

## What are some of the key challenges you see in our schools?

### After school care

G60

**Thought:** After school care

T55

Lacking any type of after school care ie. YMCA or something the parents could pay for.

### Athletes don't get extra help and support

G71

**Thought:** Athletes don't get extra help and support

T76

Any student in an extra curricular activity should have to have a study hall. Our kids get back at 11:30 or later from games, then have to do homework, and represent their teams and school. I'm sick of picking my kids up

Late at night from coaches table when this should be provided during school hours.

### Available counseling

G30

**Thought:** My first thought is that after being in the middle school atmosphere for a

T10

couple of years now as a parent and a substitute for the IA's, our district's biggest problem is social behavior and the lack of knowledge of many our students as to how to behave respectfully toward staff and peers. Although Laurel taught being respectful as one of their 3 core lessons in grade school, it has lost it's way at Oaklea. Many of our students have difficult family lives and are in need of much more then regular book education. I believe that Oaklea would benefit greatly from a Full time Councilor in the building to help guide and mentor these students toward positive social behaviors.

**Thought:** Available counseling

T115

### Being able to serve kids with behavioral challenges adequately in district

G28

**Thought:** bad behavior of a few students that affect all students

T24

the few shouldn't set the rules for the masses, badly behaving students that are a serious disruption to the learning of others should be removed

**Thought:** Being able to serve kids with behavioral challenges adequately in district.

T64

**Thought:** If my child is misbehaving or distracting from the class I expect that

T81



What are some of the key challenges you see in our schools?

(continued)

**Being able to serve kids with behavioral challenges adequately in district**

G28

there is consequences. My child got in the car the other day and was so giggly and went on to tell me that her and her friends couldn't quit laughing and being silly during there history class. She said that during the whole class if she even looked at her friend that they would burst out laughing. I asked her what her teacher did about it and she said "he just told us that we really had the giggles". I was stunned. There is a time and a place for things and in a History class I do not think that teachers should tolerate that kind of behavior during a class.

**Bullying**

G7

**Thought:** Bullying

T11

**Thought:** Bullying

T45

This has continued especially in the Middle School for some reason. Reports aren't being turned in but crying at home.

**Thought:** Bullying

T107

**Thought:** Problem solving and Bullying are hugely not effective.

T130

Requiring kids who are being bullied to go to the bully and ask them to stop and tell the bully it is hurting their feelings is requiring the victim to be bullied all over again. The bully knows he/she is hurting the victim's feelings. Refusing to help the student until these steps are done is bullying of its own accord. Create a kid/staff council that meets daily to address the individual complaints of victims. Require the bully and the parents to be present. You are not going to get this under control until it costs the parent some time and investment. If student needs detention or Saturday school, the parent should have to be present too. Get these parents involved in the solution. It is lack of parenting and parental attention in most cases that has these kids acting out. If it is the parent causing the problem by neglect or abuse then their being present brings that to light and attention of school staff who can report it for further attention by authorities.

**Class size**

G9

**Thought:** Class size

T2

Teachers are expected to meet standards with large numbers of varied skill levels and it is difficult to teach to all levels in a large class.

**Thought:** class size

T5

I've been told by my son's teachers that they can't give him the attention he requires because there are so many kids in his class.

What are some of the key challenges you see in our schools?

(continued)

**Class size**

G9

**Thought:** Large class size

T68

I don't know how you could have a bigger challenge than having too many students per teacher. There needs to be some access to tutoring. I have asked a number of times for tutors and no one knows of any. One thought was high school kids, but I never heard back on that. I can only assume there is no one interested. Large class sizes mean students who are not their own advocate can fall behind easily and if there were some tutoring available it would help. I am college educated and want to see my son succeed. I feel that the curriculum is a little on the light side when I compare it to what some schools in Eugene provide. I know families whose kids come home with all kinds of homework that includes full power point presentations. My son is an eighth grader at Oaklea and he has yet to be challenged in that way

**Thought:** Classroom size should be explained.

T71

When I discussed the November 2013 bond measure with other parents, the discussion generally focused on the fact that there was no mention of using the bond to hire more teachers and decreasing the class size. I know that the bond measure was specifically for infrastructure and not for increasing personnel, but many parents are concerned about this issue. So it should be mentioned somehow that although the funds are for infrastructure, the district is addressing the class size in another way, or explain why the classes are as large as they are.

**Thought:** Keeping class size where it is now is vital for the learning environment.

T101

Friends who attend in Eugene talk about not enough lockers, desks, books etc. I'm glad that's not the problem here. Keeping classes to 25-28 helps the kids get the most out of lessons and allows the teaching staff to teach more and manage the discipline/chaos etc. of the classroom less.

**Thought:** Class size could be a little smaller.

T104

**Communication**

G12

**Thought:** Poor communication

T21

**Thought:** Communication

T37

Communicating with parents in regards to academic curriculum changes is a big issue for me this year. Oaklea eliminated a key course and had students retake a course without any input or communication with the parents. After a whole term, some resolution was made, but by the time parents were informed of the change, it was too late for parents to exercise options. These changes were made that affect students with highly involved parents. The decision to not communicate with parents portrayed the school as being disconnected with the school/parent partnership that should and needs to be valued and respected. Oaklea took away the right of a parent to make the best decision for their child's academic choices.

## What are some of the key challenges you see in our schools?

(continued)

### Communication

G12

**Thought:** Communication

T70

This year started out with some communication issues. When there are going to be major changes in the schools program parents should be made aware as soon as the school knows.

**Thought:** Safety/Communication

T84

I appreciate that the gate is now up in the front hall at Oaklea during the school day so that any visitors must route through the front office, but a serious threat to the school isn't going to be dissuaded by that. I don't know the details about the lock down and communication system through OMS or how someone can quickly communicate to the district offices, but I would image that in light of the lack of funding this is an antiquated system that probably relies on human intervention. In case of an emergency I want my child safe and the quicker the response time is the safer all around the students will be.

### Crossing Guards

G62

**Thought:** Crossing Guards

T57

Crossing guards need to be out before the kids start crossing the streets. Near misses with the kids. Have the office staff out there if the teachers can't do it.

### Despite huge budgets, the school district never has enough money

G14

**Thought:** Despite huge budgets, the school district never has enough money

T16

This message is very destructive to society. While our aim should be to grow and prosper, we need to be content with what we have. The school district should operate within a fixed percentage of the area's revenue and not constantly seek to grow the percentage allocated to the district. This message was broadcast many many times to my children in the school district and must have taken away valuable classroom learning time. Instead of constantly pointing out all that they don't have, students should be taught by word and example to enjoy, appreciate and care for what they do have. The world is full of examples of simple schools where great learning occurs. The budget of the school district will grow naturally as our local economy improves. The school district's budget should not grow faster than our local economy does.

### Discipline in classes. Class size and teachers having no power

G10

**Thought:** Creative Discipline

T112

When kids push limits the teachers need differing ways to discipline the students.

## What are some of the key challenges you see in our schools?

(continued)

### Discipline in classes. Class size and teachers having no power

G10

**Thought:** Discipline in classes. Class size and teachers having no power

T119

Class room sizes and more at risk children require more individual attention which is not available. My grandson is now attending another school and said the difference is follow through both positive and negative. The students that are not being productive get immediate consequences and those doing right are learning and get accolades or privileges.

### Enough teachers to lower the student to teacher ratio

G15

**Thought:** old buildings, student to teacher ratio

T23

**Thought:** Staff to student ratio.

T66

There are too many students in each class and teachers are not able to give each student an appropriate amount of attention.

**Thought:** Enough teachers to lower the student to teacher ratio

T128

### Family participation

G25

**Thought:** parents that are not involved in their children's education/lives

T25

**Thought:** Family participation

T108

### Funding

G26

**Thought:** Funding for electives

T48

Foreign language, HEALTH, study skills, art,

**Thought:** Funding

T85

Limited funds mean that we are not able to provide students with all the opportunities we would like to.

**Thought:** I think that one of the key challenges in our school is funding.

T88

I think the school and classes need more money in general. Children are the future and i feel the schools could use more funding. I am saddened by the fact that the bills did not pass to fund the schools.

**Thought:** Funding and politicians appear to be the major issue, in my opinion

T109

## What are some of the key challenges you see in our schools?

### Funding to improve and/or maintain building

G4

**Thought:** Funding to improve and/or maintain building

T13

It is obvious that the building needs some maintenance and refreshing. Sadly, our school district isn't flush with funds to make updates, but maintenance is important. The school has to be functional in order for kids to learn, and if we want our kids to have pride in the school, then we need to make it something to be proud of. I don't think a funding measure for maintenance would be passed.

**Thought:** Older buildings and lack of funding

T98

### Grading is a concern

G79

**Thought:** Grading is a concern

T106

I am not liking the way the grading has changed. I have noticed that they children seem to be more stressed and it is harder for them to learn when they are worried about the grading system. It doesn't seem fair for some students that might have a harder time understanding the materiel.

### Harnessing community spirit

G50

**Thought:** Harnessing community spirit

T30

So if people don't have money for bond measures, is there some way to harness volunteerism to help with the gap?

### Having to chose between PE and Music/band at the middle school

G41

**Thought:** PE vs Music/band at the middle school

T33

I believe that students should be able to take both band and PE at the same time (at the middle school) if they choose to do so.

I believe at this time you are not able to take band and participate in PE. I think PE should be mandatory for all children at that level, and that the health of our children should not be pushed aside because they would like to enhance their music abilities.

### Health/Science 6th grade

G61

**Thought:** Health/Science 6th grade

T56

## What are some of the key challenges you see in our schools?

(continued)

### Health/Science 6th grade

G61

Why in the world would you combine science and health in one class and make it pass and no pass. Makes no sense for such an important subject.

### Helping students with atypical learning disabilities

G51

**Thought:** Helping students with atypical learning disabilities.

T31

I realize that there are limited resources available, but just because a child is intelligent doesn't mean that they can learn in a standard classroom. It seems like the choices are sometimes limited to a "slow" class or "sink or swim" in normal classes. I'm not sure what is practical here...

### High school teachers letting students leave campus after doing attendance

G59

**Thought:** High school teachers letting students leave campus after doing attendance.

T51

I do not feel a student should be allowed to leave the classroom for any reason except for the restroom or being called to the attendance office. I know for a fact that there are some teachers at the high school who are letting the kids leave if they don't have anything to do. Senior students!

### I feel that our teachers are more social workers than teachers

G73

**Thought:** I feel that our teachers are more social workers than teachers and not enough time for teaching. I dont know what the solution is.

T80

### Illegal drugs

G47

**Thought:** Illegal drugs

T18

The access children have to purchase illegal drugs during school by students is alarming. I "interviewed" a large amount of children and all reported they can get drugs-largely marijuana-at any point from more than a handful of students on any school day. A significant portion of those children also reported that they are offered drugs an average of 3-5 times per week. Alarming. Appalling. Incites anger. How are my children expected to succeed in this environment and why isn't a LOT more being done to protect them?

What are some of the key challenges you see in our schools?

**Increase students volunteering in their community**

G31

**Thought:** Increase students volunteering in their community

T121

We have a generation of folks that are very ignorant of what it takes to get their needs/wants met, to include, cellphone bills, clothes and daily living needs. The kids today would benefit by giving to others in their communities and would, hopefully, gain a new respect and love for their country and its people. I do believe giving in many cases has to be taught and respect is learned. Respect and honor seem to be dwindling within our young people.

**It would be helpful if there were concerns reg my child's behavior or**

G83

**Thought:** It would be helpful if there were concerns reg my child's behavior or grades..it be brought to my ATTN immediately

T117

**Keeping the kids engaged so they WANT to be there.**

G8

**Thought:** Keeping the kids engaged so they WANT to be there.

T67

Currently Oregon's dropout rate is over thirty percent. This number does not include those who leave the classroom and achieve a GED within three years of their natural graduation date; In the real world this doesn't get you far. Oregon's response has been to increase graduation requirements which seems like an oxymoron to me. Kids who want have always taken more math, lit, science, etc. - I did. Making it a requirement only serves to lock out those who struggle. At the same time we've reduced shop classes. Does the school system believe blue collar jobs a thing of the past. Think about that next time you need a plumber or your power is out in a storm.  
Mrs. Gabriel - too much work for struggling students, more suited for hs ap class.  
Bullying - overkill. There is a natural order for chain of command in every group. It's not always bullying and sometimes a kindness.

**Thought:** Bullying issues, how to keep kids engaged in learning, and offering

T97

challenging classes. I dislike that 5th graders are in the mix with the 6th to 8th graders at Oaklea; it seems that the differences in maturity levels really make it a challenge for bullying/appropriate behaviors.

**Keeping the kids on a limited schedule of academics**

G66

**Thought:** Keeping the kids on a limited schedule of academic's.

T63

What are some of the key challenges you see in our schools?

**Keeping the website updated for students grades**

G32

**Thought:** Grading and online grading tracking system

T54

I was dismayed that my child was docked 25% up front if his name was not on his paper. That said I think this deflated his true grade and really wasn't an incentive to make him remember to do it. The online grading system is only updated weekly and is hard to read and understand. There is no way to update your personal information or reply back asking a question or providing some type of feedback to the teacher. Acronyms used with nothing to tell the parts what they are (specific homework assignments etc)

**Thought:** Keeping the website updated for students grades.

T105

**Thought:** Home access to be updated weekly with accurate information

T118

I have found home access is not updated on a regular basis and at times scores not recorded for weeks. For a mother her follows her daughters progress weekly, I find this extremely difficult and frustrating to do. It leaves me to email the teachers directly which is time consuming. My hope is for this to be resolved so parents can keep track of their child's progress.

**Keeping up with technology**

G22

**Thought:** Keeping up with technology

T47

We need to make sure our kids are comfortable with using and have regular, easy access to technology and the internet.

**Thought:** Technology

T52

My son is a new student at Oakley. I was shocked that he did not have a standard computer technology class. This seems a fundamental miss in his education. He had started 6th grade at another school and had computers, Chinese language, art etc. I feel like he has taken a huge step backwards. He is in middle school however it has the same look and feel of elementary school. There needs to be more electives however basic computer is a must.

**Thought:** OLD school teaching

T94

again. there is too much time spent on what happened 100 plus years ago. Technology has changed the world at light speed yet there is no teaching ABOUT that technology and those changes

**Kids need to be taught problem solving thinking, not just memorization.**

G87

**Thought:** Kids need to be taught problem solving thinking, not just memorization.

T129

What are some of the key challenges you see in our schools?

(continued)

**Kids need to be taught problem solving thinking, not just memorization.**

G87

Thought process will be much more important to our kids' lives and employment abilities. Timed facts memorization is a lazy way out of education. It really dumbs down our kids. Get some thought process and active learning going!!!

**Lack of care**

G75

Thought: Lack of care

T90

I think some teachers no longer have the drive they once did for kids .... it seems kids run the class rooms by distruping the class

**Lack of community support**

G36

Thought: Lack of community support

T8

Thought: If we can afford to tear down and replace schools, then?

T41

We can expect another increase in taxes to pay for increased teacher/administrator wages. Taxpayers have money falling out of their billfolds, they have equity in their homes to put a 2nd & 3rd mortgage on. They can sell their assets (cars, TVs etc.). They can quit going on vacations. They can have their income source (such as paychecks) sent directly to the tax collector. They can stop giving to Local Aid and start taking from Local Aid. The possibilities are seemingly limitless!

**Lack of Parenting**

G81

Thought: Lack of Parenting

T114

One of the key challenges I see is a lack of good parenting at home. So many of the kids come from either broken homes, or homes where the parents refuse to engage with their kids. They treat school as a means of childcare and that's it. There's such a lack of good discipline at home that often times the schools have to pick up that slack. Unfortunately, when discipline does occur at school, the parents are the first to reprimand the school for doing so. This is so backwards. Parents NEED to step up and be the parent and engage both intellectually with their kids and discipline accordingly so their child does know right from wrong and build a much better society in the end.

**Lack of staffing**

G33

Thought: Lack of staffing

T6

What are some of the key challenges you see in our schools?

**Math is taught in a very disconnected series of classes**

G44

**Thought:** Math is taught in a very disconnected series of classes

T4

There does not seem to be a continuous cohesive plan for math once you get to high school. Oaklea does an ok job, but each teacher at JCHS has their own way of going about math.

**More and more requirements from Salem and DC**

G49

**Thought:** more and more requirements from Salem and DC

T26

forced on our teachers and students. Students and teachers are constantly having their target moved and being asked to do more with the same resources. It's crazy!

**Need new books**

G17

**Thought:** New text books

T1

**Thought:** Need new books

T22

**No 5th grade in middle school**

G35

**Thought:** I am in favor of the improvements and was from the beginning.

T65

I would really like to see 5th grade students moved back to the elementary school where I believe they belong. I am more open to improvements to the elementary school than I am to the football field.

**Thought:** Facilities limitations

T87

We have to have 5th grade at our middle school because there isn't enough room for 5th grade classrooms at Laurel.

**Thought:** No 5th grade in middle school

T92

No 5 the grade should be in middle school they still need that extra year in elementary I believe

**No art component in curriculum**

G78

**Thought:** No art component in curriculum

T103

## What are some of the key challenges you see in our schools?

### Not all teachers on the same page

G85

**Thought:** Not all teachers on the same page. Older generation to the newer.

T126

### Not enough classroom technology

G23

**Thought:** Not enough classroom technology.

T77

It is not uncommon for schools to provide IPADs in the classroom to promote learning and developing skills they will need. Perhaps there are grants the District could apply for that would begin the process of adding some of these common tools.

### Not enough focus on trade skills

G37

**Thought:** Key challenges

T79

I truly believe that there is need for vocational/trade classes in the schools. I know there has been a grant award to the school, but the communities need the next generations to be able to replace the retiring tradesmen/women. Not all students are wanting a 4 year degree. I hear complaints repeatedly from employers not being able to hire qualified/trained employees in the trade industries.

**Thought:** Trade school focus to individualize student needs

T120

Students spend a lot of time in classes that are not going to assist them in their futures. Some students will need to be in classes that will help them enter the university of their choice to include choices in science and technology, others are desiring local colleges, staying on their families farms or entering other community based opportunities.

### Not enough physical education

G40

**Thought:** Ability to offer expanded classes, vocational and/or

T14

While I believe that academics are very important, I worry that our kids don't get enough exercise. If they take a full year of PE, then they miss out on other classes such as band or computers. It's difficult to choose one over the other because they are all important. When I was an Oaklea student, they offered Shop, Cooking, Art, as well as PE. We also had Exploratory and Intramurals. I remember learning a little bit about a lot of things, it inspired curiosity and sparked interest. Who knew I would be good with the oxy acetylene welder? I didn't, but it gave me confidence to do other things.

**Thought:** Physical Education

T32

## What are some of the key challenges you see in our schools?

(continued)

### Not enough physical education

G40

In today's world of sedentary lifestyles and child obesity, it would be better to have PE all year round. Also, kids just need a physical outlet sometimes. I realize that given financial constraints that this may need to take a back seat to the seven million other things a school must provide, and it's a parent's responsibility to make sure that after school the kids get some exercise, but I still think it would be good to have PE.

### Not enough positive interaction between older kids and younger kids

G77

**Thought:** Keeping older kids respectful of the younger kids and finding ways for the older kids to be helpful and good role models to the younger kids.

T96

### Not enough time to provide good instruction for students

G56

**Thought:** Not enough time to provide good instruction for students

T44

### Not making middle school sports a priority

G86

**Thought:** Not making middle school sports a priority.

T127

### Not teaching the children what is relevant

G76

**Thought:** Not teaching the children what is relevant.

T93

Kids are not taught about current events and this is tragic!. When we went to school (70's) we were required to read the paper and report on current events around the world. I do not believe learning about the civil war is as important about learning what is happening with our government and the current global situations

### Not willing to to step in and help a child that is struggling

G48

**Thought:** Not willing to to step in and help a child that is struggling.

T20

What are some of the key challenges you see in our schools?

<b>Old outdated schools</b>	<b>G3</b>
<b>Thought:</b> Aging buildings	<b>T7</b>
<b>Thought:</b> Facilities do need upgrade/replacement	<b>T27</b>
I voted for the November 2013 bond measure because the state of the school buildings in JC is horrible. It seems like the buildings aren't very old for the state that they are in. I don't know what can be done to improve funding for maintenance of the buildings, so this thought isn't very helpful perhaps, but I thought you might like to hear from one parent who voted for the bond measure.	
<b>Thought:</b> A beat-up school has a negative effect on Junction City as a whole	<b>T29</b>
OK, sorry to beat a dead horse here, and I know that I'm preaching to the choir, but I think a negative cycle is easy to get into. People move to areas with good schools if they can. If they can't, well, then they don't have much money for bond measures to improve things. Hmm... There isn't much money for books, or other supplies either, I can tell. Fundraisers? A giant bake sale? Obviously a huge challenge for the schools is finding a way to get funding for improvements.	
<b>Thought:</b> Keeping school facilities updated and in good condition	<b>T34</b>
Increased tax revenue from the influx of employees at the new mental hospital working and buying homes should increase the revenue.	
<b>Thought:</b> Outdated buildings	<b>T46</b>
Kids should be proud of their school from an appearance standpoint. They should enjoy being there, and enjoy using the facilities available to them.	
<b>Thought:</b> Old outdated schools	<b>T53</b>
Schools are very outdated which is not something you don't already know. The proposed increase of our property tax to fix it was not the answer and was too burdensome of a tax to property owners. Bleacher replacement seemed like a fundraiser drive all year then a property tax incentive. Why can't Junction City merge in with 4J schools? A small town that is slowly growing and doesn't have a large tax base should merge with a larger school base.	
<b>Thought:</b> Upkeep	<b>T83</b>
Broken sidewalks, old ventilation system and cold rooms are all non-conducive to a good learning environment. I'm not saying they have to be anything more than safe, but at the very least our schools should be up to date.	
<b>Thought:</b> Out dated buildings	<b>T91</b>
The buildings are very old ..... so here lays a trickle affect kids are cold or crowded and don't do so well. If the building looks ugly to kids/staff/community they aren't going to have pride in their school. So they don't care what happens to it or what grades they get ....	
<b>Thought:</b> Infrastructure. Schools are run down	<b>T102</b>

What are some of the key challenges you see in our schools?

**Our children are not always positioned well to advance their learning**

G65

**Thought:** Our children are not always positioned well to advance their learning

T61

All children should be able to advance in their studies. This year, children of multiple class levels were merged into classes together rather than grouping kids of like skills together. The upper level children were asked to tutor the lower level children, but were not moving forward in their own studies.

Furthermore, my 8th grader rarely ever comes home with homework, while kids of the same grade level regularly have homework. These other schools rank higher than JC. I do not believe our children are keeping up. They don't need to be weighted down with homework, but do need to develop these skills and move forward in their education faster than they are currently doing.

**Overcrowding**

G19

**Thought:** Overcrowding

T82

Classrooms have many kids per teacher. My specific concern is that when my child needs extra attention it isn't being spotted or even if it is spotted the amount of time the teacher can spend with her is limited. I do my best to help at home but the school environment is where the majority of it sinks in. A teacher is only human, and to have that many demands on your time will equate to less patience and less awareness of where the weak spots are.

**Thought:** Over crowded class rooms

T95

**Thought:** Schools will become more crowded with the expected growth in our community.

T100

Perhaps the failure of the recent bond measure was because tax payers felt it was too far-reaching. Maybe setting a goal of updating or rebuilding one facility at a time would be more palatable to the public. Once the new/updated facility is complete, set the next goal. I believe the tax payers of this community are behind the schools, kids and teachers/staff more so than other communities. Bond measures could still work.

**Requests for funding need to be sensitive to all levels of community**

G42

**Thought:** The home and property owners CANNOT afford more expenses

T38

Contrary to some people's opinion, the economy is still depressed. The PAYING public has limits on what they can afford. More taxes taken by a variety of sources means less money for essential needs; such as food, gas, clothing, house payments, etc.

Most taxpayers do not have guaranteed income and PERS. -- Go for those folks, they have the disposable income.

**Thought:** Raising taxes for the homeowner means renters too!

T40

What are some of the key challenges you see in our schools?

(continued)

**Requests for funding need to be sensitive to all levels of community**

G42

It is simple. As the tax base increases, so will rental properties. And so, the 'poor' will have less money. This will make our town a less desirable place to live.

**Thought:** Requests for funding need to be sensitive to all levels of community

T62

We are not out of the woods yet. Many people in the community are still feeling the impacts of the recent economic downturn.

**Schools are too small.**

G1

**Thought:** Schools are too small.

T72

Many constituents, especially those who do not have school age children, had the perception that the majority of their tax dollars for the bond were going towards a new football field and bleachers. I know that the bleachers are a hazard and the person who climbs the ladder to get to the announcer's box is risking their life. My thought is that more emphasis should be given to the fact that Junction City is growing fast and the buildings are old and not designed for the number of students that are occupying them now, let alone the increase we expect over the next 10 years. I don't know that there was emphasis on the bleachers and football field but the perception was there.

**Security**

G6

**Thought:** Security

T89

I think none of the school building are secured very well or that staff members have proper training to keep them safe in some situations.

**Thought:** For Laurel, a key challenge is the safety and size of the building itself.

T111

Many parts of the building are in need of update, repair or replacement but should we keep putting money into such an old building?

**Social Issues**

G74

**Thought:** Social Issues

T86

There are challenges related to the prevalence of social media and how kids treat one another online.

## What are some of the key challenges you see in our schools?

### Sports and the cost for participating

G58

**Thought:** Sports and the cost for participating.

T50

This is holding so many students back from what they love to do. The only thing that drove me in school was sports but I know for a fact I would not have been able to participate in them if my parents would have had to pay these fees. I would not have enjoyed school, received the grades I did or had the outlook on life I had if I was not in sports. So I can only imagine what a lot of these students are going through having to watch their friends play sports that they so desperately want to participate in but can't because of costs.

### Staff issues in regards to seeming tired/needing inspiration

G24

**Thought:** Some teachers at high school "doing whatever they want"

T9

**Thought:** Staff issues in regards to seeming tired/needing inspiration

T12

**Thought:** Most of the teachers and staff act as if they do not want to be there.

T19

They do not care about the future of the children. My child was not safe at school from bully's. The staff did nothing to stop this.

### Students aren't held accountable between classes

G70

**Thought:** Students aren't held accountable between classes

T75

Many (more than 30 I've asked) say teachers don't stand at their door and make sure kids are getting to class on time and not making trouble. At least 10 kids have told me that e cigarettes are used along with other drugs at lockers between classes. 20 years ago all Teachers had to stand outside their doors and make kids accountable and get where they need to be.

### Teachers that don't know their individual students and talk to them weekly

G69

**Thought:** Teachers that don't know their individual students and talk to them weekly.

T74

During every class at the end every day (last 15-20 min) the teachers need to sit with students for 5 min and talk to them privately at their desk. Every kid I've talked to says their teachers have never done this. Total disconnect with students

## What are some of the key challenges you see in our schools?

### Teaching different learning styles

G38

**Thought:** Varied learning levels and inability to separate students

T17

I think classes should be divided based on skill levels not randomly. That would allow all classes to proceed at a better pace because they'd be at a similar learning level. Why should kids that know how to read be slowed down by those that don't read. And why should those that don't read be taught at the pace of those that already do. I think it would work better if classes were divided based on the skill levels.

**Thought:** Teaching different learning styles

T110

### The improper use of cell phones and electronic devices

G52

**Thought:** Electronic devices that have pornographic and drug images/messages

T15

The impact of drugs and sexualized images/music are such a distraction to the student that electronic devices should be banned from school/classroom. In my children's first year at the school, they've been introduced to drug songs and sex music. They also have learned terms like "being banged" "fingered" etc etc etc. Much of this learning takes place because of electronic devices, images and songs that are brought and shared at school. This is a huge distraction from learning and getting rid of the distraction of electronic devices would help, in my opinion.

**Thought:** Student behavior with cell phones and inappropriate texting while at school

T35

Maybe have a class on cell phones, the internet, and social media like Facebook. Dangers involved with sending pictures or inappropriate language that may come back and ruin a chance at jobs and relationships.

### The quality of education in our schools is declining

G21

**Thought:** The quality of education in our schools is declining.

T59

The rankings of our schools in "educational performance" is declining. JC school district schools have dropped significantly in state rankings when compared with other schools. Why is this happening and what is being done to address it?

### There is no motivational credit system for middle school

G80

**Thought:** Motivational credit system for middle school.

T113

Kids need insensitive to do well in school. Set up a credit system so they have to get these credits in middle school to move on to high school.

## What are some of the key challenges you see in our schools?

### There is not enough adequate training for our teachers

G72

**Thought:** To provide adequate training for our teachers.

T78

skills that should include communication with parents from a variety of backgrounds and education levels.

### The reputation of our schools is a concern to parents and community members

G64

**Thought:** The reputation of our schools is a concern to parents and community members

T60

Junction City Schools used to have an excellent reputation. Now, parents and the community are concerned. There is an appearance that schools don't appear to know how to handle the issues at hand which include meeting standards AND meeting the needs of students (where-ever they may be on the spectrum). While money may be needed, I believe the community needs to gain confidence that district and school leaders have a plan to get from where schools are at now to where they need to be.

### There seem to be so many children who need extra attention

G68

**Thought:** There seem to be so many children who need extra attention.

T69

It seems like teachers are stretched so thin because so many children are truly in need of extra attention and help be it behavior or academics.

### The school only communicates with the public when it wants something

G55

**Thought:** Community and School

T43

Why aren't you relating to your local newspaper on a weekly basis? It would go a long way to establish a relationship that communicates constantly instead of a relationship that only communicates when it WANTS something. I've had a child like that.

### The transition from grades to meeting proficientcies

G43

**Thought:** The transition from grades to meeting proficientcies

T3

It seems each teachers is going about this in a different way. Some teachers don't give finals if you have met the standards. Some teachers require finals. Some teachers include homework in scores. Some are not. Very confusing

What are some of the key challenges you see in our schools?

### Tolerance for students attitude at Middle school level

G57

**Thought:** Tolerance for students attitude at Middle school level.

T49

I feel the students have horrible attitudes at Oaklea towards each other. This affects them tremendously from grades 6-7 and then they start to get back on track middle of 8th. Once they get to high school things get much better again. I have seen this first hand with my kids and many of my friends kids at this Junction City school Dist. Some of my friends have taken their kids out of Oaklea and brought them back to this school Dist once they were back in high school because the kids are so bad at the Middle school. Not sure if it is just that age group or the school but it is a problem non the less!

### Unreasonable expectations of teachers/students

G11

**Thought:** Class size and unreasonable expectations of teachers/students

T99

### Volunteer Aids

G63

**Thought:** Volunteer Aids

T58

We have a great parent group however expand the number of volunteer aids in the classroom to help especially in the 5th 6th grades. The parent group meets in the morning which doesn't allow parents who work to participate or be involved.

## What are some things we are doing well in our schools?

**6th Grade patterned after Middle school**

G9

**Thought:** 6th Grade patterned after Middle school

T39

6th graders should be moving to different classrooms and not everything in one classroom for the most part

**After school programs**

G2

**Thought:** Adding after school activities to high school and middle school

T8

**Thought:** After school programs

T57

Having after school programs for remediation and enrichment is great. Also, providing dinner and transportation for those after school kids is great too.

**Thought:** Afterschool program great, especially with no art happening during school day.

T70

**All year PE**

G28

**Thought:** All year PE

T37

My son has nothing but raves about this program. He loves it

**Breakfast For All**

G41

**Thought:** Breakfast For All

T36

Very nice touch and given free to everyone.. I thought this was great and starts the kids off right.

**Challenging the students as far as curriculum**

G7

**Thought:** Challenging the students as far as curriculum

T10

**Coaches table**

G27

**Thought:** Coaches table, communication for most of staff to parents, good staff

T15



## What are some things we are doing well in our schools?

### Communication from school to home

G1

**Thought:** Communication

T20

I love the information sent out by email. Thanks for all the great information on both financing college and ideas for typical 4 year college programs and trade training type programs.

**Thought:** Communication is good.

T22

Phone messages, email alerts

**Thought:** Daily notifications from school.

T35

Love the daily newsletters from the High school telling me what is going on. Love the emails from the teachers giving me info on my kids and what they are doing!

**Thought:** I feel like I am very well informed on what is going on at the school.

T52

**Thought:** Communication from school to home

T53

I'm happy with the multiple channels of communication when there is a snow day. I get a text, an email and a phone call. That is very appreciated and I'm glad there is that communication. I'm also happy with the phone call when my child has missed a day of school.

**Thought:** communications

T62

I think most of the personal does a good job with communicating with parents.

**Thought:** Teachers responding to emails

T81

I am appreciative that teachers respond to received emails within an appropriate amount of time.

### Community engagement

G44

**Thought:** Community engagement

T42

I feel there is a strong community engagement/involvement with our schools which allows parents to be more active in their children's education. I also feel the children are a priority and the schools are continuously trying to improve their standards.

### Doing well with very poor buildings

G25

**Thought:** Doing well with very poor buildings

T44

## What are some things we are doing well in our schools?

**Educational program**

G46

**Thought:** Educational program

T56

Strong educational program that helps to reach kids that need extra help and also provides accelerated learners with more opportunities.

**Getting new technology in the classrooms**

G5

**Thought:** Getting new technology in the classrooms

T83

**Good support of extra activities**

G4

**Thought:** Good support of extra activities

T4

Students enjoy the morning sports announcements. We should make sure to include robotics and music in any rah rah stuff in announcements.

**Handling non-academic social issues within the school**

G50

**Thought:** Handling non-academic social issues within the school.

T66

I believe the combination of Mr. Young and Mr. Corey works well for OMS. From what I can see, they do a great job in light of some pretty tough challenges.

**Having interesting projects for kids**

G61

**Thought:** The teachers working together on the curriculum and having interesting

T60

projects for the kids to do as part of that, it really gets them "in to it" The send home sheets with missing assignments and or grades is Wonderful, it not only keeps the parents notified but it also keeps the kids responsible and accountable.

Communication emails and phone service for snow days or afterschool program changes. Also the after school program is very enriching and artistic, the children get to make and try new things that help inspire them to grow as individuals.

**Heart for the kids is awesome**

G52

**Thought:** First and foremost, are staff & curriculum & heart for the kids is AWESOME!

T74

## What are some things we are doing well in our schools?

(continued)

### Heart for the kids is awesome

G52

JCSD staff has worked hard and collaboratively to give the greatest and most varied opportunities for future success to our students, especially for a district our size. The staff and vision for kids are second to none!

### Helping students succeed in their class work and sports activities

G37

**Thought:** Helping students succeed in their class work and sports activities

T24

### Importance on creating a healthy, safe, inclusive school culture

G16

**Thought:** Importance on creating a healthy, safe, inclusive school culture

T31

In the middle school, healthy relationships are SO important and not always easy to come by. A school that focuses on a positive culture makes an emotionally safe environment for the kids in these tough years. I would not have my kids attend schools where they were ever, ever bullied, and I am thankful to have found a school that makes sure this does not happen to anyone.

### Increased supervision during passing

G30

**Thought:** Increased supervision during passing

T3

Good to see adults in the halls to deter bad choices.

### Individualized teaching.

G14

**Thought:** Individualized teaching.

T6

### Inviting atmosphere for learning

G53

**Thought:** Inviting atmosphere for learning

T76

My kids have mentioned that teachers are always happy to answer questions. The school also has after school opportunities for kids to get extra help on homework.

## What are some things we are doing well in our schools?

**I really feel the school district does put the kids first**

G49

Thought: I really feel the school district does put the kids first

T64

**Keeping facilities in good shape with the funding available**

G26

Thought: Keeping facilities in good shape with the funding available

T23

**Keeping teachers**

G56

Thought: keeping teachers!

T82

**Keeping up a physical education program.**

G12

Thought: Keeping up a physical education program.

T50

**Making the kids believe in themselves**

G57

Thought: Making the kids believe in themselves

T84

**Making time to tutor students before and after school**

G55

Thought: Making time to tutor students before and after school

T80

**Music in school**

G15

Thought: music in school

T61

It's great that the schools have been able to keep their music program

Thought: maintaining some music, extra curricular activities, parent/teacher conferences

T65

Thought: Love band. Great for kids who are not interested in sports

T69



## What are some things we are doing well in our schools?

**Open house/Family Fun night**

G42

**Thought:** Open house/Family Fun night

T38

Open house at Oakley was great. Principle was wonderful, kids had fun along with the parents.

Family fun night was also great and had fun.

**Options for struggling students**

G36

**Thought:** Options for struggling students

T21

I believe there are many options for students that struggle in one or more areas in school, and the administration and staff are quick to find help for those children

**Parents are encouraged to participate in the schools**

G58

**Thought:** Parents are encouraged to participate in the schools.

T88

**PBIS seems to working well**

G18

**Thought:** PBIS seems to working well

T2

I like the positive behavior rewards

**Placing emphasis on academics before athletics**

G60

**Thought:** Placing emphasis on academics before athletics

T7

**Preparing students for State testing**

G45

**Thought:** Preparing students for State testing.

T48

I appreciate that the school communicates with parents regarding how the school is meeting State requirements and when testing begins and even ways to prepare.

**School climate**

G22

**Thought:** School climate

T55



What are some things we are doing well in our schools?

(continued)

**School climate**

G22

Good job with creating a positive school wide climate and teaching kids appropriate behaviors.

**School sports**

G17

**Thought:** School sports

T30

Volleyball, basketball, and track, and ???

Creates school pride

Promotes school friendships

**Thought:** Offering sports to kids

T59

It is great sports are still offered in school. It would be better if the whole school 5th through 8th was able to take part in sports.

**Thought:** PE and Sports

T75

J.C is on of the few school that still have PE and Sports. I think kids need these activities to get in shape and take there minds of book work.

**Thought:** Sports and activities

T79

**Sharing facilities with other groups like Junction City Athletics**

G34

**Thought:** Sharing facilities with other groups like Junction City Athletics

T13

We really enjoyed the band/choir concert this year and appreciate the use of the facilities that we are able to get through JCA!

**Spending money on the right things**

G39

**Thought:** Spending money on the RIGHT things.

T29

I'm thankful that we spend the funds we have on the basics FIRST, such as math, language arts, science for all kids every year, history.

There are computers available for use.

**Students are challenged**

G59

**Thought:** Students are challenged

T89

## What are some things we are doing well in our schools?

**supportive teachers and staff**

G21

**Thought:** supportive teachers and staff

T5

My son's teachers have all been helpful in figuring out a plan for him. He is really struggling in school right now and we are working with a psychologist to determine what help he needs. The teachers have been willing to try new things to help him succeed.

**Thought:** The staff seems to be engaged in watching children and their problems

T27

**Teachers do an amazing job engaging students**

G11

**Thought:** I see some teachers do an amazing job engaging students.

T45

Some teachers use such an amazingly positive attitude to keep students engaged and to correct poor behavior in such a respectful way it lets kids maintain their self respect.

**Teacher/Student interactions**

G20

**Thought:** Teacher/Student interactions

T25

Oaklea staff and teachers do a good job in connecting and establishing relationships with the students.

**Thought:** Teacher and student relationships

T46

From what my child has told me he has a pretty good relationship with his teachers. They communicate well with each other.

**Team work**

G54

**Thought:** Team work

T78

**The Home Access Center is a great tool.**

G24

**Thought:** Home access

T19

This is a good step. Good communication between parents and teachers is critical! The email communication is really helpful.

**Thought:** The Home Access Center is a great tool.

T49

This is a great way to keep parents informed and helps students stay on top of their schoolwork.

## What are some things we are doing well in our schools?

(continued)

### The Home Access Center is a great tool.

G24

**Thought:** Allowing parent to keep track electronically of our children's progress.

T85

This works well when the teachers are keeping up on it. When they are not it is hugely frustrating.

### The kids that I am around seem to be happy and aware of what is expected of them

G43

**Thought:** The kids that I am around seem to be happy and aware of what is expected of them and are focused on completing school. And furthering their education.

T41

### The Middle school is doing very well with the young students

G38

**Thought:** The Middle school is doing very well with the young students

T28

With the young students being with the older students can be a difficult thing but Oklea has a great hand on this!

### There is a great program set up for students with learning disabilities

G40

**Thought:** There is a great program set up for students with learning disabilities.

T34

I love the one on one the students get in these classes. This program helped one of my students make huge leaps in her academic progress over the years.

### The safety

G51

**Thought:** although he wont admit it i think my son feels pretty safe at his high

T73

### The school cares about the kids

G8

**Thought:** Supportive, caring, personable faculty & staff

T14

I am overwhelmed by the amount of care, support, individual attention, and truly small town family feel that my children get from faculty and staff. You all truly want nothing less than my children's ultimate success. It shows in all that you all do and is very humbling. I am so grateful.

**Thought:** There are some teachers that obviously care and make themselves available

T40

## What are some things we are doing well in our schools?

(continued)

### The school cares about the kids

G8

**Thought:** Staff seems caring....

T43

**Thought:** Caring for the kids

T77

I think the teachers and staff genuinely care for the students. It's nice to see teachers and staff and after school activities, like sports etc. This shows a real caring on the staff part to stay connected with students, not just in a classroom setting. I think it's really important for students to see teachers in different settings, not just the classroom.

### The staff is willing to listen to parent concerns and address

G29

**Thought:** I feel that the staff is willing to listen to parent concerns and address them.

T86

### The teachers are doing a fantastic job bringing in grant money

G35

**Thought:** The teachers are doing a FANTASTIC job bringing in grant money.

T18

Between the after school program and the recent grant brought in by a teacher at the high school, I'm very impressed at the job the teachers are doing bringing in money for the schools. Clearly the area has been hit hard economically in the last recession, so the efforts of the teachers have made a big difference. Keep it up, guys, and thanks!!!

### The teachers are great

G10

**Thought:** The teachers are first rate

T11

The teachers are educated and patient. I feel like they may need more support either from volunteers or paid staff. It seems like the kids would be able to learn more efficiently if they got more exercise which would make the teachers jobs easier.

**Thought:** Teachers

T12

We love the school's teachers. For the most part, we've met with and enjoyed wonderful teachers and staff. They seem very interested in helping our children progress. They also seem to be very good at teaching, when freed up to do so.

**Thought:** many quality teachers

T16

**Thought:** Quality teachers

T32

What are some things we are doing well in our schools?

(continued)

**The teachers are great**

G10

The teachers in JC are very engaged in the kids' wellbeing, in teaching the kids, in the school and in the community. That is not always easy to find and should not be taken for granted!!

**Thought:** We have some great teachers!

T33

Many of our teachers go beyond to help their students and I feel this is very important to keep a child interested in a class.

**Thought:** I appreciate that the teachers and staff are amazing at what they do!

T47

Each teacher has contributed to how my son sees the world and how he is developing his own individual personality. This includes the PE and Music teachers! Forward thinking teachers who do an incredible job!

**Thought:** Teachers

T54

I know a lot of the teachers are local, and many others are long term Oaklea teachers. Both cultivate a sense of community and caring and I like knowing my child's teacher as well as seeing them at events and building personal relationships with them. Not the kind of relationship where we hang out, but the kind where I can work with my child's teacher for her ultimate success in school.

**Thought:** I feel the teachers are great!

T58

My children in the school district come home happy. They can tell me different things they have learned and always talk well about the teachers they have.

**Thought:** Your 5th grade teachers are doing great.

T67

I volunteer at OMS and have a 5th grader. I'm constantly impressed at how well these teachers work together and care about their students.

**Thought:** Teachers have been great

T68

**Thought:** Good hiring choices in the past two years

T87

**The teachers working together on the curriculum**

G47

**Thought:** The teachers working together on the curriculum and having interesting

T60

projects for the kids to do as part of that, it really gets them "in to it" The send home sheets with missing assignments and or grades is Wonderful, it not only keeps the parents notified but it also keeps the kids responsible and accountable.

Communication emails and phone service for snow days or afterschool program changes. Also the after school program is very enriching and artistic, the children get to make and try new things that help inspire them to grow as individuals.

## What are some things we are doing well in our schools?

**The way the grades team together is really good**

G48

**Thought:** The way the grades team together is really good. My daughter LOVES the after school program and the OBOB programs. And the awards assemblies (nice & short) really seem to encourage the kids.

T63

**Using technology to communicate with parents**

G23

**Thought:** Using technology to communicate with parents.

T72

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

<p><b>2nd language</b></p> <p><b>Thought:</b> 2nd language Spanish, Chinese something 5/6 grade</p>	<p>G42</p> <p>T40</p>
<p><b>Academic skills</b></p> <p><b>Thought:</b> academic skills</p>	<p>G3</p> <p>T2</p>
<p><b>Accountability</b></p> <p><b>Thought:</b> accountability</p>	<p>G2</p> <p>T3</p>
<p><b>All subjects are important but...</b></p> <p><b>Thought:</b> All subjects are important but... Kids are not taught respect and consequences... I've heard kids cursing, smoking e cigarettes, etc. teachers or adults are close and say nothing. Kids run the schools and don't have any fear of the consequences.</p>	<p>G55</p> <p>T54</p>
<p><b>Basic education</b></p> <p><b>Thought:</b> Basic education How to learn, as well as how a problem is analyzed is as important to learn as the basic material of math, science, and literature.</p> <p><b>Thought:</b> Basic stuff. Math, reading , writing, science, history. Some computer stuff but not too much.</p>	<p>G1</p> <p>T22</p> <p>T70</p>
<p><b>College Preparation</b></p> <p><b>Thought:</b> College Preparation</p>	<p>G4</p> <p>T34</p>

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

(continued)

**College Preparation**

G4

I think every child should be prepared for a college education. From study skills to finding funds to choosing a career to transitioning to being successful in a college environment, whether it be community college, technical college, or a university.

**Communication skills, verbal and written**

G5

**Thought:** Communication skills, verbal and written.  
To help them while at school and life after school.

T25

**Computer skills**

G41

**Thought:** Technical competence.  
Today's workplace demands it.

T23

**Thought:** Basic computing skills

T35

I LOVE that the kids are learning to type in middle school. This is so critical.  
Basics of the computer - how to turn it on/off, how to install software, how to set up printers, how does a computer work, virus software, spyware, what is a network, what is a tablet, how to create a basic webpage.

**Thought:** Computer

T39

Needs to start in elementary and continue throught out their career. Computers are used in most jobs. 7th grade too late!

**Thought:** I feel that students should be developing computer skills.

T62

Computers are a daily occurence now days in the work force. Being able to know the base knowledge at a minimun will help them once they leave school.

**Thought:** math, computers/science, citizenship.

T73

**Cooperative and hands on learning**

G6

**Thought:** Cooperative and hands on learning

T92

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

**Creator**

G22

**Thought:** Creator

T16

While the school should not teach a particular brand of faith, the absence of faith is in fact Atheism, in my opinion. I don't think the school should teach atheism by refusing to recognize faith or creationism. Therefore, I believe the school district should teach a general faith that includes the same things Benjamin Franklin outlined in the NW Ordinance. That was 1. There is a Creator 2. We will be accountable to our creator after death etc etc. These tenants apply to all faith based ideology, so nobody gets left out. Franklin was a smart man.

**Critical thinking**

G11

**Thought:** critical thinking

T5

Kids need to learn how to take information and use it - not just memorize it. HATE the memorization map tests. Serve no purpose.

**Critical thinking is an important life skill that can be taught in every**

G87

**Thought:** Critical thinking is an important life skill that can be taught in every class.

T89

**Foreign language**

G88

**Thought:** Foreign Language, we teach spanish speaking children english but english speaking children don't learn a foreign language until high school

T90

**For more advanced students have higher classes**

G7

**Thought:** Basic academics k-12 and for more advanced students have higher classes.

T46

**Foundational skills**

G61

**Thought:** Foundational skills

T60

Students should develop strong reading, writing and math skills.

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

### Fundamentals for life

G59

**Thought:** Fundamentals for life

T58

Reading, analyzing what's been read and coming to logical conclusions, asking questions, nurturing curiosity, math and calculations, communication skills, patience, working with others, an interest in the world and current affairs and well as other cultures and history, the importance of taking care of themselves both through nutrition but also life skills, and healthy hobbies/activities to challenge their minds and bodies

### Getting along

G60

**Thought:** Getting along

T59

Students need to learn how to cooperate and collaborate with one another, and how to solve their conflicts peacefully and respectfully.

### Getting along with others

G30

**Thought:** Time management and getting along with others

T26

**Thought:** Academics and skills like getting along with others, being respectful, etc

T47

### Getting the answers and problem solving

G79

**Thought:** Getting the answers and problem solving

T80

Students can't learn the right way of doing things if they are told what the right way is. I do believe that over time, the teacher has been getting lazier in the way they are teaching. Although I recognize that many students have different learning abilities, you really can't cater to them all. Teach strong and let the kids figure it out. This "pass, no pass" thing ridiculous. This is why we have a grading system. The students will never know where they stand if they don't know what their true grade is. If an answer is wrong, don't shrug it off as it's okay, TEACH them the right answer. If we truly care about our kids want our kids to succeed, we need to go beyond the classroom and teach them. There's no greater joy than seeing a kids eyes light up with "oh, now I get it!"

### Gifted Program

G44

**Thought:** Gifted Program

T42



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

(continued)

**Gifted Program**

G44

It was mentioned there was a gifted program. First I've heard of it and and what type of testing is done to identify students?

**Healthy lifestyle skills**

G62

**Thought:** Health

T21

Eating right, exercising etc. It's nice that they learn the fundamentals of sports, but it is critical that they learn how to have a personal exercise regimen that doesn't rely on having others to play. The key to health is eating right and exercising. I think that should be emphasized.

**Thought:** Healthy lifestyle skills

T61

Kids need to learn refusal skills and how to live an active and healthy lifestyle.

**Thought:** Academics & Health

T83

**History**

G80

**Thought:** Reading/ Language/Math/History/Physical Education

T81

**How to communicate in ways to express what they want learn or need help with**

G84

**Thought:** How to communicate in ways to express what they want learn or need help with

T86

**How to cope with change**

G31

**Thought:** How to cope with change

T27

The world will not stay the same. The only constant will be change.

**How to do homework correctly and timely**

G33

**Thought:** How to do homework correctly and timely

T30

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

### How to participate in class and stay focused

G54

**Thought:** Proper study skills and how to participate in class and stay focused.

T53

These are the skills that will produce college student who will become productive members of society.

### How to successfully navigate life; career, interpersonal, good citizen...

G23

**Thought:** How to successfully navigate life; career, interpersonal, good citizen...

T17

### Internal motivation

G77

**Thought:** Internal motivation

T78

Kids need to see the value of doing well in school. Find a way to spark an interest in kids early and stress how important school is to their future.

### I want all the kids to learn leadership and team building skills.

G86

**Thought:** I want all the kids to learn leadership and team building skills.

T88

Many kids will fail in life if they cannot learn and pattern these skills. We cannot leave it to the sports field and hyper competitive arenas. Those arenas will only see about 10% of the kids. Every kid will be an employee or crew worker in their life and need to work with that as they go through their education lives.

### Kindness

G15

**Thought:** Kindness

T9

### Knowing their individual strengths

G14

**Thought:** Knowing their individual strengths

T8

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

**Knowledge of our country and state**

G25

**Thought:** reading, writing, math, knowledge of our country and state

T19

**Language skills**

G40

**Thought:** Reading/language skills

T38

You can not get a job with out these skills I have listed!

**Lifestyle, career skills**

G9

**Thought:** Lifestyle, career skills

T1

**Thought:** A strong academic basis and understanding how it applies to the real world

T43

Schools can build upon how academic skills apply to real life situations and careers. Teachers have limited knowledge since they only work in one field. Teachers need to remain open to other industries and information in order to make it more available to students and to understand more applications.

**Mathematics classes should be small to ensure understanding**

G89

**Thought:** Mathematics classes should be small to ensure understanding

T91

**Math skills**

G93

**Thought:** My third thought is that our school has extremely low academics in the Math

T10

department. I am concerned with all of our levels of students beginning with Special Education Students, Students who are in regular math education, and students who require a TAG education. We are doing well this year with an extra 1/2 time Math teacher along with Mr. Corey teaching a math class, but I would like to see smaller class sizes with either more IA's or more teachers continue into coming years. I would like to see students show the improvement in Math that the state is requiring of them next year. Smaller class sizes and more helpers who can lead small group discussions will allow these students to learn at a faster and more thorough rate. I also feel that the monitoring of each teacher's curriculum, especially in the special education departments, will increase our student's knowledge to be able to perform actual tasks that they will encounter in the "real world".

**Thought:** Math

T15

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

(continued)

**Math skills**

G93

As an adult, basic math for budgets, planning, check register etc is vital for functional living. I don't think advanced math is so important as just a really good understanding and application of basic adding, subtraction, division and multiplication. I think applying mathematics to real life things like a family budget, electric bill, taxes, etc would be way more valuable than geometry or trigonometry, even though those were subjects that I excelled at. I just never used them again, but I use budgets and bills and registers all the time, yet learned almost nothing about them because I was so busy trying to learn how to determine the volume of a cylinder.

**Thought:** Math skills

T37

If a student does not get basic math.....they need help, don't just send them on to the next grade till it is too late! But I do feel some of these math classes are a little excessive!

**Organizational skills**

G82

**Thought:** Organizational skills, etc.

T84

Organizational skills are necessary to help children be successful. To some it comes naturally, others not so much. I also think learning respectful communicating skills is a necessary part of school and in general life. This should be incorporated in to everyday curriculum.

**Thought:** organization. Preparing for high school

T85

**Path of natural talents**

G75

**Thought:** Path of natural talents

T76

**Perserverance**

G36

**Thought:** Perserverance

T33

How to keep trying if you don't succeed right away.

**Perseverance**

G74

**Thought:** Perseverance

T74

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

**Physical Education**

G94

**Thought:** Reading/ Language/Math/History/Physical Education

T81

**Problem solving**

G13

**Thought:** Problem solving

T7

**Proper test taking tips**

G24

**Thought:** life skills, proper test taking tips,

T18

**Readiness for high school**

G52

**Thought:** Readiness for high school

T51

Classwork and expectations should be geared for getting the students ready for high school, especially in the 7th and 8th grade.

**Reading**

G91

**Thought:** Reading

T13

Reading opens the doors to all learning.

**Thought:** Reading

T24

Reading is the gateway to all other skills developed in school. If a child struggles with reading, I believe it effects their ability to decipher things like math word problems, and their ability to spell.

**Real world communication**

G56

**Thought:** Real world communication.

T55

**Regular school**

G64

**Thought:** Regular school Curriculum as well as Organization, Communication and

T63

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

(continued)

**Regular school** G64  
 confidence in projects and speaking in front of groups.

**Research skills - where and how to find information** G47  
**Thought:** Research skills - where and how to find information T45  
 It's not just what you know, it's knowing where to find information.

**Respect** G66  
**Thought:** Respect T31  
 Learning this skill will take you far in life and should help with the bullying section.  
**Thought:** Reading, writing, math and respect for others, especially their teachers T57  
 and adult leader.  
**Thought:** Respect T65  
 There seems to be a lack of respect all the way around .... students to students .... students to teachers .... students to volunteers..... students to themselves.

**Responsibility** G10  
**Thought:** responsibility T4  
**Thought:** How to be respectful, organized and responsible. T52  
 JC Schools have consistently worked to make students accountable for their actions. This is important as it promotes all the skills above and many others.

**Science** G43  
**Thought:** Science T41  
 Biology etc. The science program at Oakley 6th grade is embarrassing and is not setting my son up for the real world. Why is health combined with science?  
**Thought:** Reading, writing, mathematics, science. T87

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

(continued)

### Science

G43

The basics that kids will use to build the rest of their education on. Also these are the basics to be a functioning adult in our society.

### Self sufficiency

G46

**Thought:** Self sufficiency

T44

Skills that help children recognize that they will be responsible for their own destiny. Basic skills like showing up on time, respecting others and willingness to accept responsibility.

### Sense of community

G71

**Thought:** Sense of community

T71

### Skills that allow them to be life long learners

G69

**Thought:** skills that allow them to be life long learners; skills that challenge them to become independent learners and thinkers

T68

### Skills that challenge them

G95

**Thought:** skills that allow them to be life long learners; skills that challenge them to become independent learners and thinkers

T68

### Skills that will carry them on to their college education

G17

**Thought:** Skills that will carry them on to their college education

T11

### Social studies

G26

**Thought:** At least basic reading, writing, math, science and social studies. These are a given. All students should come away with basic knowledge.

T20

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

**Strong social skills** G18

**Thought:** Strong social skills T12

**Thought:** Proper social skills. T36

I personally feel this is one of the biggest skills you will use in life!

**Thought:** Social skills T49

Too much time is spent focusing on academics only and students face too much bullying and many students lack basic manners.

**Study skills** G35

**Thought:** Study skills T32

How to learn, how to study.

**Thought:** Study habits T64

Weather it be independent study habits and/or group setting. I don't think my kids are learning a good study habits from school. I try to enforce at home ... but they just say in school we just ask when we are having problems and get the answers. Not Good at all in my book. It needs to change!!!!

**Thought:** Studying habits T82

**Survival and Beyond** G32

**Thought:** Survival and Beyond T29

A student should learn how to be an adult.

A student should learn that it is his/her responsibility to get (or make) a job, provide for their immediate family, and have respect for others.

A student should be learning a trade, a profession, or a skill that will allow him/her to succeed (not be a burden on society).

A student should learn ethics and morality and practice honesty and integrity.

**The ability to think** G70

**Thought:** The ability to think - NOT TEST. T69

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

(continued)

### The ability to think

G70

This may be out of your control with state and federal mandates. The ability for a student to problem solve in real-life situations is vital. While they need math/science/language etc. to do that, getting them to think freely and not worry about tests is important.

### The things that affect future

G76

**Thought:** Reading, math, cooperation, collaboration & the things that affect future.

T77

Also, the other skills that are important to make these skills stick and be able to use them for future success are things like art, music, physical education, computer skills and vocational skills. Also, we need to care for the kids so much that they want to learn their whole lives!

### Time management

G12

**Thought:** Organization/time management

T6

Students need to be able to work over a period of time and keep on task - reaching a goal.

### To learn to enjoy learning and how they learn best

G67

**Thought:** If possible, to learn to enjoy learning and learn HOW they learn best

T66

(knowing that each child learns differently). Social skills & teamwork are important as well as health & fitness. Keyboarding classes at this level are good too.

### Understanding the materiel that is being taught to them and being able to

G72

**Thought:** Understanding the materiel that is being taught to them and being able to

T72

do well on test some of our students get so nervous because the grade is based on the test score and not the material being turned in. So if they only remember to do well on the test and are not understanding the material will not help them in the future.

### Vocational/trade with the application of core education teachings.

G57

**Thought:** Vocational/trade with the application of core education teachings.

T56

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

### Working in teams

G78

**Thought:** Working in teams

T79

Kids need to know how to work well with others. Teach kids the different roles a person takes in a group, IE Facilitator, Note Taker, Leader.

### Writing

G90

**Thought:** Writing

T14

Being able to express ideas in writing is almost as important as reading.

**Thought:** Reading and writing

T48

I believe if a child can read and write, they can learn just about anything.

**Thought:** Reading, Writing, and Math

T67

