

O'NEILL STUDENT ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY 2015

O'NEILL PUBLIC SCHOOLS

I. Positive characteristics and qualities of the school and community.

- Most students felt their school system provides good technology access. One female student shared she believes she learns best when using paper and pencil as it helps her remember her work better.
- Most felt they would go to state college and return to O'Neill. Out of 10 students, only one felt she wanted to explore the world or other areas outside of O'Neill. Careers mentioned were physical therapy, nursing, veterinarian, and engineering. There were several who mentioned loving the open farming community.
- Challenges for students who entered O'Neill from other school districts felt they made friends quickly.

II. Expectations of the community:

- Expect growth to continue, for example, Northeast Community College was added.
- Traditionally, the whole community supports the school activities.
- Even with two different schools, everyone for the majority of the time gets along and they feel safe in O'Neill.

What do you do for entertainment if no football game?

• Hang out with friends, drive around main street, bowling, Dairy Queen

III. Describe a quality education:

- Extracurricular activities: Art, Music, Speech
- Offer different specialized learning opportunities even if it is one student hooked up with the community college to attend a class
- Teachers are great mentors to assist us
- Mentors: They have different teachers who touch their lives "They are not really teachers, they are people who care about us, and on the backend they are teachers." (Smile and laughter)

• Coaches are also their teachers so they get extra personal connection with them.

Community viability:

- With Northeast Community College added there is dual credit offered for credits toward college.
- Student gave example when smaller communities lose their school, it can cause a town to disappear.
- When asked about community viability, they felt the community supported them well with activities and school events.

Post-secondary education or life outside of high school:

- Electrician, teacher, journalist and cheer coach, IT Systems tech and come back to O'Neill if there are job opportunities
- Most wanted to try college and then come back

IV. Whose responsibility is it to educate you?

- Parents when younger and by junior high, it should be the teachers teaching the students how to live on their own. Another opinion shared it was the teachers and administration who were responsible during high school. Then by the time they are seniors the community should also be responsible for supporting.
- Educators are like training wheels (teachers, administration, etc) Then training wheels are removed as they mature and grow older and community comes alongside and support.