

SOAR V COMMUNITY RESEARCH



STUDENTS SURVEY 2023
APPENDIX: VERBATIM COMMENTS

May 8, 2023



Verbatim Comments: Suggestions to improve Hudsonville Public Schools

Q: If you could change one thing to improve your education and experiences at Hudsonville Public Schools, what would you change?

Summary of Suggestions

- Classes and instructional content that are more relevant and more engaging to them
- **❖** More career oriented classes and instructional content
- More individualized instruction to a student's learning style and interests
- ❖ More world language classes, especially American Sign Language and French
- **❖** More electives and fewer required courses
- More actions to prevent, discourage and address bullying, especially for harassing others for their sexual orientation
- Students and teachers both need to be more welcoming, more respectful and more kind to others not like them
- Teachers should treat everyone fairly and not have favorites
- More flexible cell phone policy, including allowing cell phones in backpacks

(n = 516)

A better student environment

A consistency in teacher standards

A lot of my classes include days where we just sit and read and copy notes on a screen.

A wider variety of classes that can be taken. It is difficult to get in all the extra elective that interest students because of all the required credits needed to graduate.

Abolish English classes.



Hudsonville Students SOAR V Surveys 2023 Verbatim Comments—Page 3 Adaptive classes up and down to students intelligence

Add a 6th hour instead of 5

Add French



Add more classes that prepare you for the real world.

Add more color and student work to the building, the building feels like a prison in some places. Please add more languages like sign language and French!

Adding ASL to the language category.

Administration and teachers need to take more of a stand against the bullying of minorities. Students need to call people out when they see bullying. Hate speech should not be tolerated at any level and this school allows it, and thereby encourages it, for students. I feel that not taking a stand and allowing hateful things to be said encourages those things to be said even more.

Allow accommodations for any student who needs them

Allow some cell phone use in class.

Allow students (and it's essential that it's the student's choice) to pick whether they attend school in person or online. Students' days who attend school in person wouldn't look too different, while students who chose to partake online would get their work sent out to them at 6 AM every school day (the teacher decides what gets sent out the next day) and the student has until midnight that night to get whatever work is due turned in. One example of an online student receiving work for an algebra class would be: The teacher selects a video lesson, notes for online students to watch and fill out, and a short assignment based on that day's lesson. The next day at 6 AM, the lesson, notes, and short assignment is sent out automatically. The student can then choose when to get the work completed, so long as it is turned in before midnight.

Allowing students to work out in hall if proven that they can work and not just goof around so they can focus and not have to listen to repeated instructions for others.

Although I have never experienced the treatment of some in the high-school there is a problem present and it can widely be seen throughout the school. It seems like not enough teachers care and there is also a LARGE amount of personal bias which should not be allowed to be fit into teachers. They're here to teach no? But instead they spread their based opinions. :)

An easier and less embarrassing way of getting help.

Arm wrestling team

As a student that has shown advancements in all subjects, I would like for there to be more opportunities to challenge myself earlier in my education.



Hudsonville Students SOAR V Surveys 2023 Verbatim Comments—Page 5 As an AP Spanish student, I am a strong advocate for introducing and promoting learning a second language all the way in elementary school.



As soon as kids from elementary school transition to middle school, there needs to be a pre entrance meeting or seminar about how grades work and how they'll affect your future. My transition from elementary to middle school and middle school to high school was painful to say the least. I wasn't really taught or told how my grades would affect my future and my plans, until I was sitting in front of my computer last year, sobbing over my GPA and the GPA acceptance for my dream college. I understand my part of the blame. Maybe it was explained, and I was too ignorant and selfish to hear anyone. But a part of me, just wishes I could go back in time, and get the courage to ask someone about it, or have a teacher or adult, that is familiar, sit me down and run through how things work grade wise.

ASL classes

Babytron

Be more honest and try to meet more people.

Being able to have phones in our backpack rather than having a phone hotel, if something happens we need to have our phones to contact our family.

Being able to learn better and have better ways of learning to do better in classes

Being able to learn what I want when I want. For example, I can pick what hour I want to learn about something that keeps me wanting to learn/do more with.

Being able to select your teachers for certain classes

Being more personal to each student. Most teachers don't seem to understand that every student learns a little differently and some students need more one on one attention than others. Teachers should adjust their teaching style to their students. Students should not have to adjust to every teacher.

Being told more exactly what I should do

Better encourage getting to know others that you usually wouldn't, and allow students to create more groups of people based on what they enjoy.

Better lunch, stop giveing us prison food luch is one of thoses things we look to during the day better lunch would help alot.

Better parking

Better relationships between students and students as well as between students and teachers.



Hudsonville Students SOAR V Surveys 2023 Verbatim Comments—Page 7 Better teacher outreach if there is an extended period of absences.

Better teachers

Building a second high school for hudsonville. Its hard to reach out to educators or receive specialized help if theres so many students here. Hallways are too crowded. Parking lots are constantly full. It feels like your not seen here because there are so many students here.



By studying everyday after school.

Can the teachers and staff be more straightforward and tell us policies and rules clearly outlined and actually enforce them and not show favoritism or leniency, especially with the dress code.

Care about your students

Cell phone rule

Change

Change how homework is given. I'm always getting homework from Biology B and it is irritating. assignments are usually due the next day and if you don't finish the assignment in class it is homework, which nobody finishes in the time period we get to work on it.

Change the way some teachers teach

Changing the core classes and making them optional because normal human beings are never going to use algebra or earth science ever in their lilfe

Changing trimesters to semesters.

Class that teaches ASL.

classes

Classes like Life101 should include stuff like how to do taxes, how to buy a house, insurance, etc

Connection to the outside world, Hudsonville tends to be in a "Hudsonville bubble" and kids tend to be very sheltered and prejudiced

Definitely the start and end times. I would love it if school started later so I could get more than 6 hours of sleep that I currently am getting.

Do better to make sure every student is supported and feels safe to be themselves

Do more fun things instead of just sitting in your seats all day listening to your teach talk for hours.

Don't teach us stupid things we will never use in life, teach us how to pay bills for a math and how to do payments and how to by a house real life things,how to get a job. No one wants to sit in a class and learn about rocks or romeo and Juliet or what happen in history past. we will never use that and if people want to do that stuff for a job then let them but teach your students how to actually live on there own in the real world cause the things u teach are not helpful at all and everyone will forget all of this stupid stuff



Hudsonville Students SOAR V Surveys 2023 Verbatim Comments—Page 9 when they leave this horrible place cause all principles here just try and get everyone intruoble for no reason OH DON'T FORGET if you mess us you get yelled at and probably locked in a room for punishment they don't know what a mistake is and people will leave school to be on there own thinking they can't mess up ever. this school also teach like there is only one answer to a problem guess what there are many answers to a problem never just 1 TEACH US SOMETHING WE CAN USE IN LIFE.



Do more to limit teachers getting away with inappropriate or irresponsible actions

Do something about the bullying.

Easier Math

Easier to pursue careers. I would really like more opportunites for motorsports. Mechanics, fabricating etc etc. also start later. that would be absoluletly life changing. seriously

Enforce not cutting in the lunch line, move seminar later in the day

Even though it is nice to be able to have laptops to do your own research, I feel like others, myself included, would have an easier time learning without the distraction of the laptops.

everything

Everything

fewer rules, if you keep adding rules kids are gonna be more disobedient. Solve more student conflict problems!

Find ways to fit more periods into the day/year so students are able to take more APs. Also stop letting kids get away with saying slurs please.

Fire bad teachers that cannot teach well.

focus on the really important topics in classes not the useless things that most people don't care about and don't have use or interest in them.

forcing students to participate in group projects

free parking

Get air conditioning, start a little later, regularly send out surveys to students in order to inform/better experiences, have all drinking fountains have water bottle fillers, get new desks, pay teachers more, have shorter school days, dont expect so much, have less material to teach so it is easier to learn.

get better teachers that actually explain things and doesn't make everything complicated

get rid of all the bad teachers

get rid of all the homophobic people

Get rid of concept-esq classes, as all they do is breed apathy in actually learning the curriculum. Most students I know in those classes do not even remotely try and they get Cs. It is only a type of class to push "super seniors" to not exist in this school, as well as possibly make Hudsonville's grade



 ${\it Hudsonville Students SOAR V Surveys 2023 Verbatim Comments-Page 11 average higher. The problem is that there is a small minority of people who NEED these classes, so we cannot just remove them.}$

get rid of parking passes and parking anywhere. Leave for lunch



Get rid of some areas of the dress code. I get there is a limit but some of the rules are kinda out dated.

get rid of the gay pride things it's annoying and it bothers me its also a distraction to a lot of people, and bullying needs to quit my sister was bullied out of school and im also sick of it

get rid of the gays, TRUMP 2024

Getting rid of the phone hotels and starting school later.

Give kids more help with studying habits and time management. Kids would also greatly benefit from easier ways to get tutoring. I personally have no idea how to get tutoring.

give people the chance to try things without the fear of failure so they can learn what they like for the future.

haiving the teachers explain stuff better

Have a more inclusive community

Have a shorter day and be given as much homework for after school.

Have it more based on real life, like taxes, banking, and other things that every person will have to do.

Have less school just have school started one hour later so that you can get more sleep and then you will be more concentrated.

have more chances to get help and also have more people to help you figure out what you want to do and show you what classes you should be taking.

Have more classes that teach you to be creative and use your own mind instead of following the rules and having to do something a certain way

Have our classes be more practical, as in how said topics can apply "in the real world", or simply have a focus on the things that matter, and encourage students to ask more profound questions to further their understanding of that thing. I've also found that cliques and other closed communities are very tight-knit and often unaccepting of those different from that in-group, so those that may enter high school without good friends will struggle to find anyone.

Have phones in class

have some nicer teachers that care about students in the highschool. and get better security.

Have staff that genuinely cares and wants to build relationships with their students. I hated highschool because I have always felt so isolated.



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Have teachers be more connected to students.

Have teachers explain the lesson in a different way other than reading the notes and expecting us to copy them and learn them. Or for science, maybe instead of giving us packets, explain the lesson to us.

Have temporary visitor parking for students that have to leave for appointments early so they can spend more time in class than walking 5-7 minutes to their car and taking up valuable class time

Have the teachers actually teach instead of just giving work.

have us learn more about what we will actually need in life like taxes, how to buy a house, how to get insurance, budgeting, etc.

Have Wednesday off, but make the other four school days longer.

Having classes more designed for everyday life, like life 101.

Having less prerequisite/required classes to focus on more carrier like classes.

Having more classes for students who are more advanced or learn faster.

Having more classes that prepare one for a specific or even broad career that one would like to pursue rather than having required classes that one is not going to need to know anything about for their future.

Having more diversity, taking into account for people of different sexual orientation,

Having more knowledge about upcoming programs and things for students to join then be more prepared for applications that do not give you time to prepare for now, such as earning volunteer hours.

Having more people pay attention to the small things in people. Caring for students more frequently, and allowing students to express their opinions freely.

Having smaller and more personal connections with the teacher during a class

Having the ability to take time out of the day and nap without getting scolded for it. Sometimes I'm exhausted during the day, no matter how much sleep I got the night before.

Having the students here at Hudsonville High School know that there are other races, and that everyone is the same no matter the color or race.

Help with balancing extra activities and school from teachers.

Hire teachers that actually explain how to do things.



Hudsonville Students SOAR V Surveys 2023 Verbatim Comments—Page 15 Hiring teachers that can actually do their job.

homework limit

Honestly a more challenging curriculum in a lot of technology classes



Honestly, everything because it's boring and some classes require a phone, and those classes put the NO PHONE RULE in place and it's annoying, and ON TOP OF THAT IT'S ANNOYING HAVING TEACHERS ASK "Do you have a phone?" IT'S ANNOYING.

How people treat one another

How some of the teachers teach us about things and what kind of assignments they give out.

how teachers dont help or understand when students are mentally not doing well and cant even take care of themselves. They just don't care and all they care about is if you do your schoolwork.

HPS NEEDS to have more classes for real world situations. When am i going to use like the pythagorean theorem in real life? Never.

Hudsonville High School has just made the extravagant purchase of eight television screens for the soul purpose of displaying the school logo, and the words "Hudsonville High School" to help students remember what school they go to. Unfortunately, our spanish department still needs a fundraiser to sell coupon books. I run track, but I can not for the life of me find a source of clean, running water in the athletic complex. Right now, I am in 4 AP classes, and my class that requires the most work is 21st Century Literacy, however I am currently not learning anything remotely new from that class. I have come to the conclusion that there is no real way that administration is able to enforce the phone policy, as there are never more than 5 phones in the phone holder.

Hudsonville should give students a choice in what happens in their school. Whether it be some sort of vote or poll or even electing a group of students to participate in voting or polling for what should and shouldn't go on in our school could be a good idea. Hudsonville should also stop pushing towards computer/technological learning and try a more hands-on experience. Having students work hands-on without a walkthrough of how to do something makes them have to try to learn, and if they can't figure it out for themselves, that's when you give pointers and little helping tips to get them going in the right direction. Simply giving kids papers with directions and then making them write down every little thing so they can try to remember it rather than learn it isn't teaching or learning. School shouldn't be a memory game or a place where they are restricted from everything they are used to at home and made to sit at a desk to listen and write, rather school should be a comfortable place to learn and prepare for when you become an adult. Students should be able to find what they love and pursue it happily.



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I am not sure

I could change the people

I don't want it to change I love the HHS . I would chose to change then I want to have better grades.



I don't really know. My experience at Hudsonville Public Schools has been fine so far. I personally don't have that much of a problem with the staff or the curriculum. There are things about bullying that I wish could change, but you can't control peoples actions or speech.

i don't really want to change anything. it is good so far. maybe better lunches or 1 good lunch every trimester

I encourage more diversity in the school, and information about diverse groups of people to prevent ignorance and unnecessary bullying toward others.

I feel like almost all classes should have 2 teachers because when there is usually one teacher then it is hard for them to get around to everyone

I feel like having shorter classes/seminar every day would be better to get work done and also easier to get work done.

i gave the high school a D+ because almost every year I've been here I've been bullied and I've told staff and they said they would do something about it but never actually did anything, i ended up in pine rest last year because of this school, so if you guys actually cared you would have done something instead of telling her to stop talking to me, because that's not gonna fix the problem and guess what it did not do anything it just made things worst so i gave up on telling the adults here that apparently care about all of the students, when i have not seen any sighs that you guys care. so maybe start showing that you guys actually care because that effects a lot on learning and mental health, This school feels like a prison, even the food is almost as bad.

I have no idea. The only real complaint I have off the top of my head is how difficult it can be to get out of the high school building. It's incredibly packed by the lunchroom.

I have social anxiety, and I know I'm not the only one in this school with this condition. I hate presentations because they cause an unnecessary amount of stress for me. My depression showed itself when I started high school, mostly caused by the stress I get from certain classes. There are also a lot of expectations for high schoolers that I don't like (i.e. doing sports, working, and keeping grades up all at the same time). I don't do sports, but I do work during school (I would not recommend), which made my depression even worse. The one thing I'm extremely proud of is how open people are about their sexuality at the high school. I'm an Ally, which means I fully support the LGBTQIA+ community. I love how a lot of people are accepted here and not discriminated against for their sexuality or race.



Hudsonville Students SOAR V Surveys 2023 Verbatim Comments—Page 19 I haven't had too many problems at Hudsonville High School, so I wouldn't have much to change. As we know, not everything is perfect, and being one of few colored people in the school, that always leads to some uncomfortable experiences just because some people don't really know what's right and what's wrong to say, but other than that I've loved Hudsonville.



I have three things. The first thing is not requiring so many math classes. More than half the students at HPS aren't going into a career that involves knowing the Pythagorean theorem or knowing how to solve for X on a graph. Students should only be required to take life skill classes and basic knowledge classes. If the student needs it for their career, colleges can offer it as a credit toward a degree. Second, Hudsonville high school has business classes, but none of them teach you how to file a bill, anything with credit bills or insurance. Most students graduating leave not knowing how to pay a bill or even do taxes by themselves. Third thing, many of the teachers need to be evaluated more often and more in-depth. I've had many teachers who make me feel flat-out stupid trying to learn in my class and I know I'm not alone. I hear many of my fellow students talking about the same exact teachers I (an all-A student) struggled to learn and understand because of the teaching. I know other A and B students who have failed classes taught by a specific teacher and nobody seems to give two craps about it.

I honestly wouldn't change anything except I wish that some teachers would make class more fun.

I just wish to have more help for the real world after high school. i do not need to know how to do the quadratic formula to do my taxes or to get a job interview

I know you cannot change who attends the school however, seeing more diversity would be a nice change.

I like the education here at Hudsonville high school, but I think that all the teachers (core classes) should pass out study guides so we can use those to study for the tests because sometimes they will collect our homework, so it would be so helpful to have study guides before a test in all core classes.

I personally do not think I need much change to my education due to being motivated to take hard classes, but I think it would be beneficial to have more real world applications. I feel very prepared for college but not as prepared for adult life. Also, I do think there are some teasing/bullying issues, but I also believe the school can't do much more than it's already doing to change that.

I personally find science classes hard. If there was a way to improve the learning for that.

I think I would change the environment. I think Hudsonville makes an effort to be inclusive or says they're inclusive in theory, but I feel there are certain types of students who are favored. Especially if you participate in athletics at school it can really change the trajectory of how your high school path goes, genuinely. I've noticed as a non-sports player who still



Hudsonville Students SOAR V Surveys 2023 Verbatim Comments—Page 21 participates in other clubs and such, some teachers at Hudsonville seem to prefer students who do athletics, and students who do sports are more friendly to each other. I also think Hudsonville could improve too on being more inclusive of all types of people regardless of race, sexual orientation, etc. As a member of the student body, I have observed racial slurs and injustices right in front of me by students and teachers alike, which is not acceptable in any setting or format, especially by adults who are supposed to be role models for cultural good.



I see absolutely zero reason why I would need to write argumentative / persuasive essays ever

I think i would change some of the ways that subjects are taught.

I think I would change the way students treat each other while it's not as bad as it could be there is still much room for improvement

I think it would be beneficial to have lockdowns during lunches because many school shootings happen during that time and I have no idea what we would do in that situation. I also do not feel very safe when it comes to a shooter being able to get in due to how many students can easily get in through other doors besides the office.

I think it would be important for the school to involve more real-life learning into what is taught, and possibly changing parts of what is taught that is outdated to accommodate into more real-life/hands-on learning.

I think its the people in the school but not the school itself.

i think learning could be a little more personalized. Having a wide variety of learning levels in core classes is difficult. I think the higher potential kids are held back by some pacing in the classes, but some lower potential students are faking their work because they aren't getting the attention they need to actually go through and check for understanding of content.

I think more exposure to foreign language and music earlier is very important, and should be integrated into the elementary schools.

I think our school is great!

I think some teachers need to not be as open about their home lives. There aren't that many teachers who do this, but those who do share some highly inappropriate things that need to be kept to themselves. Not only is it inappropriate, but it takes away from everyone's learning in the classroom. Besides that, I have loved my time overall at Hudsonville. Most of my teachers are beyond AMAZING!

I think teachers just need to really help out people who are slower learners in certain subjects.

i think that teachers need to understand that some people learn in certain ways. especially be i was struggling in math because im not used to some of the ways of teaching but once my teacher saw that i was struggling she said that i should take tutoring and she would try to help me understand more in that class. so one thing i would change is that all teachers could be like a math teacher, the kind of teacher that pays attention to the kids who are



Hudsonville Students SOAR V Surveys 2023 Verbatim Comments—Page 23 struggling more and trys their best to make sure that each student can get the learning expirence they need.

I think there should be a pre-law class for students who would like to go down that line of work.



I think we need more life skill classes. I feel like nowadays most of the things that we learn at school we never apply to our everyday lives. I feel like we need more life skills classes. For example, how to buy a car or a house, or basic skills that someone needs to know once they are out of high school. I also think during the day we hardly get to see friends depending on what classes we have. I know that some of my friends I might be lucky if I even get to see them once during the day. I feel like we need a designated time during the day (that's not lunch because not everyone has lunch together) so that we can hang out with friends and other people and just build community.

I understand the Hudsonville School District is not going to listen to any complaints on phone hotels but I believe that it could use a change. Allow me to give you some examples: a student may be done with all the work in the class he is currently in. He may or may not have work for other classes but be doesn't choose to do them. His or her grade is only their grade and they have to take care of it. Take a dog for example, when you have to do your daily chores for a dog no one is going to call you to tell you to take it for a walk that is YOUR responsibility to remember to take it for a walk or feed it food. So when the student chooses not to take care of their homework for the other classes they are not doing THEIR responsibility. in conclusion the way phones are moderated should be changed in a way so that it gives the student a responsibility in order to prepare them in life when they don't have someone to remind them what they can or cannot do.

I want more inclusive education (more opportunities for arts, more learning about different regions, cultures, perspectives, etc. in history and English), more input from students on subject matter (more opportunities for student-led discussion, more attention given to what students find interesting to cultivate a passion for learning in students, more encouraging of creativity, especially in writing courses), and more enforcement of punishing those using slurs, thanks.

I want the ability to choose what I learn when I want to learn it; and better school lunch and breakfast options.

i want to improve my feedback how i did and i want to show my Perants trust so that i can Respect from them i want to Imporve my Garmmer skills.

i want to learn about things that can prepare me for my future. If I want to be a therapist then why am I learning about the stars. I dont care about that and i don't need to know that. I want to learn something USEFULL.

I was once a student at Baldwin street middle school, It was a very good school, Though, I do have one concern when it comes to the Special need



Hudsonville Students SOAR V Surveys 2023 Verbatim Comments—Page 25 classes, There are rewards if you do well, But you get screwed over for a tiny thing that you do, And while I understand it now that I'm older, I do feel like they needed to lighten it

I wish everyone was nicer toward each other



I wish everyone was kinder and more considerate of others' differences and feelings. Bullying and homophobia are not obvious and easy to notice. They're subtle, quiet, and often go unnoticed by teachers. We need to somehow convince kids who have grown up not caring about those who are different from them that everyone has different feelings about different things, and those feelings matter. Students need to truly try to not hurt other people's feelings.

I wish learning at Hudsonville was fun and interactive. So many teachers just lecture for the complete hour which truly takes away from the learning being done in the class.

I wish students felt more comfortable talking about bullying with teachers. This isn't the staff's fault. Kids often make fun of other kids for being a "snitch" and because of that, people feel like they would get bullied more if they said something about it.

I wish teachers would explain why we are learning what we are learning.

I wish that Tech Center was advertised more. It seems like it will be a very useful tool and lead to a great learning experience. I heard about it through word of mouth and never would have known if I didn't talk to people that went. Also just pointing out that in the above questions for 87 one of the columns says "Once or Twice a Semester" but Hudsonville has Trimesters. I also wish that some of the questions asking about language classes were optional to answer.

I wish that the district did more to prevent bullying of people queer youth.

I wish that the education we received would be more pertinent to daily life, especially in areas like math. Very few career options actually use the subjects we learn about in high school.

I wish that they would stress the importance of doing good in school during freshman and sophomore year.

I wish there would be more support for the World Language department. It feels like we are being pushed to the side and that is not okay.

I would add ASL as a language to learn. I think it's a very important language to be taught, and I know other schools have implemented it. I for sure would've taken it if I had the opportunity.

I would add more hands-on learning and a more 'student figuring it out' approach. I think that a lot of students would find teaching via engaging with the material rather than just looking at a slideshow and taking notes. Also, DONT BUILD A NEW CAFETERIA WE DONT NEED IT PLEASE! If



Hudsonville Students SOAR V Surveys 2023 Verbatim Comments—Page 27 possible put the funding in more programs! All we need is a place to eat, we don't need a super fancy area that'll take a year of construction just for a cafeteria. Please!

I would add more optunity's for students to get involved and make some things a bit clearer or better commicated.

I would add more study time in classes.

I would allow for kids to choose teachers. First come first serve obviously, but allowing that would help kids connect with teachers they like.



I would allow there to be more hands-on learning in every single class.

I would appreciate it if there was more opportunities to plan what classes I should take to get me the best college opportunities.

I would be interested in participating in a sport, but once or twice a week (very few weekends) due to work outside school. Something to keep me active when I have some time, but doesn't take over my schedule (something flexible).

I would change adding more classes that will help in the real world such as social classes or more business classes, maybe making them more importnant

i would change almost every teacher i have had

I would change how bias a lot of the staff is.

I would change how hard I tried freshman year, and inform 8th graders that they have to try early if they want to succeed.

I would change how involved our board of education is. It would be nice to see people supporting more sports, not just football and actually be interested in a students day to day life and just the parents opinions.

I would change how much homework there is to a lesser amount.

I would change how much the school is attempting to make everone account. If it was for me like do it but don't make it as big of a thing because not everyone needs that.

I would change how the curriculum works. I think high school should be kind of like college. I think in the first two years of high school we should do the same things we are now. After the first two years, I think classes should be centered around the type of job you want to have. It would help students realize earlier what type of career they want, and it could allow the students to excel in that area.

i would change how the school criteria works. we need to change school based on common intrests of the students. later starting school, making the school day shorter. making more connections and DIVERSITY. i feel so sick of hearing hate among diffrentuallities at this school.

I would change maybe the environment a bit - make it less intense and more understanding of children. I feel some children get targeted more by administration than others.

I would change Mstep and the PSAT and not have to do it because it is stupid



Hudsonville Students SOAR V Surveys 2023 Verbatim Comments—Page 29 I would change my schedule out of school out be able to participate in a group or club to gain experience and work with others.

i would change my work flow to get my work done better

I would change nothing since Hudsonville High School is the best high school



I would change some of our course offerings and how much college is pushed. I feel like all of our course offerings are based on going to college which didn't help me in the trade world and forced me to take pointless classes on things I already learned in middle school and would never use again in any sort of trade. I am grateful I got into the tech center but for many students that didn't get the opportunity to go to tech because of limited openings they're just out of luck if they ever wanted to go into a trade.

I would change the almost maze-like layout of the school. I would put all the science classes grouped together ext. Have both options read out on eagle eye so people do not have to guess the 2nd option. Possibly have a lower-risk parking lot exit.

I would change the class options. I would add more different elective options, more creative ones like another photography class, creative writing class, and things like that. I would also change a few of the required classes to electives as I feel like a lot of the required classes, such as physics and chemistry, will not benefit me in the future or for my future career.

I would change the courses offered and what is taught in class. The classes offered don't provide support for one's future in a career or college. If what is taught is changed, maybe more students from Hudsonville will become successful instead of ending up working for the rest of their life or in worse conditions.

I would change the criteria taught in required classes to criteria that will be useful to (almost) everyone as well as make it more interesting and fun for the students.

I would change the educational system.

I would change the environment that many classes are taught along with taking in the psychology of situations rather than the exterior surrounding problem. The nasty comments, vulgar language and cliques put a pause on my education sometimes, because drowning out these things also drowns out the lesson and/or instruction as well.

I would change the fact that our school spends its money on less important things like a giant screen in front of the main office and rather out school supplies or classes

I would change the fact that we use cromebooks, it adds a layer of confusion and searching to find answers. Books and paper are much easier.



Hudsonville Students SOAR V Surveys 2023 Verbatim Comments—Page 31 I would change the hours of school because it's really draining. Maybe start later or have the classes shorter. I also would every class to have a visual part of learning.

I would change the parking situation. I think that everyone should have assigned parking spots in order to ensure everyone gets a spot.

I would change the PE requirement, the class made me feel very anxious when I took A freshman year, and B in junior year since I took sophomore and the last half of freshman year online. Having one half of PE (just taking PE A) should be the requirement in my opinion, and not having to take both PE A+B. That's the only change I would make as of now.



I would change the quality of the teachers and the quality of the food.

I would change the required classes because most of them feel like busy work

I would change the schedule (start and end times of a normal school day). Based on my experience of a few delayed starts in my whole education, I feel more energized and ready to learn when I wake up naturally, opposed to the screeching wail of my alarm in the early hours of the morning. Of course, I understand that this would also make our school day to end later. This fact does not deter me in the slightest; Getting out of school a few hours later is worth spending a breakfast with my family.

I would change the sexual education we are taught as well as have a more diverse curriculum in terms of gender identity and sexual orientation. Many of the books, videos, movies, etc. we are shown in classes have straight, white, cis-gender people. A little more diversity would be nice to see in the curriculum. When it comes to health, I think it would be important to have more female teachers teaching about feminine health. I don't believe men and women should be taking the same health class. It could cover the same basis (nutrition, STDs, substance abuse, etc.); however, when it comes to reproductive health, men and women do not experience the same thing. I think it is important to acknowledge this at Hudsonville.

I would change the way some teachers teach since it doesn't really stick with some students depending on their teaching methods.

I would change the way some teachers teach, sometimes you just can't understand what they're trying to get to which can be very confusing especially when your grades go down due to bad teaching styles. I also think that we should ensure that there is no more racism in this school, suspending a kid isn't going to change the fact that they were raised that way and it won't change who they are, we need to take more action on these things because people need to understand that racism isn't funny and it's not a joke. Also, I think it would be way better if we got a new assistant principal since he doesn't do his job properly. How can kids expect that things will end when he doesn't do anything about it some kids have to go to the actual principles with matter since he is inconsistent and can't do his job properly! That's a huge issue ad if you are being called racist slurs he'll tell you that you need proof?! Why do we need proof when we're being called names because we are different? He needs to seriously take more action and a lot of kids think this too. That's just what I think needs to happen other than that Hudsonville is a very good school district.



Hudsonville Students SOAR V Surveys 2023 Verbatim Comments—Page 33 I would change the way teachers currently mainly only teach one way to solve a problem/find an answer to something.

I would change the way teachers thought of things. Give us more classes based on what we wanna do after high school, because there is not many classes for certain skills.

I would change the way that the grading scale works in different classes.



I would change the way the school handles issues between students. Some are just personal issues, and I don't think the school needs to get involved.

I would chill out on the phone rule.

I would consider giving the Juniors and Seniors a chance to have open campus lunch because most of them don't like the school lunch.

I would definitely look harder into the overall collaboration of the schooling system. I am someone who recognizes my own skills and works better by myself than with others, yet teachers often force me into groups, which makes my learning more difficult than necessary.

I would definitely offer more classes that would be more useful to help you in your everyday lives. The main subjects we are taking are only for specific fields, but some kids don't even know how to do every day life things, and I think that should be taught. I would also be more strict with how kids are treating each other.

I would do a lot of things. Honestly, first I would fire a couple of HHS teachers because some of them are literally awful. I would fire Mrs. X. She doesn't do her job. Plus, a lot of people have failed her class because of her poor teaching skills. The next thing I would do is have more funding for Science Olympiad. This is a very underfunded organization. Also, we should give the IV soccer teams warm-ups. Every other sport has warm-ups and it's not like we're poor. I also think we should have a seminar on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. This would give more time for homework, and it might be more useful to students. The next thing I would change is I would move the lunch times. "A lunch" not be that early, it is basically breakfast time. I would move each lunch from thirty minutes to an hour forward in the day. We should start school later in the year. I don't care if we have fewer breaks during the year. But, we should start school at least after labor day. However, we should still end school at the same time. There should just be fewer breaks during the school year. Teachers should be taught/encouraged to connect the things we learn in class to what we will actually be doing in real life. For example, pointing out jobs that we could use what we are learning. I don't know any teachers that do this. We should start including A+ in our grading system. Some students go above and beyond in their learning. Receiving an A+ should also boost your GPA. Please consider these ideas. They are very important. I would be incredibly grateful if these were put into action.

I would do more to expand the different types of teaching. Students all learn best in different ways, and I definitely see the need for that to be more recognized. Some students learn better hearing information, some prefer



Hudsonville Students SOAR V Surveys 2023 Verbatim Comments—Page 35 hands-on experiences, etc. Considering each student is unique and has different abilities in focus and concentration, this is not exactly easy to accomplish, but I would like to have learning be a bit more representative of different styles of teaching methods. Also, much more needs to be done about the way students treat each other. I hear of lots of bullying and harassment beyond my personal experiences. Also, the world languages, specifically Chinese and German, need MUCH more representation. I know students who didn't even KNOW Chinese was an option at our school. That needs to be improved.



i would get rid of the phone policy.

I would give more of an opportunity to explore different careers like the tech center earlier.

I would have gotten rid of some of the required classes, so I could take more classes I was interested in and be able to make them fit my schedule. I have AP classes, so there wasn't much room.

I would have liked to have advanced classes in middle school. I feel that I wasn't challenged in the core classes and many people could have benefited from classes that took them farther, and people that wouldn't have taken the core classes could have gone slower in the main classes and received more help from teachers. English and Math especially could use advanced classes in middle school, or opportunities to test out like there are in high school. Over all, not being challenged enough is the only issue I would raise with my education at Hudsonville.

I would have more classes that prepare us for life and for careers.

I would have more opportunities at school to get to know kids from other grades. I would love it if there was almost a mentor sort of thing for the freshman, especially because they're new to this school. I also strongly believe that ASL should be an option next year because that is just as important as any other language. I also believe that while it is good to accept everyone we should not force this at school because that is our parent's job to do so not the school's. Overall, I love to call myself a part of this school.

I would have the school be more inviting and kind to minorities. (race, gender, sexuality,etc.)

I would improve my financial education and literacy, so I know what to expect when for example need to pay taxes.

i would improve myself, i failed as a student and as a human

I would increase the amount of possible courses that students can take so that taking a couple of electives like a music and language course doesn't totally take over our entire schedule.

I would influence the teachers to treat the students with more understanding and respect.

I would like Hudsonville to return the opportunity to study Chinese to middle school students. Learning a language is easier when someone is younger, and as China is becoming a country very important to American business and foreign diplomacy, understanding the language is becoming nearly as useful---if not just as useful---as knowing Spanish.



Hudsonville Students SOAR V Surveys 2023 Verbatim Comments—Page 37 I would like more classes that deal with real world situations.

I would like more science classes

I would like to get out of the classroom more and have field trips. I really wish we had more diversity.



I would like to have days after testing where juniors have an early release or no school the way that seniors occasionally do around testing days considering the amount of testing juniors do in such a short time span. We should also enforce stronger consequences for those being discriminatory. I have witnessed many incidents this year, gone to the proper adults to mention a problem, with little change, as a result, every single time with the claim that it's out of their hands. I am tired of being criticized for my existence while the school does little to make a difference. I don't feel comfortable at this school. As a trans kid, I am very used to dealing with discrimination, but that does not mean I should have to as often as I do at a school where I should feel safe. Encouraging teachers to ask for preferred names and pronouns is a great way to avoid misgendering and deadnaming. Forcing the kid to make that first step of communication is scary and really anxiety-inducing. Some teachers may look at you differently for asking for respect. Encourage open-mindedness and enforce rules that make this a school people feel safe and comfortable in. It also took me a year and a half to get the proper accommodations needed for me to improve my mental health at school. We need to prioritize kids who are reaching out for help and need it. I sincerely hope this isn't looked over, because these are just a few of my very keen observations made from experience. Thank you, and I look forward to the road ahead filled with improvement.

I would like to know more about how college works.

I would like to see more culinary programs and I wish we had American Sign Language as one of the languages in our school.

I would like to see more hands on, practical to life opportunities that prepare students for the work force. Learning by critical thinking and doing rather than getting information handed to us, memorizing the information, and then eventually forgetting the information when we don't need it anymore.

I would love for there to be more opportunities to learn how to do things like pay bills and vote. I feel like there is too much focus on core classes like math, science, and English, but not enough on life skills. There are a few life skills classes, but not all of them fit everyone. Also, people who take AP classes or music classes often don't have time for electives in their schedules.

I would make changes to make students at Hudsonville feel safe coming to school and not tolerate any inappropriate or hateful behavior. As it is now staff at Hudsonville do not take enough action against hateful comments and actions. As a Hudsonville student, I have talked to many students who hate coming to school because of the way people treat others. Regardless of



Hudsonville Students SOAR V Surveys 2023 Verbatim Comments—Page 39 people's beliefs, we need to teach people to be good humans and be nice and supportive of classmates regardless of their sexuality, gender, etc. With this next year coming up and being another election year I strongly believe that Hudsonville needs to have a zero-tolerance policy on bringing political flags, political signs, ect. to school. It shouldn't matter whether these signs support the right or left, they have no place in school. I am extremely disappointed that they make their way into school and cause issues within the student body. Overall I am extremely disappointed in the administrators that they take a lack of action and hope to see change.



I would make honor classes

I would make Hudsonville more of an inclusive environment. Currently, Hudsonville is not inclusive to everyone, and I would love to see this change. I would also love to see more accelerated classes in middle school. I would have liked to begin taking high school classes in middle school. By doing this, there can be more opportunities to take more challenging classes in high school.

I would make it a more inclusive place to be by incorporating social emotional learning and teaching about the importance of diversity and equality

I would make the school feel more inclusive. Sometimes if you are not the standard, like different race other than white or a different sexual orientation it can feel very hard to find a place that is truly welcoming.

I would make us a more inclusive school. Some of the things that my classmates say, the offhand comments they make are very disrespectful. I would also add more ways for students to talk about the difficult topics, because even in AP Gov there is a clear taboo on subjects we cannot talk about like violence in school, or abortions. I think our school needs to do more to facilitate these discussions between students. I love our trimester system as it allows for more variety in my classes. I don't think starting elementary schoolers earlier would work solely because of the issue of childcare as many high schoolers are babysitting their siblings after school.

I would offer work-based learning for juniors, have fewer mandatory classes, and fewer frozen seminars

I would probably change how we schedule/give out information about classes to incoming students. Personally, when I arrived in 9th grade, I was unaware of any of our options such as testing out, AP, or independent study, which I think would have benefited me a lot for my current state.

I would put less effort into making complicated ways of dealing with minor problems (ex. students carrying their phones on them) and focus on bigger deals such as ways to actually help in a crisis (ex. armed students). Make students as individuals feel important - and not just the ones that already stand out in popularity or extraversion.

I would really like to increase our teacher appreciation. Our teachers are INCREDIBLE! And they need to be recognized more!

I would say as a student in Resources, that class has given me so much more support and balance and I feel like more students or even all students



Hudsonville Students SOAR V Surveys 2023 Verbatim Comments—Page 41 should have this opportunity. I feel like some kids don't show physically how they'll mentally doing, and teachers don't see that like other students.

I would start school at 8am instead of 7:50 like most schools or even starting at 9am because there are a lot of tired kids at school who end up missing a lot of classes due to being tired.



i would tone down the rules against cell phones

I would try to make things a bit more hand on, and maybe less test orientated for everything because I feel like tests are a terrible way to judge how smart someone is, and it should be more showing something you learned. For history it could be pointing things out on a map, Math would be math of course, biology could be trying to find certain things in cells or animals, Languages could be more speaking and vocabulary-oriented, English could be more around using the words instead of writing an essay. The classes need more ideas of what you are actually going to need in your life rather than what people think we need. Like I don't need to know about Sin, Cos, or Tan, but school teaches it to me. In the field I'm thinking of going in I wouldn't need it at all, nor would I need to know history, knowing history is very specific to a job unless you're going to almost specifically get a history teacher job or maybe a museum guide (who knows what you do) it's almost useless.

I would want admin to review the teachers and the class grades. I've also had a few teachers that are very flirty with me and other girls which is not ok. Many people have complained and noticed it. Admin appears to do nothing. I've had teachers that do not teach well at all. The average grade of tests show it.

I would want it to be easier to advocate for myself as someone with a disability and for people to be sure that I get the things I need when I ask for them.

I would want to know more about what to do after high school. I don't feel prepared for life after graduation.

I would want to start school later

I would wish that testing out, and accelererating classes would be more stressed in middle school. This was discouraged at my middle school, and I missed out on the opportunity to test out of math. Therefore, I am stuck in math classes WAY to easy, and forced to test out of harder math classes, now in order to get ahead. So, I wish that this opportunity was stressed, so my learning could be more deepened. Although I missed the chance for math, I was able to get ahead in science. So, I think many students should not be discouraged from looping classes, and encouraged, since this is important to learning.

I would work on the inconsistent temperature if you can just because its hard to prepare for and focus if your too hot or too cold and I feel like the classes change day to day



Hudsonville Students SOAR V Surveys 2023 Verbatim Comments—Page 43 I would've taken philosophy and speech class.

I wouldn't change anything

I'd go to a different school.

I'd like to see more student led classes. More opportunity for the students to learn what they would like.



I'd make deadlines a little more lenient and lessen the workload.

I'd personally like to see more of a change in navigating the halls. I feel like it would be more beneficial to open up the doors to the side bridge like it was at the beginning of the year, as it's really crowded in the connector, and I feel like some kids could be at more of a risk to get sick because of this.

I'm about to go off. You don't care abt the students mental health. Like at all. There is freshman literal children who are btw 2 years older than my little sister doing COCAINE in the bathrooms bc of how stressed they are and how much pressure y'all put on us. There's students slitting their wrists in the bathroom bc of it too. this school brings mental health down by so much. ima also speak from personal experience. i went to the mental hospital bc i tried to OD last year bc of school, bc of the students, bc of the teachers, bc of the administration, bc of the staff. I was OD for a month straight bc of this damn school. All you care about is money. Hudsonville is one of the richest communities in ottawa county. We have to PAY for parking at a PUBLIC school. We have to pay the school for each year we've gone here. It's a damn PUBLIC school, if i wanted to pay for schooling i would've gone to a private school, and the administration ohhhhh boy here we go tehe. Mr. X and Mr. Y, nobody likes them they make the students hate the school even more than they already do. They need to retire be they are embarrassing themselves. Same with Mr. Z. nobody likes him either. or Mrs. X. they all need to leave hudsonville schooling, and if you call this disrespectful, it ain't, you asked what y'all could do to change the school and so i gave you what i thought and telling you what I'm thinking.

I'm not sure, other than having fandom unblocked on my chromebook, I think I would be all set.

If I could change one thing at Hudsonville Public Schools I would change the time of our breaks. Our Christmas and Spring Break have primarily been put in a spot for certain religions when other religions might have a holiday around a different time.

If someone is struggling in a class because of a teacher specifically i wish it was taken more seriously to be switched out of that class because I've had to retake the same class with another teacher and it's always much easier when it's taught differently

If there was one thing that I could change it would be that we need to teach more about life after high school, such as, how to file taxes, how to start an LLC, how to apply for loans, and other things that are similar.

In general, I'd like to see more of these educational wellness checks to make sure the education system is up to date. Also, more classes should teach



Hudsonville Students SOAR V Surveys 2023 Verbatim Comments—Page 45 about empathy and cultural awareness. 21st Century Lit. is the only class that I've taken that does a great job at doing that, but not everybody will take that class, so more classes should have a curriculum based around that.

Include more classes on daily things like how to do taxes

Increase the course catalog and it's accessibility, hard to take all the classes I want to



It is important for teachers to get to know their students and ensure that their learning is of the best quality. I also like when teachers switch things up and don't do the same thing every day (like adding projects and fun things besides just teaching). I also think it is important to make everyone's voice heard and make them feel welcome. If I'm being honest though, feel like being a new student at Hudsonville might be kind of hard because there is a lot cliqueness, and people kind of judge based on appearance and material items over personally. I know that the staff can't fully control the behavior of others, but I have found myself missing out on multiple opportunities because of this. For example, I used to play basketball for the school team and I quit because there was no teamship whatsoever. All of the popular girls would pass to each other during practice and games and warm up with each other too, excluding those who didn't "fit" them. I got no playing time because I never got the ball so I quit. I think a team should be a team. There shouldn't be divisions. Other than that, I think we have a pretty good school with amazing staff.

It is too big of a school.

It would be nice if there were more ways to get caught up if you are sick a day or miss school for a longer period of time

It would be nice to promote testing out of classes so you are able to fit more classes that would actually be helpful to prepare you personally.

It's nothing the school board can do, but I would love to have a more diverse student body with people from a multitude of different regions. Then, have spirit days such as cultural day where you'd dress up in clothing from your culture.

Its too easy and there are many classes that are very boring and you don't do much in. We are also given way too much time on assignments.

just have more people that are more there during problems

Just have someone in the class that's your friend because sometimes it's hard when you are alone and everyone has their friend and you don't or someone that you talk to or just someone you are comfortable with

Just the chance to get and talk with adults so that they could be able to give the support i needed in order to not fail some of my classes.

Kids get away with things in classes and the period of time before and after school and in between classes. Also not ignorance and hatred towards people of other ethnicities and beliefs.



Hudsonville Students SOAR V Surveys 2023 Verbatim Comments—Page 47 Label the parking spots 1 to X, and whatever number you get is where you park AND OR not give sophomores parking passes

Later start and ending times.

Later start time, sometimes I just feel so tired. This would help me a ton to focus and help with learning.



Later time would definitely help, with a later start we feel more refreshed to be here at school to do classes, and I would want an HOUR of seminar instead of 30-40 mins of it, but only if we change to semester.

Learning more about other cultures so that people don't fear them.

Less break days longer summer

Less hard on Cellphone use, longer lunch periods with freshman and sophomores having A lunch and Juniors and Seniors having B lunch. Also a time to go outside would be nice.

Less homework

Less homework and tests more daily assignments that are taken and due in class.

Less importance on the idea of wanting to get the right answers all the time, and more importance on problem-solving and how to get the right answer, as opposed to just getting the right answer.

less phone restrictions

less presentations

Less strict

Let incoming students know more about their future at hudsonville high school.

Let us use our phones when we are done with work

literally everything.

Make core classes more customizable. Some of the classes I took before my senior year did nothing for what I will learn in college and do with my life. add a civics and finance class as a mandatory class. add a class to help prospective college students to learn how to actually pay for college and navigate that process

Make everything you learn actually help later in life. That doesn't mean teaching how to be an employee at a job. Instead, teach students about important investment and business growth skills.

Make it an environment for everyone. Hudsonville communities are really not accepting of everyone. The community is generally pretty terrible. If you're not your stereotypical Christian family you're looked differently. Especially with the new school board people Hudsonville is not gonna get any better. I think its super dumb that we're gonna ban books because of some homosexual ideas.



 ${\it Hudsonville Students SOAR V Surveys 2023 Verbatim Comments-Page 49} \\ {\it Make it as diverse as you can.}$

Make it easier



Make it easier for students to excel outside of the regular "pathway". Everyone is different, and it should be treated as such. I have seen numerous programs to help those falling behind, but for those that excel at their school work, their options for advancement are often met with resistance or overall inability to progress. Programs such as Dual Enrollment or more AP courses should be encouraged and widespread, as it would help students progress further, as well as provide more opportunities for students to take.

Make it for more variety of learning not things just like math, history, and English. The school goes far into these subjects but does not have classes that can satisfy many peoples interest.

Make more parking for the students.

make my seminar teacher not move me away from friends for doing my work

make some teachers actually teach instead of just reading slides word for word

make teachers actually care about students

make the core classes less specialized. Have mandatory classes that provide knowledge that's useful to more people. An example would be that most people don't use anything past Algebra 1 ever again, if that, my parents had to get me a tutor for math because no one we knew remembered how to do it. For grades 10-12, replace math with something else. The same principle can be applied to English, as aside from grammar, which we could all use a little refresher in now and then, nothing I have learned in English class is of any value.

making classes target what you are looking for in a career once you hit junior year. freshman and sophomore year you have core classes that you need and then you transition into classes that will actually help you and not have to take useless classes

Making seminars everyday, that way students can create a daily routine to study and be productive

Making sure that teachers are truly teaching their students what they are supposed to be.

Making the student-staff ratio smaller.

Management

Math is really hard



Hudsonville Students SOAR V Surveys 2023 Verbatim Comments—Page 51 maybe add a break period other than lunch I could see that being beneficial instead of seminar days with the idea of finishing work how about seminar days with the idea of relaxing and taking a break from school and if you need to finish work you can but it is not the main focus

Maybe by having more teaching styles that allow us to not just memorize information, but find ways to apply it to life and remember it better.

Maybe doing more things to get to know other people in my classes



Maybe instead of basing everything off of standardized testing. I feel like using a students creative part of the mind with things such as more projects. Because not all students have the ability to remember as well as other students. While being a student my self I love doing projects, so I think that students would like school more. If they got to use the creative part of their mind more.

Maybe real world math instead of stuff we will never use.

More blacks

More business classes.

more choices in electives

more classes and class options

more classes that will actually benefit our future

More diversity would be nice, but you can't just make people show up to Hudsonville.

more electives

More flex days

More flexible teachers, later start times, the parking is horrible, and more fairness all around.

more food for free

More group activities, and giving students what they need to work better in real life, which is working with other people

More help with creating a future for myself

more helpers for students like parapros or something like that

More inclusivity

more interesting teaching, a lot of teachers and classes are really boring

More level of communication between students and teachers, like more one on one learning.

more lunch time

More of a positive environment where everyone cares about each others feelings.

More of an air of diversity, inclusion, and equality.

More open community



Hudsonville Students SOAR V Surveys 2023 Verbatim Comments—Page 53 More opportunities for advanced classes during freshman and sophomore years because otherwise, most people can't start harder classes until they're upperclassmen.

More options for classes. I understand the challenges with having more classes so there could be access to online programs that you can spend a class period doing, like an independent study, where you could do a different language and/or different or more in depth subjects.



More parking please and thank you, preferably assigned spots.

More parking space.

More personalized education.

More personalized learning.

More preparation for exams.

More preparation for real life, and teaching emotional maturity

More relevant and field-based courses for kids to specialize in.

More resources to get help in almost all areas of life

More sleeping classes.

More support from counselors in taking higher level courses and taking courses ahead of the normal schedule.

More support programs for the other grade levels, not just freshmen.

More time for homework and assignments.

more time in class to do assignments but not longer days. clearer instructions in class

more time to independent study; perhaps different release times to ease traffic after school (based on grade(fr/so/jr/sr) or grades(ABC)?);

more welcoming teachers that enjoy their job and like being her.

more welcoming teachers that enjoy their subject of teaching

Most of the teachers here feel like robots. Most are too strict and remove simple privileges from people such as bathroom use, among other things.

My experience with the administration and counselors has not been very active. I feel as though me reaching out to get more help on exploring careers and how I can apply my education to real life is discouraged and I should just do it myself rather than reach out and give them the extra work.

My teachers don't seem to care about their students, and there are quite a few who are just not good teachers. I recieve good grades but I find I teach myself quite often in my classes. I know we are short on teachers right now in the country and it's a whole thing, but some of the classes are just not taught well and they should be easier then the teachers make them to be. I can watch Khan Academy videos and understand more information more in-depth than what they taught me in 72 minutes. I love some of my teachers and they're both wonderful people and teachers, but there are some that are definitely lacking in teaching ability.







Never went to the Hudsonville elementary and middle school.

Nice teachers make a huge difference. Get your rude teachers in check.

Nicer teachers.

no clue

No homework, it is very stressful, makes mental health worse, highschoolers dont have time to do it and it doesnt help us because most of the time we just rush to get it done so we can go to sleep or work and its an unnecessary thing. Have more classes to take that deal with after highschool so how to do taxes, money, and more life stuff. Hudsonville overall can improve on more and could use their money for better things.

no math

No mobile motels, better parking, better teachers.

no more exams if you are passing the class.

No more soar awards they only recognize the kids who slack all the time and then do one thing well. Not the kids who are always doing what needs to be done.

none, I'm pretty good where I stand.

Not have to have gone through covid-19 for my freshman and sophomore years

Not make the school bigger and change the food choices.

not relying so much on our laptops!!!!!

Not so much homework and tests back to back or on the same day in multiple classes.

not throwing to much information at us at once because it makes it more stressful to learn to much at once.

nothing because this school isn't really helping me because I have been from school to school so...Yea but if I was here for a whole I would change how people talk and help each other because if people help one another it could have a potential of people getting better grades and not thinking about how someone treated them poorly but, this is the reality of things and there's always going to have trouble and always going to have bad things happen to us, and on top of that we can't control what people say/do to others. In this life, we are going to have to face trials and tribulations with one another. That's just how life goes, now we could try to make it better but at the end of the day, we know that we tried something and it did/didn't



Hudsonville Students SOAR V Surveys 2023 Verbatim Comments—Page 57 work. but honestly, there's nothing that we can do to make people change, they have to do that themselves. That's just life, that's just the world we live in. It's sad but just have to go with the flow. And that's coming from a quiet kid.

Nothing comes to mind.



Nothing really

Nothing really i don't want to change anything.

nothing really i like how it is

Nothing really, just do what you think has to be done.

Nothing, I loved it.

Nothing, it is a great school.

Offer more choices between core classes. For example, I struggle with algebra and don't really think that it will play a big part in my career, while geometry and real world problems (similar to story problems in algebra) definitly will. I'm not saying restructure just math, but offer one or two classes that focus on real world problems. Especially because there are some kids who have no intention of going to college, so they don't really feel like they need the skills to anylize science experiments or know certain formulas. Often if those are needed, jobs teach them. If certain core classes are offered with a career-centered focus, I think they would be well received from the student body.

Offer more classes for future career paths, such as cosmetology, therapy, or medical care.

Offer more classes teaching life skills and maybe offer a class that goes over different careers that are out there, like teaching one week, and plumbing the next. I think this could've helped me and others see what jobs are out there and learn more about them.

One thing I would change is to put in more classes that would help me in real life. For example, teaching how to spend money wisely. Another example is how to do taxes

One thing that could use improvement at the high school is parking. Many students have to arrive very early, which also contributes to our circadian rhythms not matching our school schedule.

One thing to improve my education and experiences at Hudsonville Public Schools would be to change the way HHS teachers look at and integrate the student code of conduct. The student code of conduct seems to be loosely put in place, only being enforced when it is for the staff's gain. Public displays of affection are seen by the minute throughout this "business-like atmosphere" that HHS is supposed to be. Almost all of my teachers have gone off-topic about something completely unrelated to the class which distracts every student the teacher is speaking to.

open campus lunch



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Open campus lunch

Parking

parking garage (the parking is ass)



pay more attention to students so you can tell if they smoke, vape, or are doing drugs. for example, you can smell weed on the clothes of people who use weed for personal use. try to make more ways to find illegal substances on campus. ps, students vape or smoke in their vehicles on campus, I've seen it happen more than once.

People being less ignorant of others

Phone Policy

Phones

Place a bigger emphasis and importance on conveying to kids how important these years are. To make better life choices, show them being some gangster or wannabe thug isn't cool. Kids think vaping is cool because they want to be rebellious. Double down on the punishments and show them how bad they are messed up their life. Culture at the school is all about who is the coolest, which is directly correlated to has the most money. Coming from a student who is blessed with a financially stable household, the system is horrible, it leads to unrest and drama amongst students. Fix it by showing a better example. Show them what life is like when you take your education seriously and what happens when you don't. (doctor vs a prisoner)

Please change the SOAR awards!!!!!!!

Prepare students for more of adult life, such as in depth of what employment will be like, taxes, independence and other aspects of daily life after highschool. As sad as it is, not everyone will be extremly successful so we should prepare people for middle class life.

Probably allowing us (students) to listen to music in all classes IF AND ONLY IF we're allowed to or are working on homework, projects, etc. (I noticed some teachers won't let you listen to music at all). Also, one VERY helpful website/app for listening to music would be Spotify of course which there's not much of a reason to have that blocked since when students are allowed to listen to music Spotify is much better than YouTube plus students like myself have Spotify accounts which we have our own playlists and songs we like saved on there.

Probably have teachers and staff who care about the students. In middle school, the teachers actually cared about you as a person, and in high school, I feel like almost every teacher would leave us in a fire because they actually couldn't care less about us. Like they genuinely do not care about you, only how you make them look. School can be very stressful, and unhelpful and mean teachers just add to that.



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Probably start later in the day

probably, the way teachers help other students learn

Relating more of what we do to the real world.

relationship w teachers



Remove Core Classes/Extra MMR requirements

Remove the teachers that do not care about what theyre teaching, and put too little effort into it, every bad teacher ive ever had have been horrible at teaching even if they were nice, but the ones that truly care about what theyre teaching and who theyre teaching have been amazing

Removing some required classes and giving more options. Similar to how senior math credits can include a variety of classes, give options for some other classes like science, because science has so many options, and I wish I could've had more time to take all the classes.

Review teachers based on average student grades. Also, student language needs to be more monitored, not in terms of swearing but in terms of slurs and derogatory remarks. The school was really good with it a couple years back, but they've slowly become more lenient again.

Revise what we teach, we prioritize the requirements of world languages when in reality they hold no true value to anyone's future besides someone who plans to work or live in other countries or work with people who speak that specific language which is very rare considering that almost 2 billion people speak English and only 500 million or so speak Spanish. Replace it with more useful classes like an AP World History class or AP European History. Also, the proposed civil rights class would be an absolute waste of student and teacher resources because most people especially at this school would not care whatsoever about that class. Our education should be tilted to preparing us for the future not preparing us for next week's test or the obscure curriculum requirement that teaches students absolutely nothing of value especially the existing English classes which teach us common grammar that everyone should already have been taught in elementary school and middle school at the very latest.

rule on phones and computers

Seating charts that put me next to the class troublemakers in classes that are already difficult enough.

Seperate classes by GPA

Shorter days and put less stress on us

skill-based class sorting — higher performing kids with higher performing kids. lower performing kids with lower performing kids

slow down and show kids how to do things instead of just doing and expecting kids to see how you got there.



Hudsonville Students SOAR V Surveys 2023 Verbatim Comments—Page 63 smaller classes, if my second trimester, one of my classes only had 16 students total, and it was amazing. it was easier to learn, we worked better with our small groups, and the students and the teacher were never overwhelmed with work from that class. smaller classes can create a better class culture, and make it easier for all students to learn because disruptive students can be singled out and dealt with.



Some of the classes feel really warm in the afternoons, hence making it harder to concentrate.

Some of the teachers

some of these kids wack

Some teachers

Some teachers need to relearn how to be supporters and providers for the students to be more present in providing meaningful education to us. They rely too heavily on notes and plans they've used for years you can tell they are bored with it too. The school Board of Education should help them by releasing their reigns a little more and making learning enjoyable.

staff more involved in student's lives and their health(mental, social, etc.)

Start school later or end it earlier, make classes not so long.

Start school later.

Start school slightly later and end the day later.

Starting later

starting later, getting more time for work

STOP BULLYING. Hudsonville Highschool needs to do more on this, it's terrible.

Stop focusing on just the popular kids

stop kids from getting hurt by other kids

stop the whole gay thing and dont let it spread through the school

Stop trying to be different from other schools with "cool" or "exotic" new ideas. This usually only works if you're at an elementary level. During middle and high school, you must be more engaging and hands in every class. You have to give students a choice, they should be almost 100% in control of where they go in life and what classes they want to take. Adding onto this, we don't need to move towards more technology. The only reason we should be using technology is if the class requires it or if it adds quality of life to the specific class. With this, there needs to be a separation between more intelligent students and less intelligent students. This makes higher-level classes aimed towards higher-level students and lessens the chances of cheating happening.

Strawberry milk in the cafeteria, please!



Hudsonville Students SOAR V Surveys 2023 Verbatim Comments—Page 65 Strawberry milk is to be served in the cafeteria, because don't we all need just a little something to get through the day? Whoever is reading this; please listen and consider.

Students are still using their phones and playing games on the computers during class.

study more

Study more



take the no phone rule off if the students really wanna be on it that is their issue and if they don't wanna learn you cant help them much

Take way the phone cell

Teach time management and good study habits earlier in the k-12 curriculum. Along with this enforce the phone rule more heavily with younger grades more than later grades. For example in an AP class the students are smart enough to know whether or not to use their phones, but lower level freshman class will not be responsible enough to know when to use it.

Teach us how to be adults in the real world. Teach us how to do taxes, how to take out loans, how to budget our money, how to pay bills. I also think that Hudsonville forces the idea of going to college after high school down our throats. Half of the seniors don't even want to go to college and have absolutely no idea what to do after high school because our Hudsonville doesn't know how to help those who don't want to go to college or those who can't afford college because they don't have mommy and daddy's money to rely on. The phone rule is also the dumbest thing on earth. With the rise of threats being sent to schools across the country and the rise of school shootings all over the united states, it is important for students to have their phones if something were to happen. If something were to happen like a fire or something possibly worse, and us as student cant even have our phones to call our loved ones and tell them that we love them or say our possibly last goodbyes is absurd. Maybe focus less on students parking in the staff lots and focus more on the students inside the school.

Teach us life skills that we will use outside of a school environment instead of stuff that we only use when in school and forget about as soon as we get home.

Teacher peer relationship

Teachers actually check in with students and not assign a lot of homework when they are struggling, allow some wiggle room in assignment due dates

Teachers allowed to be less strict and allowed to be more flexible about their lessons and teaching styles so all types of kids can learn from them.

teachers are more kind and understanding, and less homework from teachers. sometimes i'm up past 11 doing homework, which is affecting my health because of the decline of sleep i'm getting.

Teachers be more open minded and try teaching a more funner and different way that intreges the student.



Hudsonville Students SOAR V Surveys 2023 Verbatim Comments—Page 67 Teachers for certain subjects need to be changed. Favoritism should not be a thing for teachers. All students deserve an equal chance to prove themselves. Some teachers also do not care about how an individual kid is doing. I have asked for help in a class and the teacher continues to move and my grade continues to drop.

teachers need to get more to the point they dilly dally and it's tedious and they need to slow down and explain more that's why semesters would work 20 times better.



Teachers need to understand tests are to show how well they teach and not for how well the students learn.

teachers should be more inviting, welcoming, and open to helping students with after-high school plans and caring about their future. They should also listen to student suggestions in their teaching or lesson plans to make it easier and more educational.

Teachers should reach out to specific students and find out what the best method to teach them is.

Teachers should try to connect with their students on a more personal level! Not just teach and then sit at their desks waiting for someone to come to them.

Teachers that are more understanding and want to be involved in your life. I feel like Mr.Marvin does a great job of this to make you feel comfortable and make sure you know you are supported.

That there is less pressure from eveyone and for teachers to realize that we are trying our best, but sometimes we can't do it all.

The ability to change classes for a different teacher, because some people work better with certain teachers. For example, if I had a teacher for history A, and then had a different teacher for history B, I may not understand as easily due to the way the B teacher teaches.

the ability to negate assessment grades, such as homework or projects, as long as you get an A on the corresponding test

The ability to request a te	eacher if you prefer	one teacher over the other
teachers. Sometimes I like	e one teacher more	than the other teachers for
different amounts of reas	ons, not just becaus	se I want to be with my friends.
For example, I had	this year for	and I loved him.
Next year I want him for		he was such a great teacher and
I really liked his teaching	style but we aren't	allowed to request teachers.

The administrators being more strict to teachers about how the students are doing and when there are multiple complaints to find the problem and take care of it by making a change.

The administrators don't act like they care about the kids and really listen to feedback from the students.

The amount of time given to study each subject. There isn't enough time for students to actually process the information we're given. As soon as we learn it, take a test over it, its gone from memory until we relearn it at the exam. After that point, the information learned is pretty much gone.



Hudsonville Students SOAR V Surveys 2023 Verbatim Comments—Page 69 The amount of time in a school day and when we start. We should focus more on getting to know people in our class

the classes and the walk to classes I feel like its a long walk



the dumb phone hotels

The education at Hudsonville is pretty decent, I would choose to expand the history learning to learn more about the past rather than just certain things that happened that people get to choose what we learn. Have specific history classes. We also need to start later in the day so people can get more sleep, and we need to focus more on how the teachers act and how that can show how students can act. The teacher's behavior can have a really big impact on other students idea of what is okay and how it is okay to act. Students can give feedback on their teachers because they see them every day and know about the comments they can make. A prinicipal stopping in for one day to see how a teacher teaches is not adequit.

The fact that they do nothing about serious situations half the time.

The hallways are always so crowded and it causes like mobs of people can it can become hazardous

The learning style

The lunch food. The lunch food at our school is so bad. When you look at other schools across the world, they have a way more balanced diet and way better prepared food. Also you can only get one little meal with a tiny side. So higher food portions should be offered. The food here is all packaged and fake and mushy, and tastes so bad.

The need that other kids have to feel a part of something

The one thing I would change is the interaction between principles and kids at the school. Most of the time these principles try to intimidate us more than actually interact with us. Sitting around the hallways and lunch rooms arms crossed watching us as if we are some type of convict. I have been going to this school for 4 years and I don't think a single principle knows my name not that this has truly hurt me but it may hurt others, and some others may truly need this interaction. I get the school is big but I was even team, which wouldn't matter because of the the lack of attendance at games from the principles was close to non existent. It almost feels that if you don't play football you are automatically not as important. I think this interaction truly needs to change and that the effort to make relationships to everyone needs to improve. Like I said this truly hasn't had a crazy impact on my life, but I'm sure there are lots of kids out there at the school that could truly use this interaction. I don't know if you collect names on here or not but I would be glad to talk about this in person.



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The people. The people here are awful. They make me near-suicidal at times.

The quality of teachers and food

The reqired class

The rules and a lot of the teachers.



The school food. I mean it is absolutely horrendous. The mac and cheese is made with elmers glue and the potato bar makes me have to poop in 30 minutes. The school food system that tries to aim for healthiness isn't even good at that. Please fix every aspect of the food it makes me in a negative mood for the rest of the day.

The starting time and less core classes and more other classes

The teachers/school system in general. kids have different needs and way of learning. kids have mental heath issues. its not fair if kids have to be stressed out bc of a mental heath issues/home problems or from their way of learning.

the teaching style

The way teachers treat and teach students.

The way the tests are made to be more what we learned rather than nothing we studied.

There are a lot more AP classes that I've heard of that sound interesting like AP World and European History.

There need to be a lot more days where we can just take a break once in a while, it seems like every day we are forced to do a lot of work in different classes, and if you do not get it all done you have to do it all at home, otherwise, you are either behind on schedule, or getting lots bad grades. I know we can turn in work late sometimes, but that still doesn't change the fact that we're still getting bad grades due to not being able to get it all done. Sometimes the work we are made to do is completely unrelated to life and so boring to the point that I would rather get a zero than actually try and get a few extra points. All I wish for is just to take it easy on us, we're not going to need to learn and get done with every single assignment if an exam will just wash it all away. I hope that in the future we stop getting pointless assignments that wouldn't even matter in real life. I'm sure tons of kids at school have said that calculus is pointless, or that they're never going to need to learn a new language, and I'm sure you think I'm just another one of those kids, and you're right, but they're also right. All of this stuff can easily be learned in college, most likely if you want to become an expert in calculus, you're not going to be playing any sport because you're going to need all the time you can get. This is why I wish we could cut down on the stuff that isn't necessary to learn and start adding things that people use in everyday life. I hope someone actually reads this instead of just scrolling by because I rambled on for a while paragraph, but I hope someone understands what we're going through and what we need to do to fix this.



There are amazing teachers here at HHS, however, there also have been a few that are not great. Mrs. X for example is the main teacher I have not felt confident having my education in her hands. I have always done great in all of my classes, especially in math however this year, specifically this trimester, I have been getting B's or lower on all my quizzes and tests. While a B is considered above average, I am a straight A student and know that my best and average is A's. For one quiz my class wasn't given the whole hour to complete a test and I didn't even get to the last page, I ended up retaking it just 2 days later with a (whole hour to take it) and ended up getting only 3 wrong. Multiple times I am completely lost on what she is teaching and I end up having to reteach myself the entire lesson with the help of online resources. She doesn't really manage time well and usually is still teaching us and expecting us to listen and pay attention as we walk out the door minutes AFTER the hour is done. This is one thing I would love for us to watch out for in the future because I believe a student's safety is number one, but their education is an extremely close second. I feel as if my best education were taken away from me. chances at getting a good The last thing I want to comment on is the counselors. There have been multiple instances with me and people I know that have had no great interactions with different counselors. I have never met my counselor one on one before and the one time I did see her in person (which was our first interaction) she talked me out of AP classes that I was planning on taking, she told me looping wasn't a great idea and I ended up not signing up for the correct classes. Later, after talking to a senior and my mom, I resubmitted my classes so I would loop. Every interaction I have had with my counselor is college based. This is fine for me because I am pretty sure I am going to college, but I know that is not the case for a lot of people which is okay. I feel the counselors are closed-minded and are only okay with students being on one path, I know this does not work for everyone and this is not fair for those students. One time I mentioned maybe not wanting to go to college and I was quickly "reassured" that college is a fantastic choice. Many students I've talked to say they feel unheard and feel the counselors are pushing certain futures for them. Certain classes have been denied to me because the counselors believe that they wouldn't be good on college applications if the student doesn't do well in them. People I know have even been told by the counselors that they weren't good enough to take that class. Proving that they are trying to shape the student's future to what they think will be best instead of actually taking into account the student's wishes for the future. I hope these points are taken into consideration to help better our school and community.



Hudsonville Students SOAR V Surveys 2023 Verbatim Comments—Page 74 There is an abundance of required classes that will serve no purpose in the future careers I'm interested in. Sure, it helps teach learning skills, but so would taking relevant classes.

To end charging for lunch because many students cannot always add money to their account every week based on their parent's income. It would be better for students to get free lunch, but if they want snacks from the snack bar they would have to pay.

To have teachers be a lot more supporting to their students either than just treating it like their job because the students want to feel welcome too.



To improve the education system at HHS we could put more time into improving the wifi and computers as they have lots of technical issues and the wifi can sometimes prevent us from learning if its not working and it happens often

To not assign nearly as much work, and to be more lenient when it comes to restrictions on blocked websites and cellphones.

To raise my hand because I don't do it or answer questions because i'm afraid i'm wrong or laughed at

Too much to write down

try harder

Try to add more classes that incorporate different ways of learning instead of only one way to learn. So more creative and preparing classes.

Unblock cool math games

We need expanded hallways and cafeterias. The current setup we have is overcrowded. Many people enjoy talking to their friends in the halls, which hinders movement. We do not need the lockers on the main campus. Instead, we could replace those with benches for students to sit, study, and talk.

Well education-wise I think for the most part it's decent. It's more just the school environment and behavior of the school that needs improvement. I know that's not what you're asking but since nobody listens any other time, I'll say it here. There have been countless cases of bullying and harassment at this school. Sometimes they occur right in front of teachers. Once I had someone ask about my genitals in the middle of class. I made a point to be loud, and ask what gave him the right to say that. Instead of trying to figure out what was going on, the teacher instead just told me to quiet down. I went to the school about it and they appear concerned. They always do. It's like there's a script they follow. "We are on your side. We want Hudsonville to be as welcoming as possible and we want you to feel safe and accepted here". But when there is actually a problem, nobody does anything. I think they talked to the kid but he never even apologized. And the school never followed up with me about anything. There have been times when people have quite literally been threatened, and the school didn't do anything. They gave them a firm talking to at the very most, but then send them right back to class. But here's what bothers me even more, whenever it's a problem that's not related to LGBTO or anything like that, everyone acts like it's life or death. A kid threatened someone, not because they were queer, but just because of something else going on, and you will send a cop



Hudsonville Students SOAR V Surveys 2023 Verbatim Comments—Page 76 to the school to investigate him. But if it's someone getting threatened because of their gender or sexuality you say "Aw man that sucks I'm sorry" and then send them right back to class and never speak of it again. This is not a safe environment. I don't feel safe here and neither do my friends. Even back in middle school, I've been called slurs before. But we are starting to give up on you. I already have. When stuff happens now, I don't bother even mentioning it, because I know it's a waste of energy. Because I know they won't do anything. This school is full of lies.



We need more career based learning, I am leaving high school knowing nothing about what I want to do with my life, and Hudsonville has been no help in my choosing of careers. In fact you would think that Hudsonville's goals is not to help choose careers as there is almost no classes offered that relate to careers. Many people I know have no idea of what career to do and many of them are about to pile on student debt for college and they don't even know what they are fully going for. It is truly disappointing and it makes me sad to see this happen.

we need teachers that check in with students frequently. i know for a fact that half the students sit there in class struggling and are to afraid to ask questions. if I had a teacher that came to me and talked to me personally I would feel more safe to talk to them about work I'm struggling on.

When we start school, we should start after labor day like we used to and get rid of the monthly half days/the half days that we have the first two weeks because it makes it hard on the parents and we barely get through lessons.

Work on being more inclusive.

You guys seem to have strong hatred towards people that don't want to achieve a higher education degree. Fact is most of us will be more successful and i'm sick of your guys spitting your go to college garbage and neglecting the kids that don't take your higher placement classes.

You should be able to give feedback to teachers anonymously, so they can improve their teaching style to fit everyone's learning needs.