

Notes from November 27th Community Conversation Hosted by Brant and Kathy Cook

CHALLENGES

Concerns about bullying, harassment, negative social impact
→ No action, excuses

Concerns over “safety”

↓
“Culture” of the Schools

Why – Class size
District doesn’t care

Why a culture of bullying – School not caring

- Legal pressure
- School size
- Protect the bullyer
Don’t ruin their lives
- Outside culture doesn’t support schools

Shortened time for art, sports

Lack of technical training – College not for everybody

Perception of teachers’ salary and unions

Limited electives, therefore not well rounded and not competitive with colleges

Negative media and
Weak response

Lack of hands on – Doesn’t address different learning styles
SPARK
Photography
Shop class

Teacher seniority keeps the bad, old teachers and loses the young ones with training and passion

Kids isolated from community, especially seniors – Use open houses, student shadowing, get kids playing music in community

Lack of learning skill – How to learn – Challenge your younger kids, especially in middle

More attention to middle, not just gifted and special

SUCCESS

Change is inevitable and needed

Community service and outreach

Tech classes are key – Learning and using to educate

Students need to be visible in community

Community into the schools

Insider on *Pulse Journal*

Self-discovery

More clubs and feel part of school

School spirit

Staff spirit

School is part of community

Wide range of hopes for success

Lead by example – Innovate, without costing more

World solution to big problems

Leveraging smart phones and other “modern” stuff – Teach to this generation

Follow students’ success stories post-graduation

Sell ourselves – Show how we make a better community