

Blaine County School District Strengths

Question 1: Identifying the strengths of our district is the foundation upon which to prepare for the future. What do you think the Blaine County School District does very well?	Source
PROGRAMS	
Our school sports generally create and foster confidence, competition and cooperation.	ALT
Very recently district has bettered their relationship with home schoolers, realizing that those students were not “unschooled”; last 5 years better cooperation	ALT
It’s great what the Company of Fools and the Center do provide. Encourage the teachers and principles to take advantage of these opportunities.	ART
District made funding for school music programs separate from amount allocated to each school. It has worked better, especially for the secondary program where equipment has become available	ART
District supports visiting artists/musicians. It is great exposure for the students and wonderful that these artists often returned to the schools and the kids more than once.	ART
Elementary Education is superb, particularly at Hemingway.	ART
Great facilities good music budget, but gets used up quickly well staffed music department great community support for music programs (sun valley summer symphony for example)	ART
I only know the Middle School, and the main strength seems to me to be the community - the layout of the school is great and well thought out.	ART
Jim’s vision for the district and his openness has also been very positive--the Sun Valley Center is so grateful that he allows teachers to serve on our advisory committee	ART
Level of funding for school music program is good	ART
music teachers are very good at embracing opportunities in the community that enhance student learning in music	ART
Parent communication... newsletters, email, internet access, I like what they are doing.	ART
Supporting community organizations with facility use.	ART
The academies at the high school level are a good idea.	ART
The openness to arts organizations and visiting artist programs is really important and very encouraging way to educate children.	ART
and the academies for the high school students- special services for the low end students	BIZ
Culinary Arts Academy	BIZ
Field trips	BIZ
MS program-visiting jobs/businesses - Job for a Day	BIZ
the academies for the high school students- special services for the low end	BIZ

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strengths

students	
PROGRAMS (cont.)	
We are basically importing most of our labor, so a lot of emphasis on construction and the trade business is good	CH
high school - unwind and goes south (few really good teachers, but majority are sub par) This parish has lost key families because of H.S.	CH
Offer trades tracks for students wanting to go into the computer sciences.	CH
Address needs of low income populations; be open to innovative partnerships	CO
Has provided classes with csi	CO
I think the School District really tries to implement new classes and technology to satisfy the parents and the students growing need for computer technology.	CO
Impressed with your Academies and emphasis on the 40 assets needed by children. I am a fairly new resident with no experience of having children in this school system.	CO
Mobilize resources to support education;	CO
Character Education	DIST
Flexibility of implementing new programs	DO
Lots of opportunities for students	DO
Number of programs that they have are working	DO
Open to investigate best practices and have had a history of doing so	DO
Quality of individuals serving on our school board; they set the standard of leadership	DO
Strives broad perspective on the problems – gather information from those affected	DO
Systems are in place enable people to be pulling toward the same direction	DO
We are child/student-centered & focused	DO
We care well: care about kids, care about each other	DO
We have a K-12 focus for all students of all ranges of abilities at all levels	DO
We stress the focus on the whole child as we focus on the testing	DO
I think that if you are an English speaker in the district you will probably get the services you need, and will be identified if you have a learning disability.	EL
Blaine County District hires individuals that truly care about the students, and whom have the students best interests at heart	EL
Communication - staff intranet, calendar, email, Dangerous Conversations, web site, Skyward	EL
community interaction elementary education provides a solid foundation for young students	EL
Data record keeping for teacher decision-making, progress monitoring, intervention noting for subsequent teachers.	EL
Differentiates for different levels of learners, provides opportunities for art, music, computer skills, tech, p.e.	EL
Establishes a sense of belonging and that you are valued/supported. The district also brings in some nice professional development opportunities.	EL
great parental support in some of the campuses, specialist programs (art, tech, pe, music),	EL

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PROGRAMS (cont.)	
Have terrific mentor programs and meetings that get new teachers acquainted with the standards of Blaine County, but also introducing them to what is happening in all schools, and the programs that are available.	EL
provide additional programs (after school/tutoring, night school) hire qualified teachers	EL
Variety of options for secondary students -Allowing secondary students to take classes for college credit -encouraging para-professionals to take credits toward a teaching degree	EL
district provides a variety of opportunities for students at the high school level for students to succeed if they choose to	G
The high school offers a variety of core subjects	G
I'm involved in teaching a sustainable design class, and get 3 students each summer for an internship Senior projects Getting people engaged at an early stage	GOV
YAK Community Campus	GOV
Community service programs.	HISP
Drivers' ed program.	HISP
The increase in neighborhood schools and keeping them active	HISP
Our district supports numerous programs that help a huge variety of students.	HS
I take advantage of opportunities to get my students on field trips, to develop creative, though sometimes not quite curricular, activities. (they are very educational)I feel I am an important member of this community.	ML
Senior Project is a great way to make things come together at the end of the student's experience.	ML
Teachers, administrators, support staff, curriculum which includes visual and performing arts, technology, buildings, and an open door policy for new ideas	ML
Academics seem to be good--keep them strong to provide vocational ed and work experience.	P
broad curriculum...choir, art, music, computers, crafts and textiles, etc.	P
Communication with parents. Special classes (i.e. tech, music, PE)	P
Elementary schools seem to be great--thanks to broad curriculum that includes art, music and technology. at all levels	P
Evaluation of current curriculum with the courage to end some programs and begin new ones.	P
good job with accelerated learning-Gate kids learn well and love the school behavior issues are handled well significant parent support	P
Hemingway Elementary has provided a solid elementary school education for my kids. I am particularly pleased with the GATE program.	P
I am mainly familiar with Hemmingway school and I think the teachers are very dedicated and Knowledgeable, offer a great GATE program	P
I think the fairly new senior thesis project is amazing; seniors are doing some incredible senior projects	P
identify and provide programs, services, interventions to improve individual needs of students	P

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strengths

Lots of electives (music, art, technology, languages, PE,...)	P
PROGRAMS (cont.)	
Makes special classes a priority at the elementary level: Technology, Computers, Art, PE, and Music.	P
meet the needs of a diverse group of students -focus on the whole child - preserve the arts as a important part of curriculum	P
My child's individual special reading needs were addressed through the reading clinic at Hailey Elementary; cutting edge	P
Not familiar, but hear that Middle and High School programs are acceptable, but not as strong as Elementary program	P
preschool program was implemented and I feel confident that the district will stand behind that as well	P
Publishing house. It's totally, parent operated. The kids write the stories and parents make them into books	P
school district does a great job with different programs, i.e. the environmental education, ski programs, tech programs, etc	P
Senior projects--great idea--very fun to see young adults emerge from their shells.	P
Some very good teachers, very good facilities and the curriculum for the elementary schools is very good as well.	P
students practice learning how to research and take subjects further with independent expression	P
Tax dollars should be spent on new and improved programs rather than new and improved buildings.	P
The school district seems to offer a good variety of classes for their students with the academy programs.	P
The specials are a true asset to our elementary schools. I think that the children feel welcome and safe in our schools.	P
availability of continuing education classes, seminars, and workshops	PRE
Blaine County School District has strong community support and great teacher participation in district and school-wide issues.	PRE
have a lot of helpful resources in our community -our dual immersion program is wonderful	PRE
money for professional development -our special service department supports the classroom teacher	PRE
prepare students at the elementary level to be strong readers, learners, and to show compassion and respect for others	PRE
professional staff of master teachers/highly competent paraprofessionals/supportive, proactive, innovative and well informed administrator	PRE
Remediation programs for reading are excellent and extremely successful.	PRE
strong curriculum based instruction	PRE
As a district we are in the top 5% of performance in the state	SP
Offerings we provide students exceed most districts	SP
Specials and character education	SP
We are fortunate; we are doing well in teaming: positive impact from middle	SP

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strengths

school	
PROGRAMS (cont.)	
academies at the high school; wonderful resource	SPEC
Grow your own program.	SPEC
continue to offer opportunities for all students to participate in academic and non-academic areas, arts, music, sports, etc	SPEC
district offers a lot to our students in the way of special services to meet their individual needs	SPEC
Recognizing that students are not all the same providing different programs for individualized students	SPEC
Affordable housing effort commended	SR
Community Campus is incredible and has more potential particularly for events!	SR
Have diverse programs in terms of offerings to students	SR
Like the new preschool	SR
They do have a few practical classes. Should have more.	SR
Accommodation to special needs and circumstances	SUP
after school study groups; individual help before and after school; communication with parents via e-mail, telephone, and face-to-face meetings	SUP
BCSD offers so many programs beyond the regular curriculum to help students be successful	SUP
BCTAC, Youth Circle, Sagebrush Arena to name a few.	SUP
Offer some great courses for the High School students; Academies are fantastic.	SUP
There are so many different choices for classes, and the curriculum is wonderful.	SUP
flexibility to parents to have their kids attend where they want them to—with neighborhood schools	TRAN
BCSD has wide range of quality, innovative programs and curricula	UNIV
dual immersion programs, senior projects, alternative school	UNIV
Impressed with the SCAS and the progress they make with their students.	Y
Senior Projects Academies Parent Involvement	Y
Recognizing the social/emotional/behavioral needs that face our students, staff and community today	
SAFETY	
I like how the 6th graders are protected at the Middle school	ART
We have consistent programs and strive for teacher and community input	EL
For the most part, the schools offer a safe learning environment.	G
Enforcement of rules, discipline.	HISP
The schools have good rules.	HISP
The teachers pay attention to who comes into the school, who leaves, they are keeping a watchful eye on the students.	HISP
Truancy control: students are accounted for daily. I get report when my child is late to school.	HISP
A caring team of people working to keep kids safe at school	LAW

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SAFETY (cont.)	
Good disciplinary actions.	LAW
BCSD does a good job detecting substance abuse. There is a more exacting eye on the problem now, more scrutiny.	MH
BCSD personnel are doing the best they can (in regard to addressing mental illness and substance abuse in students), but they have limited information about current research and treatments.	MH
If there is a student wants or needs mental health evaluations, assessments or support they are available to students to access	MH
District does a good job providing safe schools for our children,	P
District has been successful in funding the schools, and providing a safe physical environment.	P
HS expulsion policy great. Gang dress issue and dealing with it. Confident my kids are safe.	P
Provides a safe and friendly learning environment through Middle School.	P
Safe – know everybody	P
schools feel safe	P
Security/safety of the kids while on school property.	P
The policies and diligence of the principles has also provided for safety in regards to student behavior (drug use, bullying, and violence for example).	P
Concerned with safety	SP
Discipline policy is clear Honor roll students in paper	SR
Problems with discipline on buses. I think this could be improved.	SR
Blaine County is one of the best school districts I have ever seen.	SUP
SECONDARY EDUCATION	
Always trying to improve: giving people freedom and flexibility to make their decisions	DO
Developed the software program that tracks students interventions Mileposts	DO
Good leadership	DO
Early intervention on behavior and academics Communication is very professional	GOV
The Silver Creek Alternative School provided an outstanding opportunity to one of my children who might not have graduated through the traditional high school program.	GOV
AP Classes: Keep the same level of AP classes (or More)	LAW
Constantly improving graduation rate. Identifying changes in pop. Of community. Adaptation to changes.	LAW
I know the resource department helped a lot. They helped me study for tests and receive better grades. I really felt my grades and learning skills got better when I joined the resource department.	LAW
Interaction town staff & students. They know them all. Deal with issues right away	LAW

SECONDARY EDUCATION (cont.)	
Impressed with BCSD's sincere desire to develop into a model district, by emphasizing the importance of music and other character building electives	MH
The district looks for creative ways to meet the needs of the individual students. It is not stuck in the mode of 'this is the way we do it here'.	MH
Put resources into identifying new initiatives (AVID, Linda Mood Bell, etc.)	SUP
The school district always has the interests of the students in their minds. T	SUP
The staff of the Blaine County School District Human Resources Department are friendly; work well with teachers.	SUP
Yes I think this district has always done very well.	SUP
Impressed with the program to deal with students that are suspended - alternative setting to accomplish education.	Y
ATHLETICS	
Encouraged student to work on the banquet, Home school student is on soccer team	ALT
The district and music teachers are very supportive of community music organizations.	ART
We are in a great location, with great recreational opportunities	BD
how the high school accommodates the needs of high school athletes i.e. ski team or dance kids	BIZ
how the high school accommodates the needs of high school athletes i.e. ski team or dance kids	BIZ
Ski programs	BIZ
Kids here have opportunity to learn skiing, snowboarding or some other activity in nature in which they improve and feel competent, creative and confident	CH
All the schools work together and use their facilities for extra-curricular activities	DO
Good cross-training program	DO
When I was in school, it was a fun place to be. Sports get a lot of attention and that's good.	G
Activities such as sports programs, chorus.	HISP
Sports activities	HISP
sports teams-swim team, tennis team academies-architecture interns work in local offices	HISP
There are ample opportunities for work and play, the gym, and the English provided.	HISP
Provides good benefits and a nice working environment for its staff.	LAW
School district has a very good support system for their athletic program. The iep program works really well when put into place and followed closely.	LAW
The strategic planning exercise itself (if sincere and followed through) is strength. F	MED
I think we address and challenge the middle high level students well.	ML
Provides opportunities for students do participate in a variety of subject areas to increase their chances of future educational and life success.	ML

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ATHLETICS (cont.)	
Strong sense of fellowship, support and collaboration at the Middle School.	ML
Athletics	P
ski program is great for the kids and it allows some who do not get to ski/snowboard the opportunity	P
Sports, science	P
Ski programs district wide give access to a sport that is expensive for the average family	PRE
Senior exercise.	SR
Opening the doors to non-profits to provide services to students and teachers	SUP
Communication—everybody is aware of everything that is going on—he believes in not being blind-sighted! He positions good communication as part of the culture	SUP
Make resources available to students and staff, material, equipment, professional development, and professional collegiality	SUP
Outdoor opportunity with sports and education.	TRAN
Yes they do, they need to change something like more activities for youth.	Y
ELEMENTARY EDUCATION	
Hemingway Elementary School: interactions during transitions between public and private school commended:	ALT
Elementary school education	ALT
Elementary schooling, special needs students, sports	ALT
Hemingway Elementary- fun and educational Middle school tech program Middle school 'team' program	ALT
Not sure, I have heard the elementary program, at Hemingway, is better than higher grades	ALT
Elementary programs in the district are very successful because of a majority of high level, motivated teachers	ART
Elementary students have great access to diverse, interested and creative teachers, especially at Hemingway.	ART
Elementary school - best 'gangbusters'	CH
Elementary education	CO
Elementary education is a strength, as is the dual immersion program. At the high school level my children received excellent instruction in English and literature. Middle school tech training is first class.	CO
A district committed to excellence, not afraid to spend money for qualified instructors; to bring us (staff) up to speed in the newest, most effective practices.	EL
The main thing that stood out to me as a newcomer was the writing program.	HS
We find lots of new and innovative teaching strategies and focuses, however, we jump into programs without allocating time to complete the job.	HS
District does a good job challenging the top 10% of its academic students. Facilities are top notch. Quality of teachers is high.	LAW
Elementary experience is excellent. Sense of safety - welcoming. Good facilities. Good educators.	LAW
Works well with special needs children. ESL program. Facilities.	LAW

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ELEMENTARY EDUCATION (cont.)	
Great Elementary school program	P
Our elementary school experience was as good as I could imagine. Great foundation for all the kids	P
Primary years are of utmost importance to developing minds, and studies are clear that small class sizes increase learning successes exponentially.	P
The preschool	P
There are good specialists at Bellevue Elementary (especially tech), and I have been pleased with the teachers.	P
There has been a strong focus on reading at the elementary level. We've also had a good experience with the GATE program.	P
our elementary school provides children with a quality education and positive experience	PRE
K-8 curriculum	SP
elementary school teachers need to be renaissance people not just pencil pushers	SR
Practical skills need to be emphasized! not everyone needs or is able to go to college	SR
English as a Second Language Departments do an excellent job advocating for students with limited English proficiency	
CURRICULUM	
Blaine Co. Schools do a good job of preparing lower special needs students.	ALT
Senior Thesis is terrific.	ALT
Academy program special services, especially IEP, at both middle and high school.	ART
The quality of our schools has driven growth	BD
Education children - well rounded Facilities and offerings	BIZ
Prepare students for competitive Colleges/Universities	BIZ
Ability to lay a foundation for our young people to be successful for is one of the strengths of the district. I.e. Going to college and on to careers.	CH
Accelerating computer stuff rather than just having general computer literacy is good	CH
Construction academy idea is good and I would like to see more of that particularly in areas where there are a lot of jobs	CH
District has good academic requirements for the kids, good facilities for the kids, and they have good access to after school programs for the kids.	CH
It inspires people to be creative and instills them with a sense of adventure in their lives.	CH
People here seem to have more courage. I've seen it in the skiers here as an example	CH
There is room for advanced students to move ahead. However, the district is handicapped by broken families. We're dealing with serious crime now.	CH
Academies at the high school-drawing (architecture) academy Dual immersion-good since there are so many Hispanic people, I would want my kid in there to learn Spanish too.	CO
Stay current with field	CO

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CURRICULUM (cont.)	
Education in general	DIST
Dedicated staff, good salaries and opportunities for receiving further education credit	EL
I think we do a good job teaching the whole child. Not just academics but social skills, character ed, appreciation for the arts, etc.	EL
Providing for all students and their needs	EL
Reading	EL
The district continues to provide our students with a complete educational program that includes the arts.	EL
We continually work to improve our staff and have available a plethora of opportunities to do so	EL
We continue to think ahead so we are prepared for future challenges that arise.	EL
Writing instruction offering liberal arts education	EL
My advanced placement teachers were stellar, learned a ton from them; curriculum in these upper level classes helped prepare me for life after high school.	G
District does a very good job working with local governments and community to assure that all parties/areas are considered in their planning process	GOV
Provides good education to kids	H
8th grade is challenging, we are doing a good job of preparing students for high school, and opening their eyes to their real financial future.	HISP
Grades are like money, cause and effect. We help students realize that grades really affect their future.	HISP
High academic level: children learn a lot, learned English well.	HISP
BCSD does everything they can to ensure that students have the proper avenues to achieve academic success in school.	HS
BCSD provides a wide variety of opportunities for students - dual immersion (I have some concerns), extracurricular activities, academies, night school, etc.	HS
Blaine County offers academically challenging courses that prepare students for college.	HS
Educate kids in core areas identify children in need of additional support testing.	HS
Our students have a tremendous amount of support from the community. Class offerings are excellent and need to be expanded or maintained.	HS
Provide AP/dual enrollment classes, LEP programs, and special ed programs to provide for life beyond high school.	HS
Provide different programs for different students	HS
Provides outstanding plant & supplies (books, technology)	HS
We offer great curricula and class options for students.	HS
Good college prep curriculum.	LAW
Good graduation rate	LAW
Great array of electives.	LAW
Staff take extra steps and notice needs and address them. Administration and teachers recognize there are safety issues and are willing to do it.	LAW

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CURRICULUM (cont.)	
The overall curriculum is strong; the high school academies are strong; college prep program is excellent	LAW
Idaho has only 35% of our students go onto a four-year college; I would bet our District has a higher percentage than that	ML
Basic teaching of cores - math, reading Neighborhood schools.	P
I like the Gate and 'accelerated' learning programs that enable enriched learning.	P
The Academies at the high school are great	P
Accelerated programs individual development specials are great love small class size	P
Addition of the Pre-K program has been great.	P
Building in the future should concentrate on making GRENEN choices that are healthier for the students, teachers and staff, as well as for the environment.	P
Children go to separate math classes depending upon their ability and with the AR program they read at their individual levels.	P
GATE is an excellent model for working in the 'real' world.	P
Good job teaching kids at levels they're capable of, high or low.	P
math and science departments in both the middle school and the high school are very strong	P
Provides well-rounded education.	P
Reading instruction, GATE, small class size and low teacher to student ratio.	P
School district goes to extremes to provide inclusion for all students.	P
Sources	P
Special ed and bilingual services seem quite good.	P
Special services for students with special needs.	P
Supporting students with disabilities. My son is a Middle school student and has received an excellent attention from all his teacher. Thanks for making a difference in my son's life.	P
The district offers the resources needed to help a struggling student. Resources are available to ensure the proper education for my child. There are programs that help enrich my child's education.	P
The district provides resources to help kids who are struggling academically.	P
They do an excellent job of meeting the needs of many different types of students.	P
Wonderful programs for the special needs	P
Av. We have the best special services to meet the needs of all kinds of children and support the classroom teacher.	PRE
BCSD does a good job with Special Services for students with special needs; i.e. special ed programs & reading support, such as the LMB Reading Clinic.	PRE
Being on top of new trends	PRE
Focus on student learning.	PRE
I think the district is meeting the needs of the students and families . I have had children graduate from Wood River and I did not have any complaints	PRE

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CURRICULUM (cont.)	
Our school district does an excellent job of providing opportunities for professional development for its employees.	PRE
Provide reading assistance for all students at a young age.	PRE
SVAS is a wonderful resource and a positive place for kids to find their way	PRE
Takes care of every student. Respects its teachers. Gives teachers supplies necessary to teach. Keeps the community informed.	PRE
Transportation is very organized and works to accommodate the needs of the students.	PRE
Commitment to providing resources	SP
Differentiated instruction	SP
Educate kids	SP
My kids were well prepared as graduates from this system	SP
Special Education ESL Facilities	SP
Very proactive and progressive	SP
Amazing Special Services Program.	SPEC
Availability of technology & variety of programs i.e. GATE, spec. ed., academies	SPEC
Providing the things and help for special needs children.	SPEC
Serves special needs students in all areas.	SPEC
We identify needs and work to address the needs of our students.	SPEC
Character education programs such as Tribes, create continuity and continued skill development.	SUP
Special Education dept. is very strong	SUP
Access to CSI during high school is a wonderful addition.	SUP
Committed teachers and administrators working very hard to provide the best education possible for preK-12 students.	SUP
Curriculum development	SUP
Curriculum is high quality and students leave prepared for further education	SUP
Custodial staff do an outstanding job	SUP
District does a good job preparing students for the future	SUP
Gives our students the best tools to learn to read and decode.	SUP
Highest standard of education.	SUP
I believe it tries to create an excellent educational experience for its students.	SUP
Providing for the 'whole child'...having access to programs that promote the social emotional well being of all the children.	SUP
Providing special services for children with special needs.	SUP
Staff support	SUP
Teaching children the basic skills to be successful in life.	SUP
The School District Administration are concerned about students and work to ensure that the youth of Blaine County are well served.	SUP
We keep up to date with our curriculum. I believe it is challenging and prepares our students for college.	SUP
You make sure the students are taken care of.	SUP

CURRICULUM (cont.)	
No child is left behind in Blaine County and the collaboration within schools and the district is outstanding.	
District serves its student population very well	
Have outstanding resources, staff and curriculum, for early reading and esl readers to become successful	
I think the school cares about the emotional well-being of its students as well as academics.	
Live in an area where community members are concerned about the health of our public schools and are motivated to improve them.	
Support staff, special needs staff, ESL staff, after school programs, numerous electives and choices at the high school, sports, opportunities for community service	
FINANCIAL	
Great financial department	BD
Strong economic base.	BD
Willing to spend money on new programs—local money	BD
Generous funding – best funded in ID	BIZ
Money is certainly a big part of our strength. On a certain level a positive outlook this is good.	DIST
Financial resources	DO
Provides the financial, physical and emotional resources to help every child succeed.	DO
Spend their money well Used their resources well	DO
One clear indicator success is the degree to which they are successful in their bond and levy elections.	GOV
The community places a high emphasis on funding the school district's annual budgets, building a quality infrastructure and recruiting high quality teaching staff.	GOV
Education is free.	HISP
The school district has a very solid structure. Due to its geographic situation, it has a strong economic base	HISP
The school district has a very solid structure. Due to its geographic situation, it has a strong economic base	HISP
Abundant resources and community support	HS
We have excellent athletic programs for our athletes despite their records.	HS
Funding of viable programs.	ML
Funds its schools well. Hires great teachers	ML
Salaries and benefit package.	ML
Have a lot of money, based on property taxes in the region, you have a lot of resources to spend	P
Money – resources (drives all of our foundations)	P
Nothing For as much money as the taxpayers pay per student in Blaine County, why are our students not provided a competitive education.	P

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FINANCIAL (cont.)	
Receives great support from community, both in \$ and time, and donations.	P
The athletics seem well funded as well.	P
Financial commitment to schools.	PRE
Financial support for classrooms and schools.	PRE
A lot of resources, financially strong so we can provide services to kids that other districts can not	SP
Better staffed, better funded, good resources	SP
Blaine County schools collects money very well. We spend 1 and 1/2 times the state average on students	SPEC
Funding seems adequate for almost anything that teachers deem is necessary for curriculum and instruction.	SPEC
Make 50% more than any other teachers in the state	SPEC
District includes the Community, is funded well, educates it's employees, and prepares for the future.	SUP
Providing funding for necessary things—classroom based and support based	TRAN
Soliciting support (financial and time wise)	TRAN
Well funded and conservative about their expenditures	Y
LEADERSHIP	
District has been responsive to letting arts groups bring their talents to the students to broaden their education	ART
Jim Lewis has made a commitment to keep teaching specials, the arts, in the schools during the school days	ART
Mary Gervase was a great connector between teachers, the district and other community organizations.	ART
Seems to be more flexibility at the elementary level--teachers can do what they feel is important for the class and the individual student.	ART
As a board and district, we care about all of the students	BD
District is pro-active before they have react	BD
Dr. Lewis	BD
Excellent learning environments	BD
Excellent school board—bound and determined to hold people accountable—in a good way	BD
Good leadership	BD
Great that we are doing a Strategic Plan	BD
High end leadership—Supt. and Asst. Supt.	BD
Jim Lewis is a visionary and has business skills	BD
Jim Lewis; when he started working here—his leadership is magic!	BD
Lonnie needs to continue to that	BD
Our district is strong all the way through	BD
Our superintendents are great!!!	BD
Plan for the future	BD
Stay on top of new things	BD
Strong administration with compassion and caring	BD

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strengths

Very good at planning	BD
LEADERSHIP (cont)	
We are in negotiation for property that will provide for 20 years	BD
We do a good job of hearing all the voices who may advocate for their individual child while insuring that we are considering the needs of all students	BD
Engaging in strategic planning	BIZ
Well prepared for college - independent study - not babysat	BIZ
Has done fairly well academically in terms of having standards and trying to achieve the academic standards with testing.	CH
Young people I meet are full of adventure. They are following a unique pattern that hasn't been done before, go forward fearlessly and with courage.	CH
Forward thinking...anticipates future needs of students and curriculum. Tries to maintain a standard of excellence.	CO
Being forward thinking;, involving the community; considering impacts on students first and foremost; evolving as needed.	DIST
The District does continually work to improve the student and staff learning environment. It communicates well with the community which is generous in its support of the school system.	DIST
Awesome leadership with Jim and Lonnie	DO
Be proactive with the changing demographic	DO
Been true to our vision and mission; we include them in all our conversations	DO
District's vision; its worth striving for, educators have a responsibility to be model	DO
Entire district administration team is strong	DO
Good administrative assistance staff	DO
Good board, always supports	DO
Innovative	DO
Making sure that no one becomes stagnant	DO
Our superintendent listens; is a reflective decision-maker	DO
Public support	DO
School board works well with administration and Dr. Lewis	DO
The vision of the district is the strongest I have ever seen	DO
They listen to the comments from teachers. They try to offer classes to better our professionalism. They are supportive with technology in the classroom.	EL
For a small community we have activities through out the year & community help for people in need. Blaine County Kids are the main priority.	H
At middle school, teachers try to enforce proper dress standards.	HISP
The District is trying to create an innovative educational system and seeks to be a leader and model to emulate.	HISP
The district respect the various religions. They respect the various criteria of each person (their strengths and weaknesses, I believe)	HISP
The education in general. BCSD (demands) (makes sure) that the students study.	HISP
The way the teachers teach. They ask permission to give extra help to my child.	HISP

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LEADERSHIP (cont.)	
We are confident that our children are in good hands.	HISP
We provide a good reality check- grades are more important than sports	HISP
advocates for consistent improvement, self-analysis and action	HS
Demonstrates leadership and vision.	HS
follows state & federal procedures	HS
Good contact with parents with Internet access (Skyward, email) many students have a good balance of heart / body / mind activities senior project great community interest / involvement	HS
I believe that our district does a very good job looking forward - planning ahead - finding ways to better our district, schools, staff, and students.	HS
Tries to plan for the future.	LAW
school district recognizes the importance that students come to school fed, clothed and have stable supportive family environments in order to be able to learn the best they can	MH
Accommodates kids.	ML
Commitment to the whole child.	ML
Communication between administration and faculty is excellent.	ML
Develop the WHOLE student, create successful individuals in more ways than most districts	ML
High expectations for student learning.	ML
Kind of teaching environment that supports some risk-taking and innovation, essential to a stimulating teaching and learning environment.	ML
Our leadership displays global vision and forward thinking attitudes. Our students are sensitive and aware.	ML
Professional development for all employees. The Grow Your Own Program is exceptional.	ML
Professional development, serving student's special needs, great facilities.	ML
Students are exposed to real world problems with the emphasis on solving those problems. We educated all aspects of the child	ML
We are always a step ahead of current trends. We have many great programs in this district: housing, dual immersion, grow your own, neighborhood schools, to name a few.	ML
Hemingway has done an excellent job responding to unanticipated needs.	P
I applaud the introduction of preschools to the valley.	P
I do like that kindergartners have the opportunity to participate in Tech, art and music	P
BCSD does a great job with the facilities for it's students.	P
BCSD has communicated well with the larger community in gathering support for new facilities and programs.	P
Child first attitude	P
Creates positive and safe learning environment.	P

LEADERSHIP (cont.)	
District has done a good job educating the average and below average students.	P
Flexible school district, willing to try new programs and accommodate unique circumstances (dual immersion, ski team schedules, independent study courses...)	P
Good intervention for struggling students to get them to pass the ISAT.	P
Has very engaged, active and caring PTA groups.	P
High standards have also been applied to District curriculum. Previous master planning has been implemented.	P
I think the school district tries to look forward and plan for the future, rather than being managed by whatever the current 'fire' is.	P
Implements programs	P
offers variety to children in activities and classes	P
Open to ideas and planning. good effort to address a broad spectrum of needs through a relatively small district	P
operates democratically	P
Organized, proactive,	P
School identified strengths and weaknesses of children and has addressed them	P
Security on the buses	P
Smoothes public relations issues	P
Strength in transparency of and strong implementation of policies.	P
Stressing the importance of well rounded kids with strong music, tech athletic programs and not just standardized tests.	P
Targeted education for children of different abilities. Great focus on reading and parent involvement.	P
The district has a multi faceted plan from K-12 to prepare kids for post high school life. Especially strong is the track to identify and teach gifted and talented students.	P
The Hemingway P.A. raises money and awards grants to teachers for supplies, etc.	P
They really care about the kids! They seem to be constantly trying to improve the quality of the education given to our kids	P
Watching what other school districts do.	P
We/they need to prepare for the future, and that we are taking an active approach in implementing positive changes for the benefit of the students and community as a whole.	P
Academies programs	PRE
BCSD has supportive administrators that work closely with their staff.	PRE
Educates all students.	PRE
Elementary school does not let kids fall through the cracks like the middle school and high school	PRE

LEADERSHIP (cont.)	
Overall, a very progressive district with good staff and leadership	PRE
Seeks impute from the grassroots level. Clear vision of where we are going. Flexibility to change and grow, using the strengths of its body.	PRE
Sets high expectations for teachers and students.	PRE
Work hard to get parent involvement at all levels in the schools. E.G. full time Spanish speaking liaison and other outreach programs.	PRE
District values students and staff; evidenced by personal interaction, response to concerns, programs for all students ,benefits and wages.	PTA
Mission & vision are great	PTA
Can do attitude; stems from Jim’s vision and attitude	SP
Current leadership; Dr. Lewis has done a great job	SP
District has a vision and direction	SP
Good atmosphere for students	SP
Jim has supplied us with visionary leadership; he is always looking for cutting edge	SP
Jim used to be in classrooms all the time that past few years because of state role not as much – that was important to teachers	SP
Jim’s leadership;	SP
Take care of employees	SP
We are a leader in the state	SP
We are a professional learning community	SP
We cater to the community;	SP
We educate students well	SP
We have strong backbone	SP
We pick it up grant programs that get started and sustain good programs	SP
Believe our district leaders are responsible and take their 'jobs' seriously.	SPEC
Interventions for below proficient students	SPEC
Look for new, innovative ideas.	SPEC
Thank you for reducing the amount of testing. It is very disruptive to instructional process.	SPEC
The district looking to improve by exploring new ideas & looking at other innovative districts	SPEC
The district office appears to be the biggest strength in our district	SPEC
From what I read, we have the best school in the country.	SR
Lobbying efforts with the state.	SR
Neighbor has good basics. Community campus	SR
Superintendent gets an A+. He communicates well.	SR
Superintendent introduced himself at the Senior Center. Wonderful!	SR
Projecting and planning for future growth	SUP
Communication is open between levels in the District and across the District	SUP
District does very well in meeting the children’s educational needs	SUP
Exceptional opportunities for student involvement in sports, clubs, community etc.	SUP

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strengths

Great relationship with the Board	SUP
LEADERSHIP (cont.)	
Heading for a model district status	SUP
Leadership in the district is very solid (Admin. and teachers)	SUP
Mentoring teachers work tirelessly in bridging the gaps between predominately English speaking students and parents from minority limited English families.	SUP
Open communication between staff and district administration.	SUP
Open to new ideas	SUP
People look to us for help	SUP
Planning. Many dedicated teachers.	SUP
Strong Vision and very child centered	SUP
Supportive administrators	SUP
Visionary leadership—Jim Lewis	SUP
We do very well at valuing each and every student’s right to being educated.	SUP
Being able to help in the classroom as a parent volunteer.	TRAN
Neighborhood school concept is working well	TRAN
Our transportation system is current and up to date (yellow school buses); we may be a bit short in the coming year	TRAN
The neighborhood school concept is a good one and the district should continue to pursue this path.	TRAN
They now have to provide their own transportation if not in their neighborhood	TRAN
Us kids well (too well) -discipline is better -in-house suspension program	TRAN
BCSD strives to meet the diverse needs of ALL of the children of Blaine County	UNIV
Weighted and unweighted grades are accepted. IB, AP and dual credit are an advantage when competing for entry.	UNIV
Commitment to vision, long range goals and strategic plan	Y
District doing a better job recognizing broader needs of children (not just special education needs)	Y
District recognizes more than just physical and visually apparent handicaps and is leading	Y
District recognizes the positive effect that our therapeutic program brings to the academic picture.	Y
Good at letting people feel that they are involved in the school system.	Y
Good at supporting students who are doing well; offering incentives, recognition and opportunities.	Y
Needs assessment and sincere desire to listen to and meet needs	Y
Realizing the impact of economic factors, home-life impact, gender biases and cultural issues	Y
Strong leadership, both at district level and at each school	Y
The planning of programs reflects that the district wants the best for its students.	
DUEL IMMERSION	
Bilingual immersion although I still appreciate the pilot program	ALT

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strengths

Inclusion in professional development opportunities for staff, working together re: coordinating extra curricular activities or during times of common need	ALT
DUEL IMMERSION (cont.)	
In-service programs for teachers has been good	ART
The district provides good teacher training to keep teachers current in their fields of expertise.	ART
The Dual Immersion program is impressive. I am glad it is expanding.	ART
DI Class ratios w/ students Facilities Tough on drug offenders	BIZ
Also enjoy that you blend the languages of the school.	CH
Dual Immersion	DIST
Implements and continues programs that other Idaho school districts do not offer, such as Dual Immersion and HS Academies for college credit. -Friendly, safe, and professional atmosphere.	DIST
Dual immersion is a good first step to respond to different cultures	DO
Dual Immersion Program Alternative high school program The grow your own program	G
Dual immersion	GOV
Dual immersion Facilities Quality of staff Commitment to social workers in every school	GOV
Dual Immersion classes are wonderful.	H
Dual immersion is really good because I was worried when I got here that I wouldn't be able to talk to anyone	HISP
Dual Immersion program.	HISP
Dual immersion program.	HISP
Dual Immersion Program; Joint work plans between Americans and Hispanics; Homework help for students	HISP
Dual immersion, that everyone learns two languages.	HISP
I think the support and translations given to parents who don't speak English is very good	HISP
Learning in two different languages and being together with other people that are growing each day as they pass through the grades together in our schools.	HISP
The Dual Immersion Program	HISP
The Dual Immersion Program	HISP
The dual immersion program is excellent.	HISP
Takes care of its teachers -provides opportunities for professional development -communicates with constituents	HS
The dual immersion programs show that the district recognizes the need to help blend different cultures together and are not turning a blind eye to this need	MH
Beginning to address language/cultural issues.	ML
Teacher in-services have been great! Thanks for the help with professional fees.	ML
Dual immersion program was a challenge that the district committed to and they stand behind it.	P
Eye on growth and has tried hard to keep up with our growing population with new facilities.	P

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strengths

Strides to incorporate and address the bilingual reality are impressive.	P
Bilingual program	P
DUEL IMMERSION (cont.)	
Bilingual teachers	P
Buildings, Dual Immersion programs, most teachers highly qualified, community support, parent involvement	P
District very aware of the growing Hispanic population and works hard to keep everyone informed and integrated	P
Dual immersion is great, however, so unfair that it is only offered to a few! It should be incorporated for everyone	P
Dual immersion	P
Good initiative in implementing dual-immersion programs, strong parent associations	P
It blocks the learning process of American/English speaking students.	P
One thing that sets apart our school district the successful dual immersion program. It is absolutely wonderful.	P
Teaches to the lowest levels, and takes care of the Hispanics	P
The Dual Immersion Program	P
The dual immersion program is strong and successful, but wouldn't add another strain.	P
The Dual Immersion, bilingual program	P
The dual language program offered is fantastic and I only wish my son could have gotten into the program,	P
The opportunity for children to learn a second language at a very young age with the dual immersion program	P
Good relationship/outreach with the Hispanic community	PRE
We offer dual immersion which teaches the above and helps second language students advance.	PRE
Instructional support, professional development, open communication among staff, administration, and district personnel.	PTA
Excellent in-services; we require staff to attend; we pay teachers for those days	SP
Good support systems; ESL, special ed	SP
Promote engagement of all families; we accommodate Hispanic families	SP
Tried to stay ahead of demographic changes	SP
Offers training opportunities in areas such as special education training.	SPEC
Recognizes diversity.	SPEC
Treats teachers as professionals, allowing opportunities for further growth and development	SPEC
Diversity is a strength with the growing Hispanic population	SR
Professional development	SUP
Special Education and ESL resources are excellent	SUP
The dual immersion program offered to students is an excellent attribute to our community.	SUP
Dual immersion program	Y

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FACILITIES	
Community campus concept and connection with csi, development of the academies, most part committed teachers, nice buildings & good principals.	ALT
FACILITIES (cont.)	
The new buildings are nice but are they well managed?	ART
Geographical location	BD
Great facilities	BD
Great facilities	BD
Our buildings are community assets; community uses the facilities, the grounds; community may not realize the extent to which facilities are used by the community	BD
Equipment in the classrooms	BIZ
Excellent facilities	BIZ
Facilities	BIZ
Facilities - great buildings	BIZ
Facilities - great buildings	BIZ
Obtain funding for new buildings	BIZ
Beautiful buildings, well maintained facilities. Students are well prepared academically for college.	CH
Middle school 2nd best	CH
The district is very accommodating, i.e. 1)Provide Tuesday transportation from Hemingway to Our lady of the Snows 2)Opened up school during Castle Rock fires. 3)Open facilities up to other use (i.e. - Papoose Club)	CH
The school district seems to be doing a good job and aggressively making sure they keep up with growth by building new facilities and the neighborhood schools.	CH
Facilities investment in new buildings most notable new high school	CO
District is well funded, facilities are well maintained, and have good technology resources - newer computers, smartboards and projectors, high student to computer ratio. We are good at spending money.	DIST
Excellent maintenance of facilities and modern new facilities built.	DIST
Good facilities Try to get the best staff available	DIST
Great facilities	DO
Curriculum materials	EL
Planning for future growth.	EL
Upgraded facilities (except Bellevue--it needs work!)	EL
BCSD has been able to connect with voters to get good facilities HS and MS react to parental concerns	GOV
The BCSD provides students with first class facilities. This includes planning and accommodating future growth in the district.	GOV
Good room (gym?) sports/	HISP
Our facilities are excellent, though equipment needs improvement	HS
The district as done a very good job with the buildings and facilities.	HS
We have outstanding facilities and we get everything we need. Our superintendent is the best.	HS

strengths

Facilities are great.	LAW
Facilities. Involve the parents. Respond to issues.	LAW
Good facilities; community campus is a great asset to the community.	LAW
It builds nice facilities.	LAW
FACILITIES (cont.)	
Excellent facilities	ML
Providing students with the best teachers, tools and facilities available.	ML
The new buildings in the district are terrific. Maintenance is outstanding.	ML
There are great facilities, comfortable rooms and offices, and access to terrific technology for all students and teachers.	ML
This district looks really good from the outside.	ML
Well maintained buildings	ML
In our experience, the HAES & WRMS libraries are well stocked	P
Provide clean, new, safe buildings to learn in.	P
As the rate of growth in the valley is slowing, there does not appear to be an immediate need for additional facilities.	P
Beautiful buildings	P
Build schools	P
Builds schools when population growth mandates the need to expand.	P
Built some nice facilities.	P
Community campus idea is wonderful, not only for the high school students to get college credit, but also to help community members take classes.	P
Continue building schools in areas where people live.	P
Depending on your students location they provide excellent facilities. i.e. plant, not teachers.	P
Facilities	P
Facilities teacher recognition of students abilities	P
Facilities are excellent, and that we have spent enough money on facilities at this juncture	P
Facilities are modern.	P
Good job utilizing resources, that your elementary programs are strong, and that all of your facilities are very good.	P
Great facilities	P
I think the district has done quite well at providing facilities. I am pleased that that 'piece' has been taken care of.	P
It builds infrastructure (buildings, etc.) very well.	P
Libraries and librarians are generally great	P
Maintains a safe environment for students. Facilities planning has provided very nice schools. Implementation of Skyward.	P
New buildings	P
Our school facilities are in great shape. We do not need to invest further in buildings and grounds.	P
Plan facilities for future growth. Provide support staff for teachers.	P
Provides the Community Campus as a resource to broad segments of the community and CSI.	P

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strengths

School district spends a lot of money to build a quality infrastructure and hire qualified teachers.	P
School facilities are very nice;	P

FACILITIES (cont.)	
Strong - maybe too strong - in terms of emphasis on facilities	P
The district builds buildings and buys land very well. Unfortunately this does very little to increase the quality of teaching and learning.	P
The district has prepared well for the future with adequate facilities.	P
The facilities are nice	P
The facilities completed in the past ten years are great.	P
Updated the facilities over the last ten years	P
We have wonderful facilities! We are grateful!	P
With a few exceptions, the facilities in the district are new and attractive	P
Excellent physical plants and good support supplies (educational materials)	PRE
Facilities are of good quality	PRE
Great facilities for a community this size	PRE
Great job building state of the art facilities	PRE
The district provides our staff and schools with tremendous supplies, materials, and buildings.	PRE
Nice facilities	PTA
Our facilities and services are good	SP
Wonderful facilities	SP
Builds schools. Offers professional development options.	SPEC
Nice school facilities—and I think people are supportive of that.	SPEC
Community Campus: enjoyed the seniors' exercise class,	SR
Excellent and very adequate physical plant. Many well qualified and caring teachers.	SR
I don't have a clue. seem to pretty good at spending money on buildings(District Headquarters); they got air-conditioning and the kids didn't.	SR
It's great to have an indoor place for seniors. My grandson is having a very good experience in dual immersion at Woodside.	SR
Making facility available for the Dalai Lama, etc is incredible. .	SR
Modern plant facilities and equipment: campus	SR
Provide superior facilities for students	SR
Spudfest here we come! Current food service/catering is good	SR
The commons area to meet new people, and the many classes offered.	SR
Buildings and ground go way beyond the call of duty	SUP
Excellent facilities	SUP
Maintaining the buildings and technology	SUP
Nice buildings that are well maintained.	SUP
The schools are well taken care of and clean.	SUP
We have beautiful facilities, the school district pays its teachers well, and the kids like going to school!	SUP
Community out reach -CSI Campus -finding options for students outside of school.	TRAN
BCSD also has beautiful facilities; Community Campus is a particularly excellent resource.	UNIV

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strengths

Your facilities are outstanding,	UNIV
FACILITIES (cont.)	
Facilities the leadership of the principals caring teachers	Y
Facilities , support athletics, principal support	Y
Great recreational facilities, such as soccer fields.	Y
QUALITY STAFF	
I think the school does a good job in providing resources to help students graduate.	ALT
Seeks out good teachers, and does a great job of it.**	ALT
Some excellent teachers and facilities	ALT
Teachers are committed, administration is supportive and there is teaching to the student	ART
Good teaching staff for the most part	ART
Love the district personnel as well, very nice and accommodating.	ART
Teachers seem to have the freedom to plan interesting projects that take kids out of the classroom and into deeper learning and arts experiences.	ART
Fairly good teaching staff	BD
Good teachers	BD
Great teaching staff	BD
Really impressed with caring that district, teachers and staff really care about students, about what they do and how it benefits children	BD
Strong staff and administration	BD
Very good principals	BD
We have little turnover; lots of people would like to work here	BD
We recruit, retain highly qualified teachers and staff	BD
Attitude is positive at the schools, Family access, Prepared for next level, Most teachers are caring.	BIZ
Do a pretty good job of recruiting staff	BIZ
Excellent & dedicated teachers	BIZ
District has found excellent teachers	CH
People are overall satisfied with the District; particularly with the selection of the teachers.	CH
Schools have a warm, welcoming environment Teachers are caring, committed Administrators are truly interested in their students	CH
Teachers are independently motivated and inspirational.	CH
Teachers continue to grow within their lives ;they instill this in their students.	CH
Teachers here are inspirational, intelligent, and can really help the individual become a self-motivated person.	CH
Building staff at Bellevue is fabulous and the classroom sizes is good	CO
Educators, Students are one of the better districts in the state	CO
Find and hire top talent	CO
The high school out of all the schools is doing the best. The high school teaching staff is excellent, I don't like how the middle school is run at all	CO
There are an incredible amount of supportive teachers in the district. They take pride in the community they live in and I feel display that to the students	CO

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strengths

they teach.	
Dedicated people working hard	DO
QUALITY STAFF (cont.)	
My children like their teachers	DO
People are personable, easily to get along with	DO
Teachers are friendly, knowledgeable and care about the kids	DO
Excellent, well trained and informed teachers for the most part	EL
I think that we reach students need well	EL
Qualified, caring and passionate teachers in elementary, middle and some high school positions	EL
Relationship with the community-many programs supported by community organizations, after school programs, character education programs, high academic expectations, ski program	EL
I feel that the BCSD does a good job employing high level teaching	G
Some staff members are good at connecting and motivating students in their specific disciplines.	G
I believe the school district does an excellent job of recruiting and retaining high quality teachers at all levers K-12	GOV
I think the strength lies in the teachers	H
Staff	H
The hiring practices for teachers is done very well	H
Bellevue Elementary is a good 'community' school that feels safe, and where parents and students can feel like they know everybody. The staff is supportive and helpful	HISP
Good teachers, more than adequate, makes sure that our students learn well	HISP
My personal experience so far has been great. But then again my daughter is only on 2nd grade. Her teachers have been great they push her to do her best.	HISP
Opportunities for parent involvement.	HISP
Teachers are free to do their best by teaching the way they feel most comfortable.	HISP
Teachers very dedicated and professional.	HISP
Teachers welcome parents' interest in their child's progress.	HISP
The teachers are really nice and speak Spanish. The program of English (ESL) is also really good, my daughter likes it.	HISP
They provide extra help	HISP
Was well treated when went to office.	HISP
Attracts talented staff	HS
Seeking out good teachers and keeping passionate people onboard.	HS
A good education. Teachers are top notch. Provide activities for children.	LAW
Academic staff is receptive, professional, caring and pro-active.	LAW
Hire the right teachers.	LAW
Focus on the bottom performers to get them up to ISAT standards Passionate teachers	MED
The social workers can really get to know the kids, and so can see who is at	MH

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strengths

risk	
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QUALITY STAFF (cont.)	
BCSD has a full-time social worker at each elementary school, which is great.	MH
Great teamwork between social workers, teachers, paraprofessionals, and administrators to address student needs and problems. Lots of perspectives are given for each situation.	MH
They employ social workers which shows they recognize mental health is a vital part of education-	MH
Hires competent teachers	ML
Hires highly qualified staff. Has high expectations for all students and staff. Encourages and supports growth for staff and students. Provides a safe environment for students and staff.	ML
Hires qualified personnel. Adopts different programs to meet the most needs.	ML
Qualified and dedicated teachers. Our district hires the best.	ML
Some teachers at the high school have already begun to use the internet and their own websites to teach their students	ML
In class one on one w/ students. The teachers really care about the students.	NG
My overall impression in each case is that teachers are extremely dedicated people, committed to their work with children.	P
There are many dedicated and caring teachers on staff at our schools.	P
With a few exceptions, all the teachers with whom I've come in contact are excellent and very dedicated.	P
Academics safety small class rooms wonderful teachers	P
Attracts very qualified teachers. Facilities are state of the art as well.	P
BCSD has some excellent teachers.	P
Despite the local economic challenges the BCSD has staffed our schools with high quality administrators, educators and support staff	P
District does an excellent job hiring personnel. The teachers and support staff are dedicated, talented, caring individuals.	P
District should continue to bring the best teachers in the country to Blaine County	P
Encourage all teachers to take advantage of professional development opportunities	P
Extra help/support/paraprofessionals	P
Friendly yet professional staff and administration.	P
Good teachers who care about the kids as individuals. The school also provides numerous ways for students to be involved with the school and in extracurricular activities.	P
Great facilities competent teachers/staff many programs and classes available to students and families	P
Great teachers, administration that cares, parent involvement good in lower grades	P
Having Mrs. Salmon and the GATE program is wonderful for the students	P
Hem is nurturing, even in Sp. Ed.	P
Hire the best qualified staff to lead us. (Mediocrity is at a minimum)	P

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QUALITY STAFF (cont.)	
Hired a very passionate and talented younger teaching staff.	P
Hires great teachers (Hemingway).	P
HS pretty good, Fritz welcome relief after John, good communication	P
I have been very pleased so far with the teachers and everything getting accomplished in the classroom, although my daughter is only in first grade:)	P
I have to imagine that your teachers are your strength.	P
I think the middle school and high school teachers are doing a good job, with a few exceptions.	P
Identify individual needs well keep teachers happy good job managing behavior issues in classroom	P
Individuals that are dedicated to educating each child.	P
Listening to teachers' needs and getting them the resources they need	P
My children are in Hemingway and there is an ample supply of wonderful teachers, assistants, and volunteers that help our children to learn and grow each day	P
Only know Hemingway. I'm pleased with the educators and the programs available to the students.	P
Our district's strengths are its caring teachers and staff, although many are lacking academic rigorousness	P
Our experience with the teachers in the schools has been excellent.	P
Quality teachers	P
Quality teachers	P
Respect teachers	P
Responsive to parents concerns.	P
Strong math students at the middle school level go ahead at a faster pace, and that seems to be fully accepted now	P
Strongest impression of strength that I see is the faculty	P
Teachers who go "above and beyond" should be recognized and rewarded, those who do not meet standards should receive remediation or be removed	P
Teachers work hard to target children at risk and help them. The extra reading programs, homework clubs and parents working with kids in the classroom, helps tremendously	P
Teachers, elementary principals teacher to the whole child	P
Teachers... Paraprofessionals. So much of this district is wonderful!	P
The school faculty is awesome!	P
The teachers at Hemmingway Elementary are very caring and dedicated.	P
They do an overall basic job of educating our children. I see strengths in the lower to middle range of learning abilities.	P
We have felt that our teacher is very interactive with us as parents. Also, many opportunities offered to her to expand her knowledge, a lot of diversity	P
We have quality teachers, great buildings and facilities & quality principals in our schools.	P
We have strong educators - good teachers.	P
Working as a team to provide remediation and support to students	P

strengths

You provide a great opportunity to be educated	P
QUALITY STAFF (cont.)	
Dedicated teachers Newest facilities are modern and top-of-the-line Academies at the high school Textbooks, supplies...never having to want or worry about these things	PRE
Hires most qualified professionals available in the valley	PRE
It has highly dedicated and motivated teachers under its roof	PRE
Our staff, both within the schools, and at the administrative level, is our greatest strength.	PRE
Promotes continuing education among the staff and funds most in-service and continuing ed	PRE
Provided with many professional development opportunities.	PRE
Provides excellent education for elementary students the teachers in the district are quality	PRE
Teachers and staff are kind and care about students	PRE
The teachers are very professional and dedicated to their students.	PRE
Well prepared teachers.	PRE
Excellent teachers	SP
Highly educated faculty; many with masters degree & multiple certifications	SP
Human resources is strong	SP
Pay scale that attracts and retains excellent teachers	SP
Professional development	SP
Relationships with students	SP
Teachers work well with each other	SP
Very into relationships; they care about people	SP
So far, we have been able to hire strong teachers, I see this as a strength.	SPEC
BCSD does well with the very competent staff, and the curriculum is excellent	SPEC
Blaine County School District responds to the needs of their students.	SPEC
Compensation	SPEC
Hire highly qualified teachers and train them well	SPEC
I think that there is a high level of excellence in our district and I'm happy to be part of it.	SPEC
I think the greatest strength of our district is that teachers are supported and respected.	SPEC
Positives: -Teacher qualifications -Professional development -Facilities - One High School -Ed Foundation	SPEC
Staff that truly cares for the students; sacrifices time & energy to make this a great school district.	SPEC
They take care of their teachers with pay and benefits. They also really think what is in the best interest of their students.	SPEC
We do well educating the whole child	SPEC
Better salaries to teachers relative to the state of Idaho	SR
Good strengths are the teachers; some very good and then there are the others	SR
Quality of the administration, their vision, their commitment to excellence and	SR

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strengths

their elected and dedicated board.	
Teachers & staff are top notch	SR
QUALITY STAFF (cont.)	
BCSD has an exception staff	SUP
Caring and committed staff, resources available (financially stable)	SUP
Great staff	SUP
I feel that Blaine County has superb teachers who are qualified and knowledgeable in their subject areas as well as excited about the students and schools in which they teach.	SUP
Mentoring—has been a history here; it has worked well	SUP
Offer a social worker at each school	SUP
Our teachers have empathy and are trying to meet all demands that have been thrust upon them from No Child Left Behind	SUP
Outstanding teachers and staff that are dedicated to the students.	SUP
Qualified Staff	SUP
Quality, caring, dedicated teachers & faculty	SUP
Staff members are doing good to be on top of everything from education to the kids social life	SUP
Teaching staff is outstanding	SUP
The strengths of any district is their STAFF! Without them it's a waste of time.	SUP
The teachers are well trained and keep the students engaged in their education	SUP
Tremendous collection of highly qualified educators in all areas	SUP
Good coaches, great athletic talent -elementary and MS use of field trips	TRAN
Hiring staff	TRAN
Quality of staff	TRAN
District is proactive and wise to involve social work services as a part of their educational program	Y
Great teachers elementary principals are excellent use of facilities	Y
Providing staff that focus on social/emotional needs of students and how that relates to academic success.	Y
School social workers lead students at risk to our therapeutic horse back riding program	Y
Social workers, behavioral specialists, occupational therapists)have been essential in these areas of increasing need.	
The district has a strong team of support staff.	
ARTS	
Allowing outside organizations to do arts programming with the schools	ART
Allowing students to visit the gallery, do hands on projects, & encouraging teachers and administrators to take time out from their classroom to have visiting artists, musicians and humanists spend time with their students.	ART
Arts very important exposure for the students, especially to know that arts are an alternative option	ART
BCSD has made a good commitment to get all band, orchestra and choir programs going. There are music specialists in all schools.	ART

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strengths

Exposure to the arts which most public schools do not do at all	ART
Great that schools have been so open to the involvement of groups like the Sun Valley Center for the Arts and other arts organizations	ART

ARTS (cont)	
Great visiting artists programs at the schools. Keep it up!	ART
Music classes are offered in voice, band and orchestra in the middle and high schools.	ART
Offer band, choir and orchestra	ART
We offer art at the elementary level which is good because some districts do not. The middle school has 2 teachers who offer art classes.	ART
Offer good programs, liberal arts/athletics, comprehensive with extra-curricular. I've been pretty impressed with staff.	BIZ
We are lucky to have the Arts; Recently hired young people, have good language and spelling skills	BIZ
After school programs like sports, dance group, keep kids occupied.	HISP
Electives-art, choices allow students to find out what they are good at.	HS
I feel that Wood River HS does a great job with its music and theater programs	ML
After school programs (Art)	P
Arts/Specials	P
Great opportunities in the arts (band, choir, orchestra, visual arts). a wide variety of elective classes	P
Offers a diverse curriculum (tech, computers, music, art)	P
They're still teaching Art, Music and Science Technology.	P
Fortunate to have special reading programs, art, music, tech, and P.E. and a computer lab at the elementary level.	PRE
Provides a rich curriculum and diverse opportunities for students.	PRE
Inclusion of arts, music, tech, sports and PE create well rounded student. Continue with these programs but I don't mean build a performing arts center.	PTA
Music programs	PTA
Education of kids, in broadest sense, is great compared to other districts in state and out of state	TRAN
Extra curricular involvement, i.e. sports, the performing arts, tutoring or other work within the community	UNIV
COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT	
Access to teachers/principals is excellent	ALT
Good letters of recommendations, teachers really know their students, students prepared emotionally, socially and academically communication between public and private schools administrators:	ALT
SWRMS gatherings of all the families (in a grade) for meals is important.	ALT
Community Campus has been a wonderful asset.	ART
Ed. Foundation—Really bigger grants to support the District	BD
Patrons are very well educated—they do not let things slide	BD
Supportive community	BD
Well educated and wealthy community with high potential of parent and community involvement	BIZ
Connect to community;	CO
Caring community-it shows up in the way the district views issues related to	DO

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strengths

students and staff	
COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT (cont.)	
Community has a lot of activities	DO
Education-minded community, wants the best education for their children in financing, overall appreciation of education and programs	DO
Everyone knows the vision	DO
Linked with Blaine County recreation	DO
Public trust	DO
Very open to input from community; We use lots of ways to bring information to people and also give people a way to communicate to us	DO
Good communication with parents and public	EL
Public effort (like this) – long range planning Academies	GOV
Seems to be well-regarded in the community	GOV
Individualized opportunity, Caucasian teen integration within the educational and community environment, hires gifted teachers.	H
Integrating the community with the student’s educational experience	H
This is a great community	H
The frequent conferences, the parent teacher conferences for example, and that we talk together, creates good communication.	HISP
Good collaboration (communication) with the teachers.	HISP
Good contact between parents and teachers.	HISP
I have seen that the schools are concerned with providing good conferences for the students and the teachers are of high quality.	HISP
Outreach programs to parents.	HISP
Parent teacher conferences; teachers make themselves available to speak w/parents.	HISP
Parents and teachers together	HISP
Teacher willingness to communicate with Latino parents.	HISP
Active community involvement in schools.	LAW
Do well with the types of kids we have.	LAW
The District interaction with the community is good. The Alternative School and Barge Levy are a HUGE asset to the District and the Community.	LAW
Tries to build community consensus.	LAW
Tries to communicate well with community. Education kids - doing the best.	LAW
We communicate with the community very well.	ML
At this time, they are very communicative with the community at large	P
Blends the part-time families into the school system.	P
Class ratio to teacher, safe environment, resources & materials are available to students & teachers	P
Communication between schools and parents, bilingual education, GATE program, small class sizes	P
Communication with the community	P
Communication! Excellent between teachers and all staff at least my experience at Hemingway.	P

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COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT (cont.)	
District conducts a great public relations campaign to justify the amount of money it spends.	P
I really appreciate all of the email communication District has very good school facilities	P
Involvement of parents, open meetings, strategic planning . Allow the Elementary schools to be individuals	P
Involves the community in the educational process. Continually educates themselves and brings new ideas into our district.	P
Keeping lines of communication open between teachers and administrators.	P
Listens	P
Parent support	P
Responsive to parents' concerns.	P
Sense of community connection.	P
Strategic planning (asking for community input)	P
The Community Campus is a fantastic asset to our entire valley.	P
Transportation, teacher to student ratio	P
Tries to involve community in large decisions/planning process;	P
Clubs for kids to get involved with -our community campus is wonderful, what a great use of space	PRE
I think they are community focused with parents and students involved in activities/events at schools.	PRE
Parents aux. support our schools -teachers go out of their way to help kids	PRE
Partnerships with community organizations; Community Campus is a tremendous resource	PRE
Sharing of information and communication throughout the district	PRE
Great services for the lower 10-20% and the top 5%	PTA
Lot of smart people in the community to add to the quality of schools in the community	PTA
Small class sizes	PTA
Community involvement	SP
gets input from community	SP
Involving all stakeholders from the community, parents, students, and school personnel in decision making.	SP
More of a people-to-people atmosphere; we talk to one another	SP
Professional learning community process; we develop shared vision as a school	SP
Respect of the community	SP
Teacher input; they appreciate giving input & being listened	SP
Tremendous community support	SP
We have good communication at the administrative level	SP
We maintain positive working relationships with community	SP
I believe there are enough meetings, planning and presentation being done.	SPEC

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strengths

Professional Learning communities are starting to develop	SPEC
COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT (cont.)	
A strength is that the district has a goal of smaller classes but still too large; 14 students should be the number.	SR
Communication with email, grading system, newspaper , good website	SR
Seek community input more than most other districts in Idaho.	SR
Small classroom size and individualized learning	SR
WRHS events are great!	SR
BCSD plays a significant leadership role in the web of the community; housing, transportation, community access to facilities, etc.	SUP
Citizens of Blaine County realize that making an investment in our youth means strengthening our local and world societies.	SUP
Communicates with the public and listens to public's every concern.	SUP
District includes parents, students and community members	SUP
District works closely with community organizations that provide further assistance for kids	SUP
Outreach to the community, which is comprised of communication updates on programs,	SUP
Parent support is very high for the District and for education	SUP
Community involvement is a plus.	UNIV
Collaborating with the supportive local community, allowing and encouraging their involvement	Y
Communication with parents and community	Y
The school policy	Y
District treats its faculties with respect and includes us in the decision making process	
CLASS SIZE	
Responsiveness of the administration to listen to needs of private school	ALT
Class size	BIZ
Class size teacher pay safety	BIZ
Class size - teachers (but worry many will retire soon)	BIZ
Class size - teachers (but worry many will retire soon)	BIZ
Student Ratios Elementary and MS teachers good - very interested in kids New facilities	BIZ
The commitment to small class sizes, teacher pay and classroom budget, and facilities.	EL
Small class size.	G
Most of the classes are quite small except for the preschool!	H
Has many resources. Builds beautiful buildings. Offers low class size.	HS
Carey students spend time with the same teachers; there is more of a sense of community built in this way.	ML
Keep classes fairly small	ML
Manageable class sizes.	ML
Advantages of being small district	P

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CLASS SIZE (cont.)	
Class sizes around 20	P
Has a low student/teacher ratio tries to involve parents and the community with education tries to plan ahead, seek out new programs, recruit good teachers	P
I love the small class size and the 'it takes a village' sensibility	P
Impressed with the student/teacher ratio	P
Low student/teacher ratio, Great Tech program at Hemingway Elementary	P
Low teacher/student ratio	P
Small class size	P
Small class size parent involvement great love the specials. TECH is great.	P
Small class sizes Beautiful buildings and facilities	P
Small class sizes, engaged teachers, tech program	P
Small teacher-pupil ratios	P
Special class size helps children build self-esteem; individual needs are addressed whether needing extra help or accelerated learning.	P
Student to teacher ratio is excellent for the most part, enabling teachers to know students on a deeper level.	P
TECH program, HTV, KWN, great teachers, small class size, parent involvement	P
Would also like to see all Kindergarten and first grade class sizes reduced to fifteen students or under	P
Class ratio is good, but is becoming a concern in the south area. Supportive parents,	PRE
Low teacher to student ratio benefits all	PTA
Small class sizes nice facilities music programs	PTA
Commitment to low student-teacher ratios	SP
Our size supports intimate conversations; used to have more community conversations than we have the past few years	SP
Small class sizes	SP
Smaller class sizes	SP
Small class loads	SUP
Small class sizes	SUP
Holding class sizes to reasonable level	TRAN
Student/teacher ratio appears to be good and accessibility of parents to teachers and administration is good	UNIV
Student-teacher ratio	Y
TECHNOLOGY	
I've heard good things about the computer lab at the middle school	ALT
Prepare children for testing communicate with parents and the community provide a safe environment to learn technology program	ALT
Elementary and middle school technology programs	ART
In Middle School, exposure to different kinds of computer programs is great and it shouldn't be an elective, but compulsory.	ART

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strengths

The tech classes are great and need to be expanded	ART
TECHNOLOGY (cont.)	
The tech programs have been strong. I like WRMS team structure and the protection of the 6th graders	ART
Skyward program has helped counselors	BD
Technology - computers	BIZ
Could go further with the training becoming certified Microsoft technicians etc. for more advanced students	CH
Providing technology and being current and up to date and getting students to be computer literate has been done well too	CH
Public schools need to make a shift and offer credits in computer training.	CH
We use cutting edge technology and have many special support programs to identify student needs in order to address them. Kids don't fall through the cracks.	EL
Middle school tech program Academy program	G
Skyward	GOV
Keeps parents informed through Skyward	H
Tech is wonderful and I'm glad there is PE @ all schools.	H
Good computers.	HISP
Modern Schools with technology	HISP
Public relations, technology, funding teaching materials, land acquisition and planning for growth, Improving attention to at risk kids,	HS
Facilities and technology.	ML
Use of technology in all areas-both students and staff.	ML
My generation is a computer/internet generation; our schools need to adjust to their students' lifestyles.	NG
I like having Skyward. I love the convenience of WRMS parent info via email.	P
Builds buildings Procures Land Skyward Family Access	P
Computer labs reading focus in the elementary	P
Provided internet access and computers available to every child.	P
Providing state of the art technology to teach with and to be more effective educators	P
SkyNet is an extremely useful tool in keeping tabs on our children and their developmental goals and pitfalls.	P
Skyward – communication	P
Skyward, for the most part, has been a great tool for parents to keep track of our student's progress.	P
Technology opportunities are very good. They hire excellent teachers	P
Technology program	P
Technology program	P
They have very amazing technology for the children to learn. The schools are not to big you don't know everyone.	P
Great access to technology for students	PRE
Having new and updated materials to teach with	PRE

Legend: ALT – Alternative School; ART– Arts; BIS-Business; CH – church; CO –community; DIST – District Dept.; DO – District Office; EL –elementary teacher; G – Recent Graduate; GOV – Government; H – Health Care; HISP – Hispanic; HS – hs teacher; LAW – Law enforcement; MED – Media; MH – Mental Health provider; ML –Middle Level teacher; NG – non-graduate; P –parent; PRE – Preschool/daycare; PTA – PTA;SP – School Principal ; SPEC- Special Area Teacher; SR – Senior citizen; SUP – Support Personnel; TRAN – Transportation; UNIV – College/Universities; Y – Youth Organization

TECHNOLOGY (cont.)	
Identify student needs provide staffing and resources providing technological resources	PRE
It does a great job involving the community and communicating with the community.	PRE
Technology resources are high quality	PRE
Website is very comprehensive	PRE
Communication via the web site facilitates productivity and unity.	SPEC
Tracking student's progress through our database software Horizontal and vertical teams in place in the elementary level	SPEC
Computer ed.	SR
Residential Construction Academy *Kids are learning better that they used to.	SR
Technology—high level available	SUP
The skyward program	SUP
Have great technology base ahead of many school districts	
MISCELLANEOUS	
Home school had not been established well before, but is so well proved by those entering college. Cooperating better and that cooperation is a solid	ALT
Great students	BD
We don't settle for average; we strive to improve	BD
Try hard	DO
Middle School High School	EL
Yes, it does.	EL
Update the facilities.	LAW
Are we still a 'middle school'? Do we operate on the middle school philosophy?	ML
I have not been overly impressed, as a parent, with what goes on in my son's classroom. I don't see much work coming home in the way of homework.	ML
Cohorts seem to be working well in 9th grade for both students and teachers.	P
Daughter in kindergarten, limited knowledge of what the district is doing well	P
I do not know yet.	P
I have no complaints at the moment	P
It's time to CHANGE the way we teach all students!!	P
Kids are respectful	P
Since I'm the parent of a kindergartner, I don't feel I've had enough experience yet to really know	P
The district fosters failure to speak the language of the USA, English. Time is wasted in the learning process.	P
Things are good at Carey school and in Blaine County	SP
Kids out of school, I don't pay much attention; couldn't give specifics relating to the district	SPEC
Everything as far as I know.	SR

MISCELLANEOUS (cont.)	
We would like to see weighted and unweighted GPA	UNIV
Social workers, therapists and special education teachers have done a phenomenal job in communicating with our organization's therapists on how we can best serve children with disabilities.	Y
High school has welcomed HS student to participate in sports	ALT
We are climbing toward excellence, we are not there yet , its continuous improvement but it drives us	DO
Great facilities	EL
A few years ago I would have responded it is a place where students receive one of the best educations in the state; where they can learn to love a subject/subjects.	HS
Special services for ESL and IEP students	HS
Students are asked to perform at much higher levels than at my previous district.	HS
There is a high level of expectations and the students strive to reach that level.	HS
There is a strong feeling of support from the administration and patrons.	HS
We build well. We build.	HS
We can offer unique programs because of our financial basis. Skyward is fabulous program.	HS
We have great facilities and student to staff ratio. We attempt to make decisions based on data and seem committed to improvement.	HS
Staff and teachers who care about educating our children.	P
6th grade environmental school is a great program--lots of work but worth it.	P
Support for the lower-achieving students and those who don't fit into the system or have busy schedules that require time out of school (alternative school, Cynthia Carr, IDLA).	P
BCSD used to treat all of their employees like professionals. It used to feel like our input and ideas were listen to and respected.	PRE
I would not be able to say because I am not familiar with the district. Hopefully it is to educate our kids.	SR
District asks for public input and information very well	Y