**Community Listening Session Questions**

1. SPFE has had conversations with the community since 2012 about advocating for the schools St. Paul children deserve and eliminating racial inequities. From your perspective, please finish the following statement in reference to St. Paul Public Schools: **The highest quality public experience that every child should have includes…**

*Examples: Small class sizes, supports such as school counselors, nurses, social workers*

1. Finish the following statement: A quality public education system ensures that teachers and educators have….

*Examples: Quality benefits like healthcare, a feeling of respect at work*

1. Since 2003, St. Paul Public Schools has seen a **reduction** in per pupil funding of over $1,600 per pupil. While funding has gone down, student needs have increased and schools have had to make cuts. During the same time, corporate tax rates have decreased; therefore SPFE has called on corporations and the wealthy to pay their fair share in taxes to make up for this deficit. **Do you support that idea? And what is one additional idea you have for providing more funding for our public schools.**
2. What are the top 3 improvements you would make to St. Paul Public Schools?
3. We believe the schools are the heart of our community and that decisions should be made with stakeholder involvement. **Finish the following statement: Our public-school experience would improve if there were more opportunities for parents and students to have a voice in decisions like…**

*Examples: Building budget decisions, choosing principals, choosing school programming*

1. Overtime, our schools have seen a decrease in support staffing such as Educational Assistants, Librarians, Counselors, Nurses, Psychologists, and Social Workers. Additionally, we have an increased need for interpreters that has not been met. **Have you noticed the impact this has on our schools? What positions do you think are most needed for our students and families?**
2. What changes could we make in St. Paul Public Schools to have the biggest impact on eliminating racial disparities in outcomes for our students?