

Baldwin High School Essay Contest

The Importance of Local Government in our Daily Lives

By

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Baldwin Township

I believe the greatest way to be fulfilled in my life and make an impact in my community is to be involved in my local government. Citizens of Baldwin township are directly impacted by the way our local government operates and runs. Keeping order and creating a cooperative lifestyle for its citizens is an extremely difficult task, and takes the combined effort of many leaders. I believe it is the responsibility of every citizen to participate at some level in our local government and give back to our community.

I have a great interest in local government. I've attended both a Baldwin township meeting and a Princeton City Council meeting. I took College Government class in High School this past year and learned a lot about how our different levels of government work. I also attended the Republican Caucus and a lot about what that party stands for and wants to accomplish. I have many family members that have served in their local offices. I admire them and am grateful for their service. One day I would like to also serve.

Our citizens are directly impacted by our local government. Building requirements, housing restrictions, and park development and maintenance are just a few examples of how our township can help create a safe and enjoyable environment to live in. It is good to have this structure and expectations of what our community is, and require our citizens to follow what is reasonably expected.

Keeping a diverse group of individuals happy in their community is very complex and the local government needs to gauge what our citizens desire. It takes many individuals, both paid and volunteer, to coordinate and work together on a plan for the future of our township. The combined effort of all our leaders along with work and positive attitudes of our citizens will create a thriving community.

I believe it is the responsibility of every citizen to participate at some level in our local government and give back to our community. Participation can be as small as attending township meetings and voicing constructive ideas on how to better our community. It can be as big as running for local office and holding a full time leadership position to work on making our community great. In either case, it is necessary for us all to work together for a nurturing environment for our families.

In closing, I would like to thank the leaders in our community and volunteers who have dedicated their time and talents to make Baldwin Township such a great place to live. I look forward to learning more about government on all levels in college. I hope to give back someday and be a leader in local government to make positive changes in my community.