

Notes from September 26th Community Conversation at the West Chester Liberty Chamber Alliance

Go beyond the minimums

Negative impact on kids

Too few kids, art classes

Competitiveness of students

eg: College admissions etc. vs. industry

Not well
founded

Can't teach whole child to be a world learner

eg: arts

Missing special needs

Fear of unknown/uncertainty

What was? What's coming?

Teachers that are left? Learning? Prepared?

- How to reach every child every need
- Lack of preparation for success
- Negative community perceptions

ie: Busing
Special classes
Arts
Physical Education
Music
Media Centers
Sixth period cut

Leaving Lakota

Property Values

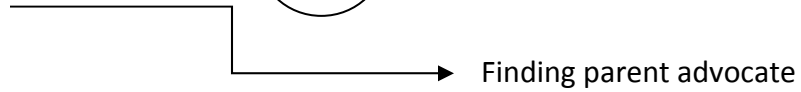
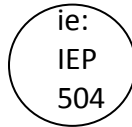


(Lots of agreement)

- Long term impact (not well rounded)
Not ready to compete (world wide)
- Collaboration with other community organizations (fill needs gap)
- Divided attention on classrooms
Glorified babysitters
- Not doing best practices
- Special needs unmet

- Knowing how to access

- ✓ Testing
- ✓ Rights
- ✓ Process



- Parents fight with district too much
"Have to find and fight for it..."

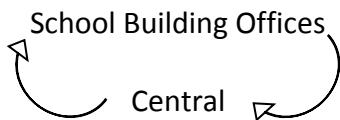
- Not enough resources for special needs
(Good reputation in comparison)

- Defunded parent advocates
(Schools don't show up)
Parents, lawyers, etc.

- Need appreciation for parents
 - ✓ Volunteer options
 - ✓ Need follow-through; get involved in process

————→ Input —————→ Through Put —————→ (Organized) Output

- Lack of Management? Administration? Resources?



Overall system

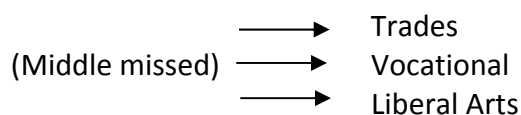
Headlines for Success A

- Schools not enough "dropping the ball"
Community needs to get involved

- Average kids – Disconnect
Not enough focus

-3 tier education

- Accelerated
- The rest...

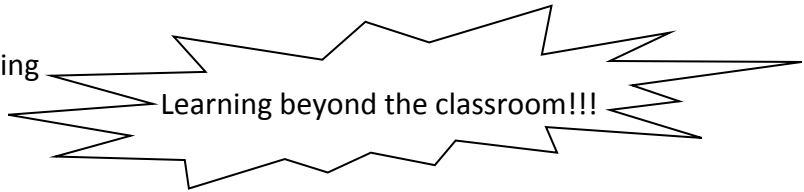


+ Honors/AP

+ Basic ←————— Losing this

+ IEP

- Losing well rounded education
- Lots lost....Nostalgic
- Embracing new, innovative learning
(ie: Online, etc.)
- Match learning styles of youth (digital divide?)
- Leverage technology
 - * Fairness
 - * Access



Headlines for Success B

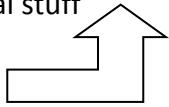
- Reach entire community
- Individualized, tailored education
- Appropriate class size
- Relevance and application to life
- Facilitator not drill sergeants
Point to resources
- Encourage and cheer on (mentors)
even tough ones....
- Leveraging teachers' different strengths (online?)
- New paradigms of teaching "Best of the Best"
- Higher Grade
↕
Lower Grade
- Keep quality teachers

Beyond teachers – support them with community



Word of mouth
Teachers that inspire

Headlines for Success C

- Extra-curricular activities
 - ✓ Know about it
 - ✓ Available
 - ✓ Supplemental stuff
- More collaboration 
Doesn't have to be school

“Find a Way!”