

Caring Adults

Safe Places

Healthy Start

Effective Education

Opportunities to Help Others



Effective Education Defined

Every child and youth needs and deserves the intellectual development, motivation and personal, social/emotional and cultural skills needed for successful work and lifelong learning in a diverse nation as a result of having quality learning environments, challenging expectations and consistent formal and informal guidance and mentoring.

- **Researchers asked 10- to 21-year olds: “What are the most important changes you think should be made to schools to give students what they need to succeed in life?”***



- 60% More preparation for the real world
- 59% More choices about classes they can take
- 56% More interesting subjects
- 48% More adults taking a personal interest in students
- 48% Smaller classes
- 48% More opportunities to see people work in the real world
- 47% Better information on getting into college
- 47% Better teachers
- 44% More discipline of students who misbehave
- 42% Less fighting and violence
- 42% Help paying for school clubs, teams and activities
- 39% Fewer drugs and drinking
- 37% More clubs and activities
- 37% More field trips
- 36% More interactions with adults outside of class
- 34% More challenging subjects
- 34% More opportunity to choose a school
- 20% Shorter school days
- 16% More classes taught online
- 5% Longer school days

KEY INDICATORS:

These nine indicators provide a gauge as to whether young people are experiencing an effective education for marketable skills and lifelong learning.

- Positive school climate
- School culture emphasizing academic achievement
- Learning to use technology effectively
- Youth/child reading for pleasure
- Friends value being a good student
- School perceived as relevant and motivating
- Parents actively involved with child’s education
- Adult sources of guidance about schooling and careers
- Opportunities to learn social/emotional skills

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Use the “Sharing Your Community Conversation” sheets in the Tool Kit to capture the answers to these questions ...

How is this promise being delivered in Dubuque County? Who is delivering it?

- What groups or individuals are helping to deliver this promise?
- What are some success stories you know about?
- Why is it working?

Where are we falling short as a community in delivering this promise?

- What’s not working?
- Where are the gaps?
- Is there duplication?
- What’s missing in our community?

How can you make a difference? How can you deliver this promise?

- What can you as an individual do?
- What can a group or groups do?
- Who should step up to deliver this promise in our community?

What are the most urgent needs in our community?

- *The graduation rate for students in the Dubuque Community School System is 86.4 percent. This is slightly below the state rate of 91 percent.[†]*