## Notes from October 18th Community Conversation Hosted by Chesterwood Village - Sandy Beardslee

## **CHALLENGES**



- Parents don't work with teachers
- Electronic age is bad for seniors – A generational gap Hurts communication between generations
- Technology challenges education
  - ~ Teach basics vs. how to utilize technology to do it
- Transfer advances (successes) in technology to students
  ▼ Important to ....
- Expense of technology
- Legal mandates without funding
- More parental input
- Technology prevents thinking and problem solving Basic skills – cursive – students have hard time
- Standardized testing has questionable value
  - ↓ (Mandate, roles)

Teachers teach to the test

- ~ Takes creativity away from teachers
- ~ Takes away basics (problem solving)
- Test for rote memory rather than whole person
  ✓ Eg. Creativity
- ~ Test doesn't evaluate what the child becomes



- Tests stuff facts vs. teaching skill
- Varying family support level
  Discipline issues/bullies
  Focus on small minority
- Behavior of students

Dress codes

Control taken away from teachers and principals to discipline

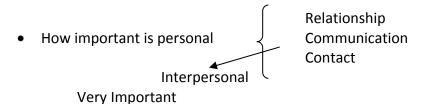
**▼**Lawsuits change teachers

## **SUCCESSES**

- Warm and safe environment
- Left school happy
- Could talk to teachers any time Before and after school
- Favorite teachers
  - ~ Warm, patient, understanding
  - ~ Encouragement
  - ~ Moral standards Do well for them
  - ~ Small town Teachers part of everything
  - ~ Creative Brought things kids were interested in
  - ~ Meanest Kept on a subject until kids got the lesson
- · Good teachers instill a love of learning

Teach to test

- Never embarrass you Respect
- Broaden a person's whole being rather than just get a job
- Many purposes in education
- Take a variety of subjects



- Multi language Money????
- Pride in work, community, school
- Self-worth, self-confidence
  Work ethic
- Enjoy school activities
  - Need a break

Eg: Sports, music

Keep kids healthy

Kids all learn differently
 Tap into their needs, interests, style