 of those responses ranked #1 	technology, social media, electronic devices, Google, coding, programming, online, digital
3 Teachers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priority weighted score: 501 • 127 total responses • 58 of those responses ranked #1 	retaining/retain/retention, amazing teachers, top staff, teacher competence, teacher excellence, skill parity, best teaching, great teachers, support the teachers, quality of teachers/quality teachers, highly qualified, qualified staff, excellent teachers, top teachers, teacher satisfaction, wonderful staff, strong teachers, good teachers, training opportunities
4 STEM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priority weighted score: 470 • 139 total responses • 38 of those responses ranked #1 	STEM, math, science, computer programming

*Priority weighted score: accounts for # of times the theme was listed as a priority as well as how high it was listed. Priority weighted score = # of responses x (5 for 1st priority, 4 for 2nd priority, 3 for 3rd priority, 2 for 4th priority, 1 for 5th priority)

Priority	Results	Key Words
5 Academic Excellence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priority weighted score: 421 • 100 total responses • 58 of those responses ranked #1 	academic excellence, cutting edge curriculum, improve academics, core competencies, world class instruction, progressive education, academics, academic standards, challenging curriculum, engaging curriculum, academic focus, academic basics, academic knowledge, well rounded school experience, making curriculum more challenging, strong curriculum, engagement in school, quality education, passion for learning, motivating environment, love to learn, love of learning

Staff

Priority	Results	Key Words
1 Social Emotional Learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priority weighted score: 317 • 86 total responses • 32 of those responses ranked #1 	social emotional learning, SEL, character, whole child, emotional, well rounded, empathy, student wellness, social, emotional intelligence, social emotional development, kindness, growth mindset, grit
2 Teacher & Staff Retention and Satisfaction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priority weighted score: 222 • 56 total responses • 27 of those responses ranked #1 	strong staff, classified staff participating, excellent staff, caring about all staff, staff compensation, support teachers, qualified staff, retain/retaining, support its teachers, quality staff, supporting teachers, teacher stress levels, good teachers, staff pay, well qualified teaching force, best teachers, teacher compensation, respecting the faculty, staff mental/emotional support, great staff
3 Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priority weighted score: 123 • 49 total responses • 5 of those responses ranked #1 	technology, computers, digital, media
4 Class Size	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priority weighted score: 122 • 31 total responses • 12 of those responses ranked #1 	class size, student numbers, enrollment
5 Professional Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priority weighted score: 106 • 38 total responses • 3 of those responses ranked #1 	professional development, teamwork, work together, across grades, collaborating with colleagues, supporting teacher implementation, provide teachers adequate support, more time to debrief/plan, staff development, teacher development, teacher support, PD

Mill Valley School District

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