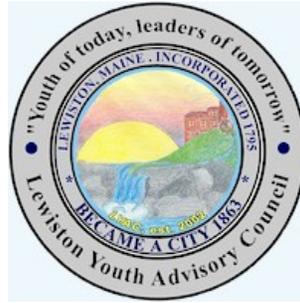


Lewiston Youth Advisory Council

July 10, 2018



Results of 2018 Youth Survey

At the request of Mayor Shane Bouchard, the Lewiston Youth Advisory Council (LYAC) has surveyed Lewiston youth over the last three months. Mayor Bouchard was interested in the perceptions that different age groups have about Lewiston. LYAC discussed his request and thought it fit well with our ongoing outreach about Lewiston's positives and all that's here for residents and visitors alike. We surveyed 4th graders, 8th graders, and 12th graders.

Online survey sent to LHS seniors – **65 responded (out of 235 seniors)**

Online survey sent to LMS 8th graders – **33 responded (out of 373 students)**

Paper copy sent to St. Dom's 8th graders – **15 responded (out of 38 students)**

LYAC met with 368 fourth graders from Lewiston's 6 elementary schools.*

**Slightly lower if there were absences on the day of LYAC's visits.*

Hunter Steele, LYAC's Vice-Chair, took all the responses LYAC received and used bubble WordArt software to analyze the data.

You will note that the "**bigger**" words indicate a larger percentage of a certain response. St. Dom's responses are in a red box to indicate there were 15 participating students out of a very small 8th grade student body, so percentage wise, their words can look very big. St. Dom's responses were included in the overall question response tally.

BORN OR MOVED HERE – Self-explanatory per school

FAVORITE THING IN LEWISTON

- #1 Schools
- #2 Sense of community
- #3 Restaurants

LEWISTON IN THEIR FUTURE

- #1 Leave & Return, to Include Going Away to College
- #2 Stay Here, to Include College Here (Several LHS seniors picked this)
- #3 Leave; Never Return

WHY WOULD YOU STAY OR RETURN?

- #1 Family
- #2 Friends
- #3 Activities

WHAT DO YOU WANT IN YOUR COMMUNITY WHEN YOU'RE AN ADULT?

- #1 Good jobs/career
- #2 Family/friends
- #3 Safe community

FOR THOSE WANTING TO LEAVE LEWISTON, WHAT WOULD KEEP YOU FROM LIVING IN LEWISTON AS AN ADULT?

- #1 Danger/violence
- #2 Dirty/lots of litter
- #3 Lack of opportunities

WHAT TYPE OF HOUSING DO YOU WANT AS AN ADULT? (Other choices were: apartment, condominiums, and co-op living)

#1 Large home

#2 Medium-sized home (LYAC can relate with LHS seniors who picked this)

#3 Small-sized homes

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO CHANGE ABOUT LEWISTON?

#1 Schools – INTERESTING SINCE SCHOOLS WERE THE FAVORITE THING ABOUT LEWISTON THAT WAS SHARED.

#2 Would like Lewiston to be cleaner

#3 Would like more activities

WHAT ARE COMMENTS THAT YOU HEAR SAID ABOUT LEWISTON?

#1 “Dirty Lew”

#2 That it’s a bad place

#3 That it’s a dangerous place

OPINION OF THE LEWISTON YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL

That last slide was concerning to LYAC, as we **KNOW** that Lewiston is **SO MUCH MORE** than negative comments. We’ve been doing outreach to enhance Lewiston’s image, and **WE WILL CONTINUE!**

When LYAC thinks of Lewiston, this is what comes to mind:

- Interesting history/heritage
- Restaurants/bakeries
- Its four colleges (Purdue Global, Bates, USM LA, and Maine College of Health Professions)
- Thriving arts community, to include theatre
- Art Walk

- The Dempsey Challenge
- Androscoggin Bank Colisee
- Its people
- Diversity
- Cultural opportunities
- Hotels/conference centers
- Thriving downtown with new businesses
- Award-winning sports teams
- Excellent schools
- Many festivals
- Two major hospitals AND MORE!