

PERU CSD COMMUNITY CONVERSATION

85 STAKEHOLDER SUGGESTIONS RECEIVED JANUARY 23RD

Thank you to the thirteen individuals who participated in the school board's January 23rd 'Community Conversation'. Those participating included seven employees of **Peru CSD** and three employees of the **BOCES**. Comments and suggestions received are summarized **below**. The collective conversation continues at the school board's **February 7th budget workshop** and at the **February 13th 'Community Conversation'**. Between now and then, school community members who wish to submit a suggestion may do so via email to board@perucsd.org. The entire governing team will receive your email. Much appreciated!

Question 1:

How should Peru CSD **increase operating efficiency** and **expand partnerships** with other school districts in the years ahead, as part of continuing to operate as cost effectively as possible?

1. Definitely look into bus runs between our schools and other schools. Also, are we using all employees efficiently, such as teachers, Principals, bus drivers, maintenance, etc.?
2. If activities are being cut look into combining with other schools. If kids lose what they love they could lose their drive to learn at school.
3. Shared service with town of Peru in areas of maintenance, grounds and programs.
4. Teleconference with other districts to offer electives.
5. Online high school for electives.
6. Shared transportation.
7. Share transportation – especially for sports.
8. One bus run.
9. Seek to expand partnerships in areas of athletics and Superintendent position.
10. Consider a single busing run.
11. Consider mergers with rural districts.
12. Explore mergers for academics, sports.
13. Continue gathering fact-based data on student enrollment for class size, reduced sections.
14. One bus run – is there data regarding whether this would be cost effective?
15. Electronic communication, utilize parent portal, email.
16. Communicate with BOCES how to better provide service.
17. Digitize all communications home.
18. School calendar distribution only to people who request it.
19. Sharing busing with AuSable,
20. Sharing with the town for maintenance.
21. Sharing administration.
22. Do away with administrator.
23. Use email instead of paper.
24. Bus runs.
25. District and BOCES need to talk about what we both need.

26. Utilize cost effective shared service with BOCES. If there are concerns or needs, express those so collaboration can occur.
 27. Teleconferencing with other districts to offer elective choices.
 28. Shared transportation costs for a variety of things – possibly one bus run?
 29. Digitizing communications with parents for day-to-day items as well as communications with taxpayers – use of parent portal.
 30. Peru faculty and BOCES need to communicate with each other the needs and available services.
 31. Direct deposit of paychecks, school calendar distribution – central location rather than mailing expenses.
 32. Not paying substitutes when not needed.
 33. Direct deposit – no paper – employee checks record on-line.
 34. Scrutinize district mailings – distribute school calendars at Health Mart.
 35. When substitutes not needed – send home.
 36. Direct deposit – no checks/paper – all on-line.
 37. Sell or offer furniture for free to community that is in the bus garage.
 38. Partnership with administration, custodial and lunch staffing – this includes busing of students – work with the town.
 39. Are other schools in the area having these conversations? Shouldn't we be sharing all information?
 40. What have other schools done that have worked/not worked?
 41. Share with the town – tools, machines, etc.
 42. Go paperless.
 43. Share busing for sports.
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Question 2:

How should Peru CSD change how programs and services are delivered to operate even more cost effectively and more rigorously for students - as part of considering the taxpayer during this time of limited capacity to increase spending, while encouraging higher student achievement?

1. Students progress at independent rate. When they are proficient they move on.
2. Look into engaging kids earlier – keep them interested and challenged. Get them into college courses as seniors and work on having them ready to do this.
3. Acceleration in middle school.
4. Grade & credit recovery, on-line programs.
5. Explore college early programming through Clinton Community College.
6. Utilize cost effective shared services at BOCES.
7. Ensure appropriate placement when increasing class size.
8. If increasing class size, it is imperative to look at the composition of students, not just the number.
9. Teleconferencing electives with other districts.
10. Utilize BOCES for high volume printing, get more on line, teaching strategies i.e. flashcards, review that require no paper.
11. Flex-time for staff so that they can come in early to enhance students' learning.
12. Bringing one program from CV-TEC back into this school and add to the tech lab.
13. Higher student achievement begins at home, but the students move into the world with

as much knowledge as possible.

14. We need to change with the times – if kids aren't achieving what we want them to ... Why ... and what should we do? Let's ask the kids how they want to learn.
15. Consider bringing some CV-TEC students back to campus to bolster our technology offerings.
16. Online high school.
17. Partnering with town for maintenance needs.
18. Sending subs home if not needed.
19. Online system for payroll – eliminating all paper.
20. Rethinking acceleration process to ensure students who are faster learners.
21. School buses – many almost empty.
22. Furniture stored in bus garage – unused old but serviceable furniture in cafeteria, for example.
23. Online [free] teacher and student development.
24. Elementary students needing extra help ride middle school buses in AM to meet with teachers at the elementary school.
25. Improve communication between stakeholder groups.
26. Investigate 'mini' services available at CV-TEC.
27. Revamp SED school bus seating.
28. Investigate flex-time provision.
29. Furniture in bus garage.
30. Research online teacher career development.
31. Reduce foreign language – example: French.
32. Grade 8 acceleration programs for earth science and algebra.

Question 3:

Do you have a **specific suggestion** for streamlining a particular program, function, operation or procedure at Peru CSD that would reduce costs, conserve time and/or resources?

1. Have one Superintendent for several districts.
2. Have a central billing and payroll department for several districts.
3. Send notices and report cards via email and when that is not possible – send only one notice home to parents of multiple children.
4. Localize bus stops in the village, not every house or better yet, let people walk. Twofold there – will help fight obesity and increase our physical activity which we all know is lacking in our society.
5. Get a sustainable bullying prevention program to help decrease referrals to disciplinarians and increase academic performance.
6. Get rid of the night school for people that do not want to learn. The world will not cater to people like this – they need to learn to function within the norm of society. As adults, society will not cater to them and they need to learn with the rest of the world.
7. Postage and papers can be reduced by using more electronics.
8. Reduce time spent on behavioral issues by building relationships with students and parents and being more proactive instead of reactive.
9. Digitize communication.
10. Visit busing to see if buses can be filled instead of almost empty. Bus stops instead of stopping at every home.