

# Building Our Future Through Community Conversation

**Issues and Trends:** *"What are the issues and trends that are impacting our communities, workforce and schools?"*

Table #1

1. Lack of employment and distressed economy
2. Drugs/Alcohol/Mental health
3. Lack of funding
4. Lack of vocational training
5. Low enrollment

Table #2

1. Open Enrollment: what sets us apart and attracts families to Frederic
2. Teachers' turnover
3. School leadership: locally vested?
4. Poverty: providing equal opportunities for kiddos
5. Busy/Stress

Table #3

1. Teach to the whole child: physical, arts/music, home economics, language, life skills
2. School test driven: funding, evaluation/teachers/school quality
3. Broken families
4. Under employment/Government aid
5. Increase expectation of teachers

Table #4

1. Price of education
2. Drugs
3. Social Media/Communication
4. Pressure on students
5. Broader acceptance of people and cultures
6. Automation

Table #5

1. Teaching to tests: standards - took away the art of teaching (creativity)
2. Increase of hard drugs in the community
3. More is expected from schools and teachers: social issues, parenting
4. Lack of personal responsibility
5. Fewer school staff with higher expectations

Table #6

1. Drugs and alcohol: students, parents, community
2. Declining enrollment/population: poor local economy
3. Lack of support at home: parents are too busy, apathetic, or unable to help
4. Lack of trust: institutions and individuals, disrespect/distrust
5. Mental health: ADHD, bullying, depression, etc.

Table #7

1. Declining enrollment due to: home schooling, open enrollment, charter schools, on-line schools
2. Economy/Jobs
3. Decrease state funding: teacher shortages, staff cuts
4. Lack of long-term commitments
5. Lack of social skills/life skills: entitlement thinking
6. Lack of swimming pool

Table #8

1. Technology
2. Small classes/population growth
3. Cost of living/available jobs/skills
4. Lack of personal involvement: self-worth (too much, too little)
5. Trauma: split families, drug use, transient families, death

Table #9

1. Substance abuse
2. School enrollment decline
3. Poverty
4. Pervasiveness of internet: a positive and negative
5. Course offerings – insufficient

Table #10

1. Drug use/mental health
2. Lack of job opportunities in the area
3. Declining enrollment
4. Lack of trade skills
5. Family unit
6. Lack of school staff living in the district

Table #11

1. Values: work ethic/discipline, lower expectations, lack of expectations
2. Lack of skilled workforce
3. Personal debt/acceptable norm
4. Helicopter parents
5. Ability to communicate or lack there of

Table #12

1. Community growth: business and population
2. Lack of facilities: community – ex. pool, community center
3. Non-involvement: small group of volunteers – need new leaders
4. Social media: keeps in touch and out of reach
5. Busy life styles: stretched too thin

Table #13

1. Lack of jobs/opportunities
2. Aging community
3. Technology/social media
4. Drugs/alcohol
5. Family dynamics

Table #14

1. Workforce: teacher turnover, health insurance
2. School environment: teaching techniques have changed (ex. Math), open enrollment, decrease emphasis on music, less violence in a smaller school, decreased class sizes
3. Technology: increase cell phone use, social media, use of technology, cyber bullying, opportunity to increase course studies or selection
4. Family: less work ethic/social skills, less physical activity, more working parents, less involvement, less consistence/too busy, decrease in family time, lower involvement in church and increase in traditional families, more drug use particularly among parents
5. Demographics: movement of families, aging community, decreased birth rate, declining enrollment

Table #15

1. Technology: trending toward more, no memorization – find it on phone, less face to face community, trades becoming more technical
2. Workforce/opportunities – small town dying, extremes in workforce, over qualified and underqualified
3. Globalization of workforce
4. More work from home
5. Lack of local jobs

Table #16

1. Lack of work ethic: as parents, community members, employees and students
2. Issues associated with being a really small school: lack of diverse opportunities (classes) funding, declining enrollment, transient families and staff, too much emphasis on sports vs. academics/other activities
3. Violence: in schools/families/world starts at younger ages
4. Mental health: drug use, early sexuality, lack of support, lack of self-respect
5. How to support all families: close the gap

Table #17

1. Drugs
2. Inabilities to retain teachers
3. Increased mental health issues
4. Declining population
5. Poverty/lack of livable wages

Table #18

1. Faculty turn over high
2. Drugs, underage drinking, rough home lives
3. Church attendance low
4. Four-year college pressure
5. Good teacher/support staff and administration

Table #19

1. Technology/social media
2. Bullying
3. Lack of motivation
4. Jobs in the community
5. Community population
6. Education

Table #20

1. Change in family dynamics
2. Increase use of technology: social media and cyber bullying
3. Declining enrollment, aging community
4. Employment opportunities
5. School environment