

Exchange Summary

Donna Reichman, Wayne Township Public Schools
May 5, 2021

Please share your thoughts on why you voted to keep or to replace the mascot of Wayne Valley High School.



PARTICIPATION

Breakdown of Participation



2,742

Participants



2,900

Thoughts



83,592

Ratings

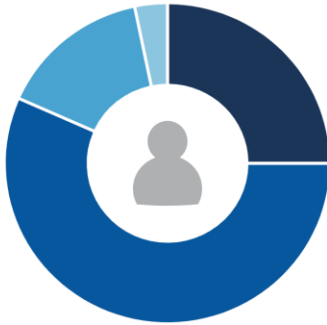


PARTICIPATION

Breakdown of Participation



Do you think we should replace the "Indian" mascot at Wayne Valley High School?



%		Answer
25%	(654)	■ Yes, replace the mascot
57%	(1471)	■ No, keep the mascot
15%	(376)	■ I'm fine either way
3%	(72)	■ Undecided

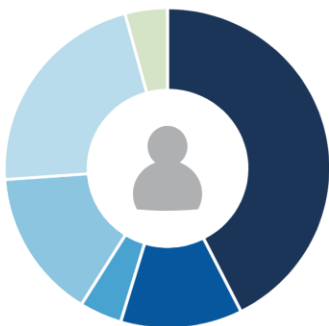


PARTICIPATION

Breakdown of Participation



What is your role?



%		Answer
43%	(1117)	■ High School Student
12%	(307)	■ Middle School Student
4%	(102)	■ Staff/Teacher
15%	(396)	■ Parent/Guardian
22%	(562)	■ Alumni
4%	(90)	■ Other



WORDCLOUD

Top Rated





THOUGHTS

Key Thoughts



it keeps a legacy of our school it keeps a similar picture to what generations before us created

4.1 ★★★★★ (28 👤)

Ranked #1 of 2835

I really don't feel that there's any reason to remove it. As a person with Native American ancestry, I find it odd that it's even considered racist. In addition, I actually think it's good to have a Native American as a mascot; It can give a sense of inclusivity to certain students.

4.1 ★★★★★ (19 👤)

Ranked #2 of 2835

A mascot is a symbol. Symbols transcend language and social whims and symbols speak deeper, to our character and values. The WV Indian = strength, honor, uncompromising character and community (tribe). All things I instill in my own family, school & community. Keep it

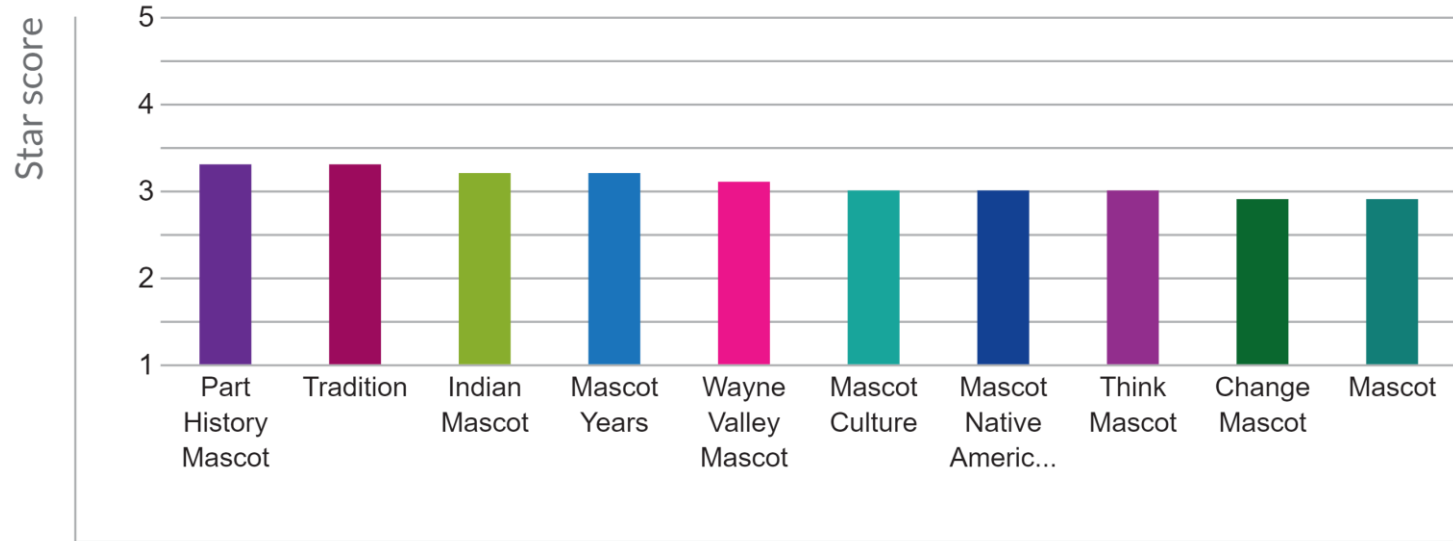
4.1 ★★★★★ (14 👤)

Ranked #3 of 2835



AI GENERATED THEMES

Top Themes





THOUGHTS

Part History Mascot



I feel that the mascot should remain the Indians. It is an honor to be an Indian as they are dedicated, strong, brave and an important part of American history.

4.0 ★★★★★ (32 👤)

its Wayne history the ridiculousness agenda has to stop

3.9 ★★★★★ (26 👤)

It represents the legacy and history of the school. It is not offensive and is part of the school's identity.

3.8 ★★★★★ (34 👤)



THOUGHTS

Tradition



It is important to me because it's been a tradition forever . Why are our fellow Americans 3.9 ★★★★★ (33 👤)
insulted by everything.? We love and respect the Indian people.

we should keep the school mascot i think it's very important to keep the school mascot 3.8 ★★★★★ (31 👤)
because it is a tradition and wayne valley wouldn't be the same with a different mascot.

I would also keep the mascot because there are people in our schools who celebrate their 3.7 ★★★★★ (24 👤)
traditions like this. It is important because to the kids who do have traditions like this, it
may be important to them to keep the mascot because it means a lot to them.



THOUGHTS

Indian Mascot



A mascot is a symbol. Symbols transcend language and social whims and symbols speak deeper, to our character and values. The WV Indian = strength, honor, uncompromising character and community (tribe). All things I instill in my own family, school & community. Keep it

4.1 ★★★★★ (14 👤)

Wayne is a town that is full of positive Indian heritage that everyone is proud of. It is important to remember and honor this heritage

4.0 ★★★★★ (13 👤)

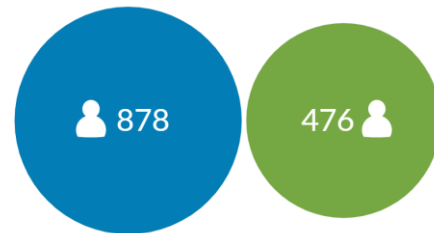
I think we should keep the indian mascot because it is not racist and we are honoring them and keeping their memory alive. This is important because there are spartan mascots, cowboy mascots, and patriot mascots so why are the Indians any different.

3.9 ★★★★★ (34 👤)



DIFFERENCES

[878 | 476]



Side A

What is wrong with honoring Indians as fierce competitors??? There is nothing offensive about "Indians" I grew up in Wayne, there are many references to the Lenni Lenape tribe, my girl scout troop was part of that division, streets are named with Indian names, no one is trying to change them.

★ 5.0 ★ 1.1

Keep the Indian it makes me proud

★ 4.8 ★ 1.0

Side A/B Common (high)

No thoughts

Side B

The term "Indians" is a culturally insensitive word made by colonizers so the fact the school hasn't even taught how that's wrong says something. The fact a school uses a race as a mascot is disgusting. If you are white you're opinion on this doesn't matter because it doesn't affect you.

★ 1.0 ★ 5.0

It is important to see this as an evolving process, the "Indian" is used as a negative stereotype as a mascot. We need to show that we can change and all be better!

★ 1.0 ★ 4.8



DIFFERENCES

[331 | 315]



Side A

The board of education does not care what the voters think, trying to control outcomes with small focus groups. This affects the history of Wayne. Stop trying to change it!

★ 4.5 ★ 1.1

I think its unnecessary

★ 4.6 ★ 1.2

Side A/B Common (high)

I don't see that Hills is being asked to change their mascot. Always heard we are equal schools. If Valley has to change then Hills should not be Allowed to use the patriots as their mascot. There

★ 3.8 ★ 4.2

Kids first! Not worried about a mascot right now. I'm worried about the \$250K it will take to change it when we can spend that money on programming for our kids

★ 4.8 ★ 4.5

Side B

Patriots vs Indians as the two high school mascots implies Native Americans unpatriotic Native Americans and those descended from them are no less "Patriots" than other people; the two mascots together are an issue.

★ 1.1 ★ 4.9

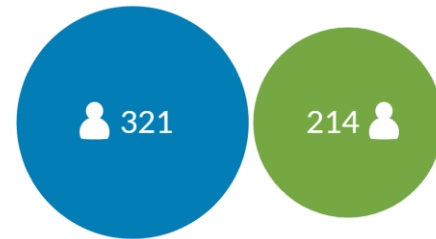
Many people, especially alum, will not want this change. I am hoping we will base our decision based on what is right in your move toward equity.

What is popular is not what is always right. An important lesson for our children to learn.



DIFFERENCES

[321 | 214]



Side A

What tiny percentage are saying that the mascot is offensive? You can identify them by the buzz words they use. It's indoctrination speak.

★ 4.8 ★ 1.3

No more drama and complaining. The more people complain about it, the more the idea will spread.

★ 4.5 ★ 1.3

Side A/B Common (high)

No thoughts

Side B

I don't know much about this topic. Maybe i'll try to do more research.

★ 1.3 ★ 4.7

Since majority of students at Valley are white: We should have our mascot a white person.

★ 1.3 ★ 4.8



WRAP UP

Next Steps



Thanks for participating

We'll be carefully considering what we learned and sharing our actions back with you.