

*Potter-Dix Public Schools
Community Engagement Summary*

1. What are the strengths and qualities of Potter-Dix Public Schools?

Academics

- Quality of education (3)
- Elementary School – Blue Ribbon (3)
- Accreditation PDS has
- Option enrollment location
- Standard Testing (2)
- Special Education student help (2)
- Excellent academic availability

Activities

- Sports to play
- Extra curriculars (3)
- Many activities and participation
- Athletic program (3)

Community/District

- Tradition and History of school district
- High regard/reputation in which we are held across the state (4)
- Good Community Support (4)
- Helping graduates enter work force and college
- Keeps towns alive

District Climate / Culture

- Small School/class size (7)
- Teacher to student ratio (5)
- Opportunities to be a well-rounded person in all areas (2)
- Good role models – parents and community
- Dedication to the school
- Good employer (2)
- We nurture those that need extra help
- Welcoming option enrollment students
- Personal

Facilities

- Facilities

Staff

- Great teachers (3)
- Great staff

2. Identify the skills, knowledge, and abilities students need in order to be prepared for success when they graduate and start a career or attend college.

Skills

- Life skills (5)
- Communication (8)
- Computer skills
- Home Economics
- Reading Skills (2)
- Writing Skills (5)
- Math Skills (2)
- Critical Thinking (3)
- Leadership (2)
- (Public) Speaking (5)
- Interpersonal social skills
- Arts (2)
- Interview Skills
- Home Ec. (2)
- Hands-on experience (2)

Knowledge

- Personal Finance (3)
- Personal Hygiene (2)
- How to give back, community involvement
- Organization
- Exposure to different fields of study
- Worldly careers
- Knowledge application
- Knowing how to study
- Resume development (2)

Abilities

- Work Ethic (7)
- Respect for elders/peers (3)
- Accountability
- Responsibility (2)
- Productivity
- Cooperation
- Confidence (2)
- Resolve conflict (2)
- Overcome adversity
- College credits upon HS graduation

3. As a vested District patron of Potter-Dix Public Schools, what are your expectations and priorities for the school district?

Financials

- Why do we always cut on ag-related versus sports (3)
- Wise financial management (10)
- Balance a budget
- Save instead of cut
- Not be wasteful (3)
- Communication with Tax Payers
- Run the school like a business (2)
- Discipline in money management

Education/Culture

- Promote patriotism
- Quality, well-rounded education (5)
- Forward looking – as to how we will succeed/prosper in the future
- Retain great teachers (2)
- Maintain and keep both buildings
- More Dual Credit courses (2)
- Improve communication of board/Superintendent with community (3)
- Shannon will present comments and perceptions of District
- What is best for our kids
- School will be involved in the community (2)
- More interaction between older and younger students
- Commitment to/of all adults and students involved
- Encourage and support staff, especially teachers
- Keeping the school open, staffed, and accredited
- Ag/shop
- Balance our priorities – public input

4. Identify the needs and challenges the District may face in the next three to five years.

Needs

- If there are problems with the district, there needs to be a community forum.
- Building upkeep
- Bussing in rural areas
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Challenges

- If we don't live within our budget we may not have our school (3)
- Declining enrollment/population of students (6)
- Cabela's employment Cuts
- Finances (10)
 - Declining land value (3)
 - Dropping state funding (2)
 - Property Taxes (2)
- Hiring/Retaining/recruiting quality teachers (8)
- Local demographics
- More dual credit
- Leadership from Board/Teachers
- Accountability
- Staying competitive in sports and education
- Accreditation Money (dropping support for students with state help)
- State mandates for special education programs
- Home economics
- More community service