

ALMOND-BANCROFT PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Class of 2007
Alumni Opinion Survey
Results

Alumni Opinion Survey- Class of 2007 Results Overview

1. (Original Plans) At the time that you graduated from AB High School, what were your future plans?

8 Responses.

Farming

College

Mid-State Technical College - Degree in Business

attend a 4 year college, pursuing a degree in acct

Attend a 4 year college.

go to college

Nothing

Go Tech School

2. (Current Plan) What is your actual job (career plan) today?

8 Responses.

Manager

Graduate tech on 5/14/09; bachelors degree in fall

Quality Assurance Specialist - Sentry Insurance

same as above

Finish 4 year college.

I am going for Community Health at UW-La Crosse

Laborer

working part time and student

3. (Today) Which of the following best describes your present situation?

Employed for wages full-part time	3	43%
Unemployed seeking work	0	0%
Attending school full-part time	5	71%
In Military	0	0%
Housewife/househusband	0	0%
Other	0	0%

4. (Guidance) Did you get adequate guidance from the AB school staff?

Yes	4	57%
No	3	43%
Total	7	100%

5. (Co-curricular) What was the personal impact of your high school co-curricular (music, drama, athletics, and or clubs involvement)?

None	0	0%
Low	2	29%
Moderate	0	0%
Significant	5	71%
High Impact	0	0%
Total	7	100%

6. (Best Class) What was the most beneficial high school class you took?

7 Responses.

Accounting

English

Calculus

English

Anatomy and Physiology

Computers

Accounting

7. (Least Helpful) What was the least important class that you took?

7 Responses.

History

Spanish

English-was not prepared for college level

phys ed

Geography

Art

Geometry

8. (New Class) What new class do you wish we could offer?

6 Responses. .

Any advanced placement class

AP classes- this would have helped significantly toward college prep and higher ed course selection

editing

More AP classes, such as Biology or Psychology,

Better Foreign Languages

More district learning classes to prepare you for college.

9. (Go back) If you could go back to your AB High School days, what would you do differently?

6 Responses.

Take Anatomy. It was very hard in college and I think I could have been more prepared if I had taken A/P in high school.

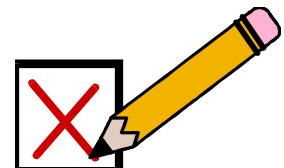
Take additional math classes

I would have liked to see more emphasis on the arts programs, a lot of funding was cut and moved to athletics. In my opinion, athletics take you only as far as middle age before your body breaks down and you can't participate anymore, whereas music and art can be lifelong hobbies. Studies have shown that kids in the arts have higher GPA levels , and if funding is cut it will show a lack of concern for the students, a lack of diversity in the courses and preference shown to the athletes in the school.

I would have transferred to another school with more opportunities and where I could get more people to help me achieve a higher academia

Through the Guidance Counselor, how to go to college and apply for financial aide.

Take more foods classes and Art



10. (We change) What should we change about AB High School?

6 Responses.

Better English program. Book projects sure don't get you anywhere in life!

I think that this is a small enough school where there does not need to be a closed campus. This is not Oshkosh, the school does not need to be in constant lockdown. The time before school started in the morning for me was a time to compare notes with my classmates, get help from my teachers, or socialize with other schoolmates. The fact that the kids there today do not get this same opportunity really disappoints me, as this was a key factor in learning responsibility and time management for me when I was in high school. Treating the kids like they are in a prison is not helping them prepare for the real world.

help prepare students for college to at least some degree. We were very inadequately prepared

I don't know what you could change necessarily, but it would be nice to have a better attitude among the staff, As a student in the High School, I did not feel as though my teachers or any staff as a whole really cared about the students. I never felt prepared by anyone to go to college, I did it all on my own. If you could do more college prep that would have been more helpful.

Better foreign language, Better Administration, Better Teachers,

The English program and the Discipline

11. (Opinion) How well did AB High School prepare you for what you are doing now?

Very well	0	0%
Adequately	2	29%
Poorly	5	71%
Total	7	100%

Thank you for taking our survey, your opinions are greatly appreciated. The data will be collected and results will be available for the September 28, 2009 Annual Meeting.

2009 Community Survey Results Overview

1. Do you currently have students who attend the Almond-Bancroft School District?		
Yes	49	82%
No	11	18%
Total	60	100%
CLIMATE		
2. I feel welcome when I enter the school?		
Strongly Disagree	5	8%
Disagree	11	18%
Unsure	3	5%
Agree	32	52%
Strongly Agree	10	16%
Total	61	100%
3. I am treated with respect in our schools?		
Strongly Disagree	3	5%
Disagree	11	18%
Unsure	6	10%
Agree	28	47%
Strongly Agree	12	20%
Total	60	100%
4. Our schools encourage me to become involved in my child's education?		
Strongly Disagree	4	7%
Disagree	10	17%
Unsure	8	14%
Agree	30	51%
Strongly Agree	7	12%
Total	59	100%
5. The administrators and teachers are available and approachable?		
Strongly Disagree	6	10%
Disagree	10	16%
Unsure	4	7%
Agree	29	48%
Strongly Agree	12	20%
Total	61	100%

6. Discipline policies and procedures at our schools are fair and consistent?

Strongly Disagree	17	28%
Disagree	10	16%
Unsure	12	20%
Agree	15	25%
Strongly Agree	7	11%
Total	61	100%

CLEANLINESS/SAFETY

7. The interior of our buildings are very clean and appealing?

Strongly Disagree	6	10%
Disagree	10	16%
Unsure	2	3%
Agree	33	54%
Strongly Agree	10	16%
Total	61	100%

8. The exterior of our buildings are clean and well maintained?

Strongly Disagree	3	5%
Disagree	7	11%
Unsure	1	2%
Agree	40	66%
Strongly Agree	10	16%
Total	61	100%

9. My child feels safe at school?

Strongly Disagree	6	10%
Disagree	4	7%
Unsure	7	12%
Agree	34	58%
Strongly Agree	8	14%
Total	59	100%

10. My child feels safe going to and from school?

Strongly Disagree	5	8%
Disagree	3	5%
Unsure	4	7%
Agree	36	61%
Strongly Agree	11	19%
Total	59	100%

11. Our schools provide students and teachers with a safe and orderly environment?

Strongly Disagree	5	8%
Disagree	7	12%
Unsure	2	3%
Agree	34	57%
Strongly Agree	12	20%
Total	60	100%

INSTRUCTION

12. Our school is helping to teach students how to be responsible citizens.

Strongly Disagree	8	13%
Disagree	6	10%
Unsure	11	18%
Agree	28	47%
Strongly Agree	7	12%
Total	60	100%

13. My child's progress is being explained to me in an understandable and timely fashion.

Strongly Disagree	4	7%
Disagree	9	16%
Unsure	8	14%
Agree	28	48%
Strongly Agree	9	16%
Total	58	100%

14. I believe the instructional programs in our schools are of high quality.

Strongly Disagree	13	21%
Disagree	9	15%
Unsure	14	23%
Agree	20	33%
Strongly Agree	5	8%
Total	61	100%

15. Students receive adequate attention in class and receive instructional activities that involve students in learning.

Strongly Disagree	3	5%
Disagree	9	15%
Unsure	14	24%
Agree	26	44%
Strongly Agree	7	12%
Total	59	100%

16. Our school is able to meet the needs of all children with exceptional needs?

Strongly Disagree	5	8%
Disagree	12	20%
Unsure	22	36%
Agree	16	26%
Strongly Agree	6	10%
Total	61	100%

17. Teachers at AB schools believe all students can learn.

Strongly Disagree	4	7%
Disagree	7	11%
Unsure	17	28%
Agree	22	36%
Strongly Agree	11	18%
Total	61	100%

18. Do you feel your child is being sufficiently challenged at school?

Strongly Disagree	7	12%
Disagree	14	24%
Unsure	13	22%
Agree	18	31%
Strongly Agree	6	10%
Total	58	100%

19. Students show respect to each other and are treated with respect by school personnel.

Strongly Disagree	12	20%
Disagree	16	26%
Unsure	8	13%
Agree	22	36%
Strongly Agree	3	5%
Total	61	100%

COMMUNICATION/FOLLOW UP**20. Newsletters provide adequate information to keep me informed of school activities.**

Strongly Disagree	1	2%
Disagree	4	7%
Unsure	4	7%
Agree	37	62%
Strongly Agree	14	23%
Total	60	100%

21. I am regularly informed about my child's progress at school.

Strong Disagree	1	2%
Disagree	13	23%
Unsure	6	11%
Agree	30	53%
Strong Agree	7	12%
Total	57	100%

22. I have a good understanding of the school's programs and operations.

Strongly Disagree	3	5%
Disagree	9	15%
Unsure	9	15%
Agree	29	48%
Strongly Agree	11	18%
Total	61	100%

23. The concerns of parents are reflected in decisions made by our school.

Strongly Disagree	10	16%
Disagree	15	25%
Unsure	16	26%
Agree	17	28%
Strongly Agree	3	5%
Total	61	100%

OUR SCHOOL IS DOING A GOOD JOB IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:**24. Mathematics**

Strongly Disagree	3	5%
Disagree	7	12%
Unsure	10	17%
Agree	31	52%
Strongly Agree	9	15%
Total	60	100%

25. Science

Strongly Disagree	1	2%
Disagree	5	8%
Unsure	7	12%
Agree	31	52%
Strongly Agree	16	27%
Total	60	100%

26. English/Language Arts (reading, writing)

Strongly Disagree	12	20%
Disagree	10	17%
Unsure	9	15%
Agree	23	38%
Strongly Agree	6	10%
Total	60	100%

27. Social Studies/History

Strongly Disagree	5	8%
Disagree	4	7%
Unsure	13	22%
Agree	31	52%
Strongly Agree	7	12%
Total	60	100%

28. Foreign Language

Strongly Disagree	11	19%
Disagree	10	18%
Unsure	15	26%
Agree	17	30%
Strongly Agree	4	7%
Total	57	100%

29. Technology/Computer

Strongly Disagree	9	15%
Disagree	7	12%
Unsure	9	15%
Agree	28	47%
Strongly Agree	6	10%
Total	59	100%

30. Art/Music

Strongly Disagree	6	10%
Disagree	16	26%
Unsure	6	10%
Agree	23	38%
Strongly Agree	10	16%
Total	61	100%

31. Physical Education/Health

Strongly Disagree	3	5%
Disagree	8	13%
Unsure	10	16%
Agree	29	48%
Strongly Agree	11	18%
Total	61	100%

**32. Vocational Education/Shop, Family and Consumer Education/
Business
Education**

Strongly Disagree	1	2%
Disagree	4	7%
Unsure	14	23%
Agree	32	53%
Strongly Agree	9	15%
Total	60	100%

33. Guidance Counseling

Strongly Disagree	3	5%
Disagree	10	16%
Unsure	18	30%
Agree	23	38%
Strongly Agree	7	11%
Total	61	100%

34. Extra curricular activities

Strongly Disagree	8	13%
Disagree	12	20%
Unsure	10	17%
Agree	24	40%
Strongly Agree	6	10%
Total	60	100%

**35. What are the three greatest challenges or issues facing our
school in the next five years?**

49 Responses.

1	Classroom technology	Only one principal	Competing for quality faculty
2	Increasing enrollment	Offering higher level classes for college prep	
3	Relevance and Rigor in the curriculum	Change attitudes of administration and faculty	Spending monies wisely
4	budget issues/lack of avail. funding	implementing fed & state government changes	allowing students freedom while keeping them safe
5	To promote learning over sports	Have enough money to operate	Make sure teachers are doing a good job

6	keeping up with technology	behavior	balancing education with home activities
7	Technology advancement	Bullying	Home schooling
8	Paying staff on par with our area-Not LOWER!!!	Funding	Staying Operational
9	budget		
10	providing challenging opportunities to top students	retain top teachers	cost control
11	Getting struggling students up to speed	Regaining structure w/in athletics - sports overlap	expanding enrollment in K/4k and limited space
12	money	additional class offerings	adding more extracurricular activities
13	economic challenges		
14	keeping up with changes in computers, financially	keeping the good ratio of students to teachers.	finances in general
15	teachers hired locally	declining enrollments	competitive education for students
16	making newcomers feel welcome	funding new principal	new dean of students
17	enrollment	quality teachers	
18	budget concerns	staffing concerns	enrollment concerns
19	budget issues	technology	keep kids involved & interested
20	revenue to upgrade textbooks & computers	college prep and for outside world	getting kids to participate in sports
21	Budget & shortfall	Healthier school food & lunches	low test scores
22	Technology	more children with special needs	more teachers needed
23	Enrollment numbers	Funding or lack there of	Open Enrollment
24	paying and keeping quality teachers.		
25	money	money	quality of teachers
26	Drugs	Kids who think they are 'gangsters'	Costs of sports
27	finances	offering more advanced classes	
28	Expanding offerings for High school electives	Improving services for Bancroft school, hot breakfast	Rewarding excellence in behavior and education
29	technology	obtaining and maintaining high quality teachers	lack of solid administration and organization
30	budget	getting rid of life long teachers(that are good)	foreign language
31	Not offering enough classes	Not offering classes to challenge gifted/advanced	Not retaining good teachers
32	challenging kids to think of others first	teaching/motivating kids to be self sufficient	

33	Writing and English preparation for college	Technology for student learning & teacher instruct	Competitive teachers, staff, and coaches
34	Health Insurance Costs for staff	Maintaining a dedicated teaching staff	
35	Funding		
36	employing quality staff	meeting financial obligations	meeting needs of ALL students
37	High School dropouts	Budget cuts limiting resources	Increased diverse populations
38	Providing quality education on a limited budget	Parental/community involvement in school	Respect of students towards peers
39	MS & HS lacks reading and writing	Tech. for students & staff already is well behind	Discipline
40	keeping arts/music more important than athletics	a principal that doesn't lie to parents	need for AP classes
41	Room/Space		
42	keeping HS students engaged in learning	getting students to continue education after HS	
43	Poor Administration	Parents Home schooling	
44	Economic downturn	Childhood obesity - health problems	
45	money	devaluation	smaller population
46	Funding	Open Enrollment Other schools are a lot better	
47	being fair	better administration	keeping enrollment up
48	NO one will want to send there kid to your school	The government will get involved	Parents will file law suits
49	home work	mean teachers	bad principals and teachers

36. In your opinion, what is the best feature of our school?

49 Responses.

1	The level of safety.
2	We have a small school and community where everyone looks out for each other
3	small class size with individual attention to each student.
4	The personal touch and the staff knowing the children and their families
5	the one on one teacher to student communications are great
6	The teachers - with regard to a few teachers who could do more, the rest of the teaching staff is exceptional. Our elementary teachers are phenomenal.
7	Small Size
8	The sage program. I feel my child has gotten individual attention because of the smaller class size.
9	small size
10	Parent participation is welcomed
11	student loves the teachers

12	small class sizes
13	In my opinion, I think that it's great that I feel happy and safe at the school and that my children felt the same. I have had two children go to this school and they both have done quite well and they never actually "hated" going to school each day. I think that says a lot.
14	It is small enough that if your child is in trouble everyone knows but you also know and can put a stop to it before it gets out of hand. It is like a big family everyone knows everyone and cares about them.
15	Small-it takes a village to raise a child, everyone knows each other
16	Kids will be gone
17	The sage program which has the small classrooms
18	friendly atmosphere
19	small classes-individual attention-staff knows children
20	small-one on one
21	small classes monthly newsletter
22	Is the how everybody is treated fairly and all the families are being informed of what is happening or going to happen by our schools newsletter and of course how parents are treated equal it doesn't matter their nationality or nothing everybody is human.
23	Small class sizes
24	our elementary teachers!
25	Ha!
26	I don't feel there are any 'best' features.
27	Small school
28	Teachers open to working with parents and students to have every student succeed
29	Elementary school and staffing. Small class sizes.
30	The eagle
31	I have appreciated how receptive and helpful the teachers and staff have been with me and my family.
32	Elementary School
33	I feel our students at the elementary age receive services from outstanding staff.
34	Open communication - closeness of staff to students and parents
35	The opportunity for involvement in many different extracurricular activities.
36	Some staff truly go out of their way for my kids while others won't help them unless they are a teacher pet.
37	Being a smaller school, teachers & students are able to form long term relationships that promote a higher standard of learning - this is a "family based" community
38	The elementary program and staff! They are approachable and timely. I appreciate the regular newsletters from the elementary classrooms.

39	most of the teachers are willing to help a student who is having trouble. The arts/music programs are trying to improve without the support of the school board.
40	Small community that knows everybody
41	small hometown school. Elementary communication is wonderful, would like to see that carry over into middle school level.
42	That it is a small school
43	The best feature is that the school is small and more individualized attention can be focused on students.
44	there is none
45	The Science and Art Programs but should be offered more for middle school.
46	school colors
47	Its a small school
48	nothing except art
49	Elementary small class sizes

37. If you could change or improve one thing about our school, what would it be?

48 Responses.

1	Omit the Dean of students and hire an elementary principal; or replace this dean with one who is licensed and trained in K-12 behaviors. Temperature control...why does parts of the building have AC while other do not? Doesn't one end of the school try to cool the other end? Why do some classrooms struggle to reach 60 degrees in winter while others are at 80 degrees?
2	I have to say two...having a more welcoming office area near the front of the school and having science books for the middle schoolers to take home.
3	Administration and more teachers lived within the district
4	Offering more diverse extra curricular activities, perhaps even off site, i.e.: ice skating, swimming (not just lessons for the younger students), etc...
5	More welcoming entrance
6	the dean of students
7	Band instruments at school
8	Back to the basics!
9	Technology - we are not teaching what other schools and colleges are teaching thus we are not preparing our students for the future. Our school needs Microsoft Office 2007 to improve and prepare our students. Also, we need to update our computer labs.
10	Reduce Administration Staff/Pay & Increase The Amount of Work They Do. Increase Teacher Pay by 25-30%
11	ability to think outside central WI

12	I would prefer my middle school student only had one instructor per class. For example social studies floats between 2 instructors, with very different teaching styles and expectations.
13	student dislikes the food
14	better communication from teachers at the middle school level, and more opportunities for extra curricular activities (ex: drama, creative writing, track & field) at the middle school level
15	Main office by the main entrance.
16	Admin/faculty who live in district
17	more challenging classes
18	A special program for higher achieving students academically
19	Better advertising of events-concerts, dinners & plays & talent shows
20	healthier lunches & snack choices
21	school lunches and low test scores
22	send a spring report card and have parent teacher conferences
23	I guess nothing at the moment.
24	Dean of students position - it sends a very negative message and used as a tool to punish good students, not to educate and treat all equal. Kids that have issues are treated better than good & upstanding students.
25	Cleaner inside and out.
26	I don't like the way the students who have family that have lived in this area for generations are not accepting of those who do not.
27	Mrs. *** called me, "stupid" and asked my why I was asking for help. Then called me stupid again. I have never forgotten it. She instilled a fear in me, of asking for help. 5 years later, I am now finally able to ask for help again. Miss. *** is the most impatient unhappy woman I have ever met. She shouldn't have become a teacher.
28	I would crack down on the kids/parents who are doing drugs....a lot of it is going around in this town and I think this affects the younger kids, since they see this stuff.
29	Expanding computer classes to begin earlier, and give focus to core windows programming such as word, excel, access, PowerPoint, ect... difficult for all students to get into these classes. If they were offered over the course of middle school, advanced classes could be offered in high school as well.
30	Administration is not available but teachers are (Many of these questions should be separate). Rid the dean of students and return an elementary principal and office. Ever since the elementary principal, office, and secretary were omitted, the outstanding structure of the elementary program slipped to the lower standards of the MS/HS.
31	Not allowing members of the board to be parents of students in school, don't feel they are fair in decision making.
32	Offer my child more classes that would challenge him.

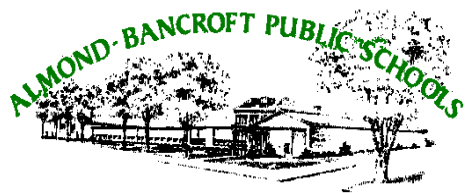
33	The one thing I would like to see changed is the structure of the administration and office staff. The school atmosphere is more negative without the elementary principal, secretary, and office. Bancroft School is left without daily administration at school. The current Dean does not have the background to handle young children. I hear parents and staff say the principal is spread to thin.
34	Communication between administration and parents regarding policy changes, attendance, discipline, etc.
35	To encourage staff to care more about students and get to know them on a personal level-(difficulties in personal life, anything that is of importance to the student). That should be part of being in a small school - the feeling that an adult or authority figure cares. The often seen apathy or lack of caring by some of the staff is disheartening-again, some not all but it is those few that could make a difference in the life in a student, either academically, emotionally, or personally. It is proven that students do better academically when they feel that they matter. It would be a win-win situation.
36	Inappropriate comments by staff within earshot of kids. Consistency across the board with discipline to send more consistent messages to students about inappropriate behaviors. Seen too many minor issues blown out of proportion while major problems were given a slap on the wrist.
37	I have several things. 1. That those that moved here from outside the Almond area are treated differently-as outsiders with less "pull" in decisions, discipline is unequal, and sadly, those with strong ties here are given preferential treatment in sports and new ideas are by-passed with the "this is the way we've always done it" attitude and "we don't want to upset the apple cart". Opportunities for growth are lost when new ideas are dismissed or change isn't embraced. 2. Also, some teachers who have less than stellar behaviors, should be disciplined or let go. How can I expect respectful behavior of my child if they're exposed to swearing, tantrums and belittling in the classroom? 3. Bullying must be addressed seriously! Just because the child doing the bullying is "popular" or their parent has "pull", does NOT excuse their behavior. Please don't brush this off as "all kids do it"...you teach a no tolerance policy but do little to enforce it!
38	The Middle School! Structure, curriculum (especially reading and writing), playground doesn't meet needs of ages 10-14, behavior, responsibility. The transition from 5th-7th grade was traumatic to my child both socially and academically.
39	put more emphasis and support for arts/music rather than the school board always supporting athletics and ignoring the curricular programs for art and music. The Administration is not honest and needs to take into account students self esteem.

40	Have school keep up on outdoor landscaping, especially in our main entrance.
41	Add more distant learning opportunities for HS students.
42	Change Administration, Get an Elementary Principal, Eliminate Dean
43	Field trips are nice, but being a small school district you are at an advantage to take experiential learning to the next level. Children will retain more of what they learn if they are in the community hands-on. This would also be good for the community to see our children taking an interest in their business operation for example.
44	you cant change just one, there's too many to list
45	Stop the use of children as tattlers and handing out punishment when no adults see what happens
46	the administration and faculty
47	Well If I had to pick just one of your many problems It would be the discipline. That may fix some of the other problems.
48	get new principle, new rules, and get video cameras on the play ground

38. Overall I am satisfied with the Almond-Bancroft School District?

Strongly Disagree	8	13%
Disagree	8	13%
Unsure	8	13%
Agree	31	52%
Strongly Agree	5	8%
Total	60	100%

**Thank you for taking our survey, your opinions are greatly appreciated.
The data will be collected and results will be available for the September 28, 2009 Annual Meeting.**



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