

Ballard Memorial High School
Students living in 42024
October 21, 2014

Eleven students from the Barlow zip code participated in an open discussion about the future of Barlow as part of the Strategic Planning Process. A special thanks to school staff member, Julie Thomas, and students: Tyler Berry, Dustin Bowles, Cody Newton, Christian Roberts, Clay Newton, Lexie Scott, McKinsey Laster, Aliyia Caldwell, Patra Caldwell, Jackson Abell, and Madalin Bergeron.

Barlow Mayor John Wood introduced Tad Long, Bobbie Bryant and Trish Varney from the Kentucky League of Cities and asked students to share their ideas about the community. The following comments were recorded:

What do you value about Barlow?

- Everybody's close
- People are helpful
- Ag-based, rural
- We have a park, a place for play
- Very friendly
- New speed bumps in town

What would you like to have in Barlow that is not currently here?

- Gas station
- Food service/restaurant
- Shopping
- Red box like the one in LaCenter located here in Barlow
- Gym, place to work out, exercise, play basketball
- Better sidewalks along Highway 60
- Hiking trails with easier access
- Conservation outpost for conservation, offer training such as gun safety
- Star bucks or some type of coffee shop with internet connections
- Youth center after school
- Paint ball games and corn maze, things for young people to do
- Park equipment needs to be upgraded for safety reasons
- An event to bring everyone into town – need more participation than Barlow Days – nothing for young people to do. Students suggest the following be added:
 - Basketball game, perhaps a pick up tournament
 - Corn hoe tournament
 - Inflatables
 - Need to host the event in a larger space, not enough room
 - Portable or permanent bathrooms
- Other items that were discussed included the recent greenhouse installed at the high school and the opportunity to grow vegetables for local use and/or sale.
- The students also discussed businesses related to the bottoms such as a taxidermist, hunting clubs, fishing and hunting licenses, bait, and tackle.