

Community Conversation

Edge Teen Center

March 1, 2017

What are the challenges students face to being successful in school?

Common Core

Busing and transport

Too many responsibilities

Need student representation on school board

Better management of teachers

Honors classes with more depth, more work

Peer pressure

Not enough time between classes

Mental health – anxiety, depression, suicidal thoughts

Understaffed

Lack of one-on-one teaching

Drop-off and pick-up line, long car lines [mentioned many times]

Teachers don't have freedom to teach creatively

Students don't have a voice

There are times when my parents make me late and I get tardies and detention.

Constant interruption by others

Excessive PDA

“Lakota Snaps” fallout

Name-calling

Stressed about time spent on homework

Sometimes students care more about being liked than doing the school work

Some classes are at a really fast pace or a really slow place

Some dress code issues

State testing emphasis

Arts/creative outlets being cut
Inconsistent enforcement of rules
Too much testing and quizzes
Absent/tardy policy is stressful
Discrimination (racist, sexist, etc.)
Teachers/staff play favorites
Teachers giving unrelated assignments as homework/busywork
Not enough review for exams
Need more accessibility to counselors
No counselor meetings during study hall
A lot of homework when you put it all together
Encouraging students to participate (clubs, athletics)
Girls dress code too strict
Stress about parents' satisfaction with schoolwork
Peer pressure – to do something you don't want to do
Subs becoming the full time teacher and the don't know the material
We don't feel heard, when a teacher might not be teaching in a way students can learn from
Disengagement of the teacher with students
A lot of fights (one per week)
Walking from LEFC to Edge
Limited time to go to the bathroom
Reluctance to interact with faculty
Kids using phones at school
Playstation, Xbox, electronics
Sports fees
Need a club card with scaled fees based on number of clubs
Perfectionism gets in the way of getting things done
Budget cuts
Largeness (of school)

Transportation to extra-curriculars

Need diversity training for students, and active shooter drills,

Social challenges, sexual relationships

Block day – no homework?

Addiction issues

More streamlined info from HAC and Canvas to keep track of due dates and assignments

Dealing with kids who don't want to be at school

Time management

Stress about politics

Quality vs quantity of homework in honors classes

What supports are currently in place that help students meet the challenges in school?

Opportunities to re-do work

Be the Difference Day – awesome!

Opportunities to just vent/talk without judgment

An individual who “does it”

Power of parents to be open to their kids and facilitate situations – helps connect to teacher better

Students feel like they have a voice

We love Annie! (Droege, Edge Teen Center director)

All the “extra” info: finances, relationships, nutrition, job service, etc.)

Teachers who do one-on-ones to help

Teachers who are approachable

Teachers who stay after to help a person

Kids can find the help

Counseling staff helps a lot, especially for freshmen

Student-to-student tutoring

Kids who “step out” and ask

Teachers that connect beyond their “classroom teacher” role

Engineering staff is great with kids (club activity, outreach to parents)

What supports would help take things to the next level?

Find out why people like that teacher and train others to be more like them. To be able to find teachers that students relate to

Research community and serve.

Big goal – personal relationships/connection.

Make it “feel small” in a big school

Reverse classroom – homework in class

Counselors available in extra bell period

Go to student conferences on special topics, e.g., a journalism one I went to – I could choose the sessions I wanted.

Project 38 – Washington DC

Field trips – with options, choice – different way to acquire knowledge

Outside educational inputs – like having a veteran from World War II during a history lesson

Student/staff bonding – learning about students and teachers

Woods outside the building – natural area for study, thought, learning

Teachers trusting students despite the variety – more opportunities established to build trust

Able to communicate with all different types

Education tailored to students’ learning style

Lighten up on Common Core – more real-life learning

More one-on-one during the day with adults, both academic and counseling

Talk in class like a team about real life

Build a small community of learners that fits their needs

Start one hour later in the day