

*Strategic Planning Community Meeting Feedback*

Girls HS Community Meeting (March 31, 2009)					
Strategic Goal Areas			Changes/Additions	Prioritization	Additional Comments/Questions
Student Success	Quality Instruction at All Levels	Early Childhood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>do not create early childhood standards in a vacuum</li> <li>-engage city agencies in developing regional early childhood centers</li> <li>-many teen parents want home-based options instead of attending regular high school, even with day care centers</li> <li>-provide PD for early childhood staff</li> <li>-provide home based materials</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>how do we support students who enter school behind?</li> <li>-would early childhood be mandatory? Need more details</li> <li>-what will be available for students who exit early childhood programs early but are too young for kindergarten?</li> <li>-where is there space for pre-K programs?</li> </ul>
		Elementary Schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>emotional intelligence curriculum for students</li> <li>-need alt ed options for elementary school students</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>what about class size reduction in grades other than K-3?</li> <li>-why is there not mention of teacher collaboration in elementary school?</li> </ul>
		Middle Schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>offer pre-AP classes in middle school</li> </ul>		
		High Schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>have team of teachers (4 core subject areas) work together to personalize experience for students</li> <li>-peer mentoring/tutoring for students</li> <li>-have college and career fairs for middle and high school students</li> <li>-more AP classes</li> <li>-more foreign languages offered and earlier</li> <li>-high schools need to be smaller</li> <li>-need more vocational programs in high schools</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>what is the plan to improve comprehensive high schools?</li> <li>-what is the purpose of having a school dedicated to developing teachers?</li> </ul>
		Core Curriculum			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>is the curriculum going to be rewritten to include the basics?</li> <li>-how do we address the different learning needs/styles of students?</li> </ul>

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<b>Student Success</b>	Specialized Services and Programs	English Language Learners			
		Special Education Learners	need resource rooms back with reading specialists -teachers need additional supports to serve special education learners		
		Gifted and Talented Learners			

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<b>Student Success</b>	Comprehensive Supports and Programs for All Students	Guidance and Counseling	number of counselors in schools should be increased		
		Athletics			
		Student Leadership			
		Remediation and Enrichment			
		Extra-Curricular and Co-Curricular Opportunities			

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<b>Student Success</b>	Comprehensive Supports and Programs for All Students	Work-Based Experiences	should utilize career change teachers who have experiences in world of work to build this up		what does this look like?
		Re-Engagement Programs			
		Health Education			
		Early Warning Indicator System			

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Student Success	Transition Services	Pre-K to K, Elementary to Middle School, Middle to High School			what about the transition between 3rd and 4th grade? Losing students here -what are the details of how this will work? -what about the transition from high school to college?
		Alternative Education			

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<b>Student Success</b>	Safe Learning Environment	Positive School Climates	CSAP process needs to be followed through, need additional personnel dedicated to CSAP -truancy courts needed in every region -need do better job of helping everyone understand what "respect" means -need PD for staff on CSAP and behavior support -need positive incentives for students in lower grades to decrease negative behavior -in-house suspension needs to be structured-use parent volunteers		what can we do as a community for safety?
		Clear Behavioral Expectations			
		Supports, Rewards, and Consequences	concern on compliance issues if special education students placed in in-school suspension -institute "in-house chores" along with in-house suspension as option for students		will there be funding and personnel to implement in-school suspension?

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Student Success	Parent and Family Engagement	Clear, On-Going, Relevant Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>need to have penalty for parents who are not involved (social services intervention?)</li> <li>-schools need to send positive communication also-parents will be more receptive because building relationship-not just hearing about negative</li> <li>-hesitation on auto-dial phone system</li> <li>-need to reach out more to parents</li> <li>-should have meetings at times that are convenient for parents (give options)</li> <li>-parents should have more opportunities to be involved during the school day, in the classrooms-can learn alongside students</li> <li>-use various mechanisms to communicate information to parents</li> <li>-parent ombudsmen at every school</li> <li>-incentives for parent participation (possibly through students)</li> <li>-create a welcoming environment at schools</li> <li>-send communication out from schools home weekly</li> <li>-send positive stories to media to inform parents and community of positive things happening</li> <li>-institute parent compact</li> <li>-principals and teachers do not let parents be involved</li> </ul>		<p>what about holding parents accountable? (for students being in school, responding, attending conferences, etc)</p> <p>-how will parents be informed about the curriculum and materials required?</p> <p>-how will new programs be advertised?</p> <p>-can parents be involved in discipline procedures?</p>

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Student Success	Parent and Family Engagement	Excellent Customer Service	staff need training on customer service and how to encourage parental involvement		
		Empowerment through Education	educate parents on how to communicate with employers about the need to be at school functions -afraid that parents who advocate for their children will be retaliated against by school (through their children) -provide parents not just with "what" they should do but "how" they should do it-need the tools -regionally based courses for parents (evening hours)		how do we get parents involved-offer incentives?
		Respectful of Culture and Language	need more translation services available for parents-ex. in CSAP or special education process		

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<b>Student Success</b>	Strategic Partnerships	Philanthropic Institutions and Foundations			
		City, State, and Federal Agencies	partner with recreation centers, libraries-to create safe places for students after school		
		Businesses			
		Colleges and Universities	need meaningful relationships with colleges so that they are preparing teachers to teach in our schools		
		Alumni and Community Coalitions	community organizations need to have great access to schools -need more collaboration between schools and outside organizations -alumni should be used to reach out to other alumni to be involved -continue partnerships with faith-based organizations -involve more partners and hold them accountable		

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Quality Choices	A New Model of School Choice	Vanguard Schools	take out benchmark testing-but keep formative assessment		how do you define a vanguard school? -can vanguard schools go deeper with the curriculum? -will successful teachers and principals at vanguard schools want to go to renaissance school?
		Empowerment Schools			
		Renaissance Schools	shouldn't "label" failing schools-morale issue -criteria for renaissance schools should be posted on website to build trust with community		what defines a renaissance school? Test scores? -how can this plan be approved without the criteria? -will students have a choice to go somewhere else? -what if parents don't want their children in a renaissance school? -is there a timeframe for the school to try to improve before it becomes a renaissance school? -what happens during the transition year? -do parents get to see RFPs? -at what point will parents be asked to weigh in? -what are some examples of successful models?
	Uniform High Standards for All Schools			what will these standards be?	
	Schools of the Future				

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<b>Great Staff</b>	Recruiting the Best		need certified librarians in all schools who are not used to cover classes -need to do something about substitute teachers-need more PD		what are the efforts to recruit more teachers?
	Retaining Highly Effective Staff		concern with turnover of administrative leadership at schools -teachers need more support and training on classroom management -train staff and volunteers on how to recognize behavioral health and mental health issues -need more PD for teachers and staff on special education and mental health issues -discussion on pros and cons of full site selection -must address burnout issues -need differentiated PD for teachers-have different needs -stop scripted PD-utilize teachers in conducting PD at schools -use peer review system for teachers		what support and PD will paraprofessionals receive? -what about the leadership of principals? -what is the observation process? -should PD be mandatory? -what supports are there for new teachers?
	Incentives for High Performance				
	Extraordinary Customer Service				

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<b>Accountable Adults</b>	Performance Measurements for All Schools and Departments		need to incorporate PVAAS into AYP -too hard for principals to achieve-heavy burden -not possible for schools to achieve standards		what will performance measurements look like? -how do we hold teacher more accountable? -how hold students accountable? -how hold legislators and business community accountable for focusing on schools?
	System-Wide Evaluations Tied to Performance Goals		student voice should be involved in evaluations (through survey) -create safe sessions for students to give input -need to change teacher evaluations		
	Annual Progress Reports				
	Common Standards of Professionalism		staff need sensitivity training		

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<b>World-Class Operations</b>	Facilities Master Plan		need to redo libraries -need to prioritize maintenance issues at different schools		will space be distributed equitably across all schools?
	Streamlined and Effective Operations				
	Balanced Budgets Aligned with District Goals				
	Weighted Student Funding Formula				are RFPs going to lowest bidder? It is a fair way to allocate funds?