

What would you like to see the School District offer to better support the community?

Industrial arts, culinary arts, introductory music, band?, chorus, basic building skills
These are all great ideas. The challenge we face is funding for these programs and finding personnel to teach the programs. When we find someone with a skill set that is willing to help with these programs we try to implement them if funding is available.

More opportunities for the homeschool students and YPS students to participate in extracurricular activities.

Currently our extracurricular opportunities are limited by funding and staffing. What we currently offer is led by volunteers and we welcome homeschool students.

More sports for children and business classes and trade classes
See above answers.

More District social media presence with information about grants, new programs offered to the students, info on athletic happenings, student activities, etc. Be an advocate of the District in other places than the school website.

Social media can be very effective. Currently our social media presence is our School Website. It is the platform most appropriate for sharing information from the organization as a whole. It would require a media/public relations position to operate multiple platforms with consistency. Currently our funding does not allow for this position.

More information, more transparency in what's going on within.

More specific or detailed information is needed to see what the community wants to hear or learn about. Please share specifics with Dr. Knippen or list them in the Spring Survey.

More transparency. The new administration seems to be making an effort. Hopefully the new board will too.

Please see the above answer about specific topics.

More financial transparency, a site council to help with the facilities projects, getting FFA up and running (maybe 4h through the school), more programs to include our large homeschool community, and a consistent way to respond to issues shared at board meetings. My answers below are based on the last few months that I've seen with the new administrator.

We have implemented a new program called Board Docs. This can be accessed on the school website on the Governing Board page. This platform shares the same information the board members get (unless it is confidential information). Our budget is posted on the website and monthly financial reports are in the board agendas. If you have more detailed or specific questions about Financials, please ask Dr. Knippen.

A school council can be a great resource. If we have enough individuals willing to commit consistently to the council we are open to this. We currently do not have a budget for facilities improvements, but if there are volunteer projects and there is someone to oversee them, they will work.

It is my understanding the University of Arizona will not support bringing the FFA program back to Young. If we have extra curricular activities we do invite homeschool students to participate.

For Board meetings, Board Members are not allowed to comment on any topics unless it is an agenda item. When they do comment or answer questions they are often restricted in what they can share as they are bound by the same confidentiality requirements that school staff are. So items related to employees, potential legal concerns, and other items covered by FERPA cannot be discussed publicly. Unfortunately this may feel like items are not being addressed, but we must follow the law. During Public Comment people can say what they want. It can be factual, opinion or false information. The board members still cannot discuss this in public. But it is often addressed in Executive Session if it meets the criteria.

YPS labels families as problems and drives out anyone who stands up to them. It's happened over and over again since my kids were in school a decade ago. There's no trust between the school and town. The school needs to do the right thing and fix the problems.
I am sorry you were affected by such a situation. Currently all students are welcome to attend YPS. If you have a child who would like to attend school, please stop by.

School board meetings need to be recorded or offered in a variety of ways to allow us to hear what is going on.

School board meetings are recorded by written record, this is a requirement by law and these minutes are posted along with the meeting in Board Docs. To have the meetings shared via video would cost the district additional funds. If this is something that is desired by a large portion of the community and the governing board approves the school funds to be spent this way then we can do it. However funds would need to be pulled from another area to do so.

Social media presence by the District so that not just the negative comments made by the same persons are the only items being expressed on local media sites. These persons have personal agendas, however other members of the community are not aware that this is the case. Perhaps a PR person posting at least weekly about positive events happening in the District would help see the District in a more positive light.

We would love to have a PR person, but this would require additional funding. The District will post important information on the District website and in monthly news letters. If information is being posted about the school (other than job opportunities) in social media it is probably something the district cannot talk about on social media. If you have a question or concern about something you see I recommend talking to Dr. Knippen. School Board members are also a good resource.

Haven't attended a meeting or spoke to a superintendent in a while as it didn't do any good, as it didn't going to the board meetings. I'm hoping with some new members there will be a turn around. Will see you there.

I am sorry your experience was not positive in the past. I hope you will give it another chance. We look forward to seeing you at the meetings.

Be proactive about staffing and cross-training.

Great feedback. We are working on this currently.

I've appreciated being able to talk to Dr Knippen about concerns. I appreciate the feedback from my children about how present he is in their classes. I think we still have a lot of work to do with how the Board interacts with the public and how they use excuses and not policy to ignore people. For

example, numerous formal complaints were submitted in the last two years by staff, parent, and former staff. None of these received any response - not in a meeting or otherwise. There were excuses made about why the board wouldn't address it but policy wasn't followed in any of those instances to follow the complaint policy and procedure. There should be procedures in place to protect staff, parents, and students from issues with the superintendent. If you look at some major issues the district has had in the past ten years - our lack of having accountability in place for the superintendent position has resulted in the mess we have today.

Thank you for talking with me and giving me an opportunity to respond. Unfortunately I do not have any "In person knowledge" with what happened in the past. I do know that governing boards are often limited in what they can say to the public, especially about situations involving employees. I strongly believe in following board policy and open meeting law. While I cannot control what happened in the past, I can be proactive as we move forward.

Figure out how to involve the community more. Board meetings are a joke. Concerns aren't addressed. I've seen poor staff literally beg for investigations and help and be attacked by board members in meetings. It's a huge waste of tax payer dollars. Whatever happened to the drug problem the teacher mentioned last year? There's no follow up or answers to the public. Why share concerns when it's clear the school board uses it against anyone who does. If you want to earn the trust of the community own your mistakes and stand up to fix them. Involve the community and address issues instead of ignoring.

Involving community is great. However the items listed that you want community involvement are mostly confidential information about employees, investigations and follow up answers. The elected board members often need to make decisions based on policy, legal advice and confidentiality. Board members have a difficult job often with many legal constraints. If you ever want more information about board member requirements, please let Dr. Knippen know.

The community is currently involved in the after school sports program, with our Halloween Carnival, with PTO and skate nights, the DC trip, and board meetings. If there other specific suggestions you have please share your ideas with Dr. Knippen or on the Spring Survey.

I think the new superintendent is working to restore trust with the community and staff that the last superintendent and board members, who have since been voted out lost

I will say, the majority of my interactions with current. outgoing and incoming board members has been positive. I look forward to continuing a positive relationship with all as we move forward.

As a community member with no children in school I do not feel connected to YPS. I don't attend meetings because there are no notifications regarding upcoming meetings. They used to post agendas at the Post Office and other locations around town but this no longer occurs. The community can't be involved if the meetings aren't posted.

The official posting sites are at the school outside the front door and on the school website. The challenge with posting around town is they are not secured. They have often been taken down or written on, and we need to have locations where they won't be disturbed. Now that we are using Board Docs the public will receive the same information the board members do. All of our regular board meetings are posted for the year on the website as well on the governing board page

Two, three and five year projected budgets with M&O plan to maintain and or upgrade equipment

and furniture.

This is in process. We had a huge deficit when I started in July. We will continue to work until we have the funds to replace needed equipment and furniture.

Summary of questions 2-7. One of our major goals is improving financial responsibility.

		SA(4)	A(3)	DK(0)	D(2)	SD(1)	Pts.	# Ans	Avg	3.0 = Agree
2	The District encourages collaborative relationships with business, industry and other community services.	3	5	3	4	0	35	12	2.92	
3	The District hosts events and activities that invite the community to participate.	7	6	0	2	0	50	15	3.33	
4	The District shows financial responsibility and is a good steward of the community.	1	3	3	6	2	27	12	2.25	
5	I feel like I can communicate openly with my questions or concerns with new District Leadership.	4	6	2	3	0	40	13	3.08	
		Yes	No	Yes %	No %					
6	I attend school board meetings to find out what is happening in the District.	8	7	53.33%	46.67%					
7	Have you talked with the superintendent about your questions or concerns?	5	10	33.33%	66.67%					