

Education C.A.T. Driving Forces and SWOT Statements

Revised by Ed. CAT Team 04/04/07

Driving forces

- 1.) High student mobility undermines the ability to educate.
- 2.) Rising poverty limits student readiness and stresses school resources.
- 3.) Increased diversity reflects the larger world. However, it challenges existing educational structures.

Strengths

- 1.) Educational options are numerous for all ages.
- 2.) Diversity provides rich cultural experiences.
- 3.) “The Lakewood 50 –Year Plan” provides new and renovated schools and current and technology rich facilities.

Weaknesses

- 1.) Lack of effort to teach reasoning process.
- 2.) Teaching to the extremes impairs education of the majority (need to bring up the middle).
- 3.) Parental involvement is low.

Opportunities

- 1.) Community resources are plentiful, i.e. the YMCA, public library, Beck Center, Lakewood Early Childhood Parent Teacher Association.
- 2.) There is money that exists via grants/foundations.
- 3.) Vocational programming is broad and strong.

Threats

- 1.) There are unprepared preschoolers entering kindergarten.
- 2.) NCLB is an unfunded no-win situation for a diverse community.
- 3.) Pop culture creates sub-standard thinkers.