

Wisconsin Towns Essay Scholarship Questions

“What can Wisconsin’s Leaders do to increase young adult interest in serving on a town board?”

As a young adult, I believe that Wisconsin’s leaders could ideally create a system for young adults, like myself, to learn more about politics in general. I think that learning about politics can be a make-it-or-break-it for kids to want to be involved on a town board and involved in any type of politics. Currently, politics have a negative stigma and that can be a turn off for many youth. As youth, we do not know about the opportunities or impact made by being on a town board. I see firsthand the work involved and impact that can be made because my dad serves for our township. I think it would be helpful to have students hear from board members in person at school and to have learning programs or ways to involve youth. Programs should be geared toward youth interests. As students, we can learn more about the roads and infrastructure and systems for budgeting and maintenance.

As a freshman in high school, I was interested in the growth of our community and spent many hours researching and brainstorming how to improve the community. I presented my ideas to the town board and the G.R.O (Grantsburg revitalization committee) and pitched my ideas on roads, trails, buildings, and businesses. I wanted the committee to hear from a younger person’s perspective. If opportunities to learn about WTA were shared with myself and youth in our area, there might be more interest and understanding about the importance of the decisions made by our town representatives. I think currently, it is lack of education and we have not been taught in school about how to pursue leadership opportunities.

Our local government must continue to hear from youth and involve youth. We must find ways to encourage youth to learn and to become interested in serving locally. Young adults must remember that “The youth of today are the Leaders of tomorrow” as quote by Nelson Mandela. I strongly believe in this quote because young adults are the hope for our future by creating more leaders and will be the budge to what evolves in the future.

I am so thankful to have the opportunity to apply for this scholarship that I have a connection with. I believe in working hard to achieve what I believe in and I know that the WTA works to make positive changes that affect town members. I have always had an interest in maps and creating plans for towns and businesses. As I go off to college, I am excited to work in a field that helps others and to see how my interests in town development could later play a part in my future.

Thank you for your consideration in contributing to my college and career success.

Sincerely,

Chase Doornink, Class of 2022