



North Adams Community Schools

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There are many critical issues that impact student achievement. As a school system, North Adams continually strives for improvement in order to provide the best learning environment for all students. Also, it is realized because of financial limitations and a variety of other changing governmental and community issues we must identify strategies that best serve all of our students.

It is critical for our teachers to be equipped with best teaching skills for our students to achieve at their highest levels. Today's world elevates education for all young people as the avenue for lifelong success. North Adams' students must be offered an enriching learning environment that will promote high levels of learning with both rigor and relevance. The learning environment is critically impacted by the abilities of teachers to excel with appropriate and high level teaching skills, strategies, and techniques.

North Adams is preparing a series of open meetings for teachers, parents, and community to address these issues that can help bring clarity to needs and add information for future decisions by the North Adams School Board. The first meeting is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, September 10, 2009 at Belmont Middle School. Please plan to attend.

Identified critical issues include:

- Fiscal – predictability of the General fund income and operating costs that includes impact of enrollment and poverty trends.
- Equity in Resources for K-5 in relationship to student learning needs that are:
 - Available for students
 - Available for teachers
 - Staffing
 - Physical resources
- Student Achievement K-12
 - Primary (PreK-3)
 - Intermediate (3-8)
 - Secondary (8-12)