COMMUNITY FORUM 3/20/12
ROBERT GRAVES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Group 1

• Music and Arts are extremely important.
• School district should reach out to different organizations.
• Need to investigate and determine what makes students motivated?
• Need learning alternatives for students.
• Smaller Learning Communities should be examined.

Group 2

• Arts and music are very important.
• There should be a wide variety of AP courses.
• More technology courses should be added.
• It is important to keep the class size small.
• There should be more focus on transitioning programs for elementary to middle school students and middle to high school students.
• More parent involvement with middle and high school students is needed.

Group 3

• All of the extra clubs, sports, and arts are very important to a school community.
• Academics need to be the top priority.
• Looking at Drop out Rates and how we can lower them is important.
• Summer school and Night School should be studied and evaluate whether or not they do make a positive difference and are efficient.
• What student needs are not being met needs to be looked at.
• More foreign language in the elementary grades is encouraged.
• Need to incorporate more life skill programs and classes in the schools (Example: Balancing a check book).
• More alternative classes for high school students offered earlier before dropping out (Example: BOCES)

Group 4

• Need to be more creative and wiser when spending taxpayer money.
• Teachers should work more with students individually.
• Students need more support systems to deter dropping out.

Group 5

• Value Music, Art and Sports in the district.
• Librarians and technology are very important.
• Elementary schools should have a wider variety of language opportunities.
• Parent involvement is so important to the success of a child.
• There should be more enrichment programs.
• Want more open communication in the schools.
• The after school activities should be evaluated and the transportation difficulties that some parents encounter.
Group 6

- Summer school is very valuable for younger students and keeping them on task throughout the summer.
- Support teachers need more time with students and less paperwork.
- Peer groups are very productive and vital in the schools.
- Students should get the community more involved in their schools.
- Businesses and the community need to come together for our students.