
Orientation Meeting Agenda

1. Welcome (5 min) – Tony Falcone

- The work of the 20/20 Vision Committee is very meaningful. In 2009, our school board accepted their recommendations on how to improve our school facilities. In 2010, our community passed a bond issue to fund those improvements and construction of those buildings is complete. The results are very real.
- After completing Phase I, the 20/20 Vision Committee reconvened to begin discussing Phase II. Burges & Burges Strategists began assisting with community engagement and research.
- The make-up and focus of the 20/20 Vision Committee began to take a new shape. The initial 20/20 Vision Committee consisted of a large cross section of community members. When the group began discussing Phase II, the core group remained, but participation had dwindled to mostly school employees. To be effective, the committee must have broad representation.

2. Process that led us here (15 min) – Geoff Palmer & Carol Winter

- To proactively confront some of the issues that our community research uncovered, we retooled our initial engagement approach. We created and executed a short-term “setting the record straight” campaign through emails to staff and parents, multiple social media posts and updating of leave behind materials. We also increased our social media presence and implemented new online communication tools.
- Discussions began about the need for a long-term strategic plan for the district. The 20/20 Vision Committee is now the Strategic Planning Committee (SPC). You will help to develop something that will set the course for our schools for the next three to five years including academics, finances, facilities and community engagement.

3. Vision 20/20 work product review (15 min) – Dave Kocevar

[See attachment]

4. Overview of Upcoming Meetings (5 min)- Burges & Burges Strategists

- We anticipate four (4) Strategic Planning Committee meetings over the course of the next two months. When we convene as a full group for the first time on Tuesday, December 1 at 6:30pm

at Lee Burneson Middle School, we will work together to determine the meeting times and locations for remaining meetings.

- We will send the agenda out to the group prior to our meeting. Below are the general discussion topics for each meeting. Please note that we anticipate changes based on the work and direction of the committee.

December 1: Review of academics, technology, and community research
Input gathering exercise

Meeting #2: Review of finances and district facilities
Identifying skills, needs, and gaps within WCSD

Meeting #3: Plan priorities and outcome metrics identified
Plan outline created by the group

Meeting #4: Group refined the plan and priorities
Identify vehicles to communicate the plan to the broader community.

5. Q & A (20 min) – Board, Admin and Burges & Burges Strategists

Which is more important, an operating issue or a bond issue?

That is a good question. We have some tough decisions to make. With the state continuing to cut funding to local school districts we will need additional operating revenue at some point. At the same time our elementary buildings' leaking roofs, inadequate electrical facilities and HVAC systems, and out-of-date safety and security systems drain already scarce dollars away from our classrooms, and keep our students from performing to the best of their abilities.

Does moving the administrative offices to the old Parkside Intermediate School limit the flexibility the district has to address their facilities issues?

In some ways, yes. By moving the board offices to the Parkside location we did lose some of the buildings usefulness, but there are a couple of important things to keep in mind. First, an assessment by Lesco showed that retrofitting a middle school building to meet the needs of elementary age children would be very expensive. Second, the official future of the Parkside location has yet to be determined. These are the important decisions the Strategic Planning Committee will help us to make.

What is better for education, a central campus or neighborhood schools?

Anticipating changes to our elementary building configuration, we put together a Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) to research educational trends, concepts, and models of PK—4 schools. The Committee looked at schools in Lexington, Nebraska, Newton, Iowa, and Prospect Heights, Illinois. They also surveyed our neighboring districts of Avon Lake, Bay Village, and Solon. Their ultimate findings were inconclusive. Each district made their decision for reasons unique to them. In the end, they were all satisfied because their facilities met the needs of their unique community.