

North Chevy Chase Elementary School

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Dear North Chevy Chase Elementary families,

Our school has a commitment to fostering learning environments in which all students, families and staff feel a sense of belonging. Recognizing the racial disparities that have persisted in how students experience school and access opportunities, Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) worked collaboratively with the Mid-Atlantic Equity Consortium (MAEC) to examine policies, practices and structures that must change to ensure schools create the conditions for all students to thrive.

Over 130,000 students, staff and families shared insights over the course of two years. Our school has been analyzing the survey results from our own students, staff and families. At NCC, 129 students, 82 families, and 13 staff members took the survey. The full results will be posted to our school [website](#) on May 26, 2023. We are writing to summarize our survey results so that we can work together with families to gain deeper insights about what our data mean for actions we must take to continuously improve. We studied the specific results where we saw the most significant differences in the experiences of students, staff and families by racial group. A summary of our work so far is below.

WHAT WE EXAMINED

– **84.1%** of our families **agree** or strongly agree that “there is at least one person at my child’s school that I feel comfortable talking with when I have a question or concern”.

–**78.1%** of our families **agree** or strongly agree that “communication from my child’s school is easy to understand and helps me know how to support my child”.

–**93.8%** of our families **agree** or strongly agree that “believe my child should be taught to recognize, understand, and interrupt racism”.

–**83%** of our students **agree** or strongly agree that their “teachers believe in me”.

–**78.4%** of our students **disagree** or strongly disagree that they are “sometimes treated differently because of my race, skin color, ethnicity, or culture at school”.

–**78.2%** of our students **agree** or strongly agree that their “My teachers show respect

for my racial, ethnic, and cultural background.”

WHAT WE LEARNED

–Our families in general are comfortable talking to school personnel, and have at least one staff member that they feel comfortable talking with.

–A majority of our families feel that school to home communication is easy to understand and helps them know how to support their child.

–Our families would like their children to learn how to recognize, understand, and interrupt racism.

–Our students generally feel that their teachers believe in them.

–A significant number of students **do not** feel that they are treated differently because of their race, skin color, ethnicity or culture at school.

–A majority of our students feel that their teachers show respect for their racial, ethnic, and cultural background.

OUR NEXT STEPS

While we have strong scores, we always strive to include **ALL** of our students. In order to facilitate this, we as an NCC community plan to:

–As a part of our summer team planning, we will identify ways that we will collect feedback from all members of our community about how to improve your child’s education and improve the school.

–During the 2023-2034 school year, we will pilot a Remind communication platform that will allow families to communicate in their home language with staff in real-time through texts.

–We will work together with our PTA to develop ways to be more inclusive in our meetings and to encourage and welcome all families to participate.

--NCC staff will continue our antiracist professional learning to further support student learning.

–This year, we made an effort to collect more student voice data during our quarterly town halls. We will continue and expand this effort, finding more opportunities for

students to share their experience, and providing feedback on feedback.

-A request that came from students from the town hall survey was for a club to celebrate culture. NCC is one of the few MCPS elementary schools to have an active MSP (Minority Scholars Program) for 5th grade students.

-In planning for the 2023-2024 school year, we will work with the PTA and school community to expand our number of opportunities for families to participate in school events, meetings, and celebrations.

HOW FAMILIES CAN HELP

-We encourage our families to participate in school events, meetings, and activities as often as possible.

-We ask parents to provide feedback to staff when there is a concern or question. If you are unsure who to contact, please start with your classroom teacher.

-We look forward to continuing to engage with families as partners in designing our school improvement plan which includes actions that we will take as a result of our data. We are confident that by working together, we can increase our students' access to opportunities and ensure that all students, staff, and families experience a sense of belonging in our school community.

We look forward to continuing to engage with families as partners in designing and monitoring a school improvement plan that includes actions we will take as a result of our data. We are confident that by working together we can increase our students' access to opportunities and ensure that all students, staff and families experience a sense of belonging in our school community.