

I love living in my community because it is a prosperous place that promotes growth and harmony. This community is Zelienople, PA, a place that makes everyone feel at home. I have never experienced an ounce of hate or negativity when in this town. Growing up here has been a blessing, because there is not another tight-knit small town that is this prosperous and active. There is never a day when you will not see anyone on the sidewalk. There is never a day when you walk past someone, and they do not say "hi". There is a level of trust and honesty across the whole community that is hard to explain, because it is very cemented into the way Zelienople operates.

The amount of activities and involvement this community offers is incomparable as well. Anything from Horse Trading Days to the Fourth of July Firework Show, there is always an activity to bring the community together over one subject. There is something very heartwarming about being surrounded by small, family-owned businesses that put their customers before any profits. Home extends out of your house when you can walk into any store, and the workers know your name.

Another huge part of this community is the school district. Seneca Valley offers some of the best public-school education in all of the country. This is a place where further growth is facilitated. The staff give everything they can to ensure that our educational goals are reached. The support system for students is like none other. I appreciate how they balance their focus on not just education, but all extra-curricular activities. This school has shaped me into who I am today. If I went to any other school, I don't think my professional goals, educational goals, or athletic goals would match what I have now. Seneca Valley isn't only focused on their students presently; they also focus on their students' futures. They take every step possible to help push

their students to succeed in life and help them discover who they are. Also, the school district is always offering opportunities for their students to contribute back to the community through volunteering activities. Personally, I have been able to volunteer in Zelienople many times. The most touching one was when I was able to volunteer at C.V.E. to help promote STEM activities to younger students. It rushed me with many old memories of when I was in elementary school. It was truly touching knowing that I was part of the community contributing to the growth of the youth, hopefully helping to shape their successful futures. I have nothing but love and gratefulness for this community. I will forever be in debt to Zelienople, as it has shaped me to be the person I am today.