

# Education

We value a quality local education system that challenges students in a safe learning environment so that all students are capable of building a better future.

## Subthemes

- Safe schools
- Financial and geographic accessibility
- Address bullying and cyber bullying
- Job readiness programming
- Engaging and engaged teachers
- Engaged families
- Athletic programs
- After school programming
- Arts
- Community spirit
- Education for all stages of life



## What's Underway

In the last few years, we've seen...

- the successful implementation of the Going Places Project, a mobile early learning classroom that brings information to families where they are and emphasizes the importance of high quality early learning
- three seasons of Grow Meadville, a summer program for teens that builds relationships with place and peers through cooking, growing food, and problem-solving
- the establishment of the Creating Landscapes Early Learning Center, a childcare center providing high-quality early learning

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## Action 1 Increase access to counseling services for students and families

### Overview

To further address the traumas experienced within our community, residents have indicated a desire for a more robust system of counseling opportunities available to both students and their families. Working with Systems of Care, the Meadville Medical Center, and mental health providers in the community, the intention is to develop a system of affordable psychological professionals who can support and guide students and their families through difficult circumstances, empowering them to seek out help and healing in a variety of ways without relying on referrals from a Primary Care Physician. Additionally, a stronger emphasis on mental health awareness and care will allow for the community as a whole to develop stronger resiliency strategies.

#### Supporting Partners

- Crawford County System of Care

#### Community Values

- ✓ Health & Safety

## Action 2 Sustain Summer Parks Program

### Overview

Many residents have expressed concerns over the lack of educational opportunities available to students during the summer. Community members have pinpointed the parks as a location for education and student engagement to continue over the school break, equipping students with preparations for the following school year and minimizing activities or actions which can place youth in physically harmful situations. After hearing this, a version of the Summer Parks Program has been revived, but it needs a permanent organizational home, funding sources, and a promotional strategy.

#### Lead Solution Partner

- Summer Parks Program
- Crawford County Systems of Care
- City of Meadville

#### Supporting Partners

- Crawford Central School District
- French Creek Valley Conservancy
- Creek Connections
- Going Places
- MLK Mentoring

#### Community Values

- ✓ Health & Safety
- ✓ Small Town
- ✓ Nature
- ✓ Children & Youth

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## Action 3 Encourage school board to reflect community

### Overview

My Meadville has listened to the concerns of many residents who feel far removed from school board decisions that affect their children and their community. Residents have suggested promoting 2-3 local parent and 2-3 student community representatives to serve on the school board in order to have resident concerns addressed and make Crawford Central School District more reflective of the community it serves.

### Lead Solution Partner

- Local leadership (2-3 parent representatives, 2-3 student representatives)

### Existing Resources

- Parent Teacher Association/Organization

### Community Values

- ✓ Small Town

