















Open Ended Questions

1. What are the strengths of this school?

- False positive reputation
- Mr. McKay
- Academics
- Multiple electives, several teachers have good relationships with the students and seem to really care.
- new leadership, positive feeling in general
- Mr McKay, Blast
- Great teachers
- Mr McKay is a huge benefit to the school. The Steam curriculum is a great!
- Principals and teachers are excellent
- Nice facility, teachers are kind
- Security, teachers keep in touch, Aeries portal
- teachers care
- Blast Program, extra-curricular activities, etc.
- Some excellent teachers on staff
- My child's counselor and principal have been very helpful
- many of the teachers and the principal seem to genuinely care about students
- Teachers
- Electives
- Teachers are very responsive to teachers needs. Best thing about the school is the positive culture that Principal McKay is developing.
- Great activities, the Blast program is incredible, dances, wrestling team. The staff seems motivated and involved, which shows great leadership to the students.
- Teachers & staff
- Principal. Counselors. Aeries. Independent Study.
- The Principle has been a huge impact on our school this year!
- Mr. McKay is doing an excellent job. His leadership and sensibilities have shifted to the atmosphere over last year.
- What kind of question is "I feel good about myself as a parent?"
- Community
- Strong Principle and staff. Safe environment for the students.
- The principal Ian openminded and seems really fair
- Good teachers and principal
- Mr. McKay: most of the staff. Aeries. Positive activities and programs.
- Principal is responsive. Most of my child's teachers are responsive to my queries and make my child feel valued.
- My son is greatly benefitting from the honors program. The additional learning opportunities and a classroom full of like-minded children is a real bonus.
- Mr. McKay has made huge improvements at the school over last year. The school swas going downhill, and he is bringing it back up the hill. I believe it will continue to improve under his leadership.
- Well organized in academics
- Love the administration, teachers seemed great when I met them at the beginning of the year, classwork seems interesting and engaging, I feel like the people on campus care about my kid. I love Aeries and the Pioneer Post for communicating what's going on on campus and in class.

- Welcoming environment and great staff.
- Really like and utilize aeries
- Great teachers
- Committed teachers. Awesome principal. Great PE program. Teachers, when contacted, are very helpful and seem to care very much about students
- I think the overall school environment is good. So far I have not had any concerns about my son's safety.
- Friendly staff, welcoming environment, WEB
- Being proactive, communication, friendliness, support of teachers, great principal
- Great communication by the principal
- Inspired and dedicated educators.
- All the above
- principal's involvement-- positivity exudes from him. seems to make himself available if needed. i like the pioneer post that goes out weekly. it has been very helpful. wish there were more instagram updates.
- I appreciate how the school administrators communicate with the parents. I love the Aries system.
- I believe that it shows a great trust in the students in their principal and vice principal, that if something has happened to them they CAN come in and talk to them about what has happened.
- Counselors. Support of child. Encouragement of academic success. Focus on positive while addressing areas to improve with solutions. Mrs V is excellent. Science program is great. Keeps my child engaged, interested and challenged. Love the club choices. Band is fantastic offering.
- Leadership and the remodel supervision and openness for oarent inclusion but next year lets equip staff on how to do that
- Academics, activities, etc.
- I value the teacher-student relationship. All o our child's teachers have been impressive. I believe our child is cared for and we would be updated of any issues. I also appreciate the leadership at the school. I have been very pleased with our experience.
- Communication
- Great staff that really helps all of the children to the best of their ability
- Communication
- That Principal McKay interacts with the kids & encourages both kids & parents to contact him anytime with any concerns.
- you managed to get my indifferent student to read !!!!
- Quick to address issues that come up, friendly and helpful.
- Very good communication
- The school safety element has DRASTICALLY improved from last year! Thank you Mr. McKay and staff for all you have done to change the school climate. I feel like Bidwell is an entirely different school than last year and I am very thankful to all of you!
- Communication
- Last year my daughter was nervous about her safety st school. This year she is in 8th grade and my other daughter is in 6th grade. They both feel safe this year. Thank you!
- The staff cares about all the students
- I love the culture of inclusion at Bidwell. I've noticed a huge positive difference in behavior of the students thus year as compared to last. Thank you for fostering a positive, safe, fun environment for our kids Mr. McKay!
- The kids
- Everyone got a chrome book
- Mr. McKay. He is a great leader and very accessible. Obviously the kids are #1 with him.
- I appreciate the weekly newsletter and the other communication that is emailed. There is good parent involvement from what I have seen. We had a great experience with 7th grade basketball this year.

• You have a staff with caring people.

2. What needs to be improved?

- Teacher and staff behavior
- Parental rights need to come first. Positive communication and actual changes in teacher behavior.
- Student leadership is too exclusive.
- Attitudes of school employees
- A Kindness campaign. Teaching that making fun of a kid for being depressed is the very definition of bullying. Sometimes schools say "don't bully" without defining what that means. Students should support one another not isolate those they don't understand
- Supervision is about quality not quantity.
- math is too easy in 6th grade, cussing should NOT be allowed in class EVER! Students should learn there is a time and place for curse words and classrooms are not the location!
- The yard duty's are not qualified anddo not respect the students
- Overall supervision and attention to bullying extra help for struggling students
- Better judgement by administration
- Continue to engage students with varied interests to improve the school culture and prevent the early teen drop-off issues
- Bullying and micro aggression
- Security for students during late activities
- Children interaction
- Bullying is prevalent and out of control. The kids being bullied are made to feel like they deserve it and its somehow their fault. The bullies are coddled and excuses are made for them with no consequences for their actions.
- kids are bullies and talk about beating others up a lot from what my daughter says.. pretty ghetto
- More supervision willing to get involved with students. Actually learning names of students.
- Getting rid of drug addled students, truant students, students who teach others to disrespect authority.
- Better judgement of school supported activities inappropriate for junior high
- Front office staff and sport coaching
- school culture of bullying, shaming (by teachers), student misbehavior increase/make relevant positive reinforcement of good behavior (pizza party lunch?), expectation that teachers contact parents as soon as a problem is identified (within the quarter) in order to avoid irreversible damage to grades
- Better communication between teachers and parents
- How students treat one another
- In my opinion, the junior highs in general, need to better prepare students for the academic challenge of high school.
- I think increase recess/lunch supervision by teachers & or volunteer parents would be helpful.
- It would be helpful if we could find out what the actual assignments are.
- School funding...
- Math homework policy.
- Sports need to be improved. The "club sport" is fine unless you have an issue that requires assistance at a higher level. The coach was on the board last year and believe so was his wife. It gave very little option when you needed assistance. Also there seems to be politics at play with the teams.
- The gun walkout was a black eye on all schools that participated.
- Drive ability to/from school

- The lunch time supervision needs to stop taking food away from kids
- Communication between parent and teacher
- More communication from teachers to parents when a child is failing. Let parents know how to help their child or find outside help. Dont want until report cards come out. Not everyone has access to Aeries.
- As a parent of four children who have attended Bidwell I have been able to observe the school over the past 9 years. I believe there are three factors that influence the success of the school. Teachers, administration and enrollment numbers. I strongly believe that the addition of the sixth graders to the school has negatively impacted all areas. The school is overcrowded which has created stress on the teachers, administration and the students. I do believe that school has worked hard to try to mitigate the issues that have arisen from this change but ultimately the only thing that would completely alleviate the situation is to reduce numbers at the school. I did mark supervision as an issue as my child continues to report there are issues with fights, although fewer than a year ago. Additionally, he reported to me that students are playing tackle football during lunch break and that the yard duty supervisors are not intervening. Finally, my child attends the BLAST program and has had a few behavior issues there. While I believe it is on him to demonstrate good behavior it seems there are times when he has been punished for things in a blanket manner with out the supervisor assessing the situation completely.
- More kindness between students. My son is effected by peer belittling, profanity and disrespect for personal property (basic hallmarks of this age). Middle school kids need a daily reminder of the golden rule.
- The amount of cussing and disrespectful talk to students from students is really bad.
- Drop off pickup is becoming dangerous for students as they are walking in between cars and crossing not in cross walk
- Not sure my kids will be prepared for high school. Very little homework or projects.
- Nothing
- I would love to know how to better support my kiddo's learning at home and would love to see LESS focus on electronic/computer based work.
- Working with my some of my child's teachers has been a constant problem. As the parent of a child with an IEP, I often feel like teachers dont want to hear about the concerns I have. Most of the time I get no response to emails or very basic responses. It feels like no one wants to help, it's easier to just excuse my child from an assignment or pass the buck. I do not feel like my child is being prepared for HS. There are also some aspects of his IEP that are NOT being met. I have expressed many concerns about my child's learning and they seem to fall on deaf ears. This year continues to be frustrating.
- Reasons for displine
- Not enough honors class space for students. My 8th grader did not get into English honors because there was not enough space. This was unfortunate because this would have prepared him better for high school. Very disappointing.
- Counselors might consider reconnecting or having a follow up with students they are working withwhether they have an answer or can meet their needs or not
- Communication from teachers to PARENTS about upcoming assignments, tests, etc. Opportunities for extra credit via projects for kinesthetic, hands-on learners. Not everybody excels at worksheets.
- I have had some problems with being able to keep my son on track with his school work. I try to keep up to date with what is due on the parent portal but a lot of the time, assignments are not posted until they date they are due. Also, I wish that teachers would contact me if they feel my son needs more help in his classes as soon as they see his grades and assignments slipping. Some teachers are definitely more approachable than others, for both parents and students.
- Pick up drop off area in front of the office, parent volunteers are sometimes out there but need to encourage people to use the area correctly, meaning pull forward as much as possible so it doesn't gum up the entire area!

- before and after supervision, teacher communication
- Improved updating on scholastic standings and assignments completion.
- I have no concerns at this point
- I feel like there could be more supervision in the crosswalk areas. I have seen students almost get hit by vehicles during pickup and drop off. I am concerned about all of my kids assignments going on google classroom. I live in a rural area, we just purchased our home a year ago and have yet to find an option for internet service the is accomical for our family needs. With that being said I do like the crome book system, however I struggle looking for ways for my kiddos to do their work from home.
- Have heard a lot of upset about an 8th grade teacher who speaks to her class like they are "babies" or like "we are stupid" and the overall belief that this teacher hates her job. History i think.
- Registrar needs to be fired. We need a real nurse. Too many teachers emotionally mistreat my child and
 they have appalling low expectations and communication my child was gailing 4 classes and notnone
 teacher said anything. My kids IEP isnt even followed
- Improve parent /teacher communication for at home help 2. get rid of late start Wednesday! Painful!
- Pick up/Drop off areas
- I asked my child, he felt as though here was too much cussing. Not sure e how to address but maybe supervision could listen and remind children how it sounds and comes across.
- Nothing
- Parents who rant before reading school communications.
- Consistency as to what kids can/cannot wear to school. Supervision with the kids holding hands/kissing at school kids shouldn't be touching.
- Even while taking honors classes, I feel my student is ill-prepared for high school academically.
- wish there crossing guards on north ave...
- The bullying
- Maybe teachers could refrain from using cuss words during class?
- Communications for deadlines/due dates. When is end of progress period? What is the AR timeline?
- The late start problems that occur off campus. Remove the late start
- My son is in the homor classes, but they do the same thing as the regular classes, plus they have these great chrome books and are not using them. Very sad
- Teach civics and more agriculture electives.
- I am not a fan of the group tests in math and how they are evaluated. As an example, my son received a D on a group test but a 98% on the individual test for the unit. Not all students have the social ability to stand up for their answers in a group setting.
- You do not have enough support or supervision at all. Most days my 6th and 7th grader tell me about bullies, fights, and no one is there to help!