

Strategic Planning Community Meeting Feedback

Northeast Community Meeting (March 23, 2009)					
Strategic Goal Areas			Changes/Additions	Prioritization	Additional Comments/Questions
Student Success	Quality Instruction at All Levels	Early Childhood			positive feedback on day care centers in selected high schools
		Elementary Schools			how will class sizes be reduced when there is no room?
		Middle Schools			
		High Schools	student voice should be heard-have student and faculty senate where students and teachers can work together on issues and solutions for the school -bring back district mid-terms and final exams -need to reduce class size in high school		positive feedback on additional CTE schools and SAT/ACT prep
		Core Curriculum	math and science curriculum needs to be adjusted -science kits are not being replenished -add more formative assessments		

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Student Success	Specialized Services and Programs	English Language Learners	want site selection for ELL teachers		
		Special Education Learners	must have timely testing of students who need to be evaluated or re-evaluated -parents need to have input and access to IEPs		how will low incidence students be supported? Will there be different curriculum?
		Gifted and Talented Learners	must address individual students' learning styles		

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Student Success	Comprehensive Supports and Programs for All Students	Guidance and Counseling	counselors at elementary school level needs to be addressed -allocate counselors based on student population		
		Athletics	must make sure programs are equitable across district		positive feedback on athletics being included
		Student Leadership			
		Remediation and Enrichment	need remediation classes for students who are not special education learners but are below grade level -must reduce number of students entering high school below grade level		
		Extra-Curricular and Co-Curricular Opportunities	music and art programs must be funded to have equipment and supplies		positive feedback on art and music for students

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Student Success	Comprehensive Supports and Programs for All Students	Work-Based Experiences			positive feedback on work-based experiences
		Re-Engagement Programs			
		Health Education	physical and emotional health for staff and students is important		
		Early Warning Indicator System			what does "early" mean?

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Student Success	Transition Services	Pre-K to K, Elementary to Middle School, Middle to High School	bring back summer kindergarten academies -3 day orientation for students moving from middle to high school		
		Alternative Education			

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Student Success	Safe Learning Environment	Positive School Climates	assign school police based on student population -need more security equipment -must be sensitive to students (culture and class), staff need training -must have safe environment both inside and outside the school -enhance bully awareness -clarity and follow through for CSAP		what will be in place to support CSAP process?
		Clear Behavioral Expectations	clearly define consequences -must adhere to the code of conduct		
		Supports, Rewards, and Consequences	need additional staff to implement in-school suspension with fidelity		

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Student Success	Parent and Family Engagement	Clear, On-Going, Relevant Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> allocate parent ombudsmen based on student population -increase communication among staff, facilities, students, and parents -more regional parent support 		what about parent accountability?
		Excellent Customer Service			
		Empowerment through Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> educate parents on grade level curriculum -increase parent volunteer opportunities -use parents in the development and implementation of sensitivity training -regional library where parents can come to write resumes, etc 		
		Respectful of Culture and Language			

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Student Success	Strategic Partnerships	Philanthropic Institutions and Foundations			
		City, State, and Federal Agencies	partnerships with agencies for mental health, drug and alcohol prevention and intervention services -increase DHS services at schools		what about purchasing services from city providers?
		Businesses	develop team at regional level to address strategic partnership needs in the region and at schools-plan at school level to determine how best allocate resources -outreach to businesses especially who specialize in "green jobs"		
		Colleges and Universities	utilize university partnerships to increase college and career awareness -approach university partners to provide tutoring -train partners that will be working at schools -need more articulation between colleges and SDP		
		Alumni and Community Coalitions	SDP staff should attend community organization meetings		

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Quality Choices	A New Model of School Choice	Vanguard Schools			how will high achieving schools continue to succeed if money is siphoned away from them? -what is the criteria for vanguard schools?
		Empowerment Schools			
		Renaissance Schools	instead of turning over these schools, need to put additional resources there		research showed that "restructured schools" were successful-what happened to them? -is PFT represented in in-district charter? -are for-profit companies allowed to submit proposals? -what are the statistics for these other models? Are these statistics available to the public? -how will charter schools run? -why would strong leaders leave a good school to go to a school that is failing? -what will happen to staff as school is transitioning to renaissance school?
	Uniform High Standards for All Schools			what criteria will be used to assess student achievement other than AYP?	
	Schools of the Future				

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Great Staff	Recruiting the Best		need dress code for teachers		
	Retaining Highly Effective Staff		need to treat teachers like professionals-serve breakfast and lunch at PDs -many teachers are new-it's a morale problem -let new teachers do more observation (extra prep for observation) -need full site selection -get teacher input on making decisions -have PD on Saturdays -bring back study groups for new teachers -need more new teacher coaches-look at ratio -school leaders need to nurture and support staff-create teams, not adversaries -need to respect teachers		
	Incentives for High Performance				
	Extraordinary Customer Service				

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Accountable Adults	Performance Measurements for All Schools and Departments		measurements should take into account developing creativity and inspiration -central office must be included -need transparency in determining performance targets and rationale for them		what are the specifics of these performance measurements?
	System-Wide Evaluations Tied to Performance Goals		outside agency should rate performance of teachers and principals to give true objectivity -use student and parent surveys to evaluate -ask teachers and principals to establish the performance goals for central office -need better observation protocols for teachers		how does regional superintendent rating weigh in on evaluation of teachers? -how will secretaries, counselors, speech therapists, etc. be rated? -what are the performance goals? -how will this be applied as some schools get more autonomy?
	Annual Progress Reports		district should have to explain when it doesn't reach goals		
	Common Standards of Professionalism		must show respect to receive respect -people at school must agree to how these standards will be operationalized, community must agree with -dress code for staff		

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World-Class Operations	Facilities Master Plan		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> new buildings that are built don't address overcrowding -need high quality cleaning equipment and supplies-school are having to spend money out of their school budgets on extra cleaning supplies that work -need state of the art libraries with 21st century technology (electronic catalogs and scanners, librarians serve as webmasters for schools) -need to barcode textbooks electronically -facilities decisions need to be made regionally because they know their buildings -work order system is a broken and too slow-only people who have connections get stuff done -need substitutes for building engineers and custodial staff -need better cleaning supplies-not just lowest bidder-supplies don't work -give schools funding for facilities based on square footage, age of building, renovations, etc -employ students through internship programs to help with school upgrades and facilities needs (landscape, electrical, technology, etc) 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> what about overcrowding? (too many students in the northeast) -how decrease class size in buildings that can't fit any more teachers? Co-teaching? -what about Swenson addition on deck since 1996? -what about making William Penn one of the new CTE schools-mega CTE school in central location? -how will technology be addressed in buildings over 50 years old? -what is the long range plan for replacing outdated technology over time? -do we need to contract out some services because our facilities unit is perpetually understaffed?
	Streamlined and Effective Operations		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> purchasing (especially for CTE schools) is a disaster -sometimes forced to spend more money in many of our purchase orders because lose the ability to comparison shop -too micromanaged at school level on spending (want petty cash authority back at school level) -want be able to take students on field trips (risk management needs to ease up) 		

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World-Class Operations	Balanced Budgets Aligned with District Goals		budget process is not transparent right now		how will this plan be paid for? -what's the sustainability plan for this strategic plan?
	Weighted Student Funding Formula		funding allocation for special education students too low-cannot pay for what students need		Title I funding should follow students-school with 60% TANF eligible should not only get basic Title I allocation