



BEAVER COUNTY PARTNERSHIP
community & economic growth



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Media Briefing State of Education in Beaver County

February 15, 2022



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Speaker

Daniel J. Matsook, Ed.D.,
QEC K-12 Project Leader
Beaver County Partnership



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Three-Year History

- **2018** – Grant funding – PA Dept. of Education
- **2019** – Phase 1 completed; results analyzed
- **Late 2019/Early 2020** – Study shared with stakeholders – Phase 2
- **March 2, 2020** – Public meeting
- **May – September 2020** – RFP developed, posted
- **October 2020** – Johns Hopkins University selected
- **November 2020/February 2021** – Planning, scheduling finalized
- **Spring 2021** – Research begins



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Project Status



- Data Collection



- Community Engagement



- Plan for Implementation



- To Be Determined



We are here.



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Speaker

Charles “Skip” Homan,
Vice Chair, Board of Directors
Beaver County Partnership



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Beaver County Partnership

- Formed in 2016
- Public/private partnership
- Population growth
- Volunteers
- Five areas of concentration



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Get Beaver County Growing Again



**Economic/
Job Growth**



**Desirable
Housing**



**Quality
of Place**



**Good
Government**



**Quality
Education**



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Thank You!

State Senators Camera Bartolotta and Elder Vogel, Jr.

State Representatives Jim Marshall, Robert Matzie and Joshua Kail

The Grable Foundation

Beaver County Educational Trust

several anonymous individuals



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External Project Team

Center for Research and Reform in Education (CRRE) at
Johns Hopkins University

Community Catalyst Partners (CCP)

TMSolution, Inc. – The Management Solution (TMS)



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Speaker

Steven Ross, Ph.D.,

Director of the Center for Research and Reform in Education

Johns Hopkins University



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Financial, Equity and Systems Gap Analysis: Removing Barriers and Creating Opportunities in Education in Beaver County, Pennsylvania

The Center for Research and Reform in Education

in collaboration with

Community Catalyst Partners

and

The Management Solution



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Goals Toward Educational Quality, Equity and Community Growth

Provide the QEC and the Community with:

- Data and findings on education, finance, community growth
- Cross-sector stakeholder perceptions
- Profiles of “successful” (benchmarking comparison) communities
- *Possible solution strategies for Phase IV (Implementation)*



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Major Findings

Current and Future Conditions:

- Enrollments in nearly all of the 14 school districts have declined; overall county population has declined over the past decade.
- Compared to the “benchmarking” communities examined, Beaver County had the lowest ratio of local to total funding.
- Compared to the four other PA districts, Beaver County also had the lowest proportion of total spending for instruction.
- Revenues increased less than expenditures for six districts.
- Clear inequities exist across districts in financial health.



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Major Findings

Stakeholder Perceptions:

- Positive about the community as a safe and pleasant place to live.
- Concerns about:
 - The capacity of small school districts to provide cutting-edge and comprehensive programming.
 - Inequities in educational opportunities across districts.
 - Ability of BC to attract and keep younger families relative to wealthier neighboring counties.
 - (From students) Insular environments at small schools, over-emphasis on athletics (football), lack of opportunity in BC.



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Possible Solutions

- Strengthening School Districts
- Enhancing County Education
- Engaging the Community



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Speaker

Susan Smith,

Board Member, Big Beaver Falls Area School District

Youth Ambassador Program



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Speakers

Sarah Dettinger,

Senior, Blackhawk High School

Chayne Sims,

Senior, Lincoln Park Performing Arts Charter School



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Speaker

Dr. Donald E. Sheffield,

Education Consultant & President, TAME Inc.

Equity Leadership & Cultural Competency Consultant for the Beaver County System of Care & the Inclusion, Diversity, Awareness Council (IDAC)

Member of the WPIAL Equity Advisory Council



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Choose a date to attend

In Person

.....

- Town hall at CCBC
- Saturday, Feb. 19,
10am
- Town hall at Beaver
County YMCA
- Saturday, Feb. 26,
2pm



Scan QR code to attend a virtual Zoom session



Virtual

.....

- Town hall on Zoom
- Thursday, Feb. 17, 6pm
- Town hall on Zoom
- Monday, Feb. 21, 6pm
- Town hall on Zoom
- Wednesday Feb. 23, 6pm



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Questions?