

What do M-L Parents, Student and Residents say about the School District?

During the 2009-2010 school year the M-L School District participated in over fourteen “listening” sessions with community residents. Some of the questions asked included “What do you feel are the strengths of the Montgomery-Lonsdale School District?” and “What are some “selling points” the district could use to market itself?” Here is a summary of the results:

Overall Summary:

WHAT DO YOU FEEL ARE THE STRENGTHS OF THE MONTGOMERY-LONSDALE SCHOOL DISTRICT?

- School size
- Small class size – more teachers, one on one
- Family atmosphere
- Opportunity to participate in wide range of extracurricular activities
- FFA Program/Industrial Arts Facility
- Pool and new athletic field
- Nature area
- Dedicated parents
- Excellent Staff – Administration/Teachers/Cooks/Secretaries/Bus Drivers/Custodians
- Excellent Early Childhood Program
- Teacher-Parent partnership is strong
- Recently passed school referendum
- Awareness of technology potential and commitment to upgrade the District
- Up-to-date curriculum
- College in the Schools Classes
- Individual attention for students – they don’t fall through the cracks
- Good kids – welcoming to outsiders
- Good communication within the schools and the communities
- Good blend of senior teachers and newer teachers
- Special Ed services are very strong
- Our schools are a safe place for our kids
- Good support from the community
- Sense of goodwill developing between schools and the community
- Strong history and traditions in our school
- Good environment for teachers – respected by administration, other teachers, parents, and kids

Overall Summary:

WHAT ARE SOME “SELLING POINTS” THE DISTRICT COULD USE TO MARKET ITSELF?

- Big enough to care for all and small enough to notice each one
- School/class size – more opportunity
- Special school features – FFA, Pool, Nature Center, Athletic Complex, Industrial Arts facility
- Overall quality of staff with special emphasis on teachers
- Small town feel in the communities that are part of the District
- Student centered and caring attitude by staff for students
- A sense of positive momentum in the school
- Strong and improving test scores
- A good place to raise and educate your kids
- Programs/teacher commitment to helping kids all along the learning continuum from special needs kids to the gifted
- Community Education program is excellent for students and the communities in the District
- All schools are clean and well kept
- The schools handle cultural differences very well
- The Montgomery-Lonsdale schools are safe
- Close-knit community – within the schools and the communities
- Much of the community’s “social life” revolves around the school
- Communications are strong in the school and with the community – the Board and Superintendent go the extra mile to listen
- The school lunches are good (a student comment)
- Small town culture, values, and “feel” in the schools