



STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

DEC. 1, 2015

Thank you for attending and participating in our planning process! Our first working meeting of the newly formed Strategic Planning Committee (SPC) was comprised of the Vision 20/20 members and some new faces.

Our charge is to provide input on a Strategic Plan for the district to guide our priorities for the next few years. Each of you represents a facet of our community, and your point of view is critical to creating a plan that reflects our community. We are not asking you to become “educational experts” but we are asking you to provide high level input to make sure we are meeting your needs and expectations for our schools.

The presentation last night focused on academic services and technology. While our current Continuous Improvement Plan discusses many ways to measure student success, we discussed the state report card and our performance on those metrics. State mandates are moving targets and are largely unfunded. In 2012, Ohio adopted new standards making it an ongoing challenge to adequately track our progress and measure it against other school districts.

In a later meeting, we will share other ways we define success and excellence that are not measured by standardized tests, such as our innovative programs, clubs, arts, music and athletics.

The presentation was followed by questions from the audience:

- 1. Is it necessary to replace classroom materials every 6 years if we are moving to electronic and not physical textbooks? Similarly, what is driving the adoption rate for updated/upgraded textbooks?** State standards change often and it is important that teachers have guidance and resources that foster an equitable learning environment across the district. Teachers share core/basic materials but that does not necessarily mean traditional textbooks. More so, we are moving to consumable workbooks, software and e-textbooks but those electronic books are not less expensive than textbooks.
- 2. How many students are bringing their own devices to school and how much of our bandwidth is that using?** Our internet usage shows that only 200 outside devices use our network on a given day, which does not comprise a significant portion of our usage. However, we must project into the future to make sure we have the infrastructure to support more devices. For example, college students often are required to submit their coursework online. But it is important to keep in mind that state testing must be taken on school computers, for security reasons, not on personal devices.
- 3. How much of our budget is necessary to improve our technology infrastructure and implementation?** We haven't calculated our full “wish list.” Our schools have many needs--including building maintenance, facility upgrades and operating essentials--and our budget has really forced us to focus on protecting the basics. Our priorities should not be defined by dollars.



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The district strives to define our needs as educators and as a community, and then allocate those funds appropriately.

4. **What about network security?** We have invested in a variety of tools to maintain network security, including anti-virus software, contractors, secure switches, a firewall and access authentication processes.

At the input session we addressed the following questions:

What are the changes or community/global trends that our schools must keep in mind to prepare students for their futures?

Changes

- Economic changes
- Population/demographics
- Changing teaching models – digital learning
- Communication changes
- Physical environment – climate
- Preparing for higher education and the changing delivery method of instruction

Community/Global Trends

- Global/cultural awareness
- Building well-rounded students
- Non-classroom based experiences (traveling music programs, internships, science and technology competitions)
- Ability to compete globally in multiple languages
- Ever-changing technology and influx of information
- Science/industry advancements
- 24/7 access to each other and information
- Pace of change – especially in the job market
- Availability of taking advanced courses at a younger age
- The cost vs. value of higher education and understanding how much families are willing to pay
- Increase personal cyber safety standards
- The long-term impact of your digital footprint
- Personal branding – long term effect
- Emphasis on community service and being a global citizen
- Awareness of mental health issues



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Skills Needs

- IB learner profile attributes: inquirers, knowledgeable, thinkers, communicators, principled, open-minded, caring, risk-takers, balanced, reflective, life skill traits
- Critical thinking skills
- Self-motivation/time management
- Leadership training
- Skilled labor
- Soft skills – appropriate expectations, social skills, interpersonal skills
- Work readiness skills – how to create a resume, interview for a job/college and what to wear

Our next meeting will be on Jan. 12, 2016, at 6:30pm in the Dover Elementary School library.

CFO/Treasurer Mark Pepera will present on district finances. His presentation will be followed by more group input on the skills our students need to succeed and what our schools will need to provide those skills.