

December 6, 2016
Community Conversation
Faith United Methodist Church

Challenge Stories

TRANSPORTATION – No busing for High School

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Impacts attendance

- goes down
- performance down

Financial impact

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- hurts job/lost (breakdowns)
- have to pay Uber/gas

Causes emotional stress on students

▼

- gets behind > request online help (for missed days)

IEP students are also impacted

- job skills
- harder to get to

- Sacrifice of those who help families with transportation
- Health is also a challenge

THE EDGE Teen Center (Positive Reinforcement)

- help with homework
- Inexpensive
- volunteer opportunities → more learning → nice hang-out
- supervised
- some do homework (only a few)
- computer access
- off street

great staff - nice
understand the kids

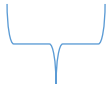
relaxed – not judged

Boys and Girls Club was a huge help – the afterschool programs in general helps working parents

Other Issues

- no internet at home
- parents not being able to help
- language barriers
- expensive tutors
- parents being sick

Special Needs and Gifted



difficult to navigate
especially non-professional parents
difficult to find resources
successful program helps a lot

No email/internet makes the daily communication from school a barrier (eg: pdf on phone is hard + it costs)
Also language barrier is an issue re: daily e-communications

Bullying issues – How to meet the needs in this situation so nothing “falls through the cracks” especially with not knowing the process with this size of a district

IEP meetings are intimidating

- there are differing accommodations (Why? How to advocate? Especially if not IEP qualified)
- paperwork is a huge burden on parents and staff – causes anxiety for everyone

REQUESTS

- offer internet to students without it at home
- offer more mental health services across the board (past 8th grade)
- have a parent resource center in schools; parent support groups to meet and talk to other parents (parent classrooms where they can come in and talk about their collective struggles)

Programs can be very different depending on the student – parents could support each other in this
Empower parents; engage them in the process of planning for their student (Eg. Parent-lead conferences)

Huge diversity – be in community across differences

- feel connected to each other (opportunities for different experiences)

More job opportunities or work-study (probably will have to qualify, but can this be expanded?)

- get job experience
- socialization

Goal/Request – Daily

- keep up when kids are sick – a system for the chronically ill

Increase the number of Counselors – currently they are overwhelmed and juggle both roles:

- Academic VS. Emotional/Anxiety

More transportation – Lobby the State

- Lists for carpooling facilitated by school