

Notes from January 31st Community Conversation Hosted by Terri Ryan

CHALLENGES

Class management
↑
Difficult with varying levels of student
↑
Teacher control class discipline

All students have access

Lack of parental participation
What do kids get at home?

State mandated requirements
Can teachers be creative?

Lack of skills

Analog clock – Read a map
Financials – Cursive
Career direction
Independent thinking
Delayed gratification
Decision making
Respect
Empathy

Technology costs

Unwilling teachers {
Use new teachers
Try different method

Keeping up with technology

Barriers to change – Teachers need to be willing

Don't bump retirement age so we can let old teachers retire

Positive group learning
Leadership training

Special needs requirements
↓
Challenge teachers because of variety of students
↓
And other requirements

Discipline issues are often special needs

Lack of student/parent/teacher accountability

Friction between parent and teacher

Different expectations

Lack of clarity re: Roles

Non-engaged parents

Not enough communication with community

Define role of district/teacher and communicate to parents/students

Lack of funding → Levy

Lack of non-college paths

How do we spend the dollars?

Costly state and federal mandates

SUCSESSES

Strong science

Creative allocation of resources

Strong math and basics

Accountability

Strong vocational

Kids know own direction

Exposure to diverse opportunities and career paths

Volunteers

Decentralize everything

Confident kids

Involved parents

Teachers

Enthusiastic/educated

Motivated/accountable

Forward thinking

Performance based

Innovative

Community involvement

Community service – Create a community of character

Adequate funding

Good resource allocation

Value-based funding

Appropriate

Easy to get rid of bad (poor performing) teachers

Easy to hire new teachers and good people as teachers

Good administrators {
Managing teachers
Don't cave to parents

Think outside the box

Balanced academics with

Social/relational

Electives/"specials" (sports, art)

Cultural

Life skills

See other's perspective

*Fearful respect of authority figure

Clear contract between parent, teacher, and student