Strategic Planning Steering Committee



MINUTES MARCH 25, 2025

Committee Membership: Tonya Merrigan, Kyle Hayden, Katie Collier, Mark Schmidt, Kaci Brutto, Kristi McNerlin, Jeremy McFadden, Courtney Domoney, Carrie Meyers, Lisa Wingfield, Jocelyn Rabbitt, Bill Smithymon, Dan Freeman, Rebecca Wayland, Sonya Evans, Jan Kessinger, Mike Huebner, Emily Yeretsky, David Brown, Prasad Saraph, Anne Geisler, Scott Bronson, Lindsay Weiss, Jackie Chang, Ishika Katukam, Katie Coughlin, Alana Lewis, Eric Punswick, Gretchen Anderson, Hannah Krueger, Brian Daley, Patrick Hurley, Charles Golden, Rasheed Mantara

WELCOME AND RECAP

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 a.m. The committee began with a welcome and brief recap of the strategic planning process to date, including milestones achieved and upcoming deadlines.

The committee reviewed and reaffirmed the proposed mission statement: "Cultivating lifelong learners prepared to navigate their future with purpose."

Members agreed that the mission statement meets the criteria of being shorter, memorable, and a reflection of the district's core values and purpose.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

The committee discussed three proposed options for strategic priorities:

- Dual Priorities:
 - O Advancing Academic Excellence & Exceptional Student Experiences
 - Fostering Supportive and Healthy School Communities
- Dual Priorities with Educator Emphasis:
 - Advancing Academic Excellence & Exceptional Student Experiences (with specific reference to exceptional educators)
 - Fostering Supportive and Healthy School Communities (with emphasis on the role of dedicated educators)
- Three Priorities:
 - O Advancing Academic Excellence & Exceptional Student Experiences
 - Fostering Supportive and Healthy School Communities
 - Empowering Exemplary Educators and Staff

After thoughtful discussion, the committee approved the three-priorities option, recognizing how the proposed priorities are interconnected and emphasizing the vital role of exemplary educators in achieving district goals.

REVIEW CORE VALUES

The committee reviewed feedback from the Core Values Survey and community comment cards. Survey results indicated strong support for the following core values:

- Belonging: We foster a culture of inclusivity and respect, where every student, staff member, and family feels valued and supported.
- Student-Centered: We put students at the center of everything we do, ensuring equitable opportunities for success and well-being.
- **Excellence**: We pursue excellence through continuous improvement, innovation, and resilience in all that we do.

Members supported these core values but requested that administration consider replacing 'student-centered' with a noun to align with the other values.

REVIEW STRATEGIES & ACTION STEPS

The committee engaged in a "Checks and Balances" activity, reviewing assigned strategies and action steps across several key areas.

Table groups provided feedback on the clarity of strategies, alignment with district goals, and any gaps in the proposed action steps. Suggestions will be compiled and reviewed at the April 22 meeting.

NEXT STEPS

The committee outlined the following next steps:

- April 14, 2025: Present the draft plan to the Board of Education at the Board Workshop.
- April 14-21, 2025: Gather staff and community feedback on the draft plan via a survey.
- April 22, 2025: Committee meets to review and incorporate feedback.
- May 12, 2025: Present the final draft to the Board of Education for approval.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 a.m.