

## What are some of the challenges facing Junction City's public schools?

**Abuse directed towards teens by adults in the home**

G11

**Thought:** Abuse directed towards teens by adults in the home

T8

Many youth growing up in abusive homes feel like there are few resources for them. Many don't feel able to speak to counselors, teachers, or school administrators because of the mandatory reporting requirements and fear of unknown consequences. Youth facing abuse can demonstrate a variety of responses including difficulty focusing on school, trouble controlling emotions, fighting, depression, thoughts or acts of self-harm, and more. Womenspace Presentation feedback forms have shown that of the small sample size of youth in Lane County in the last year, about 13%\* have been or are being abused by a parent, guardian, or dating partner of a parent or guardian. This number reached 44% in some classes in Lane County.

\*This information started being recorded half-way through the reporting year.

**Achieving all your goals with limited financial resources.**

G30

**Thought:** Achieving all your goals with limited financial resources.

T30

**Adoption of the CCSS**

G52

**Thought:** Adoption of the CCSS

T55

The adoption of the Common Core State Standards will require a realignment of the curriculum and a critical look at instructional practices. The CCSS are clearly more rigorous and academically demanding. Teachers will need substantial time and support to do this job well.

**Aging Facilities**

G3

**Thought:** The schools are falling apart.

T10

**Thought:** Aging of old school buildings, such as Laurel Elementary.

T23

Laurel is over 50 years old. It is more expensive to do needed updates than to build a new school. A new school would have updates that today's students need in order to get the best possible education. In addition the new building would be around for another 50+ years while a repaired old one would just continue to need more updates.

**Thought:** Crumbling facilities,

T25

## What are some of the challenges facing Junction City's public schools?

*(continued)***Aging Facilities**

G3

Heat pumps beyond their life of being effective.  
 Ivy growing into schools from outside.  
 Drafts around windows.  
 Curtains and shades shredding.  
 Outdated electrical system with not enough outlets.  
 Poor communication system.

**Thought: Aging Facilities**

T64

While I agree that the bond measure presented was needed it was too much to swallow in the actual \$ per property value. Can you split up the measure into smaller bites so that the yearly hit to a household is less? I acknowledge that the measure was needed but the hit was too much when my income has steadily decreased over the last 6 years.

**Antiquated facilities at Laurel and JCHS**

G66

**Thought: Antiquated facilities at Laurel and JCHS**

T70

**Being able to educate all, whether talented and gifted or special needs**

G31

**Thought: Being able to educate all, whether talented and gifted or special needs.**

T31

**Books are important!**

G5

**Thought: Books are important!**

T32

I can't believe the condition of the books that the kids need to use! My son doesn't even have a textbook for his Biology class because there aren't enough for all of the students. Since he has ADHD and is often behind, we have hired a private tutor to help him, but what can she do if my son doesn't even have a text book?

**Building Maintenance**

G18

**Thought: Building Maintenance**

T15

## What are some of the challenges facing Junction City's public schools?

**Campus Security**

G4

Thought: Campus Security

T37

**Certain board members have been on the board too long**

G7

Thought: Certain board members have been on the board too long.

T3

I feel its time for some new people to take board positions in this district. There are several people who have spent a lot of years serving and I feel they need to step down.

**Classrooms and furniture that are outdated**

G28

Thought: Classrooms and furniture that are outdated.

T27

**Class sizes are too large**

G2

Thought: Class sizes are too large.

T1

Teachers are caring and compassionate, and also overwhelmed. Class sizes seem to be too large for individual attention for each student. Inappropriate behavior is happening between students, with the teachers left unaware. Some students aren't getting the attention they need to thrive.

Thought: Class size needs to be taken into consideration.

T4

We need to insure that we do not have too many students in each class. Twenty-four should be the maximum class size for all grade levels.

Thought: Large class sizes in the classrooms.

T24

Students cannot get the education they need when teachers have 30-40 students in their classrooms. Students not only need to get a good education, but teachers need to be able to monitor and address the social needs of students in order for them to become well rounded individuals. This is difficult to do when a teacher may not even be able to interact socially with each student everyday in large classrooms.

Thought: Class sizes

T29

As always smaller is better.

**Community**

G40

Thought: Community

T43

What are some of the challenges facing Junction City's public schools?

(continued)

**Community**

G40

With our diverse changes , so does the community. This is a new town. We have more cultures of people, the poverty level of our community has increased. We have more homes where both parents are working or a single parent home. this is a challenge. The students have more needs. The community involvement is different. We don't have that loyalty of families that have been here for generations. We do but the numbers have changed. We need to seek new ways to involve the whole community.

**Continuing and expanding a wide array if course offerings**

G65

**Thought:** Continuing and expanding a wde array if course offerings.

T69

To its great credit the retention of music and PE is a great accomplishment, but I would like to see more opportunities during the week for students to access these programs. The inclusion of hands on electives and foreign language at middle school would greatly add to current programs.

**Demonstrating to community the schools' building needs**

G68

**Thought:** clearly demonstrating to community the schools' building needs

T72

Unless a tax payer visits any campus in Junction City, there is no way a resident can see the true needs. Not enough room in Laurel's cafeteria? No security at Oaklea? Flooding at the high school? These issues are not apparent from driving by. Unfortunately, pictures don't do justice to the problems.

**District money needs to be available for use and not in special accounts**

G6

**Thought:** District money needs to be available for use and not in "special accounts."

T2

A lot of money is appropriated into special accounts for unforeseen expenses making it unavailable. This money needs to go to repair and replace systems that need it instead of staying in an account where it doesn't do any good.

**Diversity**

G39

**Thought:** Diversity

T42

Our enrollment of students has changed a lot in the last 10 years. We have more ESL students, Poverty enrollment is way up. This puts a challenge on our schools to meet all of the students needs.

What are some of the challenges facing Junction City's public schools?

**Enrollment**

G38

**Thought:** Enrollment

T41

Enrollment seems to go up and down each year. The numbers aren't large , but enough to disrupt the numbers in a classroom.

**Finding ways to budget for items other than salaries and benefits**

G44

**Thought:** Finding ways to budget for items other than salaries and benefits.

T47

Solutions require creativity and courage in the current environment.

**Funding**

G17

**Thought:** Funding

T14

**Thought:** Funding

T33

basic materials are missing.

**Thought:** Lack of appropriate funding.

T40

Funding is and has always been a challenge. The reason is mostly the fact that so much of the funding is earmarked for specific needs. The funding for those needs is sometimes short so we work with what we have .

**Thought:** Funding

T58

As with every organization, funding is a continuous challenge for JC public schools and making sure that the main budgeted items are covered as well as trying not to cut back on extracurricular activities or special areas where funding is needed.

**Thought:** Financial challenges

T71

This means fewer course offerings and larger class sizes.

**Funding for massive capital improvenents**

G63

**Thought:** Funding for massive capital improvenents

T67

## What are some of the challenges facing Junction City's public schools?

**Improving graduation rates**

G45

**Thought:** Improving graduation rates.

T48

Increasing the relevance of programs to the student's real life challenges outside of school and after graduation is key. Kids have plenty of entertainment choices, so attempting to make school simply more "fun" is inadequate.

**Initiative overload**

G47

**Thought:** How will Junction City public schools handle initiative overload?

T50

Teachers are constantly burdened with changing initiatives and expectations from aligning to CCSS to proficiency grading and other state mandated requirements. How can you ease this transition period for teachers, which in turn creates a less stressful classroom environment for kids?

**Involvement of parents**

G54

**Thought:** Involvement of parents

T57

I think that all schools, including JC public schools are facing a challenge of balance parent involvement in the education of their children. As a step parent, it is difficult to take an active part-time role in my step children's education when the main parental figure does not. This leads to an imbalance and the students are the ones who struggle because of it.

**Keeping kids engaged**

G19

**Thought:** Keeping kids engaged

T16

**Keep the issues based on "book learning"**

G59

**Thought:** Keep the issues based on "book learning"

T62

I feel when we go for another tax vote we need to have it all be on education and safety. I'm all for the sports, but I don't think everyone feel that way

**Lack of communication between parents and school**

G24

**Thought:** I have experienced a lack of communication between parents and school.

T22

## What are some of the challenges facing Junction City's public schools?

*(continued)***Lack of communication between parents and school**

G24

As a community member this is a great idea and I hope it helps.

**Lack of maintenance**

G16

**Thought:** Lack of maintenance/new construction funds.

T13

People who live in the district are tired of being taxed to death. The cost of building a new school is to great for a small population. We need more state and federal funding for new construction.

**Lack of new construction funds**

G73

**Thought:** Lack of maintenance/new construction funds.

T13

People who live in the district are tired of being taxed to death. The cost of building a new school is to great for a small population. We need more state and federal funding for new construction.

**New parent online communication**

G29

**Thought:** New parent online communication.

T28

Is great for those who have involved parents.  
What about those who do not have computers at home?  
What about students who do not have involved parents?**Not very smart systems and teaching cores**

G53

**Thought:** Not very smart systems and teaching cores

T56

**Out of date technology**

G35

**Thought:** Ancient electronic systems

T26

Out of date computers and electrical system not ready for upgrade.  
Our students do not have access to individual computers and current programs.**Thought:** Out of date facilities and technology.

T36

**Thought:** Upgrading technology

T54

What are some of the challenges facing Junction City's public schools?

(continued)

**Out of date technology**

G35

The technology readily available to students and staff and the infrastructure to support it is limiting the effective use of technology to support student learning.

**Thought:** Maintaining and expanding up-to-date technology for student and staff use.

T68

**Preparing students for life**

G46

**Thought:** Preparing students for life.

T49

This is the point of education. Focus on all types of post-graduation careers, not just college. Focus on basic life skills at all levels, including personal responsibility and self-sufficiency.

**Providing some special programs that once were part of the curriculum.**

G42

**Thought:** Providing some special programs that once were part of the curriculum.

T45

For example the Ag program has been compromised which could be considered to be a very important vocational education program. Not only does it inspire many to consider a higher education in food technology, agronomic and animal sciences, but it does help provide in employment within the agricultural community. The FFA program also instills leadership and a social platform that some students would not have been involved in without the program.

**Public perception**

G41

**Thought:** For many of those people who don't have kids in school, it is out of

T18

thought, out of mind. There is also a lot of misinformation in small towns. That makes it difficult for the schools to garner the amount of public support needed to increase funding for the schools.

**Thought:** Part of the ongoing education challenge is public perception, i.e.,

T44

misinformation or unrealistic expectations. As a former board member I would say teacher attitude to public input the #1 impediment to having a healthy and vibrant conversation. I realize teachers are educated and trained to "teach" but not all children fit the cookie cutter methods and many times educators are perceived as arrogant know it alls, my perception of course. Acrimony over salaries and curriculum control further feed the us versus them mentality. It really is hard for the working middle to lower middle class to identify with the hours and teacher pay and reconcile this with the complaining and "perceived" lack of gratitude exhibited by SOME segments of the teacher population. Unfortunately those teachers are usually the ones being quoted and participating in labor negotiations.

**Thought:** Handling PERS. This is usually the #1 problem at every school. Change for

T73

## What are some of the challenges facing Junction City's public schools?

*(continued)***Public perception**

this has to come from Salem.

G41

**Raising academic achievement****Thought:** Raising academic achievement

Elementary students must be able to read and complete mathematical problems with proficiency if they are to be successful later in school and life. Most people (teachers, parents, community members) support the idea of high academic achievement, but the reality is that our students under perform when compared to state and national norms.

G50

T53

**Range of educational needs of students****Thought:** Range of educational needs of students.

readin

G72

T76

**Reading, writing, math skills****Thought:** Reading, writing, math skills

**Thought:** Keeping basic learning such as math, English, and reading along with rural needs-farming, ag, ag tech, college, non-college prep.

G58

T61

T74

**Revenue is inadequate to support infrastructure and instructional needs****Thought:** Revenue is inadequate to support infrastructure and instructional needs.

G71

T75

**Reward non sport activities****Thought:** Reward non sport activities

G9

T6

**Social issues like hunger and family stability make learning more difficult****Thought:** Social issues like hunger and family stability make learning more

G22

T20

## What are some of the challenges facing Junction City's public schools?

*(continued)***Social issues like hunger and family stability make learning more difficult**

G22

difficult. Economic challenges for many in the community make them suspicious about how schools are using the money they have, and they are reluctant to support additional funding.

**Stagnation within the entire district over the past 10 years**

G15

**Thought:** Stagnation within the entire district over the past 10 years.

T12

Issues have persisted from truly keeping up with grounds and building maintenance to quality pay for non-teachers. Growth of a district comes from improving the quality of what is best for the students, faculty, and staff so as to present a positive image to the whole community. The district has done little to make improvements necessary to maintain the positive image due to lack of funds but has also not reach out to the public until the recent failed levy which did little to convince the taxpayers that a need existed. Suddenly we need to spend millions on replacement and repairs but why did we wait so long? A gradual approach that is affordable to all would have been the better path but to now and try and pay for all that is needed in one lump sum will not win much public support.

**State funding that has been reduced**

G20

**Thought:** State funding that has been reduced

T17

by so many voting measures (measure 5 for example) it has made it difficult to fund all areas of schooling.

**Team drug use**

G36

**Thought:** Team drug use

T38

**Teen Dating Violence**

G10

**Thought:** Teen Dating Violence

T7

What are some of the challenges facing Junction City's public schools?

(continued)

**Teen Dating Violence**

G10

Teen dating violence is an issue that affects everyone in Lane County. According to national statistics approximately 1 in 3 teens have been or will be abuse by a dating partner by the time they reach 18. Of the youth that experience dating violence & rape, half attempt suicide (loveisrespect.org). Unfortunately dating violence happens everywhere and impacts everyone, even in rural communities. Youth that are being abused face unique challenges including: Inability to avoid abuser because they go to the same school, lack of legal protections, disbelief of adults and friends, lack of knowledge about abuse and healthy relationships. Womenspace Presentation feedback forms have shown that of the small sample size of youth in Lane County in the last year, about 13% have been or are being abused by a dating partner. This number reached 25% in some classes in Lane County.

**Test scores**

G48

**Thought:** Thoughts about school facilities, test scores, and security

T51

Facilities need to be greatly updated. The next bond measure needs to be more rigorous. The CTE grant allowing for additional professional-technical classes should greatly help the drop-out rate giving students greater opportunities for hands-on experiences. Laurel Elementary and Oaklea Middle school test scores are very low and should require immediate attention. Security at the high school campus could be enhanced by closing the campus. The new high school will need to be completely redesigned to encourage better security.

**That students are not prepared to go onto college or a trade**

G56

**Thought:** That all students are prepared to go onto college or a trade. Must be

T59

proficient in reading/writing skills. Communication skill are necessary. Need to be able to manage their life regarding working skills, personal financial skills, life skills.

**The buildings definitely need updating**

G43

**Thought:** I see the challenges as two-fold. The first is to continue to offer

T9

relevant, quality education for students as they enter post-HS education and careers of the 21st century. The second challenge is to have the structure to accomplish the first - buildings, teachers, specialists, courses, etc.

**Thought:** The buildings definitely need updating.

T46

## What are some of the challenges facing Junction City's public schools?

*(continued)***The buildings definitely need updating**

G43

A plan has been presented to the public and voted on. I found the publicity was somewhat vague and not completely thought out when presented. I think people want to see a concise definite proposal rather than one that is a work in progress. Although I do believe the work in progress is a valid process but people don't like wishy-washy.

**The decreased tax base**

G34

**Thought:** The main challenge in JC is the lack of employment, and the decreased tax base.

T35

**The economic environment that we are in**

G14

**Thought:** Challenge #1 is the economic environment that we are in.

T11

With the costs of goods and services going up, and the high unemployment rate, we are challenged with the idea of adding additional expenses. I think the important thing would be to look at something smaller scale that seems manageable on a lessened budget. Keep in mind that the citizens of JC have been stretched very thin (along with the rest of the world) while trying to reinvent themselves. Many people are nervous due to the fact that they have had to go back to school, use savings/retirement \$, etc.

**There are not always visible advocates for kids**

G23

**Thought:** You don't always have visible advocates for kids. People also believe teachers who don't perform still have tenure and can't be terminated.

T21

**To get the community behind a bond issue**

G33

**Thought:** The first challenge is to get the community behind a bond issue.

T34

I raised no children thru the school system here in JC. However, I have two great grand children at Laurel. My great grandson is a special needs child and the special needs program has assisted him in blossoming in ways I didn't think possible. Many of my Soroptimist members have gone thru the JC school system beginning at Laurel and they now have grand children of their own. It's time to move forward and replace aging facilities.

What are some of the challenges facing Junction City's public schools?

**Too many graduating students do not have sufficient living skills**

G49

**Thought:** Too many graduating students do not have sufficient living skills.

T52

Perhaps not enough emphasis on learning the basics of making a budget therefore appreciating money earned. Living skills on the job, filling out a questionnaire or job application, practicing helping others, and good sportsmanship in ALL endeavors. These are a few basics that are not taught at home, sad to say but true. Sometimes our schools fill in the gap wonderfully well, sometimes they lack prioritizing.

Is it fundamentally the views of our teachers? State guidelines ? Cooperation with school/home ? I don't have the answers but I see the problems.

Albert Einstein once said: EDUCATION IS NOT THE LEARNING OF FACTS, BUT THE TRAINING OF THE MIND. Have our schools committed to this?

**Trust from the public on how funds are used**

G57

**Thought:** Finances, trust from the public on how funds are used.

T60

At this time I think people are overwhelmed with all the existing and potential for new expenses that they can not control such as taxes

**Unemployable graduates**

G62

**Thought:** Unskilled graduates

T65

Not everyone wishes to go to college - wood shop, auto shop, metal shop, computer technology, etc. I am very excited for your new grant to be implemented.

**Thought:** Unemployable graduates

T66

Recently I saw a cover letter on an employment application that used a text acronym in the body of the letter. It was an automatic disqualification from consideration. A young person entering the work force must have respect for others, acknowledge the boss's authority, have integrity, be helpful to customers, etc. Yes I will fire you for showing up late and no it does not matter if you don't think it is fair and no I am not interested in your excuse. You knew you were going to be late - call in. The entitlement mentality amazes me. Why exactly do you think I should take a chance at hiring you? I owe you nothing. Tell me how you are going to help me. What is your problem with starting at the bottom of the pecking order? Graduation a wonderful milestone but it is only one part of the skills they need to succeed. That older generation does matter - you need to know how to communicate with them appropriately.

What are some of the challenges facing Junction City's public schools?

**Verify every single student can read**

G8

**Thought:** Verify every single student can READ!

T5

## What are some things you think are working well with our local schools and our district?

**Approval for the CTE grant is amazing**

G39

**Thought:** I think your approval for the CTE grant is amazing!

T39

We constantly hear that we need to push students to attend college, but a four year college isn't for everyone. I like the CTE program because it gives students who are not ready to commit to a four year education the opportunity to explore certain skill areas and determine what they are good at. This is really important for creating productive members of society that can care for themselves.

**A return to an emphasis on practical preparation for real jobs**

G35

**Thought:** A return to an emphasis on practical preparation for real jobs.

T35

Looks like that may be occurring. Hope so. This ties in to the community's roots and is key to its general health economically and socially.

**As compared to other districts, our class size has been much better managed**

G48

**Thought:** Size

T30

Our district is just the right size to involve everyone. All buildings work together to make the students education as fluid an experience as possible. A lot of students start school here and stay till graduation.

**Thought:** As compared to other districts, our class size has been much better managed

T48

**Buildings are clean and well maintained despite their age**

G16

**Thought:** Buildings are clean and well maintained despite their age.

T16

**Caring and friendly community environment**

G34

**Thought:** Caring and friendly community environment.

T34

Speaks for itself.

What are some things you think are working well with our local schools and our district?

**College Preparation** G46

**Thought:** College Preparation T46

Advanced Placement classes are offered in multiple areas of study. College requirements are prominently displayed in the course catalog. Team classes are encouraging students to stay on track and not drift for so long that they can not make it back.

**Communication** G22

**Thought:** Communication T22

I love Home Access and email communication.

**Cooperation between staff** G55

**Thought:** Cooperation generall between staff. good job at stability and family T55

**Dedicated staff** G44

**Thought:** Having dedicated educators and support staff works well. T23

Everyone that I have come in contact that is a current or retired employee has a dedication to our children that is passionate, loving and giving beyond capacity.

**Thought:** Dedicated staff. T25

**Thought:** Dedicated staff T44

Principals, teachers, and support staff take pride in what they do, they work hard, and they are deeply committed to the children of this community.

**Thought:** Staff commitment and involvement T56

**District and Board leadership are excellent** G50

**Thought:** District and Board leadership are excellent T50

**Thought:** Progressive leadership T57

What are some things you think are working well with our local schools and our district?

### Elective programs

G26

**Thought:** Elective programs.

T26

### Financially responsible school board

G51

**Thought:** Financially responsible school board

T51

### Forethought for budget shortfalls

G13

**Thought:** forethought for budget shortfalls

T13

### Good open board meetings

G37

**Thought:** Good open board meetings.

T37

Continue to make the board meeting inviting to the public so those who want to come know they are welcome. The board knows this but advertise this more . Even to the extent that you might think it's overboard. You need the public involved to pass the building measure. Today we have a very involved board with the best interest of the the children's education.

### Great caring teachers doing the best they can with the resources they have.

G20

**Thought:** Great caring teachers doing the best they can with the resources they have.

T20

The majority of teachers continue to do their best even though money and resources may be down. But after a while this begins to wear on a teacher, burn out may happen, and good teachers may be lost.

### Great community support

G53

**Thought:** Overall community support for the schools and staff.

T10

People like Junction City and the community as a whole. They are supportive at school functions, the businesses have helped fund many events, and the employees of the district like working in our area. We have some very good students and teachers throughout the district who want to make our schools a place to aspire to be part of our culture. We take great care of the students from beginning to end and I believe we try not to leave anyone behind.

## What are some things you think are working well with our local schools and our district?

*(continued)***Great community support**

G53

**Thought:** Community support

T28

**Thought:** Great community support

T53

**High school gradation rate is above state average**

G19

**Thought:** High school gradation rate is above state average.

T19

Just saw in today's paper(2-6-14) that JCHS's four year graduation rate (69%) is above the state average (68.7%)

**Involvement**

G31

**Thought:** Involvement

T31

The parents and community have been extremely involved in this district. Parent groups, volunteers, fundraising are some of the things the district could not do without.

**Junction City School District demonstrates a desire to improve educational services**

G6

**Thought:** Asking Questions

T6

In asking questions such as these Junction City School District demonstrates a desire to improve educational services to youth and families.

**New CTE Grant, ET, Athletics, Teachers**

G40

**Thought:** New CTE Grant, ET, Athletics, Teachers

T40

the new CTE grant is very positive for staff and student. Education Together is very positive for the students. Athletics appears to be pretty competitive. Teacher turnover is minimal.

**Opportunities for college credit**

G27

**Thought:** Opportunities for college credit.

T27

What are some things you think are working well with our local schools and our district?

**Our classified staff are dedicated paraprofessionals**

G2

**Thought:** Our classified staff are dedicated paraprofessionals.

T2

We have a number of classified employees who have worked for this district for over ten years. They bring a wealth of knowledge and experience with them to the job. Every consideration should be taken to keep good employees with us.

**Positive relationships with Teachers' Association**

G52

**Thought:** Positive relationships with Teachers' Association

T52

**Quality district staff**

G33

**Thought:** Teachers are caring and thoughtful, and involved.

T1

At the elementary level, I've met amazing classified and teaching staff. They are passionate about the students, teaching, and giving the students a good education.

**Thought:** Our schools have mostly excellent teachers and administrators.

T3

**Thought:** Great group of Staff and Educators.

T9

In the small area of Junction City, we have invaluable staff members and educators. Without them, the schools would not be what they are and the kids would not be where they are. These men and women go above and beyond what is required of them every day and work hard for every penny that they get on their paychecks and every dollar that comes into the school system.

**Thought:** Good teachers and administration.

T21

**Thought:** Staff

T29

We have a Great staff. Very educated and such a passion for teaching. The Administration is so committed to making this the best experience for all children.

**Thought:** Quality teachers.

T33

I believe if people were active in the schools they would find the majority of the teachers give there all In the education process. If they don't they don't last and the administration takes action.

**Thought:** Quality district staff.

T36

Quality district staff efforts with expertise of the controller Wanda McClure, has insured open known problems and good things as they have been developing. Hopefully with the new CFO progress will continue with the expertise that has been shown in the past. One cannot expect same ol same old without checks and balances. Keep an eye on it.

What are some things you think are working well with our local schools and our district?

**Quality of classroom instruction** G49  
**Thought:** Quality of classroom instruction T49

**Sports programs** G47  
**Thought:** Sports programs T47  
 Athletic programs offer opportunities for team building and channeling of physical energy. They offer opportunities for students to learn proper behavior for dealing with confrontational situations. There are those students who absolutely need these programs to succeed.

**Staff training and keeping up to date on current information** G41  
**Thought:** Staff training and keeping up to date on current information. T41

**Students are receiving a high level of education** G54  
**Thought:** Parents tell me that their kids who are successful in school are getting a good education. T17  
**Thought:** Students are receiving a high level of education. T54  
 Teachers and all staff are totally supportive of raising the level of education in the JCSD.

**Students have choices of extra activities to participate in** G15  
**Thought:** Students have choices of extra activities to participate in. T15

**Student teacher ratio has been addressed by district in a positive manner** G14  
**Thought:** Student teacher ratio has been addressed by district in a positive manner. T14

**The buildings we have aren't too bad** G38  
**Thought:** The buildings we have aren't too bad. T38

What are some things you think are working well with our local schools and our district?

(continued)

**The buildings we have aren't too bad**

G38

It's true the district needs to do improvement but what we have works and will continue to do so with some up keep. Let's stay positive and not totally dwell on all of it. Try passing a bond measure on one aspect at a time.

**The College Communication System**

G8

**Thought:** The College Communication System.

T8

Having one person to help with the research and help with applications is great!

**The district seems to be managing its money well**

G18

**Thought:** The district seems to be managing its money well.

T18

Our district has not had to have as many budget cut days as some of the surrounding districts.

**There appears to be a sense of pride in the J.C schools**

G32

**Thought:** There appears to be a sense of pride in the J.C schools, an identification,

T32

or metron so to speak. Leadership, for the most part, comes across as concerned and caring.

**The warm school community spirit that I see in JC**

G24

**Thought:** I love the warm school community spirit that I see in JC. It appears that

T24

many parents play an active role in their child's education. Also, many parents are actively involved in fundraising on behalf of their students.

**This is a district that truly cares and values each student**

G7

**Thought:** I think this is a district that truly cares and values each student.

T7

Taking that approach results in a quality education, within the means available. The partnership of community groups with the schools is amazing!

What are some things you think are working well with our local schools and our district?

**Trying to communicate with district patrons**

**G43**

**Thought:** Trying to communicate with district patrons

**T43**

**Trying to reach each child and family**

**G42**

**Thought:** Trying to reach each child and family

**T42**

**Very efficient and responsible with district funds**

**G11**

**Thought:** We are very efficient and responsible with district funds

**T11**

appropriated money gets used well, whether it is fixing heat pumps or having the correct amount of teachers.

**We have students who really want to learn**

**G4**

**Thought:** We have students who really want to learn.

**T4**

**Well prepared educators**

**G12**

**Thought:** Well prepared educators

**T12**

## What are the most important skills students should be developing in our schools?

**Ability learn and use new technology**

G41

Thought: Ability learn and use new technology.

T26

**Ability to work in a team**

G50

Thought: Ability to work in a team

T54

**Business savvy**

G48

Thought: Business savvy

T48

There are basic levels of dress, speech, presentation of skills, etc that are necessary to even get your foot in the door of a business environment. Parents are no longer teaching basic behavioral skills because they were never taught them themselves. Don't interrupt when someone else is speaking, don't talk out of turn during a presentation, don't walk out to use the restroom during a meeting, etc. These are all respect issues.

**Career awareness**

G13

Thought: Real life skills, managing money, getting and keeping a job.

T21

Thought: Career awareness

T59

**Career/college readiness**

G12

Thought: Career/college readiness

T63

**Co-existence**

G46

Thought: Co-existence.

T39

I believe that as a human race it is important to learn humility and to be able to communicate with the ability not to be a bully and push ones personal ideas on each other with forces or emotional pain. Within the class room teachers have a great amount of influence to teach leadership and peer pressure for co-existence. I realize parents hold more power and reasoning the usurps the teachers and the districts rules. The kids are the losers in those cases.

## What are the most important skills students should be developing in our schools?

**Communication**

G3

Thought: reading, math, and communication regardless of method.

T61

**Communication skills**

G21

Thought: Students need to learn communication.

T1

All types of communication are important for students to learn: interpersonal, written, and oral. These are skills they will need to enter college, and succeed in life.

Thought: Communication skills

T51

Written and oral skills are necessary to succeed.

**Cooperation with others**

G26

Thought: Problem solving and cooperation with others

T57

**Critical thinking**

G4

Thought: Critical Thinking

T3

Thought: The ability to think critically.

T17

Thought: Reading, math (CCSS), critical thinking skills, and a second language

T29

Thought: We still need to improve critical thinking skills in our students.

T42

Critical thinking is such a difficult thing to teach. It requires a really good teacher that knows how to relate to students and get them to be adventurous with their approach to learning and how they look at the world. I know Smarter Balanced focuses on these skills and how students have mastered this upper level thinking, but how can we reinforce teaching that encourages critical thinking skills?

**Decision making skills/experience**

G51

Thought: Decision making skills/experience

T64

What are the most important skills students should be developing in our schools?

**English Language development** G17

**Thought:** English Language development. T41

Because there is a large foreign element in our community, proper funding and FTEs needed to continue to teach English as a second language and be adequately provided where the needs are. Once again this our example to co-exist in the community and witness to what we aspire to.....equality.

**Exposure to the broader world and other cultures** G39

**Thought:** Exposure to the broader world and other cultures. T19

**Fluency and confidence in core academics** G14

**Thought:** Fluency and confidence in core academics T52

**How to be good citizens that can improve the work environment they move in to** G16

**Thought:** How to be good citizens that can improve the work environment they move in to. T16

**Interpersonal skills** G22

**Thought:** Interpersonal Skills T8

It is important to recognize that the interpersonal skills youth develop in adolescence follow them through the rest of their lives. Developing these skills helps prepare students for life outside of the K-12 educational sphere.

**I see the continued "arms" race to be the smartest but we need to educated.** G37

**Thought:** I see the continued "arms" race to be the smartest but we need to educated. T11

What are the most important skills students should be developing in our schools?

(continued)

**I see the continued "arms" race to be the smartest but we need to educated. G37**

Too much time is spent making the students feel good when we need to spend time making them feel good about being better prepared to enter the next step of their journey in life. I have seen programs cut but we continue to spend money on the feel good programs that do little to help the majority of students who will benefits and produce for their and other generations. Making all play on the same level simply means they will remain the same once out of the program. We need to continue to provide skill classes that challenge each person to be better. The skills they need are the skills to want to do what is best to provide and not want to be provided for.

**Life skills G23**

**Thought:** Life Balancing Skills T10

Not sure if that makes sense or not, but I think its extremely important for kids to learn how to balance school work, social time, electronics time, sports, etc. Teachers can help with this but parents also need to be extremely involved. I would not be where I am today if I had not learned how to juggle work, school, chores, etc. This lays groundwork for a successful college and post collegiate career, as well as the work/life balance that comes after.

**Thought:** Life skills T23

Through funding shortage many skills for running a home have been shortened or eliminated

**Thought:** Life skills T62

**Love of learning G24**

**Thought:** Love of learning T4

Teaching students to truly love learning and enjoy the process will keep them engaged and further their desire for higher education.

**Thought:** Love of learning T24

Some where too many students do not like school or learning.  
Some how we need to hook them back in

**Managing money G10**

**Thought:** Real life skills, managing money, getting and keeping a job. T21

What are the most important skills students should be developing in our schools?

**Math skills** G5

**Thought:** Math T9

Math seems to be one of the hardest things for students. Not sure if it is the instructor or the students not understanding

**Thought:** Certainly the basics of reading, math and the sciences- but maturity. T60

Encouraging students to think for themselves and enjoy learning. Big wish.

**Non College skill sets** G36

**Thought:** Non College skill sets T6

**Physical education** G7

**Thought:** Reading, writing, basic math, physical education, keyboarding, social T13

**Polite learning** G38

**Thought:** Polite learning. T15

**Prepare for Life** G44

**Thought:** Prepare for Life T33

The students should be learning there basic education, Reading Writing and Math. But there is so much more to Life. Junction City works very hard at going above and beyond the standard education. What takes so much time away is having to meet the state requirements and passing all the tests. We have begun to teach to the test. Junction City offers a great education. There isn't enough time in a day or a school year to teach all the skills.

**Problem solving skills** G25

**Thought:** Problem solving skills. T30

**Thought:** Problem solving skills T44

**Thought:** Problem solving skills T50

## What are the most important skills students should be developing in our schools?

(continued)

### Problem solving skills

G25

Our world is changing at a rapid rate. How does everything interconnect? If I change this what does that do over here?

### Reading skills

G2

**Thought:** The ability to read is first and foremost. Beyond that it breaks down into

T7

two areas. 1. The disciplines needed to succeed in a college setting - respect, a level of reading, math, etc., how to be a good student in terms of test taking, study habits. 2. Core skill sets that can be used to enter a career that will sustain a family living.

**Thought:** Acquisition of fundamental skills in reading and math.

T18

**Thought:** Reading

T34

Reading is the one skill that every student should have. If you can read you can do anything.

**Thought:** Reading proficiency by grade 3

T56

### Real life skills

G9

**Thought:** Real life skills, managing money, getting and keeping a job.

T21

### Responsibility, to own what you do or do not do

G49

**Thought:** Responsibility, to own what you do or do not do

T53

### Science

G18

**Thought:** Educational disciplines.

T40

Of course it is important to learn the basic writing, reading, mathematic, and biological disciplines. Some kids are more adapt to learning than others who should be encouraged to excel. Those who lack some skills should be provided to learn with the skills they possess and not left to fail. Not everyone is going to college and they shouldn't be made to feel as though they are failures because they don't as well.

## What are the most important skills students should be developing in our schools?

**Self directed learning**

G19

**Thought:** basic education

T27

learning to think and to do self-directed learning

**Self responsibility**

G34

**Thought:** Self responsibility. Communication. Respect for others.

T12

These skills will get you a long way in life. Students will always need math, English and to learn our history but those are worthless if they can't contribute to society after they graduate.

**Sense of community**

G43

**Thought:** Sense of community.

T31

**Skills which can provide them with a living wage**

G45

**Thought:** Skills which can provide them with a living wage.

T37

Currently, college prep alone can just be a ticket to eventual unemployment, student loan debt and living in mom & dad's house.

**Social skills**

G33

**Thought:** Social skills and civility

T58

**Student Skills**

G47

**Thought:** Student Skills

T43

In addition to reading, writing, and computing, students need to be technologically literate and develop their ability to work collegially with their peers. EQ is just as important than IQ.

**Students need to develop skills that enable them to work towards completing projects**

G35

**Thought:** In addition to core subjects students need to develop skills that enable

T14

## What are the most important skills students should be developing in our schools?

(continued)

### Students need to develop skills that enable them to work towards completing projects

G35

them to work towards completing projects.

### Students need to have a well rounded education

G40

**Thought:** Students need to have a well rounded education.

T22

Of course students need the basic academic subjects, but they also need classes that address social skills, a healthy lifestyle, skills such as finance, and classes that expose them to the arts. All of this is needed for students to become an educated and caring individual in society.

### Students need to learn respect for others and themselves

G27

**Thought:** Students need to learn respect for others and themselves.

T2

Though this is something that should be learned in the home first, reinforcement at school is crucial. Truly putting others before yourself would benefit everyone.

### The ability to function as responsible adults

G29

**Thought:** Students should leave our schools knowing how to succeed in the real world.

T5

We should have updated computer labs in every school. Students should be taught skills for studying. The emphasis should not be on test taking but on information acquisition.

**Thought:** The ability to function as responsible adults.

T36

Programs which prepare students at all skill levels to be able to be on a path to self-esteem and self-sufficiency.

### The ability to function in a working environment. Fundamental skills

G30

**Thought:** The ability to function in a working environment. Fundamental skills

T35

without a work ethic are almost useless. Discipline, the ability to follow directions and an understanding of what your employer needs from you are basic skills needed to prosper. Probably impossible to teach in school, but an attitude of gratitude goes much farther than an sense of entitlement.

## What are the most important skills students should be developing in our schools?

**The ability to see opportunities and to access them**

G15

**Thought:** Hopefully, the ability to see opportunities and to access them

T55

**The skills to live a life worth living**

G42

**Thought:** Most important are the skills to live a life worth living.

T28

Not everyone goes on to an institution of higher learning. Training programs are available for going into a trade. Many of our less advantaged children don't know how to cook, handle money, find work, or live responsibly. Gone are the basics of Home Economics. I see adults in our community that don't know how to cook opting for fast food that adds to our nation's obesity problem. Volunteering as a community service has been removed as a qualification toward graduation. Most people don't know how to "pay it forward".

**To make realistic educational choices**

G32

**Thought:** The ability, with guidance, to make realistic educational choices.

T38

Help students not waste their time and parent/taxpayer money on educational tracks that aren't taking them where they want or need to go.

**Trade skills**

G28

**Thought:** Trade skills

T47

Students need marketable skills upon leaving the school system.

**Values**

G20

**Thought:** I feel a huge lack of values in what and how the children are taught.

T20

**Work ethic**

G31

**Thought:** Work ethic.

T32

What are the most important skills students should be developing in our schools?

**Writing skills**

G8

**Thought:** Basic skills first--reading & writing, math, science, social studies, PE

T25

**Thought:** Writing skills

T49

Spelling does matter. Penmanship that can be read does matter. Proper use of the English language does matter. Cursive writing exists - to read it if not write it.