

Notes from February 19th Community Conversation Hosted by Don Crain, Lee Geiger, and Dan Warncke

CHALLENGES – Individual notes from attendee

Level of writing needed in business world

Common written skills critical

Different and specific purpose of writing delivered

Concern writing and communication skills

Strength and character but poor communication skills – Hand shake, eye contact

Relevancy of what's being taught – How does it apply? Don't hang on to what doesn't need to be anymore

Need common sense stuff – Home economics, financial stuff

Typing

Parents want you to raise kids

Parental responsibility being pushed to institution

Schools have to be about every child and every mind

Can't afford this system anymore

Life skills

Don't try to be all things to everyone

Schools need to do what they do well

Schools need to be able to say no

Society is pushing back

We won't vote for a levy because schools are doing too much

Schools aren't doing enough from others' perspective

Are they doing too much or are they not doing a good job with the money they have?

Problem solving important to teach

Success should look different for every child

Individualize in trades – Can't be all things to all people

Extracurriculars important

Pay to play – OK

CHALLENGES

Staying competitive with other districts

Students must make up for lost opportunities

Society dumps problems on the school district

Food, discipline – “One bad kid”

Beyond just education

How do we deal with this (One bad kid)?

Misinformation – Finances
Demographics
Low SES

The middle kids get lost

Kids often don't get pushed

Know how to learn

What to do with information

Life skills

Parents can be over-involved

Communication skills – Oral
Written

Skill sets aren't matching what kids need

Quick fixes dominate society

Don't be lazy

SUCSESSES

Individualized

Multiple tracks { College type specialization
Trades
STEM
Liberal Arts

Solely meeting state standards will cause students to always be behind

Community helps develop curriculum
Teacher flexibility
Free markets

Sporting events
Pride
Involved

Track career trends and mold curriculum around that

Challenge kids to their individual potential

Education contributes to the whole community

Community connections

Live civilly

More community support for non-core curriculum

Focus on traditional classwork

Extracurriculars are important

Out of trouble

Team skills

Exercise

Time management

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Within Balance

Social skills

Discipline

Critical thinking

Core job skills

Practical application

Diversity of opportunities → Music Sports

Self determination

Decentralize

Confidence

Values

Good teachers

Passion for learning

Empower students

Courage

Ability to fail

Self suffocating

Deal with it

Respect

Still measure soft stuff

4 Cs

Nimble

Beyond test

More involvement of parents – More

Local businesses

Get more people into the schools

Increase volunteers