

## Notes from October 24, 2013 Denise Gifford Community Conversation

### Learned

Hard for schools to get good press – Need more

Similar themes

- eg: Common Core
- eg: Too many tests

Worried about federal push – Will it dumb us down to Cincinnati Public

Testing drives curriculum

Reallocation of dollars into reading specialists

Busing Challenge is complex, especially re: Charter/Private

Limited busing has forced neighborhoods to come together to meet the need

The possibility of a virtual 7<sup>th</sup> bell to give kids more opportunities without high cost  
Means a lot to a mom because it's more opportunity – But a worry about the kid's time management

New learning model

- Worry that online delivery won't work for all learners
- Technology equity concerns

"Blended learning" can help individualize learning, but at what cost?

### Attendee Comments

Learn with music

Multitask

How to focus on the student

How can we change media perception of school district for potential new residents?

Hard to get good press because press is not interested

Will common core help or hurt?

Will teachers get frustrated with new standards and testing and become frustrated?

\$400 more a year?

How will we keep up with technology?

How will we retain staff?

How can we increase business relationships with schools?

Cincinnati is failing – How will it help?

0.55/\$100 X \$192,000 homes (Liberty Township)  
= \$1,056/year tax increase

Community Action Plan:

Actionable? Achievable?

Understandable?

Can goals be established?

Can they be measured?

Is there a time for each to be accomplished?

What good would Common Core do for Cincinnati School Districts?

What good are unions in the Lakota School District?

I'm concerned when I see buses heading away at 2:30 pm

Whose home for the kids?

Can we compete with other counties who teach longer hours?

Responsible for the community, 1-7?

I think I am on 6

Have reinstated some reading specialists

With common core will emphasize non-fiction reading in non-language courses

K-6 Clearly work on basics

Not to that level of detail yet, but probably

Do some stuff, but really tougher with so much energy going to "high stakes" testing

Re: Strategic Plan

Like it...Concern 3 Rs are missing

At candidate forum several mentioned reading and math specialists removed from  
elementaries – Can you assure me that the basic foundation elements get top priority?

What are we learning from the "best of the best" charter schools?

What is Lakota doing to encourage parental involvement in their children's education?

400/Sport  
Cap family  
1200  
1500  
1600

Winds/jazz

Extra bell

- Technology
- Electives
- 7<sup>th</sup> Bell virtual
- 9<sup>th</sup> grade 7<sup>th</sup> bell

How do you track "time in" and making sure they are actually present for online classes?

Electives cut?

Pay to play?

AP?

Art, music, and gym?

Are students prepared for future still?

Busing and impact on housing market?

How do we attract buyers again?

How to repair tracks that are showing?

Mason and Sycamore more attractive?